



# Pear Tree School

*Achieving the Best We Can in Everything We Do*

## Newsletter

### Autumn 1 – 2021

#### In this newsletter

- . Introduction
- . On-site parking
- . Creative Curriculum – Communication
- . Around the World
- . COVID-19 testing
- . Parents' evening
- . Hello/Goodbye
- . Welcome to the World
- . Wedding Bells
- . Holiday List 2021-2022
- . Dates for diaries

# Introduction

We have had a very busy and exciting start to the new academic year. It is wonderful that we have been able to lift some of the restrictions that were necessary over the last 18 months and great to see the children accessing a full curriculum.

You will also be aware that it has not been without its challenges. We have had 3 outbreaks of COVID-19 to contend with, which once again places us under restrictions. With the changes in guidance, this has reduced the disruptive impact on learning that COVID-19 once had meaning that close contacts can continue to attend school providing they remain symptom free. An important part of this is any close contacts getting a PCR test to reduce the potential further spread of the virus, and I would like to thank all of you for supporting us with this safety measure. I do understand that colds and coughs are also doing the rounds currently however, due to the number of positive cases we have had in school this half term, I hope you will appreciate that we have had to be extra vigilant.

When walking around school doing my learning walks, I have really enjoyed witnessing all the fantastic learning experiences taking place. Children are excited by their learning and are fully engaged in what is being presented to them. Our new children to school have all settled in very well and we are really enjoying having Evangeline, Maximillian, Jacob, Austin, Toby, Ryan, Silver, Jessica, Arthur and Alfie as part of the Pear Tree family.

I will hopefully see many of you in person at our upcoming Parent's Evening, or attending our newly re-formed PTFA.

Don't forget that following the half term break, school re-opens for all pupils on **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**.

Many thanks for your continued support

With the warmest of wishes

Kate



## On-site parking

For those of you who bring your son/daughter to school each day, you will clearly see that our school site is very busy. We now have 22 transport vehicles arriving every day in addition to any private vehicles. Safety must be the number one priority and I am becoming increasingly concerned as the number of vehicles increases.

Therefore, if you are able to, please can I ask parents and carers to park off-site and walk their children into school. I know that this is an impossibility for many however if a few could manage this, it will help the safety of all – thank you.

# Creative Curriculum

## Communication Around the World

As part of our Creative Curriculum this half term, classes have been taking a trip around the world! The theme has been Communication Around the World, and classes have been incorporating this in all their lessons. In Bay Tree class, pupils have sailed the seven seas with their Literacy story, The Snail and the Whale. They have been amazing at learning the signs alongside the story, and loved using them to retell the story to all their friends. They have also been working on communicating, using their pencil control skills to write messages just like the snail in the story.

This half term, Maple Tree Class have been working hard at their new jobs... they have all become post office workers! After reading Katie Morag Delivers the Mail, they decided they could help people to communicate with each other by writing and posting their very own letters. They made sure they carefully wrote the correct addresses so that the letters didn't get lost. Pine Tree class have been learning all about the news this half term, and how this helps people know what is happening all around the world. Pupils took on the role of weather reporters to tell people what the weather is like around the country. They did their own version of 'Good Morning Pear Tree' and using varied communication such as, switches, talkers, signing and verbal communication were able to tell us what was happening in the world. Watch out Susanna Reid, Pine Tree are coming for your job!

In Upper School, pupils have been discovering what life is like in European countries and joining in signing to different folk tales... our favourite was about the witch Baba Yaga. It was really spooky, and got us in the mood for Halloween!

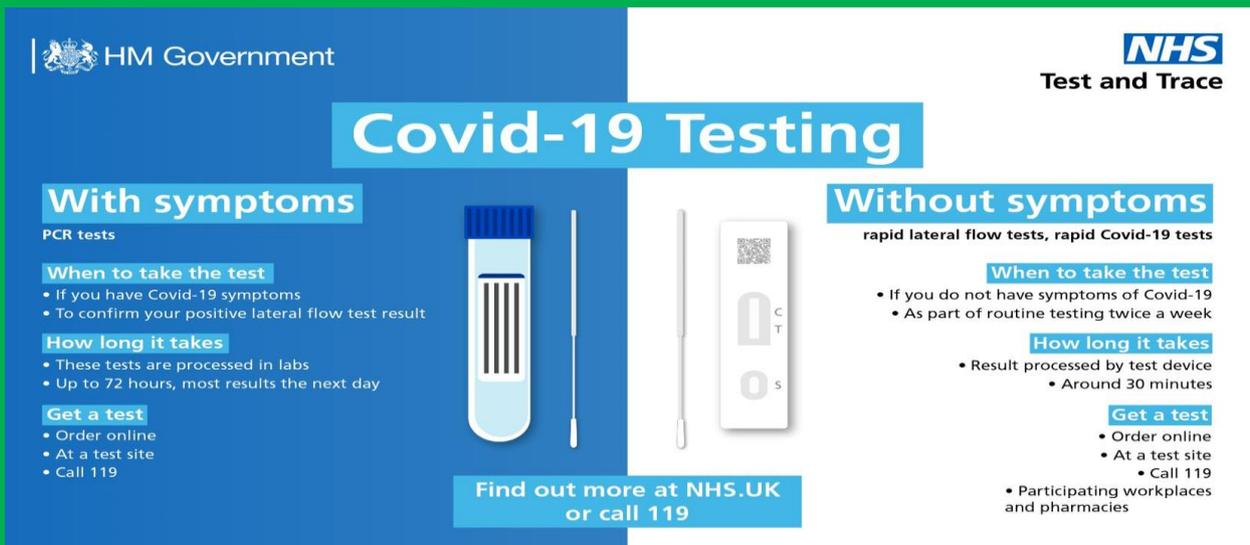
Finally, this half term Elm Tree's Science lessons have been out of this world! Pupils have learnt how important satellites are for facilitating communication around the world, and they loved exploring shadows and using shadow puppets to tell stories.



# COVID-19 testing

Thank you to all parents who have been supporting school to twice weekly test pupils aged 11 and over. Please can you continue to test throughout the school holidays and definitely on return to school in November.

If your son/daughter should test positive for COVID-19 during the half term break and they had been in school 48 hours prior to becoming symptomatic and testing positive, I would like you to email me directly [head@peartree.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@peartree.lancs.sch.uk) in order for me to contact anyone who may be classed as a close contact.



The graphic is a white rectangular box with a blue border. At the top left is the HM Government logo. At the top right is the NHS Test and Trace logo. The main title 'Covid-19 Testing' is in a large blue box. Below this, there are two columns of information. The left column is for 'With symptoms' (PCR tests) and the right column is for 'Without symptoms' (rapid lateral flow tests). Each column includes sections for 'When to take the test', 'How long it takes', and 'Get a test'. In the center, there are illustrations of a PCR test tube and a lateral flow test strip. At the bottom center, there is a blue box with the text 'Find out more at NHS.UK or call 119'.

**HM Government**

**NHS Test and Trace**

## Covid-19 Testing

### With symptoms

PCR tests

**When to take the test**

- If you have Covid-19 symptoms
- To confirm your positive lateral flow test result

**How long it takes**

- These tests are processed in labs
- Up to 72 hours, most results the next day

**Get a test**

- Order online
- At a test site
- Call 119

**Without symptoms**

rapid lateral flow tests, rapid Covid-19 tests

**When to take the test**

- If you do not have symptoms of Covid-19
- As part of routine testing twice a week

**How long it takes**

- Result processed by test device
- Around 30 minutes

**Get a test**

- Order online
- At a test site
- Call 119
- Participating workplaces and pharmacies

Find out more at [NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk) or call 119

# Parents' Evening

Our Annual Parents' Evening will be taking place on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November. This year we are offering parents the opportunity to attend in person or remotely and thank you to all who have replied so far to confirm their attendance. This is one of the many opportunities to discuss your child's progress with their class teacher and TA3 and I hope to see many of you there.



A black rectangular box with the words 'PARENTS' EVENING' written in a white, hand-drawn, chalk-like font.

PARENTS'  
EVENING

# Hello/Goodbye

We welcomed a number of new staff to our team in September:

Seedlings – Alice (Teacher), Charlotte (TA2), Lauren (TA2)

Maple Tree – Anuszkka (TA1)

Pine Tree – Nicola (TA1)

Compass Centre – Kim (TA1)



We hope all of the new staff have settled in well and are enjoying all of the experiences Pear Tree has to offer.

We have had to sadly say goodbye to some support staff this half term too:

Compass Centre – Hannah

Maple Tree – Olivia

Both are moving to exciting new ventures and we wish them both lots of luck.

# Welcome to the World

Winnie Peach was born in July to parents Matt and Kirsten who are both part of the Pear Tree staff.

Emily (Seedlings) has had another addition to her family – Madeleine.

Sam (Compass Centre) has welcomed his second child Grace, at the end of the summer holidays.

Maisie (Bay Tree) has given birth to Dolly Bee.

What wonderful news for everyone.



# Wedding Bells

Emma (Elm Tree) will be getting married at half term to Dale. We wish them both lots of love and best wishes for the future.



## Dates for diaries

Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> October – 1.15pm	PTFA meeting – All welcome
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	School closes for half term break
<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November</b>	<b>School re-opens</b>
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Parent's Evening
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	Elm Tree Class Assembly
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December a.m.	Lower School Nativity
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> December p.m.	Lower School Nativity
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Children's Christmas lunch
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Children's Christmas Party
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	School closes for Christmas



# Holiday list 2021 - 2022

## Autumn Term

Open	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2021
Close (Half Term)	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2021
Open	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2021
Close	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2021

## Spring Term

Open	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
Close (Half Term)	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
Open	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2022
Close	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022

## Summer Term

Open	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022
Platinum Jubilee Day	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2022
May Day Closure	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2022
Close (Half Term)	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2022
Open	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2022
Close	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2022

## Staff Inset Days

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021**

## Staff Training Days (Taken as Twilights)

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

