



Dear Families,

It has been another exciting and rewarding week of learning at Peareswood Primary School. We are delighted to share some highlights from our recent activities.

We were honoured to have the poet Neil Zetter and the author Louise Fitzgerald in our school this week. Their visit provided our children with a wonderful opportunity to engage with creative minds and gain insights into the world of literature. The feedback we received was resoundingly positive, with our visitors praising the excellent behaviour for learning displayed by our children and their boundless enthusiasm for acquiring knowledge.

Louise Chalkley, from Bexley Children’s University, visited our Key Stage 2 children on Thursday discussing passports and how to receive stamps to then be invited to attend a graduation ceremony at the Civic Offices in Bexley. Exciting!

Today, we had the pleasure of hosting our governors who took the time to visit our classrooms. They were impressed by the genuine engagement our children showed in their learning. These visits help us further improve our practices and ensure that our children receive the best educational experiences.

Upcoming Event: Pride Time

Next week marks the start of our celebrations around Black History Month, an event which supplements everything we already do within the curriculum around diversity. Our children will take part in activities with a key focus celebrating this important time within the school calendar, and sharing their own experiences to enhance awareness.

We are excited to remind you that next week will be dedicated to celebrating the remarkable achievements made by our children this half term. We look forward to sharing this special time with you.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Ferla and the Peareswood Team

Date	EYFSP		KS1			KS2			
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6			
Thursday 19th October 2023	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6		
Friday 20th October 2023	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6		
Time	8:30-9 am	9:45-10 am	2:45-3:15 pm	2:45-3:15 pm	2:45-3:15 pm	2:45-3:15 pm	2:45-3:15 pm		
Access	Nursery Classroom	Reception Classroom	Library Link	Library Link	Library Link	Library Link	Library Link		



# Upcoming Events

Monday 16th Oct  
Year 1 & 2 Pride Time

Tuesday 17th Oct  
Year 3 & 4 Pride Time

Wednesday 18th Oct  
Year 5 & 6 Pride Time

Thursday 19th Oct  
Nursery & Reception Pride Time

20th October  
Non Uniform Day!  
Last Day of Term

**LAST DAY**



## HALLOWEEN/AUTUMN CONTEST

Enjoy your halloween/autumn half term as you stay busy being creative. Here are some things you can do to enter our competition.



**1 Entry per pupil!**  
**Deadline is 30th October**

**Please bring your entries into school!**



Congratulations!  
We hope you enjoyed your well deserved Hot Chocolate!



# SAFEGUARDING

**SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEAL WITH UPSETTING CONTENT**  
A Guide for Parents and Carers

Raising children in the digital age seems to be getting tougher, with the world currently experiencing so many uncertainties. From climate change to the war in Ukraine and the conflict in Israel, right now children across the globe can scarcely go online without being exposed to unsettling stories, images and ideas. Reassuring a concerned child can be difficult, especially when bad news feels omnipresent. We've put together some advice to help you be discussing upsetting events with young ones.

- FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD KNOWS**  
There are many ways that children are exposed to upsetting content in the news, both online and offline. Before engaging your child with news stories, find out what they know already. Show them you're interested in what they think and encourage them to share their views. Practice active listening and try to gauge the level of concern your child has expressed by what they've seen.
- RIGHT TIME, RIGHT PLACE**  
Timing is key when discussing upsetting content. Choose a time when they're relaxed and not too tired. Avoid discussing it when they're eating, watching TV, or when they're in a hurry. Choose a time when they're relaxed and not too tired. Avoid discussing it when they're eating, watching TV, or when they're in a hurry.
- KEEP IT AGE APPROPRIATE**  
With younger children, try to stick to the core message of the news. You can go beyond that as they get older. Use simple language and avoid using words like 'terrorist' or 'war'. Use a PG rating as a guide.
- EMPHASISE HOPE**  
Upsetting content can make anyone feel angry, scared, and or overwhelmed. Try to focus on the good news. Encourage them to think about the things they can do to help. Encourage them to think about the things they can do to help.
- MONITOR REACTIONS**  
All children react differently, of course, and young people may not always tell you that they're worried, angry, or stressed. Encourage them to talk about their feelings. Encourage them to talk about their feelings.
- CONSIDER YOUR OWN EMOTIONS**  
It's not only young people who find upsetting news difficult to process. Adults often have to deal with young emotions in moments of stress. Children develop resilience by seeing their parents and carers deal with stress. Encourage them to talk about their feelings.
- SET LIMITS**  
Managing screen-time and content can be difficult, even in normal circumstances, but especially in unusual or stressful periods. It's not always possible to keep children away from upsetting content completely, but it's a parental responsibility to try to regulate the timing, location, and content of any screen-time limits.
- TAKE THINGS SLOWLY**  
Try not to overwhelm your child with information all at once. Instead, take the discussion one step at a time. You could make the conversation a game and then wrap up your child's response to the news. Encourage them to think about the things they can do to help.
- ENCOURAGE QUESTIONS**  
Online, troubling images, posts, videos and stories are often shared multiple times. Even if the content is actually misleading or untrue, it's important to encourage your child to discuss what they've seen. Encourage them to discuss what they've seen.
- FIND A BALANCE**  
There's often a temptation to stay right up to date with events. Our phones are constantly on and it's easy to get caught up in the news. Encourage them to take a break from the news. Encourage them to take a break from the news.
- BUILD RESILIENCE**  
News that never seems to end can be overwhelming. It's important that they're equipped with the tools to deal with it. Encourage them to think about the things they can do to help.
- IDENTIFY HELP**  
It's hugely important that children know that they can always talk to someone. Encourage them to think about the things they can do to help.

Meet Our Expert  
Cecily Cooper is the director of Family South Africa, which is a leading charity in the UK providing support for families who are struggling with mental health issues. She has a wealth of experience in supporting families who are struggling with mental health issues.

NOS National Online Safety #WakeUpWednesday

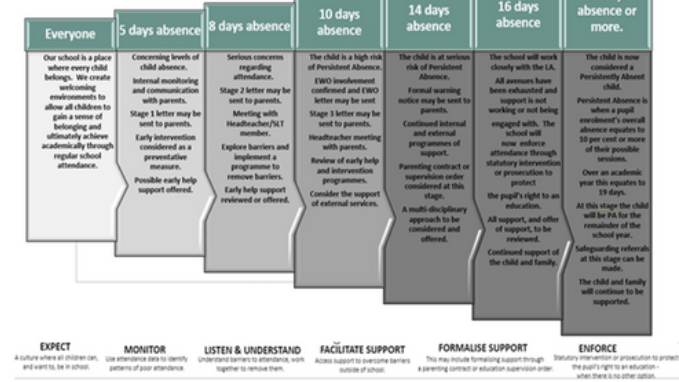


## ELSIE



Elsie has been helping get everything ready for Pride Time. Check out the dates on the poster for when your child's Pride Time is.

Escalation Process – minimum expectations



Peareswood Primary School follow the above escalation process, at a minimum. There will be circumstances where intervention is put in place at an earlier stage based on the school's knowledge of the circumstances for a child/family.

ATTENDANCE

School Target- 96%

Current Attendance - 94.7%

- Nursery AM 97.6%
- Nursery PM- 98.6%
- Poplar - 92.7%
- Lime - 93.4%
- Bay- 96.8%
- H/Chestnut- 92.3%
- Box- 96.1%
- Bamboo - 91.6%
- Ash - 97.8%
- Cypress - 95.2%
- Palm- 90%
- Acacia - 97.7%
- Holly- 96.8%
- Myrtle- 98.1%
- Eucalyptus- 94%
- Willow - 91%

Green=met the minimum attendance rate

WELL DONE!

Class	Peareswood Champion
Nursery AM/PM	Justina/Evie
Lime	Freddie
Poplar	Aizah
H/Chestnut	Aren
Bay	Marcelo
Bamboo	Jordan
Box	Albee
Cypress	Hannah
Ash	Alfie
Acacia	Raiden
Palm	Frankie
Holly	Jamie
Myrtle	Ronnie
Willow	Kingsley
Eucalyptus	Philip

Ready

Respectful

We are...

Safe

SCHOOL VALUES

This terms value is Pride-

EYFS- Reception have been proud to share things about themselves and their families this week while exploring their topic. They have been learning to listen to each other talk and take turns.

KS1- We are really proud of Year 1 and Year 2 who have started their addition and subtraction unit in maths this week, exploring partitioning numbers into parts and whole, looking at fact families alongside this. They have felt very proud to share their learning.

KS2- We are very proud of how engaged the children were in their Children's University this week to relaunch the scheme. We can't wait to see all the fun things everyone is getting up to outside of school.

Pride Creativity Kindness Ambition Collaboration



# Spotlight on Phonics/Early Reading!



## EYFS

Phonics started in first full week back. Kelly is taking some of our more settled children (those who took part in phonics in our Nursery provision and are ready to move forward). Resources are displayed in the classroom and each class has a phonics station within the provision.

## Pupil Voice

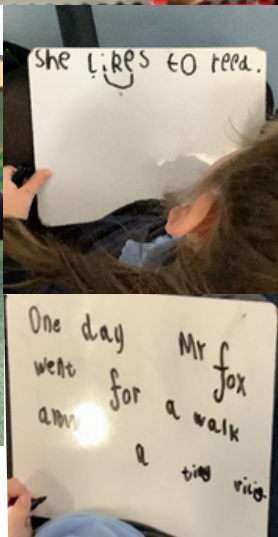
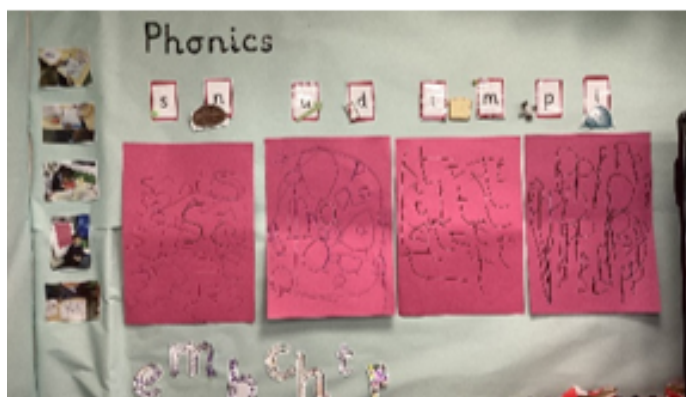
“We play what’s in the box”

“We do some sounds and some writing.”

“We learn letters and also how to sound out words.”

## Moving On

Reading books will be sent home after half term and 1:1 reading will begin. Nursery start phonics in Spring 1.



## KS1

### Phonics

Well placed groups covering a mixture of phases. All staff using Little Wandle plans and resources effectively.

### Early Reading

Organised and structured carousel of activities. Consistent across both classes/year groups. All children on task and knew the task set. I am impressed with how year one have quickly adapted to using the Ipads to support their early reading.

### Pupil Voice

Blending – “You have to put all the sounds together and say the word.”

Diagraph “It is two letters that make a sound.”

“We have to write sentences.”

### Little Wandle Strategies

#### Observed

My turn, Your turn  
What’s in the box  
Speedy sounds  
Shuffle Time  
Phoneme fingers  
Chunking  
Spot the diagraph  
Modelled writing  
Children writing

# Reading UPdates



This week we welcomed 2 published authors to Peareswood.

Poet Neil Zetter worked with children across KS2 on Monday on different types of poems. Neil also held an assembly with KS2 and shared a selection of his poems. The children really enjoyed their time with him. He said 'I was really pleased with the engagement levels of the children and their keenness to do the work.'



On Tuesday we welcomed Louise Fitzgerald who did some workshops with the children in Reception and Year 1. The children really enjoyed their sessions and loved hearing the story of 'The Quickest bedtime Story Ever!'



## Remember....

The school library is open every day after school for children to come and takes books to read at home with you. Please remember to return them to the library when you have finished reading them. You can then add a recommendation into your class book corner too!

The Community Library is also available to parents before and after school. Just pop along, pick a book and return it when you have read it or pass it onto a friend!