



Peasedown St. John Primary School

SCHOOL NEWS

Issue 08

3rd November 2017

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**POPPIES NOW
ON SALE**

**YR6 WILL VISIT YOUR
CHILD'S CLASSROOMS**

*(N.B. not available through
the office)*

RUMBLING TUMS

~ w/b 6th November ~
Please refer to Week 3
Menu on the Website
www.peasedownstjohnprimary.org.uk

Talking Point: Monday's Assembly Theme

With all the excitement around Trick-or-Treating, we revisited the origins of Hallowe'en – the pre-Christian festival of Samhain, the later Christian festival of All Saints (or Hallowes), and the way that traditions change and migrate. We also talked about respecting different people's feelings about Hallowe'en and everybody staying safe during the festivities.

School Funding Budget cuts remain very much a live issue for schools. Parents are warmly invited to attend a meeting 6.00 – 7.30pm next Wednesday 8th November at Norton Hill School, where national campaign organisers will speak, alongside local headteachers (including Mr Knollys) about the impact of government cuts on their schools. Please come if you can.

Vehicle Safety

Mr Knollys was very concerned to receive a visit from one of our grandparents who was nearly hit by a parent's car in Sunnyside View this week. Please help us keep all members of our community safe and happy by observing the following routines:

- **Leave plenty of time** to drop and pick up children: being in a hurry often leads to taking unnecessary risks
- **Park a little further away** and walk the last bit – that eases congestion close to the school
- **Please respect our neighbours:** never block anyone's driveway, park on the pavement or block people in
- **Proceed with extreme caution** – you can't always see pedestrians and they can't always catch your attention
- If you can **leave the car at home** (not everyone can), please do – this is a village for people on foot!

We're a big school and we have lots of families who need to feel safe as they come and go. Thank you!



Drop-off and Pick-up – CAR PARK GATE to CLOSE - Repeated from Term 1

..... "With 580 children on roll, we have to ensure we do everything to keep everyone safe, especially at the busy drop-off and pick-up times. They discussed a suggestion from a parent that we close the entrance to the staff car park between 8.30 and 9.00am and again between 3.00 and 3.30pm, to ensure that cars are not trying to enter or leave, crossing the pavement, between those times. It was agreed that we should do this from Term 2. Please be aware that it is illegal to pull over in front of a school entrance, so don't be tempted to drop off your child close to the school entrance. Anyone spotted doing this will be reported to the police."

Disabled Blue Badge Holders - Repeated from Last Week

..... "On that subject, people are often misinformed about the entitlements of the holders of disabled blue badges. Please use the link to The Department for Transport's guide to rights and responsibilities, [The Blue Badge Scheme](#) so that no one is in any doubt.

The key points are:

- *Blue badge rights and responsibilities apply to either the driver OR the passenger in a car – the passenger must exit the car once parked.*
- *Blue badge holders can park on single or double yellow lines on the road for up to three hours, except where additional restrictions exist and in on-street disabled parking bays*
- *There is no automatic right for blue badge holders to park in the school's disabled bay, but the school extends an invitation to blue badge holders to use the bay, subject to any restrictions the governing body may apply (like the gates notice above). Nobody (including blue badge holders) may park on the yellow cross-hatched zone between the main gates and the playground gates.*

If you need to use our car park for picking up or dropping off your child could we please ask that you arrive before the gates close and then wait and leave once the gates have been reopened to avoid crossing the pavement at these busy periods. Please park in a marked bay and not on the yellow hatched area blocking our emergency vehicle access. Once parked please display your Blue Badge clearly. Thank you.

NEXT PARENTS' COFFEE MORNING: Thursday 16th November 8.45-10.00am in the Hall. PLEASE POP IN IF YOU CAN!

Morning Drop Off Arrangements

Thank you to all parents for helping us with our morning drop-off routine. We are very keen that, now children are settled, parents say goodbye to their children (in Year 1 and above) outside the building in the morning. This has three benefits: (1) it eases congestion; (2) it encourages children to come independently into school; (3) it allows your child's teacher to settle the class straight away and prepare them for the day ahead. Messages, including if you need to speak to your child's teacher, can be given to staff at the entrances to the school in the morning, rather than coming into school in person. Thank you for your support with this.

Scooter/Bike Information

As a Healthy School we try to encourage our pupils to ride their bike/scooter to school each day and are extremely pleased at the amount of children who do!

Could we please remind parents and children that, when bringing;

- a bicycle to school this should be left **securely with a lock** in the bike pods provided at the side of the school by the Nursery entrance and not left by the scooter shed.
- a scooter to school this can either be left **securely with a lock** in the bike pods or **placed inside** the scooter shed where it will stay **securely** locked away until the end of the day.

We have found more and more children leaving their bicycles by the scooter shed which should only be used for the safe storage of scooters and is not designed to store bicycles and also scooters left outside the scooter shed instead of being stored safely inside. As the area by the scooter shed is used as part of the playground by children during the school day then any scooters/bikes left in this area is a matter of Health & Safety for our pupils. These bikes/scooters will need to be moved by the bike pods at the side of the school where they will unfortunately be left unlocked/unsupervised.

Punctuation Saves Lives!

Anna Wilson, author of over 30 books, came on Thursday 12th October to see our Y3 & Y4 pupils. The title refers to the one of her first attempts at writing at a young age. She wrote a whole page without any punctuation at all, and when she read it to us, she tried to read it all in one breath...and failed! "Punctuation makes a story better – it lets it breathe!" (Ellie)

"I liked her telling us stories of her life" (Rhea)

"I liked seeing the pictures she drew when she was 3 years old." (Becca)

"Anna was really good at imagining things. She was really funny." (Beau)

"I like that she got her ideas from reading lots." (William)

"I learnt that reading is good for you!" (Kieran)

"She was very visual in the way performed, just right for KS2 children!" Mrs Trueman

"I liked her acting!" (Honey) "It was funny when she 'fainted' on the floor." (Olly)

"She also gave some very funny examples of real life observations that she was able to use in her stories, particularly of her dog." (Mrs Trueman)

"She gets her ideas from real life." (James)

"You can make stories about things you see in real life." (Jasmine)



Finally, she read the opening chapter of her newest book, "Vlad the World's Worst Vampire", using lots of expression!

Back at the library, one third of the LKS2 children bought her "Vlad" book and got it signed by her. A very successful visit – thank you, Anna, for coming!

Look out for copies of her books in the library.

Mrs Trueman Library and Information Manager

For a list of our current class achievers, letters home (which tab contain attachments from our School News), the weekly menu, term dates and much more please visit the school website www.peasedownstjohnprimary.org.uk

Autumn 2 - Scholastic Book Club leaflet

We always like to encourage children to read at home so we've sent you the **new** Scholastic Book Club leaflet to browse through. We receive **free** books for the library with **every** order placed over £10.

If you'd like to buy any books from the Book Club please either:

- complete your online order at <http://schools.scholastic.co.uk/peasedown-st-john>
- OR just complete the order form in the centre of the leaflet and give it to me with your payment before **Wednesday 22nd November**. (Cheques or Credit cards only, **NO CASH PLEASE**. Cheques must be payable to: Scholastic Ltd)
- the books will arrive in school for me to distribute before the end term. (Christmas orders can be given to the office for you to collect secretly!)

Mrs Trueman, Library and Information Manager

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- 15th November ~ Indigo Class Assembly ~ Doors Open 2:40pm ~ School Hall
- 16th November ~ Parent Coffee Morning ~ 8:45am – 10am ~ School Hall
- 22nd November ~ Pacific Class Assembly ~ Doors Open 2:40pm ~ School Hall
- 23rd November ~ Open Morning ~ 9:30am – 11:30am
- 29th November ~ Aqua Class Assembly ~ Doors Open 2:40pm ~ School Hall
- 2nd December ~ PSA Christmas Fayre

Christmas Production Dates ~ School Hall ~ More details to follow:

Reception – Red, Blue, Green;

KS1 – Gold, Orange, Amber, Sunflower, Daffodil, Buttercup;

LKS2 – Jade, Emerald, Fern, Aqua, Sky, Sapphire;

UKS2 – Atlantic, Pacific, Purple, Lilac, Indigo.

7 th December	~	Reception Class	~	9:15am – 10:00am
8 th December	~	Nursery Class	~	9:15am – 10:00am
	~	Reception Class	~	10:30am – 11:15am
11 th December	~	KS1	~	2:00pm – 3:00pm
12 th December	~	LKS2	~	9:15am – 10:15am
	~	KS1	~	2:00pm – 3:00pm
13 th December	~	KS1	~	9:15am – 10:15am
	~	UKS2	~	2:00pm – 3:00pm
	~	LKS2	~	6:00pm – 7:00pm
14 th December	~	UKS2	~	9:15am – 10:15am
	~	LKS2	~	2:00pm – 3:00pm
	~	UKS2	~	6:00pm – 7:00pm

For 'Dates for the Year', please see the website or letters home for further information

For a list of our current class achievers, letters home (which tab contain attachments from our School News), the weekly menu, term dates and much more please visit the school website www.peasedownstjohnprimary.org.uk



COMMUNITY NEWS

(We bring this to parents' attention without necessarily recommending it)

Do you have a daughter under the age of 7? Would she enjoy making new friends, earning badges, developing her self-esteem, and taking part in fun activities, games and trips?

Find out more about joining 30th Bath (Combe Down) Rainbows!

Rainbows are part of the Girlguiding family. We are the equivalent of Brownies or Guides, but for younger girls. This group is for girls aged 5-7, and younger girls can join the waiting list for the first available place when they turn 5. We are a fun, lively unit; we have been on a Rainbow sleepover, earned several badges, learned about Rainbows all over the world, played lots of games and sung silly songs! We meet weekly after school, and have spaces for new girls. If your daughter isn't 5 yet then you can join the waiting list. Please go to www.girlguiding.org.uk to find out more. Register your interest at enquiry.girlguiding.org.uk



VIGIL & SLEEP-IN

in the historic setting of



FRIDAY 17th NOVEMBER 2017

A Vigil and sponsored Sleep-In to mark the 30th Anniversary of Julian House

Vigil: 9.30pm - Midnight
Sleep-In: Midnight - 8.00am

**Bath Strings Academy
String Fun Days
"Tasty Bite" Workshops**

Bath Strings Academy provides fun-filled musical experiences for string players of all ages and levels. We always aim to engage our minds and bodies in our music-making, so our courses include lots of playing as well as some non-instrument based activities designed to engage those musical connections. These three-hour workshops aim to give participants a flavour of each of our themes, suitable for absolute beginners to advanced players. Participants are welcome to attend one or more of our Tasty Bites.



**Sunday 12th November 2017
Widcombe Junior School, Bath**

Workshop 1, 9.45am - 12.45pm:

A Tasty Bite of First String Group - first steps in ensemble playing for beginners. Participants need only to have taken their first few lessons in order to enjoy this workshop. (Grades 0-1)

Workshop 2, 2pm - 5pm:

A Tasty Bite of Folk Music - fun with jigs and reels! (Grades 0-5)

Workshop 3, 6pm - 9pm:

A Tasty Bite of Chamber Music - quartet playing for advanced players, but with safety in numbers with more than one player to a part. (Grades 5-8)

**Sunday 26th November 2017
Wiltshire Rural Music School, Trowbridge**

Workshop 4, 9.45am - 12.45pm:

A Tasty Bite of First String Group - first steps in ensemble playing for beginners. Participants need only to have taken their first few lessons in order to enjoy this workshop. (Grades 0-1)

Workshop 5, 2pm - 5pm:

A Tasty Bite of Pop for Strings - funky rhythms and groovy tunes. A look at some Coldplay for those budding pop stars! (Grades 0-6)

Fees per workshop:

First Attendee: £15 Subsequent Siblings: £12 Leader & Mentor place: £10

For detailed information and to book now please visit:

www.bathstringsacademy.org

Facebook: Bath Strings Academy Twitter: @BathStringsAcad