

20th January, 2017

Key Information (details below)

- Uniform hats back in stock at John Lewis
- Collection from minibus at The Prep in inclement weather: children will be inside the entrance to New School

Dear Parents,

A concise newsletter this week as Nursery admission sessions continue...

Uniform Woolly Hats

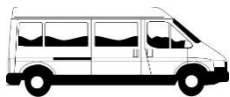
Our uniform hats are now back in stock at John Lewis. To give you time to order and name hats we shall be back to a uniform hat only policy from Monday, 30th January.



Long Road – Overnight road closures

Please be aware that Long Road will be closed from 8pm – 6am for two weeks from 23rd January.

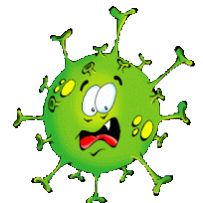
Pelican to Prep Minibus Collection Point



A reminder that in the event of inclement weather children will wait for collection in New School entrance hall. Mrs Jack asks parents to come up the steps to collect their child so she may say goodbye to them one at a time.

Absence due to illness

A reminder that, in accordance with guidelines from Public Health England, school policy is that anyone who has had sickness or diarrhoea must be kept away from school for **48 hours** from the last episode of sickness or diarrhoea to reduce the spread of infection.



Parking

Parents are politely reminded not to block our driveway when collecting from Owls, but instead to drive up to the exit gate and collect children promptly to keep traffic moving. If you need to be in school for more than a couple of minutes then please park on Glebe Road to avoid blocking other parents in.

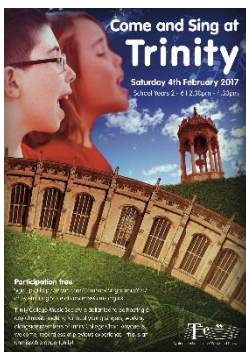
In addition, please keep neighbours' driveways clear when dropping off or collecting. It is most frustrating for them not to be able to leave their homes when they are ready to. I would be most grateful if you could pass this on to any carer or other family member who brings your child to or collects them from school.

Keeping an Eye on the Future

Yesterday the Department of Education released its school performance league tables. These tables do not include IGCSE results, and as such they significantly under-record Perse pupil attainment. This year there is a new measure – the so called Attainment 8 which measures a student’s best grades across 8 subjects, subject to certain criteria, with double weighting given to English and maths. The highest possible score is 80 (8 per GCSE grade plus double weighting in English and maths). Under the Government’s calculations where IGCSE is **not** counted the average Perse pupil score is 54.83, but if IGCSEs were included The Perse score would be 77.9 out of a possible 80. As an independent school The Perse is not bound by Department of Education qualification restrictions. Instead we use our independence to select carefully the exam courses that will maximise Perse pupil learning provided the courses are both rigorous and recognised by universities. In some subjects we teach GCSEs, in others IGCSEs. There are also professional body qualifications like RADA in drama. What unites this approach is a desire to give pupils the best learning experience in each and every subject irrespective of the impact on the School’s position in government league tables.

Parent Consultation appointments for Nursery and Year 2

To make life easier for parents, we are trialling the system used by The Prep which we hope will enable you to make appointments with your child’s class teacher without the need to come in to school. The accompanying Persepost explains all.



Come and Sing at Trinity

An exciting afternoon of music-making for children in school years 2 – 6 will be taking place at Trinity College, Cambridge on Saturday 4th February.

'Come and Sing at Trinity' will consist of a fun singing workshop with members of Trinity College Choir, incorporating a range of songs from countries around the world. The session will start at 2.30pm (registration from 1.45pm) and there will be a short informal performance for family and friends at 4.15pm.

The workshops are completely free with the aim of allowing anyone to take part: no musical experience is required. The organisers hope this might provide a unique and exciting opportunity for those who have experienced little music-making outside of the National Curriculum, as well as for more experienced young singers. The emphasis will be on enjoying a fun, creative and social afternoon, bringing together local children from across Cambridgeshire alongside university students. To find out more, please follow the link to their video here:

<https://www.facebook.com/TrinityCollegeMusicSociety/videos/701150573379016/>

A parent / guardian must remain in the Chapel for the duration of the afternoon, and will be responsible for their child at all times. Parents are welcome to watch the workshop and drinks and snacks will be provided in the Ante-Chapel.

Finally...

An earring has been found in the Pelican. If you have recently lost one, please speak to Mrs Hipperson or Mrs Butler in the school office.



With best wishes
from us all at The Pelican



Come and Sing at Trinity

Saturday 4th February 2017

School Years 2 - 6 | 2.30pm - 4.30pm

Participation free

Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/ComeandSingatTrinity2017>
or by emailing Susie at concerts@tcms.org.uk.

Trinity College Music Society is delighted to be hosting a day of music-making for local young singers, working alongside members of Trinity College Choir. Anyone is welcome, regardless of previous experience - this is an unmissable opportunity!



By kind permission of the Master and Fellows