



Pear Tree School

Achieving the Best We Can in Everything We Do

Newsletter

Spring 2 - 2021

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It has been a very special half term, welcoming back into school the vast majority of our children. Our school feels 'alive' with excitement, noise and learning and you should all be so very proud as to how resilient your children are.

As we now approach the Easter Holidays (and hopefully the nicer weather), please can I take this opportunity to thank you all for your support throughout this very turbulent period. It has been a huge struggle for so many families so well done to you all.

Have a lovely Easter break and I look forward to seeing all the children back in school on Monday 12th April.

With the warmest of wishes

Kate



Welcome!

This half term we have welcomed Tayla-Mai into Bay Tree Class and after the Easter break, Crystal will be joining us in Elm Tree class. We hope they will both be very happy with us.

I also have the news to share with you that Alice Curry will be joining our teaching team in September as the new Seedlings teacher. This obviously means that unfortunately we will be saying goodbye to Lindsey Burt, who will be leaving Pear Tree at the end of this academic year as she will be relocating to Germany with her family. Lindsey has been at Pear Tree for 9 years and if your child has been lucky enough to have had Lindsey as their class teacher, you will know what a huge loss this will be for Pear Tree. I wish Lindsey and her family lots of luck in their exciting new venture and I can already see that Alice will be a wonderful replacement to join the Seedlings team.

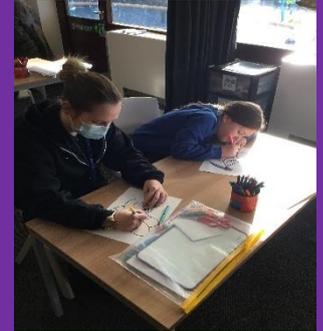
Janet

As we previously shared on Facebook, we recently lost a very dear friend and past colleague – Janet Lawrenson. Janet was a member of staff at Pear Tree for over 26 years until her early retirement 7 years ago. In her later years at Pear Tree, Janet was instrumental in the setting up of our Outstanding Children's Centre and had an overwhelming passion to improving opportunities for all families within the local community. As a fitting tribute to Janet, we are looking to organise a big stay and play session when the current restrictions are lifted. I will of course keep you updated regarding the planning of this event and hope many of you will be able to come and share in this special day with us and to help us raise money for National Brain Appeal – rare dementia support.

This is me – Creative Curriculum

With all the uncertainty in the world we felt like a theme was needed to focus on pupil's thoughts, feelings, self-esteem and mental health. 'This is me' provided opportunities to explore this across the curriculum and at every age/stage of development.

The well-being inspiration day allowed classes to personalise activities to meet the individual needs of the pupils. Pine Tree found that participating in a whole class sensory circuits session was of benefit to pupils needing this sensory regulation but also gave other pupils a chance to relax and participate in an activity as a group, giving them a sense of belonging on their return to the classroom. This class has now embedded the well-being activity into their timetable several times per week and are continuing to see the positive impact this is having.



One lower school class made calming glitter bottles and used this task to support their instructional writing. They've enjoyed gardening, yoga, baking and mindfulness sessions and used the story 'In My Heart' to explore feelings. Other classes have learnt about feelings too with one reading 'The Colour Monster'. The pupils learnt to link different colours to a variety of feelings and emotions and have started to express their own thoughts and feelings in order to have a positive impact on their own mental health and well-being.

Within upper school one class used 'Going Solo' by Roald Dahl as their Literacy text, which is an autobiography of his time as a young adult. As part of this, everyone shared pictures of memories linked to the quote, "A life is made up of a great amount of small incidents and a small amount of great ones". They developed their speaking skills to express their special moments and the students really engaged with listening to each other's memories.

As the theme ends, classes are being encouraged to hold a talent show to celebrate how amazing, unique and talented every single pupil is and I'm sure it's going to be lots of fun!

Home Testing

For those of you with secondary or post 16 age children, you will have now been administering the LFD tests at home twice weekly if your son/daughter has consented to do so. Thank you for supporting our School Risk Assessment by continuing to do this to make our school as safe as possible. Your children should also continue testing twice a week, at home, throughout the Easter school holidays. It remains important that results of the test are reported online straight away.

A reminder that regular rapid testing is now available for all parents, their households and support or childcare bubbles. The government is encouraging all families to participate in twice weekly testing to help to stop the spread.

Parents and other adults in the household can access tests by:

- Ordering tests online www.gov.uk/order-school-household-tests
- Attending a test site to get tested or pick up tests to do at home

World Book Day Photographs



Contact tracing over the Easter Holidays

As with previous holidays, if any pupil should become symptomatic and subsequently test positive for coronavirus **and** they were in school for 48 hours prior to becoming symptomatic, they should inform me ASAP via email head@peartree.lancs.sch.uk. I will be checking my emails daily at 9am for the first week only.

If the pupil has not been in school during the previous 48 hour period, please follow the government's test and trace guidance for contact tracing.

Dates for next term:

Monday 12th April

School re-opens

Monday 3rd May

Bank Holiday – School closed

Friday 21st May

School closes for Spring Bank Holiday – 2 weeks

Coronavirus

How to get tested



If you think you might have coronavirus you can now have a test.



The signs of coronavirus are:



- High temperature
- Or a new and continuous cough
- Or loss of smell or taste



If you or anyone you live with has any of these signs then you must all stay at home.

You can find out how to get a test and how long you need to stay at home at [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

STAY ALERT ▶ CONTROL THE VIRUS ▶ SAVE LIVES



