Peel Common Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Zoë Dudley
Deputy Headteacher: Miss Lucy Kingswell
Administrative Officer: Mrs Tracy Barker

Thursday 13th February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

As always when two schools merge together there are some teething issues but I am pleased to say that in most cases the last 6 weeks have been really positive. It has been a pleasure for myself, Miss Kingswell, Mrs Greensmith, and Mrs Proost to get to know all of the children and parents at the Infant school and although we are not in the same building yet, we are starting to feel like a Primary school.

The building work for the refurbished classrooms and outside area is coming along, currently the finished date will be during the Easter holidays with the Infant children moving into the building after the Easter holidays. With this in mind, the next INSET day for all children after half term will be on Tuesday 22nd April (Monday 21st April is Easter Monday and a Bank Holiday). I am sorry that these dates have been so flexible, I have been working with the builders and the Local Authority to be able to give parents and carers enough warning of school closures as I know this is not helpful for those of you who need to sort child care. I will ensure that if any of these dates change, I will attempt to give enough warning.

Throughout next term, we will start to increase the opportunity for the children and staff to come over to the Junior building more often. Currently, Year 1 and 2 join the Junior children each Friday for the Celebration assembly and I visit Year R and Nursery on a Wednesday to hear about their Stars of the Week. As the weather improves, we would like to start bringing the children over for lunchtimes and start getting them used to eating in the Hall. This will mean a 2 sitting lunchtime with the Infants eating first and then the Juniors coming in later. There will be plenty of lunch staff to support the children as well. This will be a gradual process and the children will return after lunch to the Infant site for their playtime. We will start to integrate playtimes once the children are comfortable with eating in the Hall. In order to ensure the safety of all of the children when they are walking between the schools, we will close the large gate onto The Drive for the duration of the lunch hour. Please support us during this time by parking outside of the school site and using the visitor gate should you need to come into school at lunchtime.

Over the last couple of weeks, we have noticed that more parents are using the staff car park to drop off their children. This is not a safe place to drop off as members of staff are still parking and there have been some close shaves with children running across the car park having been dropped off by parents. If you believe that you have a reason for dropping off in the car park – running late is not a valid reason, then please call into the school office and speak to one of the staff about a parking permit.







Thank you for getting used to having only one school office and walking that extra few yards to pass on messages etc to the staff in the Junior site building. Unfortunately, we have noticed that there are still some parents who are reporting absences in ways that the Attendance Officer can't access – for example, Junior staff, including the office staff, have no access to Class Dojo, so please do not message teachers on there to report an absence as the Attendance officer will not receive it. Similarly, telling the staff at Woodpeckers is also not an appropriate way of informing us of your child's absence. Please make sure you either leave a message on the absence line on 01329 281206 or via the Studybugs app or via email on admin@peelcommon-jun.hants.sch.uk. You will receive a text message from school if you do not choose to use these methods to record an absence.

Thank you to the parents and carers who attended the Junior school Parents Meetings over the last two evenings. Your commitment to working with us to educate your children is always welcome. For Infant parents, there will be Parents Meetings during the week Commencing 31st March with an opportunity for you to meet with your child's teacher. These meetings are slightly later than the Junior meetings as the previous meetings were closer to the end of the term for the Infants during the Autumn term.

The next half term looks like it is going to be an exciting one with trips for Year 1 and 2 children, more plans to amalgamate the two schools and some end of term activities such as the now infamous Easter Egg raffle being held before we break up.

I hope that everyone has an enjoyable half term and we look forward to seeing everyone on Monday 24th February (No INSET day), 8.45am at the Juniors and 8.55am at the Infants.

Regards

Mrs Z Dudley Headteacher

Dates for your diary

February

Friday 14th Inset Day Monday 24th Term starts

Wednesday 26th 1.30 pm - Nursery open session

March

Tuesday 4th Group of Yr 5 & 6 children to STEM fair – Information to follow

Wednesday 12th Year 1 trip to Fort Nelson Monday 24th Year 2 trip to Titanic Museum

April

Tuesday 1st & Wednesday 2nd Parents meetings for Years R, 1 and 2.

Friday 4th Easter Egg raffle

Break up for Easter holidays

Tuesday 22nd Inset Day

Friday 25th Class Photographs