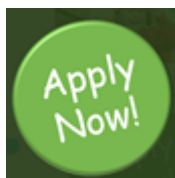


Polehampton News

Friday 13th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a lovely sunny day we've had for our last day of the week – lots of fun outside with our friends today!



Applications for Infant and Junior School are now open

Applications for admissions to our Infant and our Junior School in 2021/22 are now open! If you know anyone who would like to attend one of our Prospective Parents Q&A sessions, please pass on these dates - 4th Dec, 17th Dec & 12th Jan. <https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions/>



Christmas Productions

All being well, we intend to record our Christmas productions and send them home for you to watch this year. As you would expect they will be a little different, but still full of Polehampton Christmas sparkle! See diary dates below for the days we'll send them home and suggested "viewing times". It would be lovely to imagine all your friends watching along at home at the same time 😊 We will watch them the next day in school, so everyone gets to see each other's as we would normally.

Photo permissions

Thank you for completing this for us. For some of our children when have received replies from both parents containing differing responses. Please note that we will use the most recently submitted form for our records.



Zoom Groups and Times

Blue Class – you did so well in your Zoom sessions this week! Well done!!

We have now completed our lists for Zoom times and groups, should we have a bubble or local lockdown for COVID reasons – see attached.

This has added to the remote learning page of our website for your reference.

Remote Learning Plans

Please note that the work on the website and on Google Classroom is only meant for children who are self-isolating. Everyone in school will be having these lessons taught by their teachers, so best to let those lessons happen at school.

Safety outside the school

- Can we remind everyone to make sure they allow other pedestrians to pass, if you are waiting for the school gates to open? We need to be kind to our neighbours and let them pass safely.
- Cycling – please remind your children, if they are cycling or scooting to school, that they should do so carefully and safely, no tricks or dangerous behaviour on roads or pavements. Thank you!



Children in Need

Thank you for all the donations today – we'll let you know the total raised next week. We know this money will be very much appreciated by the charity, particularly this year.

Help at hand in our local community



Rural Pie Co.

- Amy, Philip and the Team at Rural Pie Co. have a Soup Kitchen in operation on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2.00pm - 4.00pm offering hot soup and fresh bread to the adult and a pre packed lunch bag for the children. Primarily this is to support people in need or anyone that has fallen on harder times in the current climate; however, the door is open to all for a small donation if finances allow it. We can be found at Unit 2, Apsley House, 27-29 London Road, Twyford, RG10 9EH. (In front of Waitrose). This will be in operation for the duration of lockdown but may continue into the winter months if support allows.



- The charity Share Wokingham is like a food bank but doesn't require any referrals – you can contact them yourself. They say “Formerly the Grub Club Food Hub, we are a community service set up as a consequence of Covid-19 supporting the local community with fresh food and other items which would ordinarily be wasted. There is no charge for the items we offer.” This website links to their facebook page which has all the information you might need, including contact details. <http://www.sharewokingham.co.uk/>



Coronavirus: Help to stay safe and well for young people and adults with learning disabilities (Mencap)

Mencap have a series of easy-to-read guides to help communicate clear messages about keeping safe from coronavirus. I had a quick look and think you might find them useful for children too.

[Easy Read Guides about Corona virus rules from Mencap](#)

Infant School

Individual Photos

All the lovely proofs were sent home on Tuesday. Orders can be made online or via school. If via school, orders and payments should be returned to school by 9am on Thurs 19th Nov. Late orders need to be returned to Cardwell & Simons (not school) and will incur an additional charge.

Admissions to Junior School

Please see emails sent home to our Year Two parents about applying for the Junior School.

Staff Vacancies

Please see the Vacancies page of our website for more information.

Junior News

School lunch accounts

Please can you top these up as soon as possible? Also do set up your accounts if you haven't yet, so we can organise Christmas lunches. Details you need are coming home today in book bags.

PTA News

Dear All,

Lots of news, please take a minute to read through if you can!

The PTA have been working away behind the scenes to come up with some exciting and Covid safe activities for a bit of fun and fundraising! Central to this is our **brand-new joint website** for both schools www.polehamptonpta.org which is now live!

You will find all the details here on how you can support the PTA as well as an online shop where you can purchase tickets for our events and raffle.

Please visit the site to book your space for our two fab masterclasses (see attached flyers for details)

- **Baking Masterclass** – 1st December, via Zoom. Learn how to ice and decorate a festive reindeer cake with the brilliant Kellie Hicks of Bake.cake.time. Ingredients all provided.
- **Cooking masterclass** – 14th December. Learn to cook the best turkey wellington (or a vegan beetroot wellington), sauté brussels and proper roast potatoes via Zoom with 2 amazing Chefs, Anthony and Leon. Ingredients all provided.
- Also please order your **activity craft bags**. These are being tailored to each year group and are full of festive crafty bits and a colouring competition. Just £5 – see flyer attached.
- And Finally – tickets for our **Christmas Raffle** are now on sale. See attached flyer for the wonderful prizes on offer.

There are also number of individuals and companies offering to make donations to the PTA when making booking or placing orders details on the website and thank you to them.

HUGE thanks to Vicki Anderson for doing the most amazing job on our new website; we hope you like it as much as we do!

If you are able to MATCH FUND any of our events, including those above or the next Bags2School on Wednesday 9th December, please, please do let us know.

The Schools have had a great response on the Voluntary Contributions also, so another big **THANK YOU!**

Many thanks!
The PTA team

Church Team News

Light Up Christmas in Ruscombe, Twyford & Hurst

This Advent, we are bringing the Church Christmas Tree Festival to our homes! You are invited to decorate your front windows with lights and scenes telling the Christmas story. "Jesus is the light of the world" and a community of windows lit up can remind us all of the hope and joy his birth brings, despite the uncertainty around many of our usual Christmas celebrations. We hope this initiative will link well with other ideas for Christmas displays in our villages. Look out for details of how to find our Christmas story windows and drop us a line at lightupchristmas@THRU-Christ.org.uk if you would like us to include your window on our map.

We hope you all have a happy, safe weekend. **Happy Diwali** to those celebrating this weekend – you are in our thoughts as you celebrate this special festival at this time.

best wishes,

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



Attachments today

- Zoom room times and groups
- 4x PTA leaflets for exciting events
- Road safety competition leaflet

Diary Dates – Autumn Term 2020

- Next week in green
- New or amended dates in purple

Date	Which school/year group/class?	Event	Times
Thurs 19 th Nov	Infant School	Deadline to return photo orders	9.00am
Mon 23 rd Nov	Infant School	PTA meeting	7.30pm - contact us for zoom details
Monday 7 th Dec	Both schools	Flu immunisations –see email for consent form	
Wed 9 th Dec	Both Schools	PTA Bags 2 School collection https://www.polehamptonpta.org/post/bags2school-wednesday-9th-december	8-9am Loddon Hall car park
Monday 14 th Dec	Blue Class	Nativity play video sent home to watch	suggested time – 6.30pm
Tuesday 15 th Dec	Years One & Two	Nativity play video sent home to watch	suggested time – 6.30pm
Wed 16 th Dec	Both schools	Christmas Dinner – children can wear a Christmas jumper!	
	Year Four	Christmas Play video sent home to watch	suggested time – 7.00pm
Thursday 17 th Dec	Year Five & Six	Upper School Carol Concert video sent home to watch	suggested time – 7.00pm
Friday 18 th Dec	Both Schools	Last day of term	See staggered times for early closure on the last day of term - 1½ earlier than normal. *3.00pm collection will be 1.30pm *3.15pm collection will be 1.45pm *3.30pm collection will be 2.00pm
	Both Schools	Church service	Watched in school
21st Dec 2020 – 1st Jan 2021- School Closed for the Christmas Holidays			
Monday 4 th Jan	Both schools	Schools closed for staff training	
Tuesday 5 th Jan	Both schools	First day of the Spring Term	

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