

4th September, 2015

Key Information (details below)

- APP Family Welcome Afternoon Saturday 3-4.30pm
- Whole School photograph on Monday: **FULL WINTER UNIFORM!**
- Wine and Welcome, Wednesday, 9th September 7 – 9pm
- Arrangements for Clubs from Monday
- Ballet exam certificates being awarded on Friday, 11th September at 9am
- Please return Directory Consent Forms asap
- Curriculum overviews for the term are attached
- If you interested in helping out with the Pelican Skills Award please see below
- Pelican minibus children at the Prep should be collected from the corner of the dining hall and New Block



Dear Parents,

“It’s just like a party!” Wonderful words spoken from a child new to Reception as she chattered away happily at lunchtime on her first day. We could ask for no more.



As always, the school feels right once the children are back with us; as there is already plenty to tell you about I shall begin without further ado.



During The Summer...

Thank you all so very much for keeping off the freshly laid grass at the front of school. I hope you like the new feel of the drive area and today at Kiss and Ride I noticed another bonus of the openness – I can see if cars are blocking the road or pavement!



We are delighted with the Reception garden and pond area and hope that the children will now be able to use it throughout the year.

The Pelican Room is much improved with far superior cooking facilities and increased storage. It appears to have doubled in size!

In addition, many thanks to Mr Wilson and his crew who have painted and cleaned to ensure that we were ready to welcome the children yesterday.



Family Welcome Afternoon, Saturday, 5th September, 3 – 4.30pm

This is our first event of the year. All our families in **Nursery and Reception** are warmly invited to join the APP for tea and cake in the playground tomorrow afternoon whilst meeting up with old friends and making some new ones.



Whole School Photograph, Monday, 7th September at 1.30pm

At the moment the weather forecast is dry for Monday afternoon! All children must be in **WINTER** uniform and wearing their Pelican sweatshirts, with shiny shoes and tidy hair. Nursery children should arrive via the Nursery gate at 1.30pm, but not before as they will be the last children to be asked to join the photograph and we would like to keep any anxiety they may have to a minimum.

Wine and Welcome next Wednesday, 9th September at 7pm



You are all invited to one of our key occasions of the year: our **Wine and Welcome** evening next week. We would recommend that if at all possible, at least one parent from each family attends, even if you have been in previous years. It is the opportunity for parents to find out how their child's class will run this year, including class specific routines and expectations, as well as to answer any questions you may have. There will be the chef's delicious honey sausages, nibbles and drinks for all in the hall prior to gathering in classrooms. This year we are also encouraging all parents to attend the e safety session being presented by Craig Thompson from the Local Authority's ICT Service. Craig has led sessions at The Perse Prep previously and we hope you will appreciate the opportunity to be updated in this fast-changing area of all of our lives. The evening should end by around 9pm.

Pelican Parent Directory Consent Forms

We are keen to give you the directory for 2015-16 so please return any consent forms to Mrs Hipperson as quickly as possible.

PE Uniform

Normal uniform should always accompany your child on days that he/she has been asked to arrive wearing PE uniform, so that they can change following their PE lesson.



Clubs

These begin on Monday and there are changes to the collection arrangements.

To collect your child from the majority of after school clubs please wait on the left hand side of school, opposite the white double door nearest to the Nursery gate. The coaches will ask you to sign your child out before handing them over to you. Please be patient for the first couple of weeks as they become familiar with the adult collecting your child; the process inevitably speeds up as the term progresses.

Children in sporty clubs should wear PE kit. Ballet children should wear the uniform requested. There will be the opportunity to purchase a Kung Fu uniform at a later date if you wish, but continuing to wear PE kit is also perfectly acceptable.

Children are reminded about taking their belongings for the evening with them when they go to club, but we have been informed by coaches that last year it became common practice for children to return to their classrooms following club. To ensure their safety and assist with collection the children will not be permitted to do this; instead we shall do everything we can to see that book bags, sweatshirts etc. are taken to the club as we gradually teach the children to be responsible for their own belongings!

For morning clubs it would be very helpful if the children could be at school for the 8am start. It is hard for them to join a club that is already up and running when the introduction is missed.

Please note individual drop-off and collection arrangements attached.

The vast majority of our children greatly enjoy attending their chosen clubs and we have few instances of poor behaviour. However, occasionally behaviour from a child has spoiled the club for other children. We have therefore explained that from this term extremely poor behaviour will result in a Yellow or Red card being issued. Two yellow cards equal a red card. Red cards will result in the child being unable to continue attending the club. I do not like having to implement this system and I do not anticipate many, if any, cards being issued; however, it is not right that one child is able to spoil the enjoyment of many. When explaining the cards to the children I have focussed on the positive aspects of Pelican Behaviour and the rewards of choosing to behave well. The cards are our version of the nuclear deterrent: it is there but we hope very much never to use it!

Citizenship Weeks and The Pelican Skills Award

For the next two weeks, as part of our settling-in process, we are having a particular focus on learning to be good citizens, both at The Pelican and in a wider context too. The children will be voting for their representatives for this term's Pelican Parliament, hearing about the Other Parliament in Westminster, considering how to be good friends, displaying Pelican Behaviour (as always) and much more.

Whilst we usually ask the children from Reception to Year 2 to practise elements of the Pelican Skills Award at home and then be tested at school, we felt that giving them the opportunity to do some practise in school will be a good start to the year. We would be delighted to be assisted with this! If you are excellent at tying knots, sewing on buttons, cleaning shoes etc. and able to come and help with this for a session please let your child's class teacher know.

Safeguarding Children

We take the safeguarding of our children very seriously and there are some arrangements that we must comply with to ensure we adhere to these requirements.



Registration takes place daily at 8.50am. To comply with safeguarding requirements, after this time any visitors to school need to be signed in. Therefore if you would like to accompany your child to their classroom please ensure that you are doing so before 8.50am.

Please use the visitor's toilet for everyone who is not a pupil at The Pelican. If collecting from clubs please access the toilet via the front door so that our staff know who is in the school.

Staff News



This week we have welcomed Miss Amsellem, who will be teaching music throughout the school as well as forming a choir and band.

In addition, we are delighted that Mrs Gorick and Mrs Williams have joined us in Cedar.



We shall shortly be advertising for a teacher to cover Miss O'Reilly's maternity leave from January.

If you are not sure who is who around school please do have a look at the staff photo board just inside the front door.



Club Pelican

Club Pelican ran successfully for five weeks of the holidays and children and staff were a very happy crew enjoying sport, face painting, circus skills, making and eating pizzas and much more.

In case you are planning leave for the year ahead, you may be interested to know that **Club Pelican** will run on:

14th – 18th December 2015
4th – 8th April 2016
11th July – 12th August 2016



Picture of The Perse Pelican School

If, after all these please dos and don'ts, you would still like to be reminded of us when at home, prints of our fabulous new painting, now hanging in the entrance hall, are available to purchase. Please see the attached form. They might make a unique Christmas present.

With best wishes for the weekend,

Mrs W and all the staff at The Perse Pelican

