Friday 23rd February 2024

Dear All,

I hope you all enjoyed your half term break. Year 4 has had a very sporty start to this term. On Monday they began two weeks of daily swimming lessons and today began a six-week programme of cricket coaching. Our Tuesday Sports Coach continues to work with the younger children and runs a lunchtime club. The only change is that nursery now attend in the afternoon.

On Tuesday the 20th, Year 6 had a visit from Transport for London and the Police. Their workshop was around keeping safe, especially as they transition to secondary school and may have to use buses/trains more independently. Before half term Year 6 also had a talk about ‘Let’s talk about drugs’. All of this work is done to help prepare our oldest children for the world outside Perrymount.

I focused my assembly this week on keeping safe. We talked about safety at school, keeping safe on the roads and stranger danger.

Have you had the chance to look at our new school video on the website? As a team we are delighted with the result and we hope you are to. A big thank you to everyone who contributed. My favourite line from the video is that ‘Perrymount is Lewisham’s best kept secret!’ what a wonderful description of our school.

**The Tree**

Many of you have asked about the missing tree in the office entrance. Before half term a survey was completed on our trees and the Quince tree at the front was found to be diseased. It has been removed and when the time is right a pear tree will be planted there instead.

**Half Term Events**

I hope you received your letter regarding our fundraising event, ‘A Sponsored Leap for Leap Year’ on Thursday February 29th. We have different sponsored events for different year groups and hope everyone will take part either by leaping or sponsoring. All money raised will go towards the cost of the hall projector and batteries for the chrome books. The total cost of these items was just over £8000 and with the help of Friends of Perrymount, we are trying to raise £4000 to supplement this cost. So far, we have raised £2,065.90.

World Book Day is on March 7th and I hope everyone will be dressing up. A letter from Mr Santamaria is coming home today with the children.

On Friday March 8th Year 2 will be performing their class assembly at 10am and on Thursday March 21st Years 3 to 5 will be performing their musical play at 2pm.

This half term we will have open mornings and evenings for you to come and look at your child/ren’s work and talk to their teacher about progress. The evening date is Thursday March 14th but the morning dates will vary. More information to follow.

**Miss Bristow Retirement**

After a career in teaching spanning over 40 years, Miss Bristow will be retiring at the end of this term. Miss Bristow has worked at Perrymount since 2011 and had previously worked here between 1990 and 1997. She has made a valuable contribution to Perrymount and especially to our status of ‘Centre of Excellence’ for Special Educational Needs. I will of course say more nearer the time.

Miss Chant will be taking on the SENCO role from April. Initially part time, as she will remain the Year 1 teacher and then full time from September.

**Attendance**

This week I received a Department of Education letter regarding the importance of attendance. One sentence reads…

*By prioritising attendance, we can ensure that every pupil has the opportunity to succeed in their educational journey and build a foundation for a brighter future.*

… and I cannot deny this is true. Together let’s make a real effort this term and ensure the children are in school and on time.

This week’s figures are…

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Class | Attendance | How many lates? |
| Reception | 93.09%  | 9 |
| Year 1 | 97.7%  | 5 |
| Year 2 | 95.49%  | 2 |
| Year 3 | 94.47%  | 5 |
| Year 4 | 100%  | 1 |
| Year 5 | 99.26% | 8 |
| Year 6 | 90.87% | 6  |

Congratulations to Year 4 for an amazing 100%, although Year 5 was very close! Well done to Year 2 and 4 for the least amount of lates.

Best wishes.

Christine Keen

Headteacher