

## Pheasey Park Farm Primary School and Early Years Centre

Address: Wimperis Way, Great Barr, Birmingham, B43 7DH

Telephone: 0121 3666183

School Email: [postbox@pheasey.org.uk](mailto:postbox@pheasey.org.uk)

Early Years Centre Email: [early-years@pheasey.org.uk](mailto:early-years@pheasey.org.uk)

Website: [www.pheaseyparkfarmprimary.co.uk](http://www.pheaseyparkfarmprimary.co.uk) / [www.elstonhallmat.co.uk](http://www.elstonhallmat.co.uk)

Head of School: Mrs S Arnold

Early Years Centre Managers: Miss T Ilsley and Mrs L Smith



**PHEASEY PARK FARM**  
Primary School &  
Early Years Centre

Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Half Term Newsletter

#### Thank You

Firstly, we would like to thank parents, carers and friends of the school for your continued support over the last half term. We know that things have been difficult for families and that our children have had to face challenges we could never have planned for, either as a school or as parents. We are extremely proud of our children's resilience and how well they continue to deal with the changes and restrictions that COVID 19 brings.

#### Roadmap out of Lockdown

The Government's roadmap out of lockdown is well and truly underway. Step 3 came into action on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May. There were minimal changes for primary schools with this step - it focused mainly on households and businesses. We have therefore continued with our social distancing, our bubbles and our hygiene measures and the children will not have seen changes in school. It will be reassuring for parents to know that we have had no closures of bubbles since children returned to school in March.

Step 4 is scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> June. We will find out at the end of this month if the rules on minimising contact and social distancing are changing. Whilst we are keeping our fingers crossed, we know that the Government is concerned about how different variants are spreading so we have to be patient and wait for the updates.

We will keep parents informed as soon as we can if there are going to be any changes. Parents can read more about the roadmap by clicking on the link [COVID-19 Response - Spring 2021 \(Summary\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-response-spring-2021-summary)

Our risk assessment is regularly updated and can be found on our website.

#### Staffing

We would like to confirm that Miss Collett will be leaving to start her maternity leave on 7<sup>th</sup> June and therefore will not be returning after half term. We would like to congratulate her and wish her all the very best.



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This term we have said goodbye to Mrs Cordon, our Senior Lunchtime Supervisor, we thank her for her many years of service and wish her well for the future. Mrs Sproston has been appointed to take over Mrs Cordon's Year 2 lunchtime supervisor role.

Mrs Firth, lunchtime supervisor in Year 4 will also be leaving us this term and we wish her all the best for her new role.

We have welcomed a number of new Premises staff this term and they have settled into their roles well.

### Safeguarding

The safety of children is all our responsibilities and we have dedicated staff in school to ensure safeguarding procedures are in place and are robust and consistent. One of the aspects we remind children about is Stranger Danger - a message that is essential for parents and carers to echo at home. The key points we all need to make children aware of are:

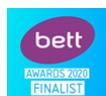
- *Never go off on your own with a stranger, take things from them or get in a car with them.*
- *Make sure you tell your parents where you are.*
- *If someone scares you, or makes you feel uncomfortable go somewhere safe, which could be your home, your school or a police station.*
- *Remember to tell someone what has happened straight away.*
- *Always dial 999 in an emergency.*

Some great tips and advice can be found here: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/staying-safe-away-from-home/>

### Local Area

Please be mindful when parking your vehicle and when dropping off or collecting your child from school as blocking dropped kerbs is causing genuine problems for our local residents. We have spoken to Walsall Council who have advised that residents may apply for "Dropped Kerb Enforcement" via the Walsall Council website which will then allow the enforcement team to respond. We have also spoken to our local Police neighbourhood team who have confirmed they will be able to patrol the area at peak times to deal with any parking issues that arise.

Please can we also remind parents to be considerate to residents property and dispose of litter and cigarettes appropriately.



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Parents may have seen notices on Raeburn Road about re-surfacing taking place from 7<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> June which will further impact on parking. We would advise families to walk to school those days if possible or consider allowing a little more time to be able to park slightly further away from the site. We have contacted The Highways Agency who assure us that work will start after 9am so there should be little disruption in the morning, however there will be no parking on Raeburn Road in the afternoon due to the road closure. Footpaths will remain open for parents to gain access to school through the Raeburn Road gate.

### News

The Education Resources Awards (ERA) are organised by [Brilliant Marketing Solutions](#) and the [British Educational Suppliers Association](#) (BESA), working together to encourage the very best in education.

Now firmly established as the premier annual event to celebrate outstanding success within the education sector throughout the UK, these awards are recognised by the teaching profession as the benchmark of excellence, aiming to encourage the raising of educational services and product standards throughout the industry.

We are very proud that Pheasey Park Farm have been shortlisted this year in 2 categories: Outstanding Achievement during Covid 19 and Leadership in Education.

We are also contributing to a forthcoming White Paper on the subject of Ed Tech in Education and have been represented in several educational journals as well as BBC WM Radio.

Mrs Lanni and one of our Year 5 children, Jamie P in class 5LE, spoke on BBC WM Radio on Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> May regarding experiences of EdTech at Pheasey and how it helped during lockdown, in school and with continuous learning (work at school and at home). We would like to thank Jamie for being part of this experience and speaking well.

### Summer Activities

Many of our usual 'end of year' activities will be determined by the updates we have from the Government and Public Health England. Whatever the situation, we will look for as many opportunities as we can for your children to have the most enjoyable activities over the Summer Term so that they make happy memories with their friends - even with some adjustments if necessary! We will run Year Group Sports Days for the children so that they are able to experience these events, however it may be that we are unable to invite parents. We will keep you updated.



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### Transition

Transition to the next year group has been carefully planned. This year, it is our intention to mix the classes from Years 1-5 as they move up to their new year groups. This is something we do periodically to re-balance classes and give opportunities for children to make new friends. We had planned to do this last academic year, however due to lockdown, this was postponed because we did not feel it was in the children's best interests as we would not have been able to implement the face to face transition activities we would have liked.

This year, therefore, we will be going ahead with mixing the classes and we will provide plenty of opportunities for the children to spend time with their new teachers and new classmates. We will also have activities, photos and information on the current Year Group Learning Platform page which will be taken over by new teachers once they have been introduced to the children. Support for individuals/small groups will be given where necessary.

### Reports

Teachers will soon be busy preparing End of Year Reports for parents ready to distribute to parents on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021. Reports will be electronic again this year and will be uploaded to your child's own OneNote area on the Learning Platform on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021. Copies for separated parents will be sent separately.

### Uniform

We are fully aware that this year has been exceptional - in many ways. We have been flexible regarding uniform/footwear since the children returned to school in March as we understand family circumstances may have changed. Please note, however, that from September 2021 we will return to our previous expectations regarding uniform and that all children should adhere to this. This includes our policy regarding hair being fully tied back when it reaches shoulder length, a simple bobble rather than large bows and sensible shoes being worn, not trainers, boots or canvas style shoes. The Academy has also amended the logo to Elston Hall Learning Trust and therefore uniform suppliers will now begin to stock this design. The change to the logo will be phased in and parents are not expected to purchase new uniform until they ordinarily would.

### Half Term

Please note that School will close for the Whitsun break today, Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> May and reopen on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> June.

Thank you again for your support and please enjoy half term.



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Yours sincerely,

Mrs S. Arnold  
Head of School

