



Pear Tree School

Achieving the Best We Can in Everything We Do

Newsletter Autumn 1 - 2019

In this newsletter

- . Welcome to the world!
- . PTFA
- . Parents' Evening
- . Dates for diary
- . Thank you

It has been a very busy start to this academic year and we are delighted by how well all the pupils have settled in at Pear Tree. We had a number of new starters this year: Khaled, Charlie, Harvey and Tommy in Seedlings; Clive and Oliver in Bay Tree; Emily and Kaizi in Pine Tree; Amy in the Sixth Form; Caleb and Gavin in the Compass Centre. All our new pupils have been welcomed with open arms and I am delighted to see them all enjoying school life.

We have also welcomed some new staff to the school this academic year and it now feels as if they have always been at Pear Tree. They have further strengthened the teams they have joined and are positively contributing to life at school. Welcome to Lauren and Jasmin in Seedlings; Lisa in Bay Tree; Lucy in Elm Tree; Alison in Oak Tree; Alison and Viktoria in Sixth Form; Charlotte and Karla in the Compass Centre.

Another huge and positive change to the school since my last newsletter is the developments within our Early Years department. The classroom has now been extended and a new outdoor learning environment created. Those of you who have seen it will, I am sure, agree with me in saying that these improvements have significantly enhanced the already outstanding provision. I think it truly reflects how much we value our youngest pupils and their families at the very start of their journey with us.

Have a look at some of the pictures below which were taken on the official Open Day.



*Photographs by
Rachel Lambert*

Welcome to the world!

I am so very pleased to announce the arrival of some new babies. Lindsey Bonson welcomed Beau into the world in September and in the last week Maire (Sixth Form) and her husband Paul had baby James and our apprentice James (Elm Tree) and wife Ewa had Rupert Roman.

PTFA

We had the first meeting of our new PTFA last week and I was delighted at the number of parents who registered interest with us. Due to you all having such a range of commitments, we quickly identified that only choosing one meeting time moving forward would mean some parents being unable to be involved. Therefore the parents present decided to set up a PTFA WhatsApp group so that they could communicate with everyone wanting to be involved and then get a general agreement about the next meeting. If you would like to be more involved in the group in whatever capacity and have not yet registered interest, please let school know and we will pass on you details to the WhatsApp group.

Parents' Evening

Thank you to everyone who attended our Parents' Evening this week. It was lovely to see so many of you in school and I hope you found the meeting informative. I am aware that a 10 minute appointment must feel like not enough time to spend with the teacher, however Parents' Evening is only one way in which you can find out about your child's progress. Annual Reviews, informal meetings, communication diaries are other ways in which we have those conversations with you. This year, we will also be sharing Evidence for Learning with you which will give you as parents more regular feedback on your son/daughter's achievements and progress. I am looking forward to receiving your feedback on this from Parents' Evening.

Dates for diary

Friday 18 th October	School closes for the half term break
Monday 28 th October	School re-opens
Monday 11 th November	Whole School Open Afternoon (1.30 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.) All welcome. (Parents of the Compass Centre will be contacted about different arrangements)
Friday 15 th November	9.15 a.m. Elm Tree Class Assembly. Parents invited.
Saturday 23 rd November	11.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. Pear Tree Christmas Fayre. All welcome.
Tuesday 10 th December	Lower school nativity
Wednesday 18 th December	Christmas Party
Friday 20 th December	School Closes for the Christmas Holiday
Monday 6 th January	School re-opens

World Mental Health Day 2019

On Thursday 10th October it was World Mental Health Day. We had a focus on 'connecting' throughout school. All classes took part in activities and engaged in work that was linked to promoting positive mental health and wellbeing. Classes have taken part in a whole range of sessions including mindfulness, yoga, meditation, playing games, working in pairs, baking and mindful colouring. Classes will use these 'connecting' skills to support the pupil's wellbeing and positive mind-sets over the coming year.

The staff enjoyed 'cakes and connecting' in the hall after school and were able to spend some quality time chatting to each other and reflecting on ways to promote positive wellbeing amongst themselves.



Thank you

A huge thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support this academic year; the partnership working I am seeing currently is exceptional and it is truly making a huge difference to the outcomes for all of our pupils. Thank you also for sending your children into school as regularly as you do. Whilst we are aware that a number of our pupils' medical conditions means that they may have to spend some time absent from school, when they are of good health, it is important that they attend school.

I hope you all have a lovely half term break and hopefully the rain will take a break for a while.

With the warmest of wishes

Kate

