



Dream Big, Aim High  
& Make a Difference

# Weekly Bulletin

2023-24 No:95 Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Ensuring children are hooked on learning is vital if they are to engage with it fully, and one of the ways to encourage this is with trips and visitors. We do appreciate that these experiences come at a cost but they really do enrich learning, so thank you for your ongoing support with these. On Tuesday it was the turn of Redwood Class, who had a 'Roman Day,' (with many braving the cold conditions to wear togas), as they start to investigate the question, 'Would the UK be different if the Romans never invaded?' This was followed by Juniper Class' trip to Marwell Zoo where they saw a wide range of animals as they seek to answer, 'What is the most important thing we need to survive?'

It is also imperative that we teach the core skills, especially reading, and with Book Talk, guided reading, class readers, phonics sessions and use of the school library, (amongst many other initiatives), children have many opportunities to read or engage with books throughout the school day. However, listening to them read at home really does have a huge impact on their fluency and long-term progress, so please support our children by listening to them read 4 times a week and log them on the Boom Reader app.

We also have a duty of care to keep children safe and the NSPCC 'Speak out. Stay safe.' workshops for Year 2, 5 & 6 have certainly helped with this. Next week will provide another opportunity for us to raise awareness about safety as we have another 'lockdown drill.' Many of you might remember that we held a similar drill this time last year in order for the children to be aware of what to expect if we ever need to 'lockdown.' I will talk the children through the process during Monday's assembly but they are likely to come home and discuss it once it has taken place, so I thought it was sensible to make you aware of the drill beforehand.

I ended the bulletin last week referring to the boy's football team's first game of the season against Westfield Juniors and I am pleased to report that they emerged victorious with a well-earned 3-1 win with Adam W scoring two of the goals, (with the other being an own goal), and Kayden L managing to keep the opposition out at the other end. Hopefully this great start continues against St Michael's in the cup next week. There was also a chance for 10 girls across Years 5&6 to take part in a Handball Festival at Wavell School yesterday and they acquitted themselves incredibly well. Well done to all pupils who have had a chance to represent the school at sport over the past week, together with all the adults, (both staff and parents), who have enabled it to happen.

And finally, thank you all for your support with the alternative car parking or walking arrangements today, and fingers crossed everything should be back to normal on Monday.

Kind regards

Mr B Ellis - Head Teacher

## Diary Dates

### January 2024

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January – Aspen Class Assembly  
Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> – Young Voices Concert @ the O2 Arena

### February 2024

w/c 5<sup>th</sup> – Children's Mental Health Week  
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> – Yr R to Yateley Library  
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> – Safer Internet Day  
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> – Parents Evening 3.30 - 6.00pm  
Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> – Parents Evening 4.30 – 7.00pm  
Friday 9<sup>th</sup> – INSET DAY (School Closed)

## Celebration

The following pupils have been chosen to be celebrated this week by their class teacher.

### Lunchtime Supervisor Nomination: Mason H

Class	Lead Learner	Star of the Week	Weekly Attendance*
<b>Oak</b>	Zara H	Logan H	94.93%
<b>Maple</b>	Riley H	Ayah A	98.33%
<b>Juniper</b>	Miles H	Alice T	98.4%
<b>Aspen</b>	Max W	Elijus K	97.59%
<b>Redwood</b>	Cooper N	Leo A	98.71%
<b>Bonsai</b>	Lara M	Davut Y	95%
<b>Katsura</b>	Ryan B	Kristen T	94.07%
<b>Rowan</b>	Oscar W	Fraser J	<b>98.85%</b>

\*Highest weekly class attendance in bold print

### Potley Point Totals:

Blue – 244      Yellow - 208  
Red – 278      Green – 147

### Timetable Rockstars:

**Most Active & Improved – Redwood Class**

## Careers Day – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Whilst the above date might appear a little while away, we are planning on holding a Careers Day for all pupils on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024. Following feedback from the pupils, who were asked to consider how we could help them further to, 'dream big, aim high and make a difference,' the children want to know about a wide variety of jobs ranging from priest to plumber to pilot! Whilst the finer details of the day are yet to be confirmed, we do know that we might have parents/carers/grandparents who have jobs they might be willing to talk about to the children at some point during our Careers Day.

If this is you then please contact the School Office with your information and we will contact you nearer the time to discuss it further. Thank you for your support.

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The extra-curricular activities that are planned for each week are below.

We will endeavour to run extra-curricular activities whatever the weather. However, if any activities need to be cancelled, we will contact you via Arbor.

**Please collect your child from the gate at the lower end of the top playground at 4.15pm from school-run clubs.**

### Monday

Years 1 & 2 – Yoga Club  
Miss Barton Oak classroom (15 pupils)

Years 4 to 6 – Young Voices  
Mr Ellis & Mrs Wilding Music room (15 pupils)

Year 6 Booster Clubs (invite only)  
Miss Miles/Mrs Richards Katsura/Bonsai classrooms

**Judo 4 Juniors – (Judo in School Hall) Years 1-6**  
[Click here](#) for more information

### Tuesday

Years 1 to 6 Well-Being Club (invite only)  
Mrs Elkins & Mrs Watson Oak classroom  
**Recommencing Tues 16th Jan**

### Wednesday

Netball (Boys & Girls teams only)  
Mrs Bailey Playground

**Bustagroove - (Street Dance in Redwood Class) Years R-2**  
[bustagroove.info@gmail.com](mailto:bustagroove.info@gmail.com)

### Thursday

Years 3 to 6 – French Club  
Mrs Smith Aspen classroom (12 pupils)

### Friday

Football team (Boys & Girls teams only)  
Mr Farrer Frogmore CC Astro

## Attendance Information

In the past, we have sent out paper copies of Attendance Certificates in the Spring and Summer terms so that you can see your child's registration marks over the course of the previous term and their overall percentage attendance rate for the current academic year. Now that we are using Arbor, this information is available on the Parent Portal, so it will no longer be sent out in paper form unless it is requested or school need to contact you specifically regarding your child's attendance.

### How to view your child's attendance on the Arbor Parent Portal

On your child's individual 'Home/Profile' page, the Attendance 'tile' shows you at a glance your child's percentage attendance rate for this academic year so far (on the left-hand side) and for the last 4 weeks (on the right-hand side). Tapping on this tile takes you to a new page with further detail.

For an alternative view, from your child's 'Home/Profile' page, scroll down and tap on the 3 bars in the green area at the bottom of the page. This will take you to your child's main dashboard. Tap on 'Attendance' and then the drop down 'By Date', which will take you to session-by-session attendance marks. Tap on the green 'Attendance Certificate' at the top of this page and you will be able to download an attendance certificate for your child.

### If your child's attendance rate is:

**97% to 100%** The government aim is for all children to have attendance rates of 97% or above. If your child's current attendance rate falls into this category, they are meeting/exceeding this target and there are no concerns about their attendance.

**90% to 96.9%** This is below the government's target and for most families this is usually due to illness (Code 'I'), holiday taken during term-time (Code 'H' if authorised, Code 'G' or 'O' if unauthorised) and/or medical appointments (Code 'M'). There is a direct link between attendance rates of below 95% and under achievement in school and this is when school starts to monitor your child's attendance.

**Below 90%** Your child is considered a persistent absentee by the DFE and it is highly likely that you will already have received one or more communications from school about this, as it is a **serious cause for concern**.

### Late marks

These may be late before the register closes (Code 'L' – arrival between 8.50 and 9.15am) or late after the register has closed (Code 'U' – arrival after 9.15am). Whilst 'L' marks do not affect your child's attendance rate, 3 or more 'L' marks may be a sign of a developing habit and school starts to monitor your child's punctuality at this point. 'U' marks are considered unauthorised and do affect your child's attendance rate and can lead to a Penalty Notice fine if the problem persists.

**Our average attendance rate at Potley Hill for the academic year 2022/23 was 95% compared to the national average for primary schools of 94%. Every day that your child is on time and in school maximises their learning potential, which is why we keep parents informed about their child's attendance and offer support when problems arise.**

## Potley Hill Primary School Menu October 2023 – March 2024 £3 per day

Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
W/c 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb, 4 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Plant-based burger in a bap with diced potatoes	Tomato pasta	Margherita pizza with diced potatoes	Quorn chicken pieces in a Yorkshire pudding roast potatoes & gravy	Sweet potato and lentil curry with white and brown rice
	Spaghetti bolognese	Italian style chicken goujons with diced potatoes	Chicken and oriental style vegetable rice	Sliced beef with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes & gravy	Baked fish fingers with chips
	<b>All served with Vegetable of the day or salad</b> Yoghurt, fruit and mini shortbread biscuit	<b>All served with Vegetable of the day or salad</b> Chocolate brownie	<b>All served with Vegetable of the day or salad</b> Fruit and Jelly	<b>All served with Vegetable of the day or salad</b> Lemon drizzle sponge	<b>All served with Vegetable of the day or salad</b> Shortbread biscuit
Week 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
W/c 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan, 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb, 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Meat free hotdog with diced potatoes	Roasted vegetable lasagne	Margherita pizza with crinkle cut wedges	Vegetable pastry crown, roast potatoes & gravy	Cheddar cheese and potato frittata
	Cottage pie	Chicken nuggets with diced potatoes	Ham carbonara with penne pasta	Roast chicken with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes & gravy	Baked battered fish and chips
	<b>All served with Vegetable of the day or salad</b> Yoghurt, fruit and mini shortbread biscuit	<b>All served with Vegetable of the day or salad</b> Apple flapjack	<b>All served with Vegetable of the day or salad</b> Fruit and Jelly	<b>All served with Vegetable of the day or salad</b> Victoria Sponge	<b>All served with Vegetable of the day or salad</b> Jumble biscuit
Week 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
W/c 8 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb, 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Cheddar cheese and tomato quesadilla with diced potatoes	Macaroni cheese	Margherita pizza with crinkle cut wedges	Cheese and tomato puff	Vegetable and bean burrito
	Pork sausage roll with diced potatoes	Chicken curry with brown and white rice	Bubble salmon with crinkle cut wedges	Roast chicken with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes & gravy	Baked fish fingers and chips
	<b>All served with Vegetable of the day or salad</b> Yoghurt, fruit and mini shortbread biscuit	<b>All served with Vegetable of the day or salad</b> Love cake	<b>All served with Vegetable of the day or salad</b> Fruit and Jelly	<b>All served with Vegetable of the day or salad</b> Chocolate orange sponge	<b>All served with Vegetable of the day or salad</b> Marble shortbread biscuit