

Polehampton News

Friday 16th October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's quite hard to believe it's only one week until half term. It's been a delight to get back to (nearly) normal with our children enjoying lessons and being with the friends and teachers again. Don't forget – school is closed next Friday for staff training!

Prospective Parents' Virtual Tour

We have created a little window into our schools for Prospective Parents as they can't come in to visit right now. We have made a Virtual Open Morning so parents can find out all about us. Thanks to the staff and children involved – it's another new thing for Polehampton!

Do please pass this on to anyone you know who might be interested. We also have dates for Q&A sessions, so parents have a chance to ask more questions. These will need to be booked so we can send the log on details – again please pass those on to any local family or friends with little ones.

- Tuesday 20th October at 9.30am
- Monday 9th November at 10.00am
- Friday 4th December at 9.30am
- Thursday 17th December at 9.30am
- Tuesday 12th January at 9.30am

A huge thanks to Jules, an ex-Polehampton pupil for helping us with drone videos we have included in the presentation – we will do more with those in class soon as I know the children will be fascinated to see our school from above.

Twitter

Now we have most of our parental permissions in, do take a look at our Twitter feed as we are able to feature our children being busy at school. This week, I've loved seeing the delight on the faces of our children as they read great stories, re-enact moments in history or concentrate in PE & music lessons. Do follow along if you haven't joined us yet - @Polehampton We hope you enjoy this little glimpse into our exciting school days!

Hot School Meals starting after half term – see menu attached

We are delighted to announce that after half term, there will be hot lunch menu on offer to our schools. (We will no longer have the packed lunch option.) The hot meals will still be served directly to the children so most classes will still be eating in their rooms, with a couple of our youngest classes eating in the hall.

Reading Books at Home

Can you have a look at home and see if you have any extra school reading books about the house? We have few gaps in our reading boxes, particularly at the Infant School, so please do have a hunt. Also, Infants & Yr3s – does anyone still have their Red Reading Bag at home? Most have been returned, but we are missing a few and we want to be able to use them again next year – thank you!

Flu Immunisation Email this week

Please do complete the flu immunisation consent form on the email we sent to you earlier this week if you would like your child to have the vaccine in school in December.

Keeping your child safe online

ThinkUKNow produced this really good [helpsheet for parents](#) during lockdown. However, we think it's good for parents to look at anytime, as it's full of top tips.

Infant School News

Infant Planet Protectors

Well done to these Infant children who volunteered and were elected to be our Planet Protectors and help look after our environment.

Blue class	Ivy G & Sebastian S
Year One	Chase C & Freddie M
Year Two	Theodore M & Peter T

Lovely Storytime Website for our younger children

If you need a new website for story times, take a look at this – it's full of fantastic actors and storytellers from Black and Minority Ethnic Groups. This one is my favourite – what's yours?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WkgZ2GVXal4&t=50s>

Junior School News

Junior School Responsibilities

Well done to our children who have been elected to these responsibilities. We are very grateful to you for your work for our school!

	School Councillors	Librarians
Year Three	Henry R & Jacob S	Oliver S & Rory C
Year Four	Belle P & Harry G-S	Eleanor A, Dorry P & Mabel R
Year Five	Annabel C & Paeyton P	Amber R, Amelie R & Isabelle P
Year Six	Tom Y & Sophia K	Sophia R & Amy R

Year 3 Parents

Please return your Google Classroom consents, so we can give it a trial shortly.

Year 6 Parents

Please remember the closing date for admissions is Saturday 31st October. Please don't miss this date or everyone else will be considered before your child!

- See below about details to Luckley House's Virtual Open Morning tomorrow.

Junior walk to school week

Well done to Penguin Class for recording the most walks to school last week – we hope you are enjoying your non-uniform day next Thursday!

Junior School Keep Active Challenge

Goal - to collectively walk/jog/run 1000km before Christmas! If we can complete it, this is the equivalent of going all the way from school to John O'Groats in Scotland!

For the next few weeks, at weekends and in the evenings, we are asking children to record how far they have walked or run and to send in the distance they covered to school.

Evidence of this could be photos of the children out and about, Strava-style maps or simply the word of the parent. Each week, we will add up the total number of kilometres that all the children have travelled to keep a running tally. A huge well done to the children who have been walking and running at home. So far, we have collectively travelled **94.6km** which takes us past Oxford and on the way to Birmingham! Keep it up everyone!

Mrs Newman

PTA News

Getting ready for Christmas!

A recent tradition at Polehampton has been for the children to design their own Christmas cards. This year we are using a company that is providing a fully online service to work around the current Covid limitations and importantly, to help raise some money for the schools. The children have all recently had an opportunity to do a Christmas Card design in school and they have now been sent off to the company for scanning and adding each child's name and class to the reverse of the card.

The Infants had their designs back this week and the Juniors should be with us next week.

In addition to the packs of A6 Christmas cards, a few other products will be available to purchase, including thank you cards, self-adhesive gift labels, mugs and personalised Santa Sacks! Each family will be able to place and pay for orders online and goods should be ready by the end of November ready for wrapping and posting. *Look out for the order forms in the children's bags next week!*

Turkeys!

If you are buying a turkey this Xmas please consider ordering from COPAS. Follow the steps below and the PTA will get £10 for each order.

<https://www.copasturkeys.co.uk>

Steps to follow!

1. Add a turkey product to the basket first
2. Search "PTA" to find the "PTA Turkey Cashback" item
3. Select your school from the dropdown list & add to basket.
4. Go to checkout & complete the order.

Many thanks,

The Infant & Junior School PTA

Church Team News

This Little Light – Lantern Night - Saturday 31st October, St Nicholas Church, Hurst: 5-6.30pm

This year, more than any other, the church team want to offer families an opportunity to celebrate light, not darkness on 31st October. Whilst we can't host a Light Party, we're inviting you to visit St Nicholas church to collect a lantern to decorate at home. Inside your kit you'll also find some tasty treats! You'll be able to pop-up your battery-powered lantern straight away and test it out on a short walk through the church yard on your way home. Along the way there will be lights, messages and activities to enjoy together as a family. To book your lantern kit, please visit: <https://lantern-night.eventbrite.co.uk>.

Wings Single Parent Group – 1st Saturday of the month in St Mary's Church Centre, Twyford

Wings is restarting in the COVID-secure venue of St Mary's Church Centre. We meet on the first Saturday of the month from 3-5pm and provide a safe place to talk, mingle and for your children to play. Our first meeting will be on Saturday 1st November. At the moment we need guests to book in advance and for over 11s to wear a face-covering. Please contact Hannah to book or find out more: wings@thru-christ.org.uk

We hope you all have a peaceful weekend,

Miss Ball, Mrs Medcalf, Mrs Scott, Mrs Castell and the Polehampton Team

Term Dates 2020/21

Autumn Term 2020

School open to pupils - Thurs 3rd Sep to Fri 18th Dec 2020

- Inset days - Tuesday 1st & Wed 2nd Sept
- Inset day – Fri 23rd October
- Half term – w/c Monday 26th October

Spring Term 2021

School open to pupils - Tues 5th January to Thurs 1st April 2021

- Inset day Monday 4th Jan
- Inset day – Fri 12th February
- Half term - w/c Monday 15th February

Summer Term 2021

School open to pupils - Monday 19th April to Wed 21st July 2021

- Half term - w/c Monday 31st May

Term Dates 2021/22

Autumn 2021

School opens to pupils - Thursday 2nd September- Friday 17th December

- Inset day 1 – Wednesday 1st September
- Inset day 2 – Friday 22nd October
- Half term – Monday 25th – Friday 29th October
- Inset day 3 – Monday 1st November

Spring 2022

School opens to pupils - Wednesday 5th January- Friday 8th April

- Inset day 4 – Tuesday 4th January 2022
- Inset day 5 – Friday 18th February
- Half term – Monday 21st – Friday 25th February

Summer 2022

School opens to pupils - Monday 25th April - Thursday 21st July

- Half term – Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June

Luckley House School Virtual Open Morning, Saturday 17 October at 9am

The event will include:

- A welcome presentation from Mrs Areti Bizior, Head and other senior staff.
- A virtual tour of the School.
- FAQs presentation
- An opportunity to meet the Head & other key staff via video link (Microsoft Teams)

Anyone interested in 'attending' will need to book in order to receive the link for the event. **Booking is via our website at <https://www.luckleyhouseschool.org/virtual-open-morning/>**

Or by contacting Claire Crombie, the Registrar at Registrar@luckleyhouseschool.org or Telephone 0118 974 3221
We are also able to offer **individual visits** to Luckley during the school week, when you can meet with Head, Mrs Areti Bizior. Please contact Mrs Crombie if you would like an appointment.