

8th January, 2016**Key Information (details below)**

- **All children MUST have their named school coat in school every day**
- **Year 2 Family Afternoon, 2pm 29th January – guests invited to attend (see below)**

Dear Parents,

It has been an excellent start to the term, with everyone returning to school relaxed and rejuvenated. The term is once again filled with enticing lessons, visitors and trips for the children. A curriculum overview for Reception to Year 2 is being sent home today.

Now that winter is arriving all children should have a named school coat with them every day and they may also like a school scarf, hat and navy gloves. We diligently return named items to their owners, but otherwise they look very similar indeed and it usually proves impossible to achieve this.

Year 2 Family Afternoon, 2pm, 29th January

This is a very special event for children in Year 2 and they relish the opportunity to show their grandparents, godparents, relatives or family friends around the school. During the afternoon their guest has the opportunity to see the child's work, be given an insider's tour of the school and then have tea before it is time to go home. We do ask that the guest is NOT a parent – only because you are very familiar with the school and the hosting responsibilities are emphasised when the children are showing around people who do not usually come to school. If you have any difficulty finding a guest for your child do let us know because we can arrange for them to co-host with another child.

APP Pudding Club, 7.30pm on 12th February

A reminder that tickets are now available for this very enjoyable evening. I am hoping that this time our car is not filled with petrol instead of diesel on the way to The Red Lion at Hinxton so that we arrive in time for the meal! I look forward to seeing many of you there. Please see the PersePost from the APP for further details.

Catering: savoury snacks from now on, sugar at lunchtimes

This term's 3-weekly menu plan is available on sharepoint. The children have been involved in them as well, choosing, through Pelican Parliament, to have fish fingers sometimes as an alternative to the fried fish on Fridays.

Our caterers, Holroyd Howe, pride themselves on providing fresh, home cooked meals using locally sourced produce where possible. As such they are able to avoid the hidden sugars which often form part of many manufactured and processed ingredients and sauces. They do, of course, use sugar in dessert recipes but also use natural alternatives where appropriate, such as honey or agave nectar. In line with current food trends they have reduced the amount of sweet provisions provided. All the morning snacks for break time are now

savoury with fresh fruit provided both at morning break and lunchtime. Vegetable sticks with hummus are on weekly to assist with the "5 a day". In 2015 they introduced a new company innovation called "half measures" reducing the sugar content of many dessert recipes by half. Low fat yoghurt and fruit are available as alternatives at lunchtime for pupils. An example of a half measure recipe for baked apple Sponge is 500g each of flour and margarine, but only 250g of sugar, with 8 eggs and dessert apples.

Exam Invigilation

We are looking to recruit additional members of our examination invigilation team at The Upper School. External exams take place from May to late June each year, with occasional earlier sessions from late March. There are also some invigilation requirements at other times of the year, including university entrance tests in November, and Year 11 mock exams and L6 mid year exams in January. We are able to accommodate drop off/pick up times where needed and other fixed commitments. These positions are remunerated, and are subject to DBS disclosure at enhanced level. Application is made through the online application form, and the closing date is 12 noon on Monday 25 January. Interviews will be held in the week commencing Monday 1 February.

If you would like further details, please contact Leila Redfearn, Qualifications & Progression Administrator on 01223 403825, e-mail lredfearn@perse.co.uk.

400 Ball at IWM Duxford, Saturday, 23rd April

You will have seen invitations to our anniversary ball to be held at IWM Duxford on Saturday 23rd April. We are delighted that over 550 tickets have been sold. (Tickets can still be purchased [here](#)). We will be raising funds for East Anglia's Children's Hospice, Christel House and the School's *An Enduring Gift* campaign through a silent charity auction and raffle on the night. We are always struck by the number of Perse parents who run successful businesses or who have links with interesting people and places, and who therefore might be able to secure unique 'lots' for the auction or exciting prizes for the raffle. If you think you could help, please contact Director of Communications Caroline Brown on cbrown@perse.co.uk. All donations will be gratefully acknowledged.

Have your say on Cross City Cycling – a message from Cambridge City Council

Proposals for five cycling projects across Cambridge are now out for consultation between Monday 4 January and Monday 15th February 2016. These projects aim to provide residents with better walking and cycling links to schools and employment centres. They represent strategic links to radial and orbital cycle routes, especially those to employment or development sites. Each project will be integrated and delivered with other projects such as The Chisholm Trail, Histon Road, Milton Road and Robin Hood junction improvements.

The five projects are:

- A. Arbury Road Route
- B. Links to Cambridge North Rail Station and the Science Park
- C. Ditton Lane and Links to East Cambridge
- D. Hills Road and Addenbrooke's Route
- E. Fulbourn/Cherry Hinton Eastern Access

Each scheme not only benefits cyclists, but offers improvements for pedestrians, local residents and motorists too.

To find out more about this £4.2m City Deal project during the consultation period, visit www.gccitydeal.co.uk/Cross-City-Cycling or come along to one of the public exhibition events:

Tuesday 12 January	18:00 – 20:00	Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge, CB3 OAP
Thursday 14 January	17:00 – 20:00	Recreation Ground Pavilion, Church Street, Fen Ditton, CB5 8UP
Monday 18 January	11:30 – 14:30	Food Court & Concourse, Addenbrooke's CB2 0QQ
Thursday 28 January	17:00 – 20:00	Cherry Hinton Village Centre, Colville Road, CB1 9EJ
Tuesday 2 February	17:00 – 20:00	The Meadows Community Centre, 1 St Catharine's Road, CB4 2XJ
Wednesday 3 February	17:30 – 20:30	St John the Evangelist, Hills Road, CB2 8RN
Thursday 4 February	18:00 – 20:30	Shirley Primary School, Nuffield Road, CB4 1TF

You can also join in the conversation online on Facebook at www.facebook.com/gccitydeal and Twitter at www.twitter.com/gccitydeal.

Whilst writing, it would be much appreciated if you could talk through safer cycling with your children once more as the days are still short. The Perse School as a whole is keen to instil good cycling habits in our children from an early age and do all we can to protect them on the roads. There is no policeman as effective as a Pelican policeman and once your child has been told all the points to look out for they will be a highly efficient warning system should lights etc have failed!



The start to the Lent Term is always particularly busy as we begin our process of Nursery admissions for September. You will be aware that as we are working with very young children we give them 3 visits to settle in and feel confident with us prior to making offers of places. Although we work hard to maintain life "as normal" I would appreciate your understanding if we are occasionally a little slower than usual to answer your queries.

Wishing you a happy weekend,

Mrs W and all the staff at The Perse Pelican

