

Friday Bulletin

Friday 10th January 2020

January Value: Happiness

Welcome back to school everyone.

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and we wish you a very happy New Year. It has been lovely to hear the chatter around both schools about what the children have been up to over the holidays.

We have had some new play equipment fitted in the area between Reception and Year 1 for our Key Stage 1 children, the children are so excited and have enjoyed watching the workmen this week complete the project. Please can we remind parents and carers that children must **NOT** be allowed to play and climb on any of the equipment outside of school hours. Our insurance will not cover us outside of school hours so we would appreciate your cooperation with this. Children will be told to come off of the equipment if they are seen by any members of staff. Thank you.

Lower School

- **Applying for Middle School** - Please be aware the deadline to apply for a middle school place is 15th January 2020. Please go to the Central Bedfordshire website to apply: https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/7/school_admissions/497/apply_for_a_middle_school_place
- **End of the school day** - Please inform the school office by phone/email if you have any changes to your usual collection arrangements at the end of the day or any matter that may affect who can or cannot collect your children – We have a trusted adults form for family/friends/childminders who regularly collect your children on your behalf which must be completed with up to date details. If it is your intention to allow your child to walk home and leave school unaccompanied, then please put this in writing to the school office so that Class Teachers can be informed.
- **Student Placements** – Today we welcomed two new work placements to PLS. Lewis Ager and Ruth Dennison have joined us from the University of Bedfordshire. I'm sure you will join us in welcoming them to PLS.

Middle School

- **Year 5 Meet The Teacher** – We will be holding a 'Meet the Teacher' session for **YEAR 5 parents and Carers ONLY** on **Monday 13th January from 09:00-09:15am**. This is an opportunity to have an informal talk with your child's new teacher and to get a little bit more information about the daily activities that take place in school.
- **Year 6 Condoover Residential Trip** – Please ensure the next instalment payment is paid by Friday 31st January. Thank you.

Notices

- **IMPORTANT; The Potton Federation are NUT-FREE schools.**
We do not allow nuts or nut products in school lunch boxes. We have children in school who have severe nut allergies.
- **School Clubs** – All clubs will start back next week (week commencing Monday 13th January 2020). If your child will not be attending their school club as usual, please could you inform the school office so that registers can be amended and the relevant staff be informed. It can cause issues if your child just goes home, as the office staff will be trying to locate them.
- **School Meals Notice** - Should your child require a school meal you are able to book up until **08:55am** each day and, if required, you are able to pre-book in advance for the rest of the week/term. Please contact the office if you have missed the deadline to book a meal and have not provided your child with a packed lunch. Please note - If your child has an allergy/food intolerance the kitchen will not be aware of this unless the meal is pre-booked.
- **Reason for Absence** - We kindly ask when notifying us of your child's absence that you provide a reason. It is our legal duty to know why your child is not in school. If your child's absence is not due to illness or medical reasons it is essential that a 'Notification of Pupil Leave' form is completed and returned in advance of the absence. Please be aware – We do not authorise term time absence unless it is due to exceptional circumstances. We also ask that medical appointments are made out of school hours unless it is an emergency.
- **Medication in School** - If your child requires medication or an inhaler during the school day please hand these in at the office and fill out a medication form which are located in the foyer. Please advise the school offices if there are any changes to your child's medical needs.
- **Medical Appointments** - If your child is missing registration for a medical appointment we will require medical evidence and a form to be completed via ParentMail for our attendance records. We do encourage appointments to be made out of school hours unless it is an emergency.
- **Hygiene and Handwashing** - We are aware a sickness bug is doing the rounds again and would like to reassure you that our staff are, as always, encouraging good hygiene in school and at home. Our Year 4 Buddies are manning the hall doors at lunchtimes so no-one (even staff!) can enter or leave without a squirt of anti-bac hand gel! Hand gel dispensers are also kept in the classrooms and soap dispensers in the toilets are checked daily. To minimise the spread of the winter germs can we kindly ask that you continue to remind your child(ren) to wash their hands after a toilet trip and before/after snacks and meals
- **Hair Bands** – Please can you ensure that hair longer than shoulder length is tied back using uniform coloured hair bands only. If your child wears a hairband or hair clip that does not conform to the uniform policy they will be asked to remove it. Thank you for your cooperation with this.
- **The Italian Experience – Thursday 16th January** - School Grid will be providing a special menu for pupils on Thursday 16th January. If your child would like a school lunch that day, please book their school meal as usual via SchoolGrid.



Handmade Pizza (Cheese, roasted vegetables or ham and mushroom)

Beef Bolognese with Gnocchi

Italian Macaroni Cheese

Fresh Jacket Potato (Choice of Fillings)

**Plus usual deli choices for PMS*

Letters	
Potton Lower <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying for Middle School – Year 4 only • Grafham Residential Trip – Year 3 only • Slapped Cheek Syndrome 	Potton Middle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basket Ball Competition – Key Stage 3 only
Calendar of Events	
Wednesday 15 th & Thursday 16 th January	KS3 – Basketball County Competition finals
Monday 17 th – Friday 21 st February	HALF TERM
Monday 24 th – Friday 28 th February	Mock SAT's week – round 2
Wednesday 26 th February	Year 3 Parents Grafham Residential Trip meeting – 6:30pm in PLS School Hall
Thursday 27 th February	Treasure Island Show – Reception – Year 6
Thursday 27 th February	Parents Evening 4:00pm – 6:00pm
Tuesday 3 rd March	Parents Evening 4:00pm – 6:30pm
Wednesday 18 th – Friday 20 th March	PLS – Scholastic Book Fair
Monday 23 rd – Tuesday 24 th March	PMS – Scholastic Book Fair
Wednesday 25 th March	KS2 SAT's Information Evening – 6:00pm in Room 6 (Torday Classroom)
Monday 6 th – Monday 20 th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS
Useful Links	
	We have lots of useful information on our schools website: www.pottonfederation.co.uk School Term Dates: www.pottonfederation.co.uk/termdates School Calendar: www.pottonfederation.co.uk/events/list/ Friday Bulletin: https://pottonlower.co.uk/friday-bulletin/ https://pottonmiddle.co.uk/friday-bulletin/
	School Uniform: Our school uniform supplier is Mapac: https://www.mapac.com/education/parents/uniform/thepottonfederationsg192pb



Headlice / Nits – It is headlice season and the NHS Direct have recommended www.nits.net for information on preventing and dealing with a headlice infestation. Information packs, booklets and non-toxic re-usable headlice/nits removal kits are also available to purchase.