



Executive Headteacher: Mr A. Raistrick
Head of School: Mrs T. Vayro

Pinchbeck East Church of England Primary School
Fennell Road, Pinchbeck, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE11 3RP

Tel: 01775 723841 Finance: 01775 768015 Absence: 01775 713933
Email: enquiries@pinchbeckeast.lincs.sch.uk
Website: www.pinchbeckeast.lincs.sch.uk



4th September 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school. We hope that you have all enjoyed the summer holiday and the children are all refreshed and raring to go into another exciting, new academic year of 2018-2019. We have been working hard on new initiatives and ideas for the year ahead, which I will share with you in this letter. There are also some reminders, key information and dates to inform you of, so please excuse the length of this letter!

A warm welcome:

We are looking forward to meeting all the new children who will be starting our school and working closely with parents and relatives in EYFS and other children throughout the school who have joined us this year.

Routines:

Tomorrow morning all children will remain with their bookbags and PE bags on their playground, their new teacher will come and collect them when the whistle goes and guide them to their new classroom. From Wednesday onwards, as always, the gates (EYFS, KS1, KS2 and Forge Crescent) will be unlocked each morning at approximately 8:40am for children to go straight into class and begin their day of learning. The gates will be locked at **8:55am prompt** for the staff to return to the classrooms. Mrs Green, Mrs Down and myself will be at the gates each morning to 'meet and greet'; and help you in any way we can. Please can we ask that if you wish to speak to the class teacher, it would be easier at the end of the school day, as the children do begin their learning as soon as they get into the class in a morning and the teacher is needed to begin teaching.

All class assemblies will continue to take place on a Friday afternoon at 2:45pm. The class assembly dates will be given out in a newsletter at the beginning of each new term.

An after-school clubs letter will be sent out from Miss Hudson with all the necessary information and all clubs will begin the week beginning **17th September 2018**.

Standards and expectations:

The children will have a one-week induction period, where they will get to know their new teacher and classroom and their teacher will get to know them. Children within each class will have the opportunity to be 'voted' as class representatives for many whole school responsibilities, including The Green Team, School Council and Collective Worship Council.

This is a vital start to the year where high standards and expectations of behaviour, attitude and learning will be established. We ask for your continued support with this in ensuring that children are wearing ties and appropriate uniform, including black school shoes. Supporting your child with the home learning and regular reading will also help in their success to become confident learners in all areas of the curriculum. Please encourage your child to become independent and responsible for the organisation of the school day, their book bags and planners need to be in school every day, as well as PE bags, with their PE kits **clearly labelled**. The PE kit is an important part of our school uniform, so please ensure children wear plain white t-shirts or white t-shirts with the school logo only, light blue shorts and the winter kit is a dark coloured tracksuit – navy or black with plimsolls or sports trainers.



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Attendance:

As always, we cannot stress the importance of excellent attendance and punctuality, as it has such a huge impact on a child's progress in learning. If a child is late into school, they miss the introduction to lessons which not only affects their learning, but leads to interrupted learning for the whole class. We will continue to monitor this vigorously throughout the year. A letter will be sent out this term from Mr Raistrick, our Executive Headteacher, outlining the expectations of attendance. Can we please remind all parents that holiday requests will not be authorised and **from September a written request in the form of a letter will need to be handed into the school 15 days before the expected period of absence**, rather than the holiday form that has been previously used. We ask for your support in ensuring that all children attend school regularly and on time.

Website

I hope everyone has now seen our new website which went live at the end of June 2018. We hope it is a much more 'user friendly' website and easier to navigate and find information from.

The class blogs will keep you informed of what happens in your child's class. EYFS will continue to use Tapestry to share their work, whilst Years 1 – 6 will have year group blogs. Please check these blogs (links on the school web page) to find out what has been happening in your child's class.

Our new curriculum

Over the last few months the staff have been working as a team to develop a new and creative curriculum within a theme of 'GROW' – God's world, Respect, Opportunities and Wellbeing. This is on our new website and alongside it you will see the themes each year group will be exploring. Teachers will not send out the termly curriculum letter, but the termly curriculum plan for each year group will be published on the school website under 'The Curriculum' tab within the first week of each new term. We are all really excited and hope the children will find their learning creative, engaging and positively challenging!

The Daily Mile

We are now registered as a school to join other hundreds of schools taking part in the daily mile. "The aim of The Daily Mile is to improve the physical, social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing of our children – regardless of age, ability or personal circumstances." The teachers will decide at which time of the day the children will take part in the 'daily mile'. It is a brilliant initiative which we are all very enthusiastic about. For further information about the huge benefits of this addition to our daily routine please visit the daily mile website <http://www.dailymile.co.uk>

GDPR

As you will all be aware of the updated general data protection regulations came into force on May 25th 2018. This has had an impact on all areas of society, including schools. We have worked very hard to ensure we are compliant and hopefully the subtle changes will have had minimal impact on the day to day running of our school. In line with this, you will notice that your child's school planner only has their first name on the front as this will leave the school premises on a daily basis. For this year, (the planners from next year will look slightly different), we ask that you do not sign the whole school agreement and internet policy in the front of the planner, but complete and sign the acknowledgement slip your child will bring home in paper form this week. We really appreciate your support with this. PLEASE ensure that we have your up to date contact details at all times.



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First Aid in School

At the end of each term we are amazed at the number of 'first aid' slips that are found in children's trays that never make it home to parents! We have a management information system in school where all our data is kept electronically. From September, any injuries that need first aid treatment (beyond a cold paper towel and TLC!) will be recorded on our system and a note sent home. But the very minor bumps and scrapes that can occur will not be sent home in note form. Be assured, if your child is hurt and needs first aid treatment, you will be notified and ALL bumps to the head you will be telephoned.

Diary Dates:

Tuesday 18th September: 7:00pm Friends of School AGM

Thursday 27th September: Individual school photos

Friday 28th September: 9:30am Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church (Y2 to lead)

Wednesday 10th October (9:30-11:00am): Open Morning for new parents of September 2019

Friday 12th October: 2:45pm Year 6's Class Assembly (Classes 13 and 14)

Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th October: Parents' Evenings

Friday 19th October: End of Term 1

We are all looking forward to the new academic year, with so many changes, exciting events and challenges ahead.

Your support is invaluable to ensure your children are 'the best version of themselves' that they can be. I look forward to seeing you all and I am sure you will soon meet and get to know our new members of staff throughout the school.

With many thanks.

Mrs T L Vayro

Head of School