

NEWSLETTER
17th December 2020



“Head”lines

Thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets for the PSA raffle, we sold 1872 tickets which is absolutely fantastic and there were some very excited winners this morning on our live draw. Huge congratulations to Oliver in Y3 and Gurmurkh in Y5 for winning the top two prizes of the iPad and Nintendo Switch!

This week has been very busy and we hope that we have brought some festive cheer to the school. **Our carol concert link will be sent out at the end of this week** but we have had live stream of a Victorian Christmas Carol, Christmas Dinner, an online pantomime and end of term celebrations, courtesy of the PSA who gave £30 to each class.

We hope you found the opportunity to speak with your child’s class teacher over the last few weeks useful too and know where we will be starting with your child in the new year.

Free School Meal vouchers for the holiday period should have been received by our families, please ensure you can download and access them before tomorrow as we will not be in school to help with any queries next week.

Fingers crossed that despite Hertfordshire moving into Tier 3 at the weekend, all our families will be able to have some kind of break over the festive period. Please keep safe and careful over the Christmas break, this applies as much to school staff as it does to our families. However, on a more positive note thank you so much for all the kind and supportive messages we have received through email or in cards, it really means a lot to us as a school team. I think if we take anything out of this unusual time, is the value and importance of hope, appreciation and gratitude for everything, but particularly the small things. I have to say we have loved your children in school and we will try our upmost to be here and present for your children. Massive, well done Year 3 children, you have the best attendance in the whole school!!!! They have settled so brilliantly into Pixmore.

Just to finish my favourite book of the year has been Charlie Mackesy’s book: The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse. The illustrations are gorgeous but the words and phrases have been so meaningful.

There have been so many apt phrases but I think the one we have used the most in school is:



Pixmore staff have listened, tried to be supportive, kind and their teaching inspiring, so I would also like to publically thank them for their efforts and flexibility this term.

As a reminder of the letter sent earlier this week in regards to Track and Trace, please note the following:

We will be undertaking track and trace responsibilities for the school community up until 2pm on Christmas Eve. **If your child tests positive for Covid-19** please let us know via email to the school office at admin@pixmore.herts.sch.uk. This will allow us to undertake our track and trace activities to identify close contacts for the last two days of term.

If your child is identified as a close contact, you will receive the necessary communication via MarvellousMe. The email for reporting positive tests is admin@pixmore.herts.sch.uk. Please **DO NOT** use any other school email address as these will not be checked over the Christmas break.

To ensure these arrangements work effectively, so everyone can enjoy a happy and healthy Christmas break, we ask families to adhere to the following:

- Seek tests via testing centres where possible to avoid test result delays. Test centre results are normally delivered within 24 hours of the test being administered
- Notify school if children display Covid-19 symptoms and self-isolate until the result is received
- Continue to follow social distancing guidelines to minimise the risk of infection within school and the wider community.

Symptoms begin on (or date of positive test if asymptomatic)				
	14 th – 18 th December inclusive	Saturday 19 th December	Sunday 20 th December	21 st December – 4 th January 2021
Action Required	Parents Inform school immediately. School will notify individuals within class / year group bubble who may have had close contact. Notified individuals to self-isolate for 14 days	Parents Inform school immediately. School will notify individuals within class / year group bubble who may have had close contact on Thursday 17 th and Friday 18 th December. Notified individuals to self-isolate for 14 days	Parents Inform school immediately. School will notify individuals within class / year group bubble who may have had close contact on Friday 18 th December. Notified individuals to self-isolate for 14 days	Unless testing was delayed following onset of symptoms, case will not have been in school. There is no need to contact school.
Please email admin@pixmore.herts.sch.uk – in the event of a confirmed case between the close of school on Friday 18th December and Thursday 24th December Please put in the Subject line Positive Case – emails will be checked in the mornings before 12 on a daily basis. Please also put your current contact mobile, as if there is a positive result from a case, the school may contact you if we need further information for our discussion with public health teams.				
Parental Responsibility	Parents to notify close contact family and friends and follow advice as per NHS Covid-19 guidelines http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/			

Travelling Abroad

International arrivals from countries not on the travel corridor list will be able to stop self-isolation 10 days after their departure from a country or territory that is not on the travel corridor list. Please always check the up-to-date Travel Corridor list. From the 15 December, international arrivals can further shorten their self-isolation period by opting into ‘Test to Release for International Travel’, and paying to take a private test from the 5th full day since they left a destination not on the travel corridors list. If they test negative, they can stop self-isolating. We suggest that parents need to share this test result to satisfy that they don’t need to self-isolate.

Thank you again for your continued support.



Staff News

Miss Fortune has had a baby boy Theo born on 1st December, 6lbs 2oz for those who want to know. Miss Fortune has shown the children in Year 5 via Zoom and mother and baby are doing well. We wish Miss Fortune, her partner Harvey and baby Theo a lovely first Christmas together.



Thank you to all the parents that joined our Chair of Governors, Caroline Nicholson and Mrs Willans, assistant Headteacher and SENCO for our Parent Forum the other week. We will be making some tweaks in communication in light of parental comments but noted that the videoed assemblies were well received and for working parents and families made them a lovely sharing opportunity.



Other useful information

Fun opportunity for families

A message that was forwarded from Letchworth Heritage who has supported this venture

Hello Guys and Season's Greetings

Imajica Theatre with local grant funding have created a digital Panto this year, rather than our Panto weekender we normally hold in Letchworth, we are offering access to it FREE of charge to SEN families and any Family that is experiencing financial difficulty or live with a Disability. If you know you are or know of a group that could help us share some Christmas Cheer this year then please ask them to get in touch, or reply yourselves and then I can share the info on how they can access the Online Panto. info@imajicatheatre.co.uk or www.imajicatheatre.co.uk For all others we are asking for a donation of £5 to watch it, once the link is sent it can be watched as many times as people like in the lead up to Christmas

Thanks for your time in reading this guys and I look forward to hearing from you of who we should share this with

kind regards

Samantha Hough

Artistic Director

Imajica Theatre

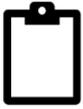
On behalf of the staff and governors we would like to wish all our families a

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!





Regular Reminders



School Office

- The school office opens at 8.00 AM and remains open until 4.00 PM.
- The office gets very busy at the beginning and ends of the school day, so messages may go to the answerphone as the office staff are dealing with face-to-face or other telephone enquiries.
- You can contact the school office to report absences by email at admin@pixmore.herts.sch.uk, via your ParentMail account or by phone on 01462 620555 and leave a message on the absence option. Please give full explanation of illness or other reason for absence for our reporting.
- **Reminder we are a Cash-Free school, any payments required for school activities should be made via your ParentMail account. Any payments for school meals should be paid via your SchoolGrid account. Please contact us if you require any assistance.**



Medication

If your child needs to take any medication during school hours, please ensure:

- Any adult brings any medication to the school office and collects it at the end of the day
- The adult completes a medication form
- **DO NOT** send any medication in with your child. This ensures that everyone is kept safe, to avoid any allergies or lose.

Ways to contact us



Pixmore Junior School, Rushby Mead,
Letchworth Garden City, SG6 1RS



admin@pixmore.herts.sch.uk



01462 620555



<http://www.pixmore.herts.sch.uk/>

Calendar Dates for year 2020-21

Academic Year 2020-21

AUTUMN TERM 2020

18/12/20 Last Day of Term – Early Finish at 12 noon

SPRING TERM 2021

04/01/21 INSET Day (School Closed)
05/01/21 Children return to School
18/01/21 Year 4 – Anglo-Saxon Workshop
15/02/20-19/02/20 HALF TERM HOLIDAY
01/03/21 Year 4 – Viking Workshop
04/03/21 World Book Day
26/03/20 Last Day of Term – normal finish at 3.15pm

SUMMER TERM 2021

12/04/21 Children return to School
03/05/21 BANK Holiday (School Closed)
18/05/21 Class Group Photographs
31/05/21-04/06/21 HALF TERM HOLIDAY
21-25/06/21 Yr6 Residential Trip to Butlins, Skegness
16/07/21 Last Day of Term – Early Finish at 2pm
19/07/21 INSET Day (School Closed)
20/07/21 INSET Day (School Closed)
21/07/21 Occasional Day (School Closed)
22/07/21 INSET Day (School Closed)