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May Update

Welcome back from Half Term!

7 weeks to go and the most challenging month is behind us. The Year 2 and Year 6 classes both underwent their statutory examinations and I must say how fantastic they were throughout what could have been a very stressful time. Credit has to be apportioned to Miss Hornett and Mrs Thorpe for their work in preparing the children and supporting them through the tests.

Last year our combined result (the number of children scoring age-related expectations in all three subjects - Reading, Writing and Maths) was 10%, putting us in the bottom 5% nationally for both attainment and progress from Key Stage One.

Following an intense year of staff training, new assessment processes and initiatives to tackle our key areas for development - plus the dedication of Mrs Thorpe and the Year 6 team - our predicted combined result is 72.7%; in 2017, the national combined figure was 61%.

The Local Authority are extremely impressed with the strides forward we have made in a relatively short period of time – thank you to our wonderful team for their hard work and dedication.

However, we do not rest on our laurels at Pattishall! We still have a lot of work to do in order to discover the best version of ourselves as we grow together in God's light. Our mission is to enable each child to realise their full potential through their experience of a creative, carefully crafted curriculum; rooted in the values of thoughtfulness, caring, perseverance, hope and respect.

Some of the curriculum enrichments happening this term include Year 3's whole class stringed instrument lessons, which take place every Thursday. We look forward to a concert for the Year 3 parents towards the end of term. Next year we look forward to some African drumming and ukulele thanks to NMPAT!

Years 5 and 6 have started their swimming lessons at Towcester swimming pool and have made good progress.

Year 6 also visited 'Kidzania' in London in order to act out their experiences of their 'Rich and Poor' topic. What an amazing experience!

Years 1 and 2 are looking forward to visiting Peterborough Showground as part of their "Farm to Fork" topic. Our first trip where a cashless payment option has been available!

Swimming

As we look forward and the end is in sight, we can enjoy in-school swimming lessons. Please refer to Mrs Green's recent letter for further information. Please note that silicone swimming hats, swimming trunks for the boys, one-piece swimsuits for the girls and arm-bands for KS1 have been requested. We thank you for your support and co-operation.

KS2 Production

We are also very excited to reveal that Key Stage Two have started to rehearse for their end of year performance of (drum roll please...) The Jungle Book! The auditions for the main parts have taken place and learning of the songs will begin in full force after half term. Any assistance with the production side will be gratefully received. Tickets will go on sale shortly.

Sports Day

Sports Day will take place during the afternoon of Friday 8th June, weather permitting – I for one am looking forward to an afternoon of cheering and healthy competition!



FoPs will be selling refreshments – huge thanks to them! Although, not too much prosecco before the parent's race please!

Staffing for September

Year	Teacher(s)	Support Team	PPA Cover
Reception	Miss Gwynne (3 days) Miss Dalton (2 days)	Mrs Stoyles Mrs Berry Mrs Moseley	Wednesday PM Mrs Mills
1	Miss Bruce (4 days) Mrs H Bowden (Thursday)	Mrs Taylor Mrs South Mrs Moseley	Thursday PM Mrs Bowden
2	Miss Hornett	Mrs Mills Miss Williams	Thursday PM Mrs Evans
3	Mrs Jeffrey (4 days) Mrs Mills (Friday)	Mrs C Bowden	Tuesday PM Mrs Mills
4	Mrs Green	Miss Spuffard	Tuesday PM Mrs Evans
5	Mr May (4 days) Mrs Barker (Monday)	Mrs Stretton Mrs Johnson	Monday PM Mrs Baker
6	Mrs Thorpe (4 days) Miss Dalton (Wednesday)	Mrs Evans	Monday PM Mrs Evans

Transition

Transitions will begin this term with 'Move Up Day' being Thursday 5th July when we welcome our new intake to reception. This year we have 18 children joining us. We would like to invite you in at the end of the day from 3pm so that your child can show you their new classroom and you have the opportunity to meet their new teacher.

For some children an enhanced transition may be beneficial, including a meeting between parents and both current and future teachers. Staff will be in touch shortly to arrange meetings with you if they feel that your child would benefit from this kind of handover.

We wave a temporary farewell to Year 6: 2nd and 3rd July are the Transition Days for Campion with 6th and 7th July for Sponne. This year we have 5 moving on to Campion and 6 to Sponne.

Reports

End of Year reports are due to you 13th July – the teachers are busy writing them at the moment, on top of their normal workload.

During the last week of term, you are welcomed to make an appointment with your child's class teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

Photos

If you wish to purchase a copy of the whole school photo, Braiswick are collecting orders on 7th June. It really is wonderful to have the school together to celebrate our 120th year.

Celebrations

We had intended to celebrate our 120th year this Summer: however, with the erection of the WW1 War Memorial opposite the school to commemorate the centenary of the end of WW1 (and mark the citing of the Prisoner of War Camp) in November, we have decided to focus a whole school topic around WW1 and Pattishall 100 years ago during the Autumn Term.

Celebration Collective Worship

We have started inviting the parents of children who have won an award into school for Collective Worship on Friday mornings at 9am. Please note that this is for certificates awarded by the staff: Star / Mathematician / Writer / Reader / Runner of the week.

Keep an eye on your ParentMail on Wednesday afternoons: but shhhhhh – don't let your child(ren) know!

Uniform

Many thanks for your co-operation and support with upholding the school uniform this year. Part of school improvement is gaining consistency in all areas; encouraging children to take pride in themselves is important – because they are important. Like us getting ready for a special occasion, or them receiving a special badge,

taking pride in their appearance gives them confidence and puts them in the right frame of mind to be the best version of themselves.

After much deliberation, we have decided to stick with our school colour of 'bordeaux' as it is what sets us apart locally. If you would like to purchase a cardigan or jumper from a different retailer, please can I ask that you go for red. We are moving away from burgundy.

Further to the letter with information about uniform, from September please purchase (when the time comes):

- 'Bordeaux' cardigan or jumper from School Trends
- White polo shirt (*with logo - available from School Trends*)
- Charcoal grey trousers, shorts, pinafore, skirt or 'skort'
- Charcoal grey socks or tights
- Red gingham summer dress or playsuit with white socks
- Black school shoes (no sandals, **no boots, no trainers**)
- Neutral or tonal hair accessories – hair that can be tied up must be tied up (to avoid little visitors)
- Watches/stud earrings (no other jewellery or nail varnish)
- Plain black tracksuit
- Plain black shorts
- Plain white t-shirt - no collar (*with logo - available from School Trends*)
- Plain black or white trainers or plimsolls
- White socks

Please make sure everything is clearly named. From next year, we will be running a second hand uniform shop at the end of each long term, including unnamed uniform.

Healthy School

In line with our Healthy School status, please can I ask that children **only bring water into school in their water bottles** – which they have access to throughout the day.

The children do not have the opportunity to brush their teeth after each sip from their water bottle and the constant acid attack from squash or juice in a water bottle will cause tooth decay. Also, it is less sticky to clear up spilt water than it is juice. Milk, squash or pure fruit juice are allowed at lunchtime, as part of a balanced meal – you will need to provide this separately, in their lunchbox. I would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation and support with this matter.

I spoke to Dolce about the possibility of parents selecting puddings, but sadly this is not an option. Following parental feedback, the children are no longer having double or triple helpings of pudding with their hot dinner. Dolce assure me that each meal's calorie content is carefully calculated and in line with Government recommendations.

We continue to run a mile every day and are timetabling an indoor and outdoor PE sessions for next year, including the teaching of skills and full games. We also eat our healthy snacks at playtime. Please note the following are welcomed at playtime:

- Dried fruit
- Fresh fruit
- Fresh vegetables (with or without a dip)
- Fruit salad
- Fruit bread
- Rice cakes
- Breadsticks
- Crackers and cheese

Please put snacks in a separate (named) container, as children will not be able to visit their lunchboxes at break-time.

Prefects

Part of the transition process for Year 5 will be applying for the role of Prefect and undergoing interviews; carried out by the existing team. There will then be a training period.

Bella, Daniel, Katie, Oliver, Fran, Mia and Georgie have been exceptional role models and invaluable since their appointment.

100% attendance

We will be rewarding those children who have been in school every day since Easter during the first week back after half term. The medals have arrived for those children who have been in school every day, for every registration, since September. These will be given out at the very end of the year.

Church School

We are excited to announce that Rev'd Karen will be coming in on Thursday lunchtimes to run a 'Worship Team' club. The children involved will learn about the theme for the following week; plan a service and deliver Collective Worship to the whole school.

The Leaver's Service will be held in Holy Cross on 20th July at 11.15am.

John Atkin runs our Monday Worship and Rev'd Karen leads our Thursday Worship (with the help of the new Worship Team), both at 10.55am – ALL WELCOME.

DBS

If you know that you could be available to support the school by going on school trips and have not yet had your DBS check, please speak to the office asap. We are creating a 'bank' of DBS checked volunteers whom we can invite on trips and visits. If you would like to be on this list (even if you're not able to help regularly) please sign up before the end of term.

Clubs

From September, we will be holding teacher-led clubs after school. We will be charging £3.50 per session and each club will run for 6-week blocks.

Some examples of clubs we might be running are:

- STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths – practical experiments)
- Art
- Yoga
- Mindfulness
- Worship Team
- Raspberry Pi
- Tag-rugby
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Orchestra
- Choir
- Netball
- Hockey
- Baking
- Sign Language
- Crochet
- Drama
- Welsh
- Forest School

The clubs will be spread across the year, with at least 3 per short term. Children will need to commit to a full 6-week block and pay in advance. Please keep an eye out this term for more information from Mrs Green.

If you would like to run a 6 week club, please let the office know asap. We would love to have a Gardening Club and to revive Dismantling Club (taking apart old toasters and telephones etc to see how they work!).

The Big Clear Up

I'd like to extend a huge thanks to everyone who helped with the Big Clear Up on 12th May. We made great progress in tidying the school up and improving the learning environment. There was a wonderful sense of community and team spirit, with the neighbours joining in too! Hopefully this will become a regular event a couple of times a year – so don't worry if you missed it this time.

Calendar of events

- 08/06/2018 Sports Day from 1pm
- 14/06/2018 Reserve Sports Day (in case of bad weather)

- 15/06/2018 FoPS Reception Cake Sale
- 17/06/2018 Family Service Take Over (for Father's Day) at the Methodist Chapel, Astcote
- 21/06/2018 Year 1 and 2 Class Assembly, Holy Cross 9 - 9.30am
- 22/06/2018 Music concert 2.15pm
- 22/06/2018 FoPS Disco 6 - 7.30pm
- 28/06/2018 Year 3 and 4 School Trip, details to follow
- 29/06/2018 Year 1 and 2 to Food & Farming, East of England Showground
- 02/07/2018 Reception School Tip
- 05/07/2018 Move Up Day, parents invited in from 3pm
- 20/07/2018 Leaver's Service, Holy Cross 11.15am
- 20/07/2018 Close at 3.15pm for Summer

Until June - best regards,

Mrs E. McLean
Head Teacher