



30<sup>th</sup> November 2018

### Key Information (details below)

- **Christmas Club Pelican (14 - 20<sup>th</sup> December) online booking on Parent Portal**
- **Christingle Service next Tuesday, 9-9.30am, 4th December at St John's Church**
- **Clubs continue until the final morning of term**
- **Party clothes for the final day of term**
- **Owls ends at 5.30pm on the final day of term**



Dear Parents,

We take the wellbeing of our children seriously and are aware of how tired they are as we approach the end of a term that has been full of engaging opportunities for learning. In school, the younger children are having quiet times during the day and in Years 1 and 2 they are pausing, practising deep breathing and stopping for a while. We greatly value your support in so many areas of school life; please could you help your children to finish the term successfully by ensuring they have enough sleep. The NHS advice is that 3 – 7 year olds need **at least** 10 – 12 hours every night and some benefit from much more. At this age, if they are down by even an hour a night it quickly affects them. Thank you for your help.



### Recently ...



#### Prep Musicians at The Pelican

We enjoyed a visit from Prep children playing in a string quartet. It is always such a joy to see how children develop as they go through the Prep and our Pelicans listened well.

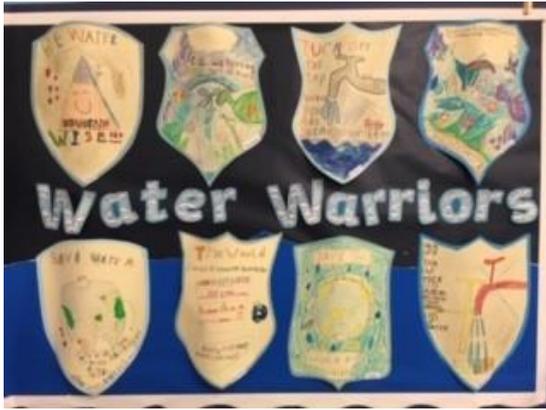
#### Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who purchased books and a huge thank you to Mrs Ho, Dr Eschler de Ris and Mrs Whelan for organising our most successful book fair ever. £1834 of books were purchased and the school will receive commission of over £1000 to spend on books. Mrs Heftman, our Literacy co-ordinator is delighted!



## Eco/Roots and Shoots Update

Mr Ankin is co-ordinating our Roots and Shoots year and writes:



Post Eco Fortnight, there continues to be a strong ecological focus to the lessons and learning at the Pelican.

The **Nursery** children and staff have focused their efforts on using less paper. The children have been taught to use paper more prudently and the staff have been putting out smaller pieces of paper in the effort to use less.

**Reception** have been frequent visitors to our new pen recycling bin. All of the used pens are taken by Bic to be recycled and used again. Thank you, Miss Kenworthy, for

this wonderful idea, the Pelican certainly gets through a large number of pens in a year. The trip to the local allotment for Reception sparked more learning on their return; they have planted a large number of vegetables and herbs which will be harvested in the spring. We look forward to the soup next term.

**Year One** will be dazzling us all with their performance of **Eddie the Penguin Saves the World**.

In addition to this, Year One have learnt about rainforests and the animals that are affected by deforestation. They voted to adopt an orang-utan and, through the WWF, planted 200 new trees in the rainforest. Well done Year One!



On a similar theme, **Year Two** have studied the endangered animals of the world. A recent homework asked the children to choose an animal to adopt and persuade their peers in writing to vote for this animal. Year Two are now ready to vote so watch this space. Year Two have also been thinking about how the school can save water, this can be seen above and is just one of a number of displays around the Pelican which celebrate our Roots and Shoots learning.



The MPPs (Members of Pelican Parliament) wrote the job descriptions for the energy monitors and have made them energy badges. **Switch Off Fortnight** was another success, led by Mrs Hurt. The Pelican is now adorned with Switch Off stickers in all of the appropriate places.

This is just a snippet of the focuses for this term; I look forward to updating you further next term.

## Reception Trip to the Sedgewick Museum



The children in Reception had a wonderful trip to the Sedgewick Museum on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Upon entering the museum, they were greeted by an enormous skeleton of an iguanodon. The children were then tasked with finding three important items: the skeleton of a hippopotamus, some gems and a giant spider. We all had fun searching for the items and the children demonstrated excellent Pelican Behaviour at all times. They were then invited to explore the size of different dinosaur footprints.

We were able to fit 8 children into the T rex footprint! Finally, they handled a real dinosaur tooth fossil which they carefully passed to each other. We were all very proud of the children in Beech and Maple and it was a fantastic way to draw our topic on dinosaurs to a close.





### **Stirring the Christmas Pudding**

This annual event took place in a darkened hall and everyone stirred the enormous twinkling bowl of pudding mixture whilst making a Christmas wish as the rest of the school sat in an enormous circle singing Christmas carols and songs. We remembered why there are 13 ingredients in the pudding and why we stir from East to West. The enthusiasm of the children was heart-warming and we are looking forward to tasting the pudding at our Christmas lunch.



### **Christingle Service**

Our Christingle service will take place at St John's Church on Hills Road at 9am on Tuesday, 4th December. Children and parents/carers should arrive at the church between 8.40am and 8.50am and go to the class teachers who will be waiting inside. Families are very welcome to stay for this special service. Children attending Larks should arrive before 8.25am as the staff will be walking up to the church after that time. We are very grateful to the APP who will be making a Christingle for the children to take home at the end of the day. Year 2 children will each hold a lit Christingle, therefore please could everyone with long hair have it tied back for the service. Thank you.

As always, **Nursery pupils who are not in session are very welcome to join us for the service.** If they are happy to sit with the rest of the class they can join us at the front of the church. If they would prefer to sit with you, please remain with them in the congregation. After the service we welcome as many Nursery parents as possible to help walk our Nursery pupils back to school.

**Book bags will not be sent home on Monday afternoon.**



### **And on to Christmas...!**

#### **Christmas Club Pelican**

We are really looking forward to seeing the children who are already booked into Club Pelican this holiday. A full timetable of activities has been sent out by PersePost and as you can see it promises to be a fun filled week. If you would still like to book a place for your child you can now do this directly through the link on the Parent Portal. Club Pelican includes all meals, snacks and resources.





### Christmas Postbox

All children at The Pelican may post Christmas cards to their friends and staff in our Pelican Christmas post box. The post box will be ready for post from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. It will be stationed at the bottom of the rainbow stairs and deliveries will be made by our enthusiastic Pelican **Postmen** to all classes. Cards should be addressed with **NAME and CLASS** to be sure they reach the recipients!

### Christmas Trees

It is a Pelican tradition for our trees to be adorned with decorations made by the children at home. From Monday, all contributions will be most welcome. In the past we have had some sewn items, cut out, glued or baked decorations. I love to bring out some from the past and smile to think that some of those children are now at The Upper.



### Christmas Party

**On the final day of term the children may wear party clothes for our very special Christmas lunch and party. Who knows who may visit us?**

### Housekeeping items ..

#### Missing items

Pelican parents are excellent at naming uniform and I always have a sense of satisfaction when I can deliver “lost” uniform back to its owner. Once again, this term we need your help. Unusually, we are missing a number of properly **named** items and although every nook and cranny of the school has been searched we cannot find them; please could you check that your child has brought home their own uniform and/or does not have anything belonging to anyone else in any of their bags? We are looking for:

- Jeeon’s named coat and shoes
- Ella’s named hat and gloves
- Shota’s named tracksuit top
- Sara’s ballet headband



Extra housepoints awarded as items are found!

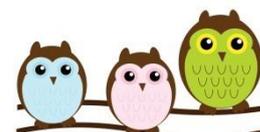


#### Uniform again ..

All uniform worn in school should be that shown on the John Lewis website including coats, hats and gloves. Of course – please name it as per the parent handbook! Please do let me know if this causes you a problem.

### Booking for Owls

A gentle reminder to please always book in for Owls to ensure we have sufficient staffing and tea for the children.



## Respect

We have been having some issues with children mistreating the precious new toys, books and playground equipment and I would be grateful for your support in encouraging respect for things and people wherever the children are. In terms of school, budgeted funds are carefully allocated and it is dismaying for staff and children to see new resources being mistreated and/or broken.



We encourage a life-long love of reading and have invested significantly in updating the school reading scheme books. Children love to read books that are new and in good condition; it is part of the whole experience. We would be immensely grateful if children saved eating until after they have read to avoid greasy pages and crumbs, were encouraged to hold the book carefully, not bending back the spine and did not turn down pages.

Thank you very much for your support; we need world-wide Pelican Behaviour!

## Sports Awards

We are looking for a parent or friend of the school who would be interested in leading an assembly and presenting our next Sports Awards to the children in the Lent Term. If you are interested, please contact Mrs Ankin [lankin@perse.co.uk](mailto:lankin@perse.co.uk) .



## Registrations for entry to Nursery in September 2019

A reminder that the closing date for registrations to enter Nursery in September 2019 is 8<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Mrs Hipperson would be very appreciative if any sibling registrations could be submitted as soon as possible.

## Perse Carol Service

Finally, The Perse's Carol Service will take place at St John's College Chapel on Monday 10 December at 7.00pm. It is always a beautiful and moving occasion, and a wonderful way to begin the Christmas season. Seats in the Chapel are allocated on a first come first seated basis and the Chapel doors will open at 6.30pm. We are still recruiting for adults to join our Friends of Perse Choir who take part in the Carol Service; no huge ability needed, just a desire to take part (please contact [music@perse.co.uk](mailto:music@perse.co.uk) if you are interested).

With best wishes  
Mrs W and all the staff at The Pelican



*We value: endeavour, intellectual curiosity and scholarship, breadth and balance, one another*