

Update

Pulford VA Lower School, Pulford Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1AB
01525 372188 office@pulfordschool.org www.pulfordschool.org

Friday 3rd September 2021

'God saw all that He had made, and it was very good' Genesis1 v 31

WELCOME TO PULFORD! We would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new families to Pulford and of course welcome back to our familiar faces! There is lots of housekeeping and helpful information below and on our website, but if we can help with anything please just call or email the office - Dave

1. All Pupils Return Monday 6th September: We look forward to seeing all of you on Monday. All after school activities start and Little Saints is open for Breakfast Club and after school.

2. Helpful Hints: Please have a thorough read of our helpful hints and reminders to help get you through the school year – whether you are new to Pulford or not!

- **Jargon Buster** – To help you navigate the minefield that is being a parent, we would like to help you with some of the terminology that we use:

Class	Year Group	Key Stage
Pre-School	-	Early Years
Silver Birch & Oak	Foundation Stage or Reception Class	Early Years
Horse Chestnut, Willow, Elm	Year 1 or Year 2	Key Stage 1 (KS1)
Cherry Blossom, Juniper, Beech	Year 3 or Year 4	Key Stage 2 (KS2)

- **Communication -**
 - 1) Email communications – all newsletters, trip letters etc will come out via email using the email address that you have given us. Please look out for the email from 'RMIntegris'.
 - 2) Our School website is being updated over the next 10 days and reviewed frequently. It is a great way of finding out information about what is going on at school. Hover over the date/event and further details will appear. *Please keep looking at the school diary on our website as some events may be subject to change.*
 - 3) We also have an official Facebook page – follow the link on the website. This is used for 'flash notices' only.
 - 4) Please feel free to call or email the Front Office team if you have a query of any nature – we are here to help. It's good to talk!
- **Uniform** – Please make sure that your child comes to school in full, NAMED uniform and a coat everyday (the British weather is very changeable), the children do spend a lot of time outside rain or shine. PE kits should be bought in on the day to change into with the exception of Elm (Monday) and Horse Chestnut (Friday), who should come in wearing their kit with their full uniform in their bag ready to change into afterwards. PE lessons are held outside so please make sure that it contains correctly fitting unbranded black trainers and a GREY tracksuit. UNIFORM LIST can be found on the website (prospectus).
- **Forest School Kit** – this should come in on the day that your child is timetabled for Forest School and must be taken home the same day.
- **Long Hair** – luscious locks must be tied up for school. Not only is it smart but it's a good way to keep 'unwanted little friends' away! Please keep to yellow/black/grey hair bands/clips etc.

- **Lost Property** – At the end of last term, over 30 unclaimed items (not named) were sent to be recycled ☹️. Please make sure that name labels are clear and visible on all of your children’s belongings. Named items will be returned to your child’s peg. Lost property is located in the Front Office and is cleared out fortnightly, please make an effort to check.
- **House Points YR – Y4** – Every child is allocated to a ‘House’, new children will be told which one by their class teacher and they will stay in this ‘House’ during their time here at Pulford. BLUE – Stockgrove, WHITE – Tiddenfoot and RED – Rushmere. We operate a token system. Tokens are earned for displaying good behaviours/work during the school day. At the end of the term, the House with the most amount of tokens are given a reward e.g. a non-school uniform day. At the end of the year the House with the most tokens over all receive the prestigious ‘House Cup’ – last year this went to Tiddenfoot!
- **Little Saints Morning Club** – When dropping your child into Little Saints, please leave them safely with a member of staff at the internal hall door. If you would like your child to have breakfast (cost of £1) that morning please let the staff know.
- **Courteous Parking** – We have very good neighbours up on Church Avenue, but please be mindful of where you choose to park in the mornings. There is free parking outside the Post Office for 30 minutes and there are ALWAYS spaces before 8.30am, with other car parks available for limited times, including Tesco and Morrisons. Parking Permit applications for Duncombe Drive will be sent out as soon as we receive permission to offer these to families from Central Beds Council – keep an eye out on your email for this!
- **KS2 Breaktime Snacks** – If your child would like a snack mid morning, please send them in with a fresh piece of fruit or veg for their breaktime snack from home in a re-usable container (no bags please). The government only provide ‘free’ fruit snacks for Early Years and KS1, sorry!

3. School Times and Gates: Please see below the details of the school day:

Year Groups	School Starts	School Finishes	Gate Location
Pre-School	8.45am (morning session) 12.15pm (afternoon session)	11.45am (morning session) 3.15pm (afternoon session)	Beside the porch at the top of the hill – parents wait on the tarmac.
Reception Class Silverbirch	8.50am	3.30pm	Single black gate located at the top of the hill next to the Leighton Middle field – parents wait inside the gate.
Reception Class Oak	Just after 8.45am	3.30pm	Black Gate at the bottom of the hill – parents will be directed to the playground.
KS1 – Elm, Willow & Horse Chestnut	8.45am	3.25pm	Black Gate at the bottom of the hill – parents to wait in the park area
KS2 – Cherry Blossom, Juniper & Beech	8.50am	3.30pm	Green Gate located opposite the play park – parents to wait in the park area

4. Y3 & Y4 only & Pre-School Dinners and Fees: Please note you will not receive invoices for lunches etc, only Little Saints (breakfast/afterschool club). Parents are expected to work out what is due and pay within the first week of each half term. If you need help with anything please do not hesitate to call into the office where we will be happy to help. We have carried on last years’ arrangements. If you want to change your child’s meals/days, please look out on your emails for the Google Form to make changes for after half term, usually sent a few weeks before the end of the half term. If you have forgotten which days your child is having a hot lunch etc please pop in to the office to check. Lunch

prices remain the same as last year for main school and Pre-school. Please pay now by PayPal on the school website shop or in person by credit/debit card at the Front Office. Please see days below for this half term (up until the October break).

	Years 3 & 4 Lunches	Pre-School Lunches 3+	Pre-School Lunches Rising 3's
Mondays	£16.10	£35.00	£40.60
Tuesdays	£16.10	£35.00	£40.60
Wednesdays	£16.10	£35.00	£40.60
Thursdays	£16.10	£35.00	£40.60
Fridays	£16.10	£35.00	£40.60
Everyday	£80.50	£175.00	£203.00

Pre-School fees are also due: 3y+ £13.95 per am/pm session. Rising 3's £16.50 per am/pm session - please come in to the front office to arrange payments for lunches and fees.

5. What's Your Choice? Due to the pandemic we have had to switch to virtual parents evening. As restrictions have been lifted, we would like to know parents thoughts as to if this is still the preferred way to meet or whether you would prefer face to face meetings in school. Please complete the Google Form by clicking on the following link to let us know your preference to help us make an informed decision on the format – thank you in advance!

<https://forms.gle/LNWznHwtkyGQNHKN6>

6. Invitation for Pre-School and Reception Parents: Keep the evening of 22nd September free! We are delighted to invite parents to pop along to school for drinks and nibbles between 6pm and 7pm in the school hall with class teams and other parents in a child free zone. We would love to see you there so we can all get to know each other.

7. Teaching Staff List: Please see our staffing list below:-

CLASS	TEACHER
Pre-School	Mrs. Major (Teacher)/Mrs. Crockett (Play Leader)
Silverbirch	Mrs. Kirk
Oak	Ms Lunt/Mrs Brown
Horse Chestnut	Mrs. Pickering/ Mr. Heather
Willow	Mrs. M Quick/Mrs. Rees
Elm	Miss. O'Neill/Mr. Webb
Cherry Blossom	Mrs. Horsfield/Mrs. Borrelli
Juniper	Mrs. Nurden/Mrs Borrelli
Beech	Mrs. Youngs/Mr. Webb

CLASS	Teaching Assistant Groups
Pre-School	Mrs Young, Ms Hicklin
Reception Classes	Mrs Marchant, Mrs Dominguez
KS1 Classes	Mrs Keen, Mrs Norwood, Mrs Bunn
KS2 Classes	Mrs Perkins, Ms McGahey, Miss Bak