

Thursday 18th October 2018

ROBERT PEEL Primary School



This half term has been a very busy one and it is hard to believe that it is nearly over. It has been a successful half term and the children have made very good progress with their learning but most importantly they are positive about all they do.

Over recent days it has taken a turn for the chillier but we always try and get the children out for some fresh air each day. Even if it's a bit drizzly we will aim for the children to play outside. Therefore please can you ensure your child has a warm coat; also gloves, a hat and a scarf make a massive difference to the children this time of year.

After the break we will be selling poppies to raise money for the Royal British Legion, these will be on sale before school in the playground.

Huge congratulations to our successful football teams in Years 3 & 4 and 5 & 6 who won both local school competitions over recent weeks. They were very well fought competitions with our Year 3 & 4 teams competing in a final game penalty shoot out and our second team in Year 5 & 6 coming third. They showed great sporting behaviour and worked incredibly well as teams.

We have some spaces available for KS 2 children to learn the guitar with Jack Muir. If your child is interested please contact the school office who will go through the cost and arrangements.

Wishing you all an enjoyable half term holiday and see you all after the break on Monday 29th October.

Best wishes

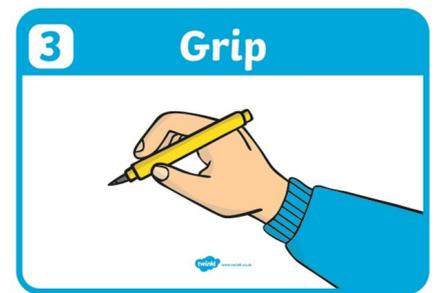
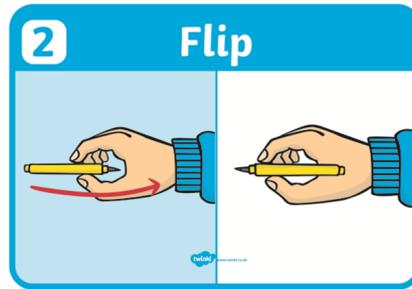
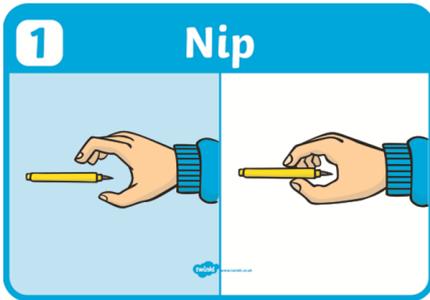
Miss L Gannev

Head Lice

Please take some time to check your children's hair and treat any head lice as we have had many reported cases.

Pencil & Pen Grip

This half term we are focusing on the grip children use for holding their pencil or pen. By holding them correctly it helps the children form and join their letters correctly. We use a simple method of nip, flip and grip. It would be really beneficial if you could remind the children of this if they are writing at home.



School Council

This year's School Council was voted in. They will be supported by the Year 6 Head Boy, Girl and Prefects who will be appointed this week.

Below is Robert Peel's School Council for the year.

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Ladybirds Kye	Badgers Ryan M	Polar Bears Harry	Koala Finley	Wolves Kelsey
Bumblebees Violet	Hedgehogs Eloise	Pandas Katherine	Kangaroos Henry	Foxes Lilly



Diary Dates

Friday 19th October—Last day of half-term

Monday 29th October—Return to school

Friday 2nd November—Koalas Class Assembly—9.10

Friday 16th November— Children in Need

Friday 16th November—School Disco

Thursday 22nd November—KS 1 Film Club

Friday 23rd November—Bumblebees Class Assembly—9.10

Thursday 29th November—KS 2 Film Club

Friday 30th November—Decoration Day

Christmas Arrangements

Friday 30th November—Christmas Fair after school

Thursday 13th December—Nursery & Reception Christmas Performance at 2.15 and
Friday 14th December at 9.30

Thursday 13th December—Yr 1 & 2 Christmas Performance at 9.30 and Friday 14th
December at 2.15

Tuesday 11th December—Yr 3 & 4 Christmas Performance at 9.30 & 2.15

Thursday 13th December — Yr 5 & 6 Carol Concert at 6.00 with Yr 5 Christmas Market
from 5.00

Tuesday 18th December—Christmas Lunch

**Children return to school on
Monday 29th October after the
half term break.**

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

As we near the finish of the first half term, our current attendance stands at 96.04% which is just below our target of 97%, therefore we need your help to make this better.

We are a school that sets ourselves high expectations in all areas and attendance is no exception. Attending school is extremely important for children's social, emotional and educational development and children who miss a lot of time at school can suffer in the long term from significant gaps in their learning. We need your support to ensure that children's education is not affected through missing time from school. The Local Authority checks our attendance each term and monitors the number of days children have off school. The Local Authority expects each child to be at school 97% of the time and has asked me to write to any parents whose child's attendance has fallen below this. If a child's attendance continues to fall then the school's Educational Welfare Officer will meet with parents to discuss the reasons why a child has been absent.

It is also important that children arrive on time. A number of children are arriving late and after the registration has closed in the morning. It is very unsettling for the children to try and join in with a session that has already started along with missing key learning that takes place at the start of the day.

What does your child's attendance figure mean as learning time lost?

Attendance Figure	Days absent across one school year	Learning time lost in 5 school year period
95%	9 ½	¼ of a school year
90%	19	½ of a school year
85%	28 ½	¾ of a school year
80%	38	1 whole school year

Can I also remind you of the importance of contacting the school when your child is absent and sending a letter in when they return explaining the reason they have been absent. It is so important we know where children are and if we are not informed and cannot contact parents we have a duty of care to inform the Local Authority.

With the children's enthusiasm, hard work and commitment to their school work I know next term is going to be a fantastic one and hugely successful!



Harvest Festival Donations

We are collecting items of tinned and packet produce for our Harvest Festival tomorrow . If you have any items you are able to donate then please send them in with your child. All donations will go to the Need Project.



Starting Nursery after Christmas

Our Nursery is a fantastic place for a child to start their educational journey. We are planning our admissions for January so please complete our admission form if your child is turning 3 this term.

The children are entitled to 15 hours free Nursery care and we can offer additional hours for those families who qualify for 30 hours or parents can also pay for additional sessions.

You can apply for a place by completing a quick and simple application form from the school office.

If you have any questions about our provision or would like to visit please call the school office who will be able to arrange this.

Are you entitled to financial support for school lunches, daily snack, milk and school trips?

One quick phone call is all it takes, just a minute of your time to make a massive difference to you and your child.

We know that there are lots of things for your family to consider when the school starts but you could be missing out on some financial support for your child at school. Parents are able to register their child for Free School Meals which enables the school to gain additional funding to support with trips, milk and snacks. If your child is in Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 and you pay for hot lunches at the moment, by registering for Free School Meals you could save yourself nearly £400 on lunches alone.

It is a quick and easy process and all children from Nursery up are entitled to this additional funding if you as a parent are receiving one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit, and you're annual gross income does not exceed £16,190 as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit (during the initial roll-out of this benefit)

If you think you meet the free school meals eligibility criteria, please call

0300 300 8306.

When you call to apply for free school meals, please have the following information ready:

National Insurance numbers and dates of birth for you and your partner

Dates of birth for your children

If you receive support from the National Asylum Support Service, your NASS number.

Even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or 2 and already get a free meal, do still apply as the school will receive funding to support your child in other ways.