



# PEEL COMMON *Community Junior School*

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**Headteacher** : Mr Andy Clarke  
**Deputy Headteacher** : Mr Warren Beadell  
**Administrative Officer** : Mrs Tracy Barker

**PCJ Current Attendance 95.84%** (94.53% last year)  
Sessions missed this academic year **2337**  
**416** late arrivals (662 last year)  
**7015** hours of learning missed so far

29<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Dear Parents

Welcome back. I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful Easter break ... we certainly had the weather for it, although with it being at the end of the holiday, it did seem like a long time coming!

One of our PRIDE values is D for Discovery. I was curious over the break to find out what the strongest shape is. Any ideas? The hexagon, which the bees use to make their honeycomb? The infinite circle? The Mobius strip? Well, according to people more learned than me, it is the triangle.

“The **triangle** is the strongest geometric shape. **Triangles** are very hard to distort from their normal shape because of their fixed **angles** and ability to distribute force evenly to the other sides.”

We enjoyed an action packed first week back culminating in a very sporting feel on Friday when children enjoyed cricket delivered by Sean from English Cricket Board's (ECB) Chance to Shine initiative. Our year 4's enjoyed a double whammy of sporting opportunities with an initiative that we are trialling at PCJ called 'Maths on the Move', which combines physical activity with mathematics. At the very least it looks tremendous fun but there is a growing amount of evidence linking physical activity with increased 'brain power'!

Year 6's are continuing to work very hard. They are beginning to focus on their upcoming SATs tests, starting the week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> May. I hope we have struck the right balance with the children. We only expect that the children try their best and remain positively determined. I am already proud of the children with their attitude when it comes to their learning. Being independent, resilient and keen to learn and improve are the important characteristics that we promote and that your children display in abundance. With your support, I am sure they will continue to make us all proud in far more ways than a test can measure. This reminds me of our home/school agreement that we asking parents and children to sign and commit to when they join our school. For those that might have forgotten what the agreement says:

We aim that children who leave Peel Common Junior School will be eager to continue their learning, confident in themselves and in their relationships with others. We believe that by working together home and school can compliment and support each other in this aim. Peel Common Junior School is a Rights Respecting School and children will be encouraged to understand that along with rights come responsibilities.

***We have the right to an education and the responsibility to allow others to receive theirs***

- **The school will** provide a broad and balanced curriculum aimed at meeting the different needs of all children. In addition, the school will inform parents of their child's progress, the topics they will be covering during the year and provide appropriate opportunities for home learning.
- **The family will** ensure their child attends school regularly, and on time, and help them to be properly equipped and dressed appropriately for school. They will also support and encourage their child in their home learning and daily reading practice and attend relevant parents' meetings in order to play an active part in their child's education.
- **The child will** always try to do their best for themselves and for others and not disturb the learning of others.

***We have the right to be respected and the responsibility to show respect for others***

- **The school will** value all members of the school community, promote high standards of behaviour and positive relationships.
- **The family will** support the school's code of behaviour.
- **The child will** show respect for others and their property.

***We have the right to an environment, which allows us to learn and the responsibility to help to maintain this environment for others***

- **The school will** recognise that children learn in different ways and plan to meet the learning needs of all children. The school will maintain a stimulating, purposeful, well-equipped environment, which is conducive to learning.
- **The family will** support the school code of dress and respect the school environment.
- **The child will** respect the physical environment, resources and learning needs of others during school and after school hours.

***We have the right to be safe, secure and happy and the responsibility to help ensure the safety, security and wellbeing of others***

- **The school will** implement appropriate school policies and guidelines and ensure that the parents are informed of any incidents that arise. The school will make school policies available on the website.
- **The family will** ensure the school is aware of any concerns or problems that may affect their child's behaviour and will support the school's policies and behaviour guidelines.
- **The child will** treat others as they would wish to be treated, and tell an adult if they are not being treated with respect.

I really like the agreement because it reminds me of the strength of the triangle, the strength of us all collectively, as well as reminding me what we should be doing to support your children when they are in our care.

We are in the process of updating our Behaviour Policy, which supports one of our commitments to you and your children. Generally behaviour is very good at Peel Common Junior School with reduced number of incidents and detentions year-on-year in recent times. We have however, had reported an increasing number of reports of some children not using the internet and social media as responsibly as we would hope. In particular, what has been brought to my attention, are some children's use of inappropriate language when communicating with each other. We will be addressing this in school but I am hoping that you will also address at home if this is something that you know concerns your child or child's virtual friendship circle.



Thank you for reading with your child daily. Thank you for ensuring they are in school, on time and in the correct uniform. Thank you for building your child's self-esteem so they really believe in themselves.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Finally, the back gate and internal gates will now be opened at 3.10pm each day. The main playground gate will continue to be opened at 3pm.

### Netball Match

On Friday, we took a team of seven children to play Alver Valley in netball and we scored seven fantastic goals. They represented the school with excellent sportsmanship and made us all proud. Well done ~ Miss Sykes.

### PCJ Fun Mudder

We are fast approaching our first ever PCJ Fun Mudder event, sponsorship forms have already been sent home. As a reminder, all children that raise a minimum of £25 will receive a limited edition personalised t-shirt to mark the event.

We are still looking for any donations of space hoppers, exercise balls and mini trampolines. If you can help, we would be incredibly grateful.

More details about the event will be coming home on a separate letter.

### Dates for your diary

Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Back to School 8.45am
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Start of SATS Week
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	PCJ Fun Mudder
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Last Day of Term
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Back to School 8.45am
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Reserve Sports Day
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	INSET Day
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	INSET Day
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Last Day of Term

Yours sincerely



Mr A Clarke  
Headteacher

