

News on the Nineteenth

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OCTOBER 2011

Congratulations to pupils, staff, families and governors of Ponsbourne St. Mary's

We have recently received data regarding the attainment of our pupils at the end of Y2 and Y6 in comparison to schools nationally, known as RAISEonline.

At the end of KS1:

92% of children achieved a L2 and above in Reading

92% of children achieved a L2 and above in Writing

92% of children achieved a L2 and above in Maths

39% of children achieved a L3 in Reading

23% of children achieved a L3 in Writing

31% of children achieved a L3 in Maths

At the end of KS2:

100% of children achieved a L4 and above in English

100% of children achieved a L4 and above in Maths

82% of children achieved a L5 in English

27% of children achieved a L5 in Maths

The data shows that the attainment of pupils from Ponsbourne St. Mary's at the end of KS1 and the end of KS2 has been **significantly above** schools nationally for the past three years.

The progress made by pupils across the school is **significantly above** the national average also, putting us in the top 8% of schools nationally.

Our pupils' attendance is **outstanding** also in comparison to schools locally and nationally. There is an obvious link to attendance and achievement.

Congratulations to the committed, inspirational teachers, the enthusiastic and resilient children and the caring, supportive families who have contributed to this fantastic achievement!

School Development Plan

Please find below the key priorities for school development this year, 2011 -2012

1. To raise standards in Maths through mixed ability teaching
2. To review and evaluate our Inclusion policies, practice and procedures in order to apply for the Inclusion Quality Mark
3. To embed the initiatives established last year to further develop our school as a thinking school
4. To develop the Governing Body in order that it is rated as 'good' or better

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Many thanks for all your wonderful donations at the Harvest Festival.

These have been taken to the local women's refuge where they were very welcome.

Thank you for your kindness and support.

Thank you too for the collection at the end of the service. We will be forwarding the money to the Bishop's Harvest Appeal and this will help people in Cambodia.

It was a lovely service. It was great to see those who were able to join us.

BAGS 2 SCHOOL

Following the success of the last Bag 2 School Bags campaign we have repeated this Fundraiser.

**TUESDAY 18th OCTOBER
MORNING DROP OFF
AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

Please bring in any bags of unwanted clothes, shoes, bedding etc.

Many thanks to all of you who support this campaign.

Bag2School raised £526 last year.

MACMILLAN CANCER FUND



The MacMillan Coffee morning was held on Thursday 23rd September in the village hall. In excess of £300 was raised. A HUGE thank you to everyone who helped to organise, contribute prizes and books and support this event.

REMINDER SECONDARY TRANSFER

The closing date for applications is **31st October 2011.**

Should anyone need help with their application please come and see Michelle in the School Office.



Can you help us?

We really need wool for knitting, old saucepans, lids, glass/plastic bottles, a metal sink and other scrap metal for our music garden.



Christmas Tree Festival

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The Christmas tree festival will be held this year between **25th and 27th November**. The opening ceremony will be at 2.30pm on Friday 25th November and closes on Monday 28th November at 9 am with an advent service for the school. All welcome. Anyone wishing to enter a tree is very welcome - we do like to fill the church and you can donate your tree for bidding if you choose. Entries are invited from individuals, families, groups, organisations or companies.

Information available from Gill Sutcliffe on 01707 874388

THANK YOU

"Thank You" to everyone who has been involved with the Christmas Card project.

74% of you supported this initiative a school record. £127.50 has been made Thank you to Rachel McHattie for organising this.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast Club runs every morning from 8 am. Feel free to just turn up on the day if you wish to come.
£2 first child £1 siblings

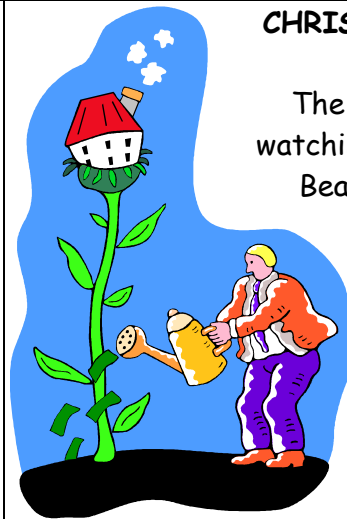
Children may complete their homework at Breakfast Club.



Toast, cereals, fruit, hot chocolate and juice are offered. Please enter through Discoverers side access through the gate which leads to the playground.

CHRISTMAS PANTO

The children will be watching Jack and the Beanstalk at the Wyllyotts Theatre in Potters Bar on **Thursday 15th December**.



Early Years Foundation Stage/KS1 NATIVITY

The EYFS/KS1 Nativity will be performed on **Thursday 8th December at 6.00pm** in the church.

Further details will follow nearer the time.

LATE BOOK

If you are late bringing your child(ren) to school (after 8.50am) and the bell has gone and their class line has gone into school, please come to the school office and sign the late book. Your child will then be taken to class.

Please do not leave children unattended in the playground or by the classroom door.

Children should not join the Wake and Shake session until they have registered their lateness in the school office (and lunch choice) as the registers will have been returned there.

Parents are reminded that if your child is absent you should ring the school office before 10am.



CAKE SALES

Pioneers Cake Sale raised £44.50. Thank you to PARENTS who organised this event and thank you to all the parents who supported this fundraiser.

Samaritans Shoebox appeal.

We are collecting shoeboxes once again to send to orphan children in poverty stricken areas and war zones in Europe. Hopefully you should all have received a leaflet explaining this appeal - I have some spare copies in the office.

You can bring your shoeboxes in and leave them in the office as soon as they are ready. We hope you will want to support this charity as it is very worth while.

One of our children's grandparents has knitted hats and scarves for the boxes which we will add when you bring the boxes in (Thank you Sam's granny!).

ART CLUB

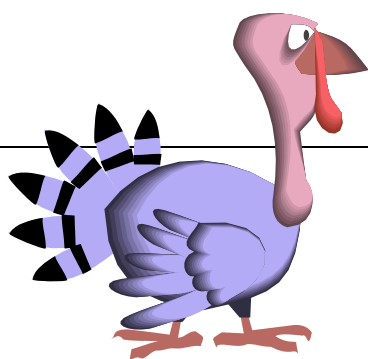
We will be running a Christmas Art Club on **Tuesday 15th, 22nd and 29th November** for children who would like to produce homemade Christmas gifts.

A more detailed letter will be sent home after half term.

KS2 Pantomime Performance

Jack and the Beanstalk

The KS2 pantomime will be performed on **Wednesday 14th December 2011** in the Queenswood School Theatre. Children will spend the day at Queenswood rehearsing and will need to be dropped off at Queenswood and collected from there. More details will follow:

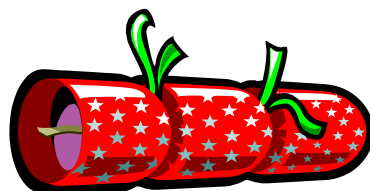


Parents Evening

Tuesday 8th November 2011

On **Tuesday 1st November** lists for appointments will be placed on the exit doors for each class. Mrs Viall's list will be on the Conservatory door. Parents should sign on the list against the time they wish meet the teacher. Any working parents who are unable to see the lists should ring the office from Tuesday onwards.

Christmas Lunch



Our school Christmas lunch will be held on **Tuesday 13th December 2011**. The cost of lunch is £1.95 and is an occasion for everyone. There will be **no** packed lunches on this day. This is a whole school event and we would like all children to participate. Letters will be sent home with the children after half term.

Car Parking- Road Crossing

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE DO NOT park in the spaces outside the church, especially when dropping off for breakfast club. These spaces are used by staff who very often have heavy items to carry into school.

Despite the danger, many parents continue to put their and their children's life at risk by not using the crossing to cross the road. Please set a **GOOD EXAMPLE** and cross via the crossing

KINGSWOOD

Payments for Kingswood can be made to the school office at any time. The **full balance** must be made by **Friday 21st January 2012**. If you would like to pay weekly/monthly amounts then just send your payments into office.

Little Book of Hope

As All Saints Eve approaches, many children are talking about celebrating Halloween. Since we are a church school, we do not celebrate or promote Halloween so Reverend Pauline has purchased a 'Little Book of Hope' instead for each family of our school. This book is overtly Christian and we hope the children enjoy the comic strip stories but please feel free to pass this book on should you wish to.

Data Collection

Thank you to all parents for checking and returning your 'data collection' sheets. You achieved 100% return Our database has now been amended and all information is up to date.

BUT if you should get a new phone or change your internet provider and email account just drop a note to the office with your new details.

PARENTMAIL

If you have changed your email address or mobile telephone number please remember to access your Parentmail account and update the details. If you do not do this then you may not receive monthly and last minute communications from school. Thank you.

Packed Lunches

School meals are produced under healthy school guidance and packed lunches must also fall in line with these guidelines. Food standards for schools are mandatory which means schools must comply legally. School dinners must meet these standards and so too must packed lunches consumed in school.

Packed lunches should include the following every day:

- Meat, fish or a non-dairy source of protein
- A starchy food
- At least one portion of fruit
- At least one portion of vegetable or salad
- A milk or dairy food
- Soup
- Water or pure fruit juice with less than 5% added sugar

Packed lunches **must not** include:

- Confectionery such as sweets and chocolate bars
- Savoury snacks other than nuts and seeds with no added salt, sugar and fat
- Manufactured meat products more often than occasionally

Many of the foods no longer allowed under the food-based standards are associated with a growing range of child health issues including obesity, anaemia, tooth decay and diabetes.

For more information, you can contact the following websites:

www.schoolfoodtrust.org.uk

www.foodinschools.org

www.teachernet.gov.uk/wholeschool/healthyliving