

Pixmore Express

8th September 2020



Mrs Evans's Headlines

Dear Pupils, Parents /Carers,

This is the first of my weekly updates for this term. I will try to be brief!!!

Firstly, may I say welcome to all our new pupils, not just in Year 3 but across the school. We hope to build positive and enjoyable learning experiences for your child and your family.

Pixmore, like all the schools across the country is moving to a 'new' normal and I do not underestimate the challenges that brings, so please bear with us. As the school was not built for a pandemic, both in terms of school organisation and classroom layout, the summer has been spent working through the ever changing guidance and risk assessments! I feel confident that we have a risk assessed secure COVID 19 environment and a curriculum which supports children's learning going forward but also their personal mental attitude and well-being. Some approaches we have changed and re-ordered the sequencing and topics covered in order to benefit your child and family learning.

There will be a letter coming next week to book 'zoom' calls with your child's class teacher so you can share your views on your child's learning, gaps and anything else you feel we need to know or questions you have. The calls will be about 10 minutes in length so have a think about what you want us to know and say. In turn, we also have some questions we'd like to ask you! Working in partnership will enable us to best support your child. Rest assured we will do our best to support your family and child.

However, we are only human too and this is a work in progress, so if we don't get it right please talk to us rather than post it all over social media!

Home Learning

Home learning will be posted once a week (Thursday) under the home learning tab on the website. In your child's year group you will find home learning, maths task sheets and reading tasks; as well as topic grids to support those children who may be self isolating.

We will be asking children to post learning and work on the SeeSaw app and Miss Pocock will be explaining this to the children and doing a video for parents too! Once you are signed up to Seesaw teachers can feed back on learning.

If you want a teacher to telephone or email you about your children please use the following email address; putting FAO and your child's class teacher name in the subject line to

schoolteachers@pixmore.herts.sch.uk



Key Dates – first half Autumn Term 2020

7 th September	All year groups in & curriculum resumes
Week commencing 21 st Sept	Meet the Teacher consultations (opportunity for parents to meet their child 's teacher formally - information will be out next week on booking appointments via Zoom
26 th Oct – 30 th Oct	Half Term



Staff Information

Staff News and Staff Information

We have had some staff changes over the summer so just to put you in the picture.

Head teacher: Mrs Evans - I am on duty on most mornings before school and after school, so you can catch me outside for a chat. If you are unable to catch me outside I try and see parents first thing in the morning or straight after school; failing that please telephone or email me or the office, who will make an appointment for you to call you in the first instance. I am trying really hard to remember all the new Year 3 names and parents too! So if I stop you, Year 3 children in the morning make me guess your name!

Deputy Head: Mrs Inman – Teaching mornings in Year 6 and Year 5 (in her own room – The Lab).

Her leadership days are Monday, Tuesday and Friday afternoons. If Mrs Evans isn't available, Mrs Inman will be able to meet with parents/carers. Mrs Inman is our English Subject Lead, assessment Lead and forest schools Lead.

Assistant Headteacher/SENCO: Mrs Willans - If you have a concern regarding your child's learning or special needs Mrs Willans is the person to talk to. Mrs Willans is on duty most mornings and after school until half term. Mrs Willans also runs our Parent Forum and School Council, which will be run 'virtually' this term.

Lower School – Year 3 and Year 4 - Mrs Ratibb is the go to person other than your child's class teacher if your child is in Year 3 and Year 4. She is also our Maths and Modern Foreign Language subject lead. She is the class teacher for 4RH. She will be working with Mrs Herron this year in Year 4 as she is supporting and developing the teaching of maths in other schools this year.

Upper School - Year 5 and Year 6 – Miss Pocock is the go to person other than your child's class teacher if your child is in Year 5 and Year 6. She is our IT and Computing Lead and teachers in 6P.

Class teachers:

In Y3: Mrs Johnson (3J) - entry via the cloakroom doors.

Miss Lyons (3L) – children come in by the classroom door at the front of the school (just over the bridge).

The teaching support staff in Year 3 are: Miss Adkins, Mrs Matthews, Mr King and Mrs Kennedy.

In Y4: Mrs Ratibb (4RH) & Mrs Herron (she will be covering the class when Mrs Ratibb is doing her maths leadership time) – children come in through the main cloakroom door.

Miss Rolfe (4R) Classroom door entry.

The teaching support staff in Year 4 are: Mrs Flanagan, Mrs Kitching, Miss Buckingham and Miss Hammett.

In Y5: Miss Dean (5D) – classroom door entry.

Mrs Thomas (5TF) Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday – Miss Fortune – Thursday and Friday .

The teaching support staff in Year 5 are: Miss Dougherty, Mrs Glatzhofer and Mrs Connor.

Mrs Inman will teach Year 5 English in the mornings in the lab.

In Y6: Mrs Bowden (6B) and Miss Pocock (6J) - entry via the Year 6 area and cloakroom doors.

The teaching support staff in Year 6 are: Mrs Hector, Mrs Court and Mrs Stone.

Mrs Inman will be supporting in Year 6 for English in the mornings before break time.

Planning and Preparation time for teachers (PPA) is being covered by several members of staff teaching different subjects. Teachers include **Mrs Evans (Year 4), Mrs Inman (Year 5/6), Mrs Herron (Year 4/3) and Mr Willard (PE)** continues to teach PE, this will be throughout the day to keep the children physically active.

Mr Anderson is our caretaker but will help out with sports clubs with Mr Willard and supervises playground games at lunchtime. Mr Anderson is also on gate duty in the mornings 8.30-8.55am and after school from 3.15-3.30pm

Mrs Kennedy is our Family Support Worker – if you need advice and support for your child and family, Mrs Kennedy is able to advise and help you. She's the other port of call if parents have any concerns however big or small. Mrs Kennedy also leads our behaviour support team.

Mrs Jones, Mr Anderson, Miss Smith, Mrs Burby, Mrs Stone, Mrs Dougherty and Miss Buckingham supervise the children at lunchtimes with help from members of the school staff.

Peripatetic music lessons are given by Herts Music Service Staff: Violin & orchestra -Tuesdays (Mrs Reid) and guitar- Fridays (Mrs Doughty). Please enquire to the School office if you are interested in music lessons.



Key Information



Timings of the School Day

Year	Start	End
3	8.30-8.45AM	3.00PM
4	8.45-8.55AM	3.15PM
5	8.45-8.55AM	3.15PM
6	8.30-8.45AM	3.00PM

Year 3 & 4 parents will need to enter the site by the **Pedestrian Gate** and wait at the internal gates

Year 5 & 6 children will be escorted to the **Cycle Gate** where they can walk/cycle/scoot home (provided we have permission from parents) or be collected.

A member of staff will be at the inside gate to welcome the children and also see them safely off site onto the playground, where they will line up before being collected by their class teachers.

Please note from Monday 7th September parents collecting from Year 5/6 gate can wait inside the cycle gate around by the cycle rank at a social distance please. Children walking home independently or met at a distance away from the school will be let out first.

Please bear with us it will get quicker!!



PE

Please come to school dressed in PE Kit on these days, pupils will stay in their PE kits all day they will not need to change.

Year Group 3	Tuesday	Thursday
Year Group 4	Wednesday	Friday
Year Group 5	Monday	Wednesday
Year group 6	Monday	Thursday

PE Kit consists of: House colour T shirt, Shorts, School Jumper, Jogging Bottoms and Trainers (black)

Reminder



Your child will only need to bring the following things into school:

- **A water bottle** (there will not be drinking cups in classrooms and the water fountains on the playground will be out of use)
- **A packed lunch** (if they have one)
- **A hat and sunscreen** (if weather permits use)
- **A coat** (thinking about those summer thunderstorms that usually occur around 3pm!)

Safety is our number one priority; please understand that these new procedures are to ensure that we reduce the risks to staff, pupils & their families as much as possible.