

Head Teacher: Mrs E.S. McLean
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Keep in touch...

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30th April 2018

APRIL UPDATE

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope that you and the children had a wonderful Easter break. In the two weeks we have been back, the children have had some wonderful experiences. From Heidi Street-Ward's felting visit to our whole school Big Writing Week based on the picture entitled 'Save Our Habitat', the children have been busy and working hard.

The FoPs Disco was another roaring success – expertly organised and thoroughly enjoyed by all. Our current fundraising focus is for new classroom furniture (in particular chairs).

Communication:

You can contact the school and follow our journey and events via:

- Monthly Updates – Sent via ParentMail and available in the Foyer
- Our new website – www.pattishallschool.co.uk
- Phone – 01327 830 301
- Email – pattishalloff@outlook.com
- Facebook – @pattishallCEprimaryschool
- Twitter – @mrsmcleanpps
- By signing up to Class Dojo – please speak to your child's teacher for more information
- Around Pattishall – <https://www.pattishallparish.org.uk/news/around-pattishall/>
- Having a chat with any of the staff team on the playground: we are always happy to clarify any question or query you may have.

We also now have the added benefit of The Virtual Playground - a closed Facebook group where teachers and parents can ask questions, share successes and debate in a closed forum. Our Facebook page and Twitter feed will continue to be used by teachers to post pictures and share news; but this is more of a PR tool.

Attendance:

Autumn	94.3%
Spring	97.0%
Summer	98.4% (first week back)
Overall	94.8%

Well done to Years 4, 5 and 6 for 100% attendance in the first week back!



Church of England School:

Our felted banner is nearly dry and will be on display in the foyer very soon. Years R to 3 had a great day learning about the process of felting: we hope to invite Heidi back in the near future.

Year 4 are preparing Prayer Stations for Holy Cross, in time for Pentecost. Each class will visit the Church and each Prayer Station, in order to think more deeply about the words of the Lord's Prayer.

Rev Karen leads our Collective Worship every other Monday and Every Thursday at 10:55am. She would love to see you there.

Our Friday Celebration Collective Worship will be moving to 9am so that it may be easier for working parents to attend the award ceremony each week. Clare Sceats will inform you in advance via ParentMail if your child is receiving an award; so that you may endeavour to make the necessary arrangements.

Staffing:

Following an excellent response to our advertisement, we shortlisted five candidates: we are delighted to announce that we have appointed Peter May as our Year 5 teacher next year.

He has 15 years' experience in the army as a musician and has served all over the world. He was also, more recently, the Queen's trumpeter. He plays regularly with Jazz Colossus in Northampton: <https://www.facebook.com/JazzColossus/>

Peter has been training for two years at Nicolas Hawksmoor Primary School and joins us in September at the same time as his son, Archie, who joins us in Reception. I am sure you will join me in congratulating Mr May and welcoming him to our wonderful school.

Other than the appointment of a new member of staff, I have no intention of moving any teachers next year, as I believe that stability is important for us at the moment.

Mrs Green and I are discussing the possibility of employing a Sport and Play Leader for lunchtimes. We have yet to finalise the details, however it would probably be 2 hours per day over the lunchtime period plus planning and preparation time. ***If this sounds like something you might be interested in, do come and have an informal conversation with Mrs Green or me.***

Calendar of Events: *Please check in with the website and Facebook calendar*

- 14/05/2018 Year 6 SATs Week begins
- 11/05/2018 FoPs Movie Night
- 18/05/2018 Year 5 and 6 to Kidzania in London
- 25/05/2018 FoPs Reception Cake Sale
- 25/05/2018 Whole class photos
- 04/06/2018 Closed for INSET
- 05/06/2018 Open for children
- 08/06/2018 Sports Day
- 14/06/2018 Reserve Sports Day (in case of bad weather on 8th June)
- 17/06/2018 Family Service Take Over (for Father's Day) at the Methodist Chapel, Astcote
- 22/06/2018 Music concert 2.15pm
- 22/06/2018 FoPs Disco
- 29/06/2018 Year 1 and 2 to Food & Farming, East of England Showground (details to follow)
- 20/07/2018 Close at 3.15pm for Summer

GDPR

We are currently in the process of preparing for the implementation of the new law on 25th May 2018. We have appointed Plumsum as our Data Protection Officer and will placing our Privacy Notice and Policy on the website shortly. As in my previous communications, if you have any questions about how we store your data or how we use it, please do come and speak to Jane, Clare or me.

ON-GOING REMINDERS:

Growth Mindset and Mindfulness:

We continue to use the language of growth Mindset and thank you for your on-going support with this.

Presentation:

On The Virtual Playground, there has been some discussion over the school jumpers – including colour, quality and consistency.

The Office Team have ordered samples from Tesco so that we can all be involved in an informed decision.

Community:

We are excited as a school to be involved in the dedication of the Pattishall war memorial in October. The whole school will be learning about WW1; and the PoW camp opposite, to tie in with the 100th anniversary of the end of The Great War.

We are also looking forward to forming a Gardening Club to set up and maintain the forthcoming planting containers in the village.

Healthy Schools:

Thank you for your continued support with the healthy snacks.

We have been given permission to park in the Parish Hall car park in the mornings so you can walk up with the children to ease congestion and blow the cobwebs away in the morning!

We are all thinking of Year 1, 2 and 6 as they enter exam season. I know that they have worked hard all year and have all made amazing progress. Not just in reading, writing and maths: but as they grow and develop into beautiful young people who will one day be our future leaders. I am so proud of all the children and their many successes this year, as we continue to grow together.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs E. McLean
Head Teacher