

# SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER



*With trust and care we will grow and flourish*

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome back to a new exciting school year! I hope you all had an enjoyable and safe summer break, although it does all now seem like a distant memory. We have had a really busy start to the school year including welcoming all our new children into year 3. We hope that they have a wonderful learning experience with us here at Pear Tree.

All the children have settled back well and are enjoying life in their new classes. It is a pleasure to walk into classrooms and see children showing respect to themselves, their classmates and their teachers. I have also been impressed with how they are taking responsibility for their learning and trying their best each and every day.

As ever there will be lots going on in school this term; staff have been working hard planning a new curriculum with exciting lessons as well as trips and visits that will enrich their learning. I know the children will work hard and you will quickly see progress.

Please continue to support your child in their learning and their behaviour- you can have a great effect on their achievements - and we, and more importantly your child, appreciate your help.

I am really looking forward to the next few months I know we are going to have a great year.

## Working with Parents

This year we will continue to build strong relationships with our pupils and their parents. We look forward to involving you in your child's learning journey as we recognize that parents are the key educators in their child's life. The link between parents and teachers working together ensures a child makes great progress.

### Parent Open Days

In October, year groups will host open days where you will be able to come in and discuss your child's learning with their class teacher. Your child will also come along and be able to share what they have been learning about, what they have achieved so far and what they would like to be better at.

Appointments will be available before, during and after the school day. Look out for further information nearer the time

### Year 6 meeting

On Thursday 27th September at 2.30pm, Year 6 parents are invited to meet with Mr Miah who will discuss and share ideas and resources to prepare your child for their key stage 2 SATs. Although to many this may seem a long way off, however preparation will ensure your child is able to achieve good results. It would be great to see many of you here supporting your child and the school in their next learning journey.

## Home School Learning Log

At the beginning of each year all children are given a Home School Learning Log. This diary contains lots of key information that many parents often ask us about. This diary is also a great way for parents and staff to communicate with each other. The diary will share with you the things your child is learning, home learning tasks and serve as a reminder of things that will be happening in school. The key element of this diary is keeping a clear record of the books that your child is reading. Please listen to them every day and record this within the log.

Look through this learning log with your child and talk about the things that we are sharing with you.

## MarvellousMe

At the end of this week we will be launching 'MarvellousMe.'

This is a **free app** which allows staff to send notifications to your smartphone or tablet. Through this we will be able to share wonderful things your child is learning, when they've been praised for good work or have received school rewards. This is not a communication app but one that will allow us to share positive feedback and inspire better home learning support and Encouragement.

*Look out for your joining letter at the end of the week. We cannot wait to get started !*



## Pear Tree Advisory Group

The Governing Body at Pear Tree have been working hard to support and challenge the school to make the necessary improvements to being a **GREAT** school. In order to support the Governing Body, we are setting up an Advisory Group. The Advisory Group will be made up of pupils, parents, staff and community leaders.

The Advisory Group will support the Governing Body to fulfil its role by providing timely and accurate feedback from the different sections of the school community. Members of the school Advisory Group will attend the meetings and feedback directly to the school Governing Body.

Further details will be sent out next week. If you are interested in joining the Advisory Group or finding out more, please leave your name and contact details with the school office.

### Parent Contact Information

If during the summer break any of your contact details have changed (e.g. phone numbers / addresses etc) then please notify the school office immediately. It is essential that we are able to contact you in case of an emergency. A new pupil detail form will be coming out this week, please complete and return back to the school office.

## Plastics

The billions upon billions of items of plastic waste choking our oceans, lakes, and rivers and piling up on land is more than unsightly and harmful to plants and wildlife. Plastic pollution is very real and single-use plastics are small but have a large impact.

Single-use-plastics frequently do not make it to a landfill or are recycled. Tons of plastic packaging is left to flow into our oceans; the equivalent of pouring one garbage truck of plastic into the ocean every minute. This is expected to increase by 2050, this could mean there will be more plastic than fish in the world's oceans.

**Over the six week holidays, we have been thinking hard about how Pear Tree Junior School can show that we are respectful and responsible to our world and the environment. We have decided that from now on we will not be allowing single-use plastic in school anymore e.g. plastic water bottles. Instead the children have all been provided with their own Pear Tree water bottle, which they will use in school. The water bottles will be cleaned every day and refreshed with water from our filtered water taps. The children are very pleased to be showing that they are respecting the environment.**

## Attendance—EVERY DAY COUNTS

'Every Child, Every Day' is our new school attendance motto. Last year our whole school attendance was 94.74% which is well below the national average. We will do whatever we can to make sure children are in school learning.

Coming to school every day and on time is the key to your child accessing learning and being able to achieve their best. As a school, we want to be above 96% across the academic year. It is vital that school and families work together to achieve this outcome.

### Punctuality!

At Pear Tree we expect every child to be ready for a prompt start to learning, doors open at 8:50am. Any child arriving after 9:05am will be marked as late and have this recorded as such on the official register.

### Absence

If your child is absent from school you must contact us on the first day of absence.

We can only authorise absence from school on the basis of genuine illness, a religious holiday or exceptional family circumstances (agreed with the Head Teacher beforehand). Any other absence will be recorded as unauthorised which can lead to referral to the Education Welfare Service

Due to safeguarding requirements, there are clear procedures for children who have unexplained absences from school. If your child is not going to be in school you must report this absence before 9am.

If we have not heard from you by 9.15am and therefore not had a reason for absence, we will call or conduct a home visit. If we are unable to get a response then we will report it to the police as your child will then be considered a 'missing child'.

This procedure is to ensure that we know where your child is and that you are all safe. Please let us know in good time why your child is absent from school. If you would like to talk to me about this please contact the school office.

## Behaviour

At Pear Tree we aim to create a caring atmosphere in which teaching and learning can take place in a happy and safe environment. In order to achieve this, we recognise the importance of a school policy that is supported and followed by the whole school community including children, parents, teachers, Governors and all other adults working and helping in the school.

Over the summer the behaviour policy was updated. During the first two weeks we have spoken to the children regarding the school and the class expectations and school rules: Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Responsible. I know they are going to respond positively to the rewards and recognition for good behaviour.

It is clear that a child's positive behaviour and attitude to school will ensure that they make at least good progress and reach their full potential. As a school, members of staff work hard alongside parents to put strategies in place to support children with their behaviour and work.

If your child's behaviour is not acceptable your child may receive a red slip. This is very serious! The class teacher will discuss this behaviour with you. Please support the school by discussing their behavior and encouraging them to follow the school rules.

I think we will all agree that it is unacceptable if a child continually disrupts the learning of the 29 other children in the class.

The behavior policy will be available for you to read on the school website. Paper copies may be requested from the school office.

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### Curriculum

At Pear Tree we have worked hard to create a new and exciting curriculum. The curriculum is based around excellent books. This half term the books being studied are:

Year 3 – Fair's Fair by Leon Garfield

Year 4 – Fire—Flood—Cyclone

Year 5 – Who Let the Gods Out by Maz Evans

Year 6 – There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom by Louis Sachar

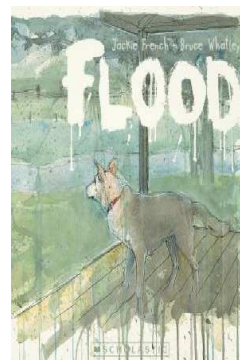
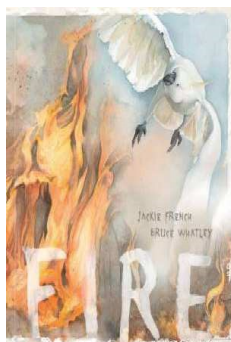
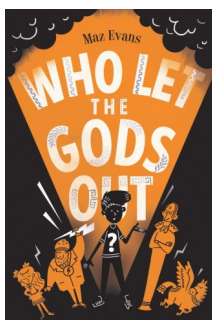
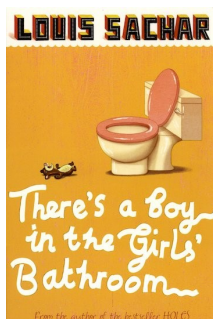
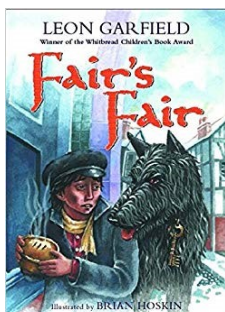
The Curriculum will be brought to life by exciting lessons, trips and visits.

Year Three have already held a Victorian day and Year 4 were shocked when a fire was started on the school site! Thank you to Mr Meakin (site manager) for helping the year fours learn about the dangers of fire.

Each Newsletter this year will share the great things your children have been up to in their class.

Your child may have already brought home a curriculum leaflet. This leaflet shares what your children will be learning over the course of this half term as well as key information. In addition to the curriculum, we have created Knowledge Organisers to help children learn the essential knowledge they need for each topic they learn about.

A Knowledge Organiser sets out in detail what we want children to know by heart by the end of the topic. Each one will contain the vocabulary and key information terms that children will learn. We expect the majority of children to be able to recall all of the information by the end of the topic. The children will be tested on these in class each week to help them remember what they are learning



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### Key dates

#### September:

Thursday 27th          2.30pm                  Year 6 SATs meeting

#### October:

Friday 5th                                  Inset Training day (no children in school)

Monday 15th          All day                  Parent Consultation day (Year 3)

Tuesday 16th          All day                  Parent Consultation day (Year 4)

Wednesday 17th                          New Pupil Parents Open Evening

Thursday 18th          All day                  Parent Consultation day (Year 5)

Friday 19th              All day                  Parent Consultation day (Year 6)

Tuesday 23rd          All day                  Year 6 Visit to Justice Museum Nottingham

Thursday 25th          TBC                      Advisory Board 1st meeting

Friday 26th              All day                  Individual pupil photographs

Friday 26th                                  Last day of term

#### November:

Monday 5th                                  Return to school (Autumn term 2)

Monday 5th                                  Year 6 Height and Weight Measure

