

The Pinner Park Post



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Happy New Year!

It has been so lovely to see everyone back at school following the Christmas break. I hope that you all had a restful and enjoyable holiday. On behalf of all the staff, I want to thank you for your kind wishes, cards and gifts at the end of last term. We are so grateful for the support we receive from our families.



We'd like to take this opportunity to welcome any new families who have joined our school and Nursery.

January is often a time when we set new targets, make a fresh start, and aim high. That's what we'll be doing as a school – building on the foundation we have but always seeking to be our very best.

We are very much looking forward to a term jam-packed with fun, friendship and learning.

We hope you have a lovely weekend!

Best wishes,

Nick Waldron

Headteacher

Pinner Points – Congratulations Piccadilly!



The final results for the half-termly House Point count are in, and while it was very close indeed, we congratulate all the members of **Piccadilly** on taking first place and winning the House Mufti Day.

This means that next **Friday, 17 January**, all children in **Piccadilly** may wear their own clothes to school, in the colour of their house (**blue**). They need not completely wear their house colour – so no shopping trips for new clothes needed – but it should be clear they are representing their house!

Well done to all children for earning so many House Points and for making the result so close! The scores will all reset to zero as of today, so keep on earning House Points – there will be another mufti day for the next winners!

1 st	Piccadilly	1044
2 nd	Jubilee	983
3 rd	District	959
4 th	Circle	920
5 th	Central	903

Pinner Park – An Inclusion ‘Flagship’



At Pinner Park Primary School we are committed to meeting the needs of every pupil. Pinner Park gained the Inclusion Quality Mark Award as a Centre of Excellence in 2018. The Flagship School Award recognises those unique schools who have held IQM Centre of Excellence status for at least 3 years.

At the end of last term, we had a day-long visit with an Inclusion Quality Mark Assessor. This was our first IQM review as a Primary School. The assessor toured the school, scrutinised out policies and procedures, and spoke to children and staff about our school.

I am delighted to report that we have now received the assessment report and Pinner Park continues to be a ‘Flagship School’ – the highest standard awarded. In the report, the assessor writes, ‘As soon as you enter the school, there is a warm, open and purposeful atmosphere. This wonderful atmosphere permeates throughout the school... Throughout the day, there was a feeling of calm and purposefulness driven by a sense of passion to give the best possible learning journey to all the pupils with no stone unturned. It was hard to believe that the two schools had only recently amalgamated...The structures and processes already in place and those being developed means that the school can only move from strength to strength. The enthusiasm of the leaders and the staff through such a time of change was immense.’

This is testament to the hard work of the entire school community. We especially want to thank Mrs Coxon, and Mr English, for leading our work in this area, and for co-ordinating the review day on behalf of the school.

School Disco

Our wonderful PTA are organising school discos this half term for all the children.

The discos will be held on the following dates and times:

Nursery and Reception	Friday 31 January, 3:45pm-4:45pm
Years 1 and 2	Friday 7 February, 3:45pm-4:45pm
Years 3 and 4	Friday 31 January, 5:00pm – 6:30pm
Years 5 and 6	Friday 7 February, 5:00pm – 6:30pm



Letters have been sent home with further information. Please return your booking form and money by Friday 17 January.

Staffing News



We welcome Mrs Brophy and Miss Broderick back to Pinner Park. Both are returning to the school following maternity leave. We also welcome Miss Lane, Miss Mulcahy and Mr Coyne to the school. Miss Lane is teaching in Year 4 and Miss Mulcahy in Year 3. Mr Coyne will be teaching across the upper school.

I am sure that you will join me in giving all these staff a very warm welcome!

Say 'No' to idling

We are joining with a London-wide campaign to improve the quality of air around our school and protect our health.

We want the area around our school, and the local neighbourhood, to be a 'No Idling Zone' to improve air quality and create a healthier environment for students, teachers, families and neighbours.

We are simply asking all vehicle owners to turn their engines off whilst they wait.



So, if you are going to be sitting still for more than 30 seconds, please remember to turn your car's engine off. You will not only improve our air, you will also save money in fuel and vehicle wear and tear costs!

Idling harms our health: vehicle exhaust fumes are damaging to everyone's health, but it especially affects children, who breathe more and at a faster rate than adults. By turning off your engine, you can improve the quality of air the children breathe while they are at school.

Idling pollutes the air we breathe: an idling engine produces unnecessary pollution and can produce up to twice as many exhaust emissions as an engine in motion. By not idling, you reduce the level of harmful emissions being released into the atmosphere.

Keep money in your wallet and save fuel: despite the popular story that idling your car uses less fuel than turning it off and restarting – idling actually costs you money. It is more fuel efficient to turn off your engine if you are going to be sitting more than 30 seconds and this will also reduce the wear and tear on your engine.

You can help reduce air pollution around school by doing the following:

- Turn off your engine when dropping off or picking up from school
- Take up cycling and walk where you can, or think about choosing public transport over using your car
- Share car journeys where possible

Please support our 'No Idling' campaign and turn off your car while waiting to drop off or pick up your children. Together, we can make a real difference and improve the quality of air we all breathe.

We will send further information soon about how you can get involved in the campaign.



Well done to everyone who attended for at least 96% of sessions in the Autumn Term. Let's see if everyone can score 96+ during the Spring Term. Remember that 'Every Day Counts'!

Year 2 and Year 6 Parent Briefings



In Year 2 and Year 6, the children are assessed against national frameworks and the results published to parents.

We want to tell you all about these assessments – tests and teacher assessments – at a special information briefing. We will let you know all about the types of assessment, how we will prepare your children, and how you can help at home.

The briefing dates are as follows:

Year 6 parents: Tuesday, 14 January, 6pm

Year 2 parents: Tuesday 21 January, 2.30pm

School Meals



A large number of children enjoy a delicious school meal each day at Pinner Park.

Please remember that all school meals must be booked in advance so that we can plan for and cook the correct number of meals. All bookings should be made through [ParentPay](#).

The current menu can be found on the [school meals page of our website](#).

Allergen information is also available to download.

School meals are cooked on site and a choice is provided which caters for both vegetarian and non-vegetarian meals. There is always a jacket potato option each day. All the meat served is halal.

Cakes and Sweets

We want to remind you that, for a number of reasons, we do not want sweets or cakes being brought in to school, or shared with children on the playground.

One of the reasons for this is that we have a considerable number of children with allergies, some of which are very serious indeed. We do not want to put those children at risk.

We love celebrating birthdays at Pinner Park so we are very happy for children to wear their birthday badge, and we will, of course, wish them a very 'happy birthday' on that special occasion!



Outdoor Play and Learning

Starting this term, we are seeking to improve opportunities for physical activity, socialisation, co-operation, coordination, resilience, creativity, imagination and enjoyment through improved play.

The OPAL Outdoor Play and Learning Programme is the result of 17 years of testing and development in over 380 schools and is now used in Canada, France and New Zealand as well as across the UK.

OPAL is based on the idea that as well as learning through good teaching, your children also learn when they play, and as 20% of their time in school is playtime, we want to make sure that this amount of time (equivalent to 1.4 years of primary school) is as good as possible.



We want our involvement with the OPAL programme to ensure that children enjoy school more, spend less time resolving disputes, have less accidents and show fabulous behaviours.

We will be supported by the team at OPAL for the next 18 months, so this is a long term project. Over the coming months, you will hear more and more about the project – and hear some exciting things from your children!

As part of our development of outdoor play at lunchtimes, we need your help to collect some resources. The items we are looking for will enable us to enjoy a wider range of play experiences. In the first instance, we are looking for the following items:

- Pots, pans, wooden spoons, large kitchen utensils (any kitchen items)
- Small play resources - dinosaurs, dolls, figures, cars
- Lego
- Wellies
- Fabric/ material e.g. old duvet covers, sheets, saris, curtains, net curtains, throws, rugs, carpet, seat cushions, tarpaulin, nets
- Dressing up clothes

We will be happy to receive these items over the next two weeks. The sooner we do this, the sooner the children will be able to play with the items!

We will be making more requests, and providing lots more information as the project develops.

Thank you for your support with this.

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Blue Badge Parking Zone Outside School

There is an area outside the school which is restricted to drivers with disabilities, who display a blue badge. If other drivers park in this area, some of our parents with blue badges are unable to drop their children safely at school. Please do not park in this area unless you have a blue badge.



Although we have reminded parents in previous newsletters, this continues to be a problem for some of our parents who need to use those spaces.

Please do not park in this area unless you are displaying a blue badge in your vehicle.

Applications for Nursery – Deadline Approaching



We are now accepting applications for children to start at Nursery in September. The application form is available from the school office. Once the form is completed, please return it to the school office.

To be eligible for a nursery place in September 2020, your children must be born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 24 February. Please pass this information on to any friends or family who have a child of this age.

School Admissions – Deadline Next Week!

If your child is due to start in Reception in 2020, you can apply now, online at: www.harlow.gov.uk/schooladmissions or www.eadmissions.org.uk. Your child will be starting in Reception if he or she was born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016.



The closing date is 15th January.

**NURSERY PLACES AVAILABLE NOW!
FOR THREE AND FOUR YEAR OLDS
FORMS ALSO AVAILABLE FOR
SEPTEMBER 2020 NURSERY ADMISSION
CONTACT OUR OFFICE TEAM FOR MORE INFORMATION**