



PEAR TREE SCHOOL

NEWTLETTER



16th April 2024

www.peartreeprimary.co.uk

Welcome back! I hope you have all had a wonderful Easter break, eaten plenty of chocolate and escaped some of the wet weather we've had recently. I really think we're overdue some sunshine, very, very soon!

This half term is 6 weeks long and jam packed too. Yellow and Blue Class have their residential to look forward to, Green Class are off to Chester to learn about the Romans, we have the first of the May Bank holiday weekends, SATS week for Y6, a coffee morning for our new starters and of course each class has a new learning topic to look forward to as well.

Uniform

We have had a few queries regarding uniform recently. Below is the screenshot of our expected dress code. The policy in full is available on the school website. If you have any difficulties getting hold of uniform always ask as between the PTA and school, we can supply lightly worn uniform at low prices. We base ours on very similar expectations of our local primary and secondary schools.

All new uniform can be bought via Schools In, in Hospital Street Nantwich.

I've been asked about summer dresses as one major retailer is selling dresses with checked skirts attached but with plain white polo shirt tops. These are fine as long as they are not too short.

All Pupils	
Jumper or cardigan	Long-sleeved, round-neck pale blue jumper or cardigan emblazoned with the Pear Tree logo. Or plain pale blue.
Trousers (or shorts/skirt/pinafore can be worn)	Plain black or grey tailored items. Material should not be denim, cord or <u>lycra</u> .
Shorts (or trousers/skirt/pinafore can be worn)	Plain black or grey tailored items. Material should not be denim, cord or <u>lycra</u> .
Polo shirt	Plain pale blue polo shirt or a pale blue polo shirt emblazoned with the Pear Tree logo. <u>Yrs 5 and 6</u> can wear a black polo shirt, either plain or with the Pear Tree logo.
Skirt/pinafore (or shorts/trousers can be worn)	Plain black or grey skirt or pinafore. Skirts and pinafores must not be very tight fitting, denim, cord or <u>lycra</u> material. Skirts and pinafores should not be shorter than mid-thigh.
Dress (or shorts/skirt/trousers can be worn)	Blue and white check dress in the summer accompanied by a jumper or cardigan. Dresses should not be shorter than mid-thigh.

Shoes	Plain black shoes – these must not be: open toe design, trainers, pumps or canvas shoes and they should have a proper heel not greater than 4cm. Coloured laces are not permitted. Variations are only allowed if accompanied by a doctor's note and by prior agreement. Pumps or trainers must be worn for PE lessons.
Socks/Tights	Black, white or grey plain ankle socks or grey tights.
Outdoor coats (required when weather is colder)	A sensible outdoor coat.

Residential visits

We are really looking forward to taking Yellow, Blue and Violet on their residential visits over the next few months and for Yellow and Blue children this will be their first trip staying away from home. For some of you, you may be feeling nervous about handing over your precious parcel to us but all the staff leading the trips are incredibly experienced and have led many residential visits over many years and have dealt with a range of issues. The staff cannot wait to take their class away so that the children can build their resilience skills, learn to be independent, get mucky, eat differently but most importantly have lots of fun! Your children will miss you but they will have so many stories to share with you and plenty of special memories that they can add to their memory bank too. Our residential visits enhance the already rich and vibrant curriculum that Pear Tree children experience every day so please trust in the process, trust us with your wonderful children and trust that your children will have an incredible experience 😊

Internet Safety and Parent Support Drop-in Date.

We are continuing to see issues with children particularly in KS2 accessing inappropriate sites and games which are not age appropriate. We have also noted an increase in those stating they have experienced other children asking them to do things or being unpleasant and using offensive language toward them when playing via headphones on games. We always tell children that if anyone or anything makes you feel upset or uncomfortable then they must tell an adult and remove themselves from the situation.

To support our community, we continue with our half termly drop-in offer for any IT queries and questions particularly around parental controls with our IT lead – Mr Richard Pickup. The next date is Thursday May 2nd from 3.15p.m. to 4.00p.m. To book a slot please see Mrs Nixon in the office.

Insects

This is the term where I hope that the sun will shine, dry up all the wet and muddy patches and the children can then play happily on the field. I'd just like to remind you that when the weather gets drier it increases the number of biting critters that seem to live in the forest area. A number of our children appear to be tasty treats for these insects so if your child has forest school this term then please send them in long sleeve tops and long trousers. Last year, I bought some citronella infused bracelets which helped but you may also want to invest in some insect repellent for your child too. Unfortunately, the insects seem to live under the bark in the forest area and become prolific during dry spells and then once it rains the larvae and insects are then dispersed and it becomes less of a problem. We did try and minimize the time spent in the forest area during forest school sessions last year but if we plan in advance hopefully we can minimize the impact and the discomfort that the insects cause.

Sun cream

If the sun ever comes out, then please remember to apply sun cream before your child comes to school. Do not send any into school and also ensure they have a named hat if required to help protect them from the sun. Staff don't apply sun cream usually but if it is vital then please see your child's class teacher for a chat over it. Many sun creams now offer adequate protection to 'last' all day.

Booknic

We love reading and know the power of shared reading at home both in improving academic access but also supporting emotional well-being. After the success of last year's Booknic we are holding our summer term 'Booknic' to continue the celebration of the joy of reading together. Pack up a few good books, a nice rug and come and join us on the field on Thursday 23 May 2.30pm.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT HOLIDAYS

I would like to bring to your attention a slight adjustment to our academic calendar for this year. Upon careful review, I have realized that due to the leap year this year, we will have worked a total of 191 days instead of the originally planned 190 days. Consequently, in order to maintain a fair and balanced schedule for both students and staff, the governors and I have made the decision to add **an extra day to our holiday period which will be Friday 19th July 2024.** Year 6 leavers assembly will be on Thursday 18th July at 9.15am.

I appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this exceptional circumstance.

Meetings and Emails

Please keep emails to working hours and kind in nature. Across the education sector we are seeing an increase in threat and aggression toward school staff; I will always act to protect my staff from this. If you have any issues, then please raise them in an appropriate way and in a manner that can lead to a solution. WhatsApp does not give us a right of reply or explanation. I must allow staff time to do their day-to-day job of teaching, marking, planning etc. as well as respecting their right to family life. This way they are the best people in front of your children every day, delivering the best education we can for our Pear Tree Family.

Be kind. Always 😊

New Starters

The deadline for accepting reception places is 30th April.

There will be a coffee morning on Friday 17th May and we look forward to welcoming our new starters then. A letter will come home early May with dates of various visits.

Transition to Brine Leas will start week commencing 24th June, with 'Meet the Teacher' day for all on Thursday 27th June.

Community News

Cost of living Crisis, support information. The link below contains everything from Cheshire East linked to the cost of living. All grants and funding streams that there are. <https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/costofliving>

School is also able to support families to access support through the Nantwich Foodbank. If you are finding finances a struggle, talk to us early so we can explore how you can access support or plan a payment schedule for school costs. Mrs Nixon is our Cost of Living Support lead so call into the office or give her a call for confidential help.

And finally... I need some feedback with the newletter. I know some of you read it avidly and can't wait to receive it but others of you don't see it as such a page turner!

So, how often would you like to receive it?

- Fortnightly
- Half termly
- Not at all!!!

Any other comments:

Please email admin@peartree.cheshire.sch.uk

I'm looking forward to a wonderful term 😊

Diary Dates

Mon 22nd-24th Apr – Blue (Y4) class residential to Conway

Mon 29th-30th Apr – Yellow (Y2) class residential to Burwardsley

Fri 3rd May – Yellow class swimming for 4 weeks

Fri 3rd May – Green class to Grosvenor Museum Chester

Thurs 9th May – Photographer for class groups and leaver's

Mon 13th May – Year 6 Sats week

Wed 22nd May – Orange class to Nantwich Museum

Thurs 23rd May 2.30pm – Booknic on the field – All welcome

Fri 24th May – Break for half term, return Mon 3rd June

Mon 3rd-5th June – Violet (Y6) class residential to York

Fri 7th June – Orange class swimming for 4 weeks

Thurs 13th & 14th June – Violet class Bikeability

Thurs 27th June – Move Up Day

Weds 3rd July – Blue class Bikeability

Fri 5th July – Sports Day KS1 am and KS2 pm

Thurs 18th July 9.15am – Leavers assembly (new date)

Thursday 18th July – Break for summer