

The Pinner Park Post



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Happy New Year!

Welcome back to a new term and academic year at Pinner Park Primary School.

Thank you for the very warm welcome that I have received this week. I am very excited to be part of the Pinner Park community and I look forward to meeting very many families over the next few weeks. I will try to be available as often as possible outside at the beginning and end of the school day.



At the outset, I want to pay tribute to the leadership team who have served the school so ably over the last year or so. Mr English and Miss Tait have faithfully led the school through a potentially unsettling time and have been so well supported by the leadership and staff team. I am sure that you will join me in thanking each and every one.

Pinner Park Post is the name of our new, weekly school newsletter published each Friday. It is the place where we will try to place all the important news and dates. Please take time to read each one carefully. A copy will also be placed on our school website and sent through SchoolPing.

We are all looking forward to another enjoyable, hard-working and successful year at the school and would like to thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Nick Waldron
Headteacher

Keep up to date with Web, Twitter, Instagram and Facebook

Although we try and squeeze all our news into our weekly newsletter, we also publish information through other communication channels.

If you have access to Instagram, Twitter and Facebook, make sure that you're tuned into our pages (@PinnerParkSch) so that you don't miss out on anything.



Each newsletter will also be placed on our school website:
<http://pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk/newsletters.html>

Open School – Tuesday 24 September

On Tuesday 24 September we hope that you will be able to spare some time after school to come and visit your child's class and to meet some of the staff who will be working there.



The school will be open until 4.15pm so if you have more than one child in the school, you will have time to visit each class. Please do come and see us.

Ready, Respectful, Safe and Kind

During this week, we have been introducing our children and staff to the new simplified school rules. 'Ready, Respectful, Safe and Kind' will be the four clear statements which we will all work within.

When there are so many people interacting with children, it is important that we all have the same expectations and that we are consistent in our approach. As a large primary school, we want all our children and staff, from Nursery through to Year 6, to have a shared understanding of our expectations.



Ready: Ready for learning, ready to listen, ready to contribute towards our school and local community.

Respectful: Showing respect to our peers, to adults, to our environment, and to ourselves.

Safe: Safe in our learning environment, safe with the people around us and safe in the activities in which we are taking part.

Kind: Showing kindness in different ways — both big and small — showing care, concern, and consideration for ourselves and those with whom we share the world.

We are sure that these may also be very helpful at home too. You might already be considering the occasions when it may be very useful to use these rules!

As we journey through the school year, the children will have many opportunities to consider what it means to be 'Ready, Respectful, Safe and Kind'. These four rules will become the golden thread through our school, promoting exemplary behaviour, which is at the heart of productive learning.

School and Nursery Admissions

You should apply now, online at: www.harrow.gov.uk/schooladmissions or www.eadmissions.org.uk for a Reception place in September 2020 if your child was born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016. The closing date is 15th January 2020. Next week we will be publishing dates of our open mornings for prospective parents.

We have vacancies in our Nursery for September (3 hrs per day) if your child's date of birth is between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016, please contact the school office for further information.

School Meals

Children from Year 1 through to Year 6 have been enjoying the hot lunches, served in partnership with Chartwells. It has been especially exciting to see lunches being served in the upper school hall for the first time.

Thank you so much for your patience and understanding as we have moved to some new systems for meal ordering. We hope that the following notes are useful to you.



Ordering through ParentPay

All meals should be pre-ordered through ParentPay. When you log into ParentPay you will have the option of making your child's meal choices for each day. Each morning we print a report of the meal choices to ensure the correct numbers of meals are prepared. If you have not ordered a meal, we ask that you send your child to school with a packed lunch. If you need any support with ParentPay, please do speak to our office staff who will be happy to help.

Allergies and Special Diets

There is always a vegetarian option available to choose each day. If your child requires a special diet or has allergies, then please complete a form for Chartwells. We will then be able to work alongside the caterers to ensure that an appropriate meal is available. We are hoping that these will soon be able to be ordered through ParentPay for those parents who have indicated that their child has this requirement. In the meantime, we are also checking each day to ensure that each child has a meal which is safe for them. Please accept our apologies if this area of our meal provision has been confusing at the beginning of term, and has caused anxiety. We are working hard to ensure that this process is simpler and clearer going forward.

Parents of Reception Children

Reception parents will receive an 'activation letter' for Parent Pay at the beginning of next week so that you can order meals for the end of the week.

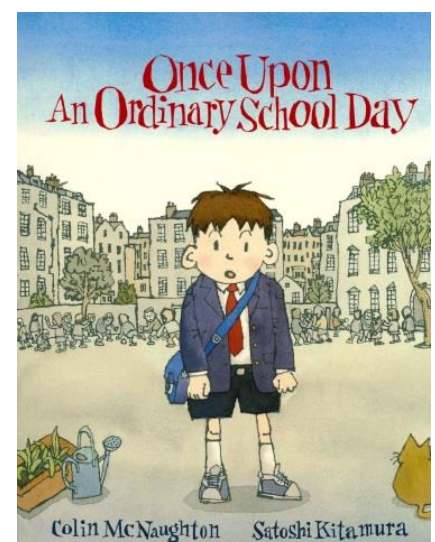
An Extraordinary School Year Ahead...

This week, some of our learning has focussed on the theme of 'Ordinary and Extraordinary'. We have looked together at a book by Colin McNaughton, 'Once Upon an Ordinary School Day'.

The story is about an ordinary boy who lives in an ordinary house, who goes to an ordinary school. His life becomes extraordinary when a teacher helps him to discover imaginative writing.

We've been thinking about turning the ordinary into the extraordinary, and about the school year ahead.

If you speak to your child about the book, he or she might be able to tell you all about it. Some of the children have been telling us about their vision for an extraordinary school – we have much to live up to!



Something Old, Something New

As we continue our work to bring processes and systems together as a single primary school, we are working hard to ensure that these work as smoothly as possible.

We have very recently had a new telephone system installed. All calls to the school should now be made using 020 8863 2191. An automatic 'call attendant' will be able to direct your call, or you can hold to speak to a member of our office team. Alternatively, feel free to email office@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk and we will get back to you as soon as possible.



Our sign-writer has been busy over the summer ensuring that all visitors are directed to our main school office which is located in the lower school building. All enquiries should be made at the main school office. Please note that the old junior school office is now closed and there is no direct access into the upper school building – all enquiries should be made to the main school office.

We all want to thank you for your patience and flexibility as some of our new systems have been introduced. We had a few teething problems with our phones this week and we understand that this may have been frustrating for you, as it was for us. The office team are grateful for your support and understanding.

Working at Pinner Park Primary School

We will soon be advertising for some team members at the school which will include casual and permanent school meal supervisory assistants and teaching assistants.

We will advertise through Harrow Council and the information will also be on our school website:
<http://pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk/job-vacancies.html>



If you know of someone who would be interested in working at the school, please do highlight these opportunities to them.

In School, On Time, Every Day

Showing up for school has a huge impact on a child's academic success, starting in Nursery and continuing through secondary school. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and in a job.

We really want to inspire our children and families to have an excellent pattern of attendance and punctuality. We would expect attendance to be at least 96% across the school, with children turning up on time every day.

