



Pear Tree School

Achieving the Best We Can in Everything We Do

Newsletter

Spring 2 - 2022

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Thankfully, the previous half term is behind us and whilst COVID has definitely not gone away, the impact on school has not been as bad this half term. We are still having cases so it remains important to keep testing and watching for any signs and symptoms in the children. I am unsure if guidance will change as we move into April, but I will keep you all informed and update our school risk assessment as necessary.

One lovely development this half term has been slowly welcoming visitors back into our school. Bay Tree class assembly last Friday was our first one in two years that we have been able to invite parents to attend in person, and there was such a good turn out, and after Easter, I will be letting you know of increasing ways you will be able to get back into the school building and work much more in partnership with the school.

The past two years have well and truly taken their toll on all of us, and I very much look forward to more face to face discussions with you all, and building on our relationships.

I hope you all enjoy a lovely Easter break, and fingers crossed that the weather remains kind to us. Don't forget that we start back in school after Easter Monday on Tuesday 19th April. Please also check the dates for diaries at the end of this newsletter to see where the bank holidays fall this next half term.

With the warmest of wishes

Kate



Goodbye

We have a few members of staff who will be leaving us at Easter.

Julia O'Connor has been at Pear Tree for over 11 years in the role of Integrated Services Co-ordinator and has decided to take early retirement in order to spend more time with her family. Many of you will have developed a close relationship with Julia over the years, and I have always been impressed with her commitment to our pupils and families. She is a true advocate for our pupils and always fought for the very best for each and every one of them. Whilst I am very sad that Julia is leaving, I am delighted that Dawn Craven (Bay Tree TA3) was successful at interview, and will bring her experience and expertise to this challenging role. Julia and Dawn have been working hard to ensure a seamless transition to ensure the level of care our children receive remains very high.

Carly (TA2 Elm Tree) has decided to take the opportunity to travel the world. The pandemic had forced her to put these plans on hold for the last 2 years, and I am pleased that she is now getting the opportunity to embark on this adventure.

Charlotte (TA2 Compass Centre) will also be leaving to take on a new teaching assistant role in a more local special school to where she lives to support her family life.

We will miss all 3 employees and hope they all stay in touch, and keep a piece of Pear Tree in their heart always.

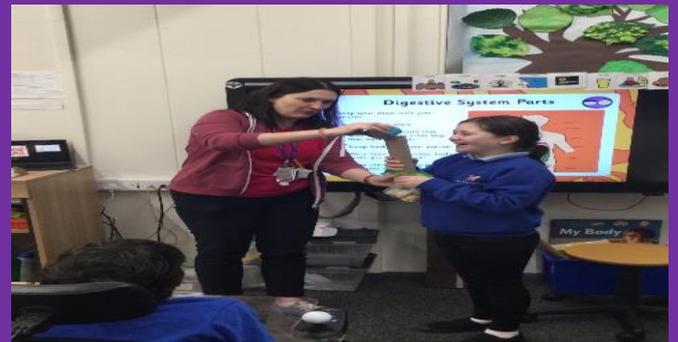
STEM Curriculum

The curriculum topic for this half term has been STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and we have been learning about growth.

Each Class was given an area to learn about based on growth linked to plants and animals. We learned about life cycles, parts of a plant and body parts, some classes learned about the function of different parts of a plant too.

There were also activities for classes to try, including making the best flying paper aeroplane, who could build the biggest tower out of pasta and mini marshmallows, and planting seeds to observe what happens.

The Friday Inspiration Day assembly was lots of fun, we used a digital microscope to try and guess what magnified objects were, looked at what happened when we used a hair dryer to blow a ping pong ball, and it was finished off with the elephant toothpaste reaction.



Dylan

As shared in my letter to you all last week, we received the deeply upsetting news that Dylan Anderson, who left Pear Tree in July 2021, suddenly passed away at the age of 19. Dylan and his family were very much a huge part of the school, and Dylan's amazing personality has made an impact on all those who were fortunate enough to know him. Our sympathies go out to his loving family and Dylan's funeral will be held on Tuesday 12th April, 11am, at Blessed Sacrament Church, Ribbleton, Preston.

Parent Governors

The terms of two of our current Parent Governors are coming to an end. Both Parent Governors would like to continue in their role, but if any other parent is interested in joining the Governing Body, please can you make contact with school to discuss this further.

Future dates

1/4/22	Remembering Ukraine Day and cake sale– all pupils are invited to wear blue and yellow clothing
1/4/22	School closes for Easter
19/4/22	School re-opens
29/4/22	School closed for additional bank holiday to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee
2/5/22	School closed for Bank Holiday
4/5/22	Residential visit to Borwick Hall – School leavers
20/5/22	Maple Tree Class Assembly
26/5/22	Young Voices Concert – Manchester Arena
27/5/22	School closes for half term break (re-opens on Thursday 9 th June)



