



Punnetts Town Community Primary School Newsletter



Battle Road, Punnetts Town Heathfield TN21 9DE.

Phone: 01435 830361 E-mail: office@punnettstown.e-sussex.sch.uk

To print with a white background, please set page colour to white before printing.

Please see the blog addresses below for further news, and photos, of your child's learning at school. Be sure to leave a comment, and open a conversation with the children, and others, across the world!

Elm Class - <http://elm56.primaryblogger.co.uk>

Oak Class – <http://oak34.primaryblogger.co.uk>

Hazel Class – <http://12hazel.primaryblogger.co.uk>

Beech Class - <http://beech16.primaryblogger.co.uk>

Date: 14 July 2017

This is my last letter to you as Head of School. I have really enjoyed my two years (and a term!) here at Punnetts Town – you are a warm and welcoming community - and I could not have asked for a better start in the Woodlands Federation. I am very excited about continuing the journey with you over the next years, and look forward to meeting up with you all again in September.

This term has been very busy again, and the children have a lot to look forward to when they return in September.

We are continuing to raise the profile in **sport and physical education**, and now have our **outdoor table tennis** table in full use. We will be asking a table tennis coach in to the school in term 1 to train the children and set up fun competitions for them at break times. The table tennis is available to all pupils, and we hope that

it will provide additional playtime interest to some of our older pupils.

We have also arranged nine weeks of **FA football training** in term 1 to take place on Tuesdays. Our teaching staff will also be gaining their level 1 coaching certificate in football during this time, and a **girls' lunch time football club** will commence. We hope that with some discrete teaching of football, and the rules being commonly understood, that playtime football sessions will be more purposeful and carefully executed by the players (no more balls lost over the fence!). During the football lessons and girls' football club, trainers should be worn and shin pads are welcome if children have them (no studs). Dates are: Sept 12th, 19th, 26th, October 3rd, 10th November 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th.

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imorse@punnettstown.e-sussex.sch.uk

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We are applying to spend part of the **2017-18 Health Improvement Grant** on **outdoor gym equipment** aimed at KS1 and KS2 use. This would be sited in the school grounds and will include items such as a cross trainer in response to pupils' requests to have some upper body strength activities. Again, whilst the equipment is suitable to all, we hope it may appeal to older pupils and provide them with additional activities. The pupils will be able to track their own progress on the 'machines'.

We will also be spending some of the money on setting up the **new breakfast club** as a trial in term 1 (see the office for full details), introducing **yoga** and continuing to develop our **mindfulness** activities. The activities already begun with last year's health improvement grant will continue and have been very successful (forest school, walk and talk, fruit and friendship etc).

Sadly our wooden **hall floor** is now past repair, and will be replaced with a vinyl type during summer holidays. This will include the area into the 'old library' and will really smarten the hall up, making it safe for bare foot PE activities, and easy to clean after the children's cooking activities.

To keep **Beech class** children active and accessing the outdoors all year round, we

have installed a **shelter** to provide shade in the summer and a dry area in the winter. We hope to have some markings placed in the playground area early in term 1 so that Beech class pupils can drive their **new scooters** on a simulated road.

All the pupils are making full use of the 'forest school' area in the garden at the side of the school, and, after numerous repairs, the trim trail is being used to develop balance skills and physical strength.

Our **healthy eating breakfast and drop off club** will be available from the first Wednesday back (6th September) from 7.45 am at a cost of £4 with breakfast/£3 without (and £1 discount for siblings) – ask at the office for details – for a trial period through term 1.

In the mornings, from September, the school will be **open to all parents to drop off their children from 8.30 am – 8.55 am**. This is to alleviate congestion in the car park. We are, again, trialling this for term 1 with the aim that parents drop their child off in the playground and then **leave the car park promptly** to free up valuable car parking spaces. East Sussex have issued some further guidance and instructions to all schools, around parking at schools which I have included further on in this letter.

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Parents will be able to **book and pay for school dinners from 8.30 am onwards**, in the hall in the usual way. Any packed lunches can be left on the racking outside the hall, as usual. Beech class children can be taken directly to Beech class.

We encourage parents to bring their children into the playground, with their school bag and other items and leave their child in the care of the adult on duty. We understand that parents may wish to remain with their Year 1 children to begin with, during term 1, but are sure they will quickly settle to seeing themselves into school. A quick message, important to your child for that day, can be left with the adult on duty (and will be passed to the class teacher. If you need a meeting with a member of staff, please make an appointment through the office for after school. In order to develop the children's independence, we ask parents not to enter the classroom area before school – your child will be able to fill their water bottle, place their book bag in the classroom and deal with PE bags and other bags on entry to school at 8.55 am. Mrs Crump will be on duty for other messages from 8.40 am, as will the Head of School on most days.

When booking your lunch in September, pupils will take a **coloured band to wear, indicating the lunch they have chosen.**

They take this when booking lunch, and return it when they receive their lunch. Any child with special dietary needs will have a white band which is personal to them. The colours are red for main meat, green for main vegetarian, yellow for jacket potato. A record is kept of what they have ordered, including their pudding choice. We are hoping this will mean shorter queues and more time in a less crowded playground with more opportunity for activity on the field.

We will also trial two sittings of about 25 mins each for EYFS and KS1, followed by KS2. Year 6 buddies will be invited to eat with the EYFS children in term 1, and Year 6 will not need to 'over-flow' into the old library. New water jugs will be on the tables for all pupils, and milk cups can be taken when queuing for school dinner pupils. We will also be working on reducing the noise levels in the hall during lunchtime. All these innovations are in response to issues raised by pupils through the school council, and will, hopefully, make for even happier lunchtimes.

We are sorry to say **farewell** to the following members of staff, and we wish them every success in their new endeavours: Ms Rolfe, who will be continuing her sports massage business, and also grooming dogs; Mrs Powell, who

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is taking a break from all things 'schoolish' now her children are grown up; Mrs Ruschmeier, who will be working in the office for Chartwells; and Mrs Farley,

whose gardening business has taken off and requires her full attention!

And, of course, farewell to Mrs Frankis. We wish her well in her retirement.

Stars of the week

W/B: 30.6.17 Beech: Ruby
Hazel: Lottie S
Oak: Chloe W
Elm: Matthew P

W/B: 11.7.17 Beech: Isla S
Hazel: Ethan
Oak: Emelia
Elm: Rae/Alex

Summer Production DVD

Unfortunately the DVD of the Summer production will not be available before the end of the School Year. Anyone who does not have younger siblings in the school returning in September can be assured that Mrs Oxley will get their copy of the DVD to them.

E-Safety News

There have been concerns raised with an addition to Snapchat around SnapMaps being available. Please visit <https://www.facebook.com/nadiaandkaye/videos/1274040762717731/> for more information. SnapMaps can tell any other users your location, and therefore there are concerns over keeping children safe. This setting appears to automatically be on, but can be turned off. Snap chat BBC link <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-40509281>

Did you know ...

If you use Ecosia as your search engine you could be planting trees for free! Find out here <https://www.ecosia.org/>

Health Awareness News

We have been asked to alert parents to the availability of the MMR vaccination over the summer holidays, which is offered by your GP. This is being offered to pupils born between 1 September 1998 and 31 August 1999.

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Car Parking and Changes to Penalty Charge Notices

From 5th September, the council will be changing the way they issue a Penalty Charge Notice to vehicles that stop on the keep clear markings. Instead of placing the PCN on the vehicle or handing it to the driver, it will be sent to the owner or keeper of the vehicle by post. This will allow civil enforcement officers to carry out enforcement of these restrictions more efficiently. Additionally, receiving a PCN for parking in such a way should deter the person from doing so again. This new approach was agreed at a Lead Member for Transport and Environment meeting.

School keep clear markings are there for safety reasons and vehicles should not stop on them. Any driver that stops on the marking may incur a £70 PCN that will be sent to the owner of the vehicle. Disabled badge users should not park where it would endanger, obstruct or inconvenience pedestrians or other road users, including school entrances or where it makes it difficult for others to see.

School Diary Dates

Weds 19/7	6.00pm	Year 6	Leavers' Service
Thurs 20/7		Whole School	Last Day of School Year
Fri 21/7		Whole School	INSET Day – school closed to pupils
Mon 24/7-Mon 4/9		Whole School	Summer Holidays
Mon 4/9	All Day	Whole School	INSET Day – school closed to pupils
Tues 5/9	All day	Whole School	INSET Day – school closed to pupils
Weds 6/9		Whole School	First Day of Term 1
Weds 20/9	AM	Whole School	Individual School Photos
Fri 29/9	AM	Whole of Punnetts Town Community Invited	MacMillan Coffee Morning in School Hall – Year 6 to serve.

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Punnetts Town Community Primary School Year Dates 2016-17

Summer Term 6

Friday 21st July 2017 – Inset Day - school closed to pupils

Summer Holiday

Monday 24th July 2017 – Monday 4th September 2017

Monday 4th September 2017 – Inset Day School Closed to Pupils

Punnetts Town Community Primary School Year Dates 2017-18

Autumn Term 1

Monday 4th September 2017 – Inset Day School Closed to Pupils

Tuesday 5th September 2017 - Friday 20th October 2017

Tuesday 5th September 2017 – Inset Day School Closed to Pupils

Wednesday 6th September 2017 – First day of Term 1

Friday 20th October 2017 – Last day of Term 1

Autumn Holiday

Monday 23rd October 2017– Friday 27th October 2017

Autumn Term 2

Monday 30th October 2017-Wednesday 20th December 2017

Monday 30th October 2017 – First Day of Term 2

Wednesday 20th December 2017 – Last Day of Term 2

Christmas Holiday

Thursday 21st December 2017-Monday 1st January 2018

Spring Term 3

Tuesday 2nd January 2018-Friday 9th February 2018

February Holiday

Monday 12th February 2018-Friday 16th February 2018

Spring Term 4

Monday 19th February 2018-Thursday 29th March 2018

Easter Holiday

Friday 30th March 2018 – Good Friday Bank Holiday

Monday 2nd April 2018--Friday 13th April 2018

There are three Inset Days set at present for School Year 2017-18. They are Monday 4th September , Tuesday 5th September and Friday 20th July. There are 2 further Inset Days still to be decided.

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