



# Pilgrims' Way Primary School & Children's Centre

September 2024 - Newsletter



## Attendance

**Year 6 – 89.6%**

**Year 5 – 92.8%**

**Year 4 – 93%**

**Year 3 – 96.8%**

**Year 2 – 90.8%**

**Year 1 – 92.1%**

**Reception – 93.3%**

**Well done Year 3!**

## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/carers,

I hope you had a relaxing summer break. This term is already flying by – it is hard to believe that we are already starting our third week of term! I have really enjoyed seeing the children return, full of enthusiasm for their learning and displaying excellent behaviour. I would also like to welcome our new nursery and reception children, as well as our new starters in other year groups. I look forward to getting to know you and your child – please do introduce yourself on the gate.

As is the case at the beginning of the academic year, there are no photos in the newsletter whilst we wait for the photo permission slips to return. However, there are plenty of photos for you to enjoy on our Instagram page – please do follow us!

This year, we are thrilled that Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils will be receiving music enrichment. Each term, a class will visit Bellenden to learn how to play the steel pans with Tian (a music specialist.) Year 6 started last week and already love it – I can't wait to hear them perform!

Warmest wishes,

Julie Ireland

## Class presentations

On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September, we are holding our “meet the teacher” presentations. This will give you the chance to find out more information about your child’s learning for the year, These presentations will start approximately at 3.45 and shouldn’t take longer than 20 minutes. It will also give you the opportunity to ask any questions you may have.

## SLT

As you are aware, Pilgrims’ Way and Bellenden are in a federation with SLT members working across both sites. Mrs Powell-Davies is on maternity leave this year. Please see below for which days members of SLT are on site. Please note that Miss Jones and Mr Gibbs are based at Pilgrims’ Way all week only.

Monday	Mr Doey
Tuesday	Mr Doey, Miss Crandon and Mr Gibbs
Wednesday	Mrs Ireland
Thursday	Mrs Ireland
Friday	Mrs Ireland and Miss Jones

## Term time holidays

There are still a small number of families who are taking holidays or travelling overseas during term time. These can have a really detrimental effect on children’s learning and can also mean that pupils’ attendance is less than 96% - children of school age, must, by law, attend school for at least 96% of the time. Absence due to holidays or travelling overseas interrupts the continuity of teaching and learning and interrupts the educational progress of children. Therefore, we strongly discourage and will not authorise any holidays or visits abroad (including seeing family members) during term time. Please also note that we have to send our attendance figures to the local authority each day, and poor attendance may lead to the involvement of the education inclusion team.

## School council

We will once more begin the process of electing our school council for 2024-2025. I would like to take the opportunity to thank the current school council for all of their hard work with Mrs Powell-Davies. Whilst Mrs Powell-Davies is on maternity leave, I will be leading school council. If your child is in Year 3-6 and would like to apply to be a school council member, they need to complete an application form which I will hand out at the end of this week. These need to be completed and returned to me by **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September**. We will be holding elections shortly, and I will inform you of the new school councillors in the next newsletter.

## Year 5 and 6 start time

Year 5 and 6 pupils are expected to start school at 8.30 and to come through the main office and walk to their classrooms. This time is used for learning, so please ensure that they are punctual.

## Values

We have introduced a new values system this year whereby we will be focusing on one value each half term. These are the values:

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Responsibility	Collaboration	Respect	Honesty	Kindness	Courage

This half-term, we will be focusing on responsibility – this is something which we do or the ability to act independently. Please do encourage responsibility in your child – this may be dressing themselves, organising their equipment for school or making their bed.

## Dates for your diary

Class teachers have begun the process of booking trips for their class. However, we **really** need parent volunteers to accompany classes on trips – please speak to your child's class teacher if you are available.

18/9 – meet the teacher presentations  
20/9 – Year 5 @ Southwark Park  
25/9 – nursery meet the teacher presentation  
2/10 – Year 6 @ the National portrait Gallery  
4/10 – Year 4 @ the science Museum  
9/10 – Year 3 @ Southbank  
9/10 – Year 2 @ the Wallace Collection  
11/10 – Y1 and Y2 multi-skills workshop  
15/10 @ 8.30-10.00 – support for secondary school applications for Year 6 parents  
23/10 – Year 3 @ Southwark Cathedral  
24/10 – Year 4 @ Southwark Cathedral  
24/10 – International Evening  
25/10 – Break up for half term @ 3.30  
4/11 – children return to school