

Pix Brook Academy

Press



Issue 6: 10th January 2020

Welcome back and welcome to a New Year!

If this term is half as full as the last one, we are in for a lively few weeks. The last week of the Autumn Term was a particularly busy one. On Monday we had our visit from OFSTED in the form of Barbara Obrien, an educational expert. She spent the whole day in school. The programme was very full:

Time	Attendees	Purpose	Activity / documentation
8:00-8:20	SAS; IKM	Pupil arrival	
8:20 – 9:00	SAS	Meeting with Principal	Tour of the school
9:00 – 9:30	SAS	Classroom observation	Observe English in EVW; TSH; VBT rooms.
9:30 – 10:00	Chair of Govs: Sue Howley MBE	Meeting with Chair of Govs	
10:00 – 10:30	SAS	Classroom observation	Observe Maths in EVW; TSH; VBT rooms.
10:30 – 10:50	SAS; IKM	Observe pupils at break	
10:50 – 11:30	SAS	Review of documentation	Review data tracking; T&L monitoring;
11:30 – 12:20	TSH; EVW; VBT	Meeting with HODs En & Ma	Review SOL
12:20 – 12:50	CEO (Dr Alan Lee)	Meeting with CEO	
12:50 – 1:40	SAS; IKM	Observe pupils at Lunch & Meeting with IKM re SCR / safeguarding	Lunch with the pupils & meeting with IKM
1:40 – 2:10	SAS	Review policies	SMSC; FBV; plus Policy file.
2:10 – 2:40	Selection of pupils (6-8)	Discussion with pupils	<i>(IPE to collect pupils)</i>
2:40 – 3:05	Parent group	Discussion with parents	<i>GWN to facilitate parents</i>
3:05 – 3:15	SAS; IKM	Pupil exit	
3:15 – 4:00		EE review of key findings	
4:00 - 4:30	SAS; IKM; TSH; VBT; EVW; IPE; GWN; SCR	Feedback to PBA	

I am pleased to say that the report reads very well and makes a great many positive comments about the school. Pupils were referred to as being conscientious and courteous and were a credit to their parents and the school. I would also like to give my thanks those parents who were able to meet with the inspector. The opportunity to hear from parents was invaluable and provided a useful insight into the working of the school. Barbara asked me to pass on her appreciation. The report will now form the basis for the school's self-evaluation and will be referred to in our next visit in the Summer Term.

Tuesday, we had our much-anticipated visit to the pantomime. This is a great British tradition and I'm pleased to say that all pupils appeared to enjoy the performance. We have booked again for next year and hopefully we can make this part of the Christmas tradition at PBA.

Wednesday was the Christmas lunch, pupils enjoyed turkey with all the trimmings served by staff wearing compulsory Christmas cracker hats. Thanks to the caterers at ETA for providing such a fantastic lunch.



Ambitious

Aspirational

Responsible

Thursday was our Christmas Concert at St Mary's Church. Over the years I have attended a great many Christmas concerts and I can say this was the very best. No doubt the location made a difference and I must again thank Reverend Bill Britt and Graham Clark for allowing us to use the church. Pupils performed a number of songs, both traditional and contemporary, supported by Bedfordshire Inspiring Music Service. The attendance by parents combined with the enthusiastic singing from pupils (and family members) made for a great atmosphere and provided a fantastic ending to what had been a superb term.

We now start a new term in a new decade. There is already much planned for this half term including Science day with Science teachers from the upper school, our assembly on county lines and a visit from an author for our creative writing day. In addition, we will continue to work with pupils to develop their understanding of key concepts with Maths and English supplementary lessons starting this term. Lots to look forward to.

Mr Steve Adams
Principal

Ambitious

Aspirational

Responsible

Teaching and Learning News

The staff would like to say a massive thank you to all the parents/carers and pupils for the generous gifts given to us for Christmas.

English

We are starting the new year with the exciting challenge of working towards a PURPLE Blue Peter badge!



The children will be writing an episode review in their English lesson within the next few weeks – wish us luck!

Conservation Club

We are also starting the new year with the exciting challenge of working towards a GREEN Blue Peter badge!



In order to achieve this, we will be creating posters and putting together a piece of writing about the use of palm oil in our packed lunches - wish us luck!

Safeguarding at PBA



Pix Brook Academy SAFEGUARDING TEAM

We are here to keep you safe

Who can you speak to if you feel worried?

You can speak to **any adult** that works in our school about **anything** that is worrying you or making you feel upset at any time.

There are also 3 adults who have the really special job of keeping you safe. They are known as the **Designated Safeguarding Lead** and **Deputy Safeguarding Leads**. Their special job is to listen, support and help you at any time of the school day.



Mr King-Mand
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Smyth
Deputy
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Pearce
Deputy
Safeguarding Lead

Tell us if you feel worried or upset about anything. For example, you should speak to us:

- If you feel upset or worried about anything at all (even if you think it is not important)
- If someone has hurt you physically, emotionally or mentally
- If you are being threatened or forced to do things
- If someone has done something to you without your permission
- If you feel unsafe in school, at home or when you are out and about
- If you feel uncomfortable in any way
- If you know of another pupil who is worried, upset or being hurt (even if they have told you to keep it secret)
- If you are scared or worried about going home

There are special organisations you can contact if you need to speak to someone when you are not at school. Their job is to also listen, support and help you.



Other News

Personal Details



Have you recently moved, changed your mobile number, email address or would like to add an extra emergency contact for your child?

If any of your personal details change, please can you let the office know as soon as possible so that we can update our records: pixbrook@bestacademies.org.uk

Charity



We raised £76.82 for 'Save The Children' on Christmas Jumper Day – thank you!

Pix Brook Parent Association (PBPA)



Our first meeting of the year will take place at 6pm on Monday 27th January. If you are interested in being part of PBPA please email the academy office at pixbrook@bestacademies.org.uk

Name Labels



Please can all uniform (especially PE kit) and equipment be clearly labelled.

We have teamed up with 'Stikins' name labels who will give the school 30% commission on every order. To order your labels visit www.stikins.co.uk and quote Pix Brook Academy's unique code **6948**

Reporting an Absence



If your child has been unwell due to vomiting or diarrhoea, the NHS advice is to keep them off school for 24 hours after the last bout and to return to school when they are feeling better. We do not operate a 48hr rule at Pix Brook Academy.

To report an absence, please telephone the school by **8am** on 01462 416243 or email the academy office on pixbrook@bestacademies.org.uk

School Lunches



Lunch menu forms for the following week will be sent out via ParentMail every Friday and must be submitted by 9am on Monday. Please note we are unable to make any amendments after this time. Your child will be marked as having a packed lunch if we do not receive a form for them.

Invoices will be sent out every Monday for the previous week's lunches.

If you believe you qualify for Free School Meals, please contact 0300 300 8306.

Equipment



All children should have the following items and should be brought into school every day:

Notebook

Rubber

Ruler (not bendy)

Colouring pencils

Scissors (round end)

Pencils

Sharpener

Glue stick

Blue handwriting pens (fibre tip, not biro or fountain)

Highlighters

Diary & Term Dates

January	Monday 6 th Tuesday 7 th Friday 10 th Wednesday 15 th Tuesday 21 st Friday 24 th Monday 27 th Thursday 30 th Date TBC	- Staff Training Day (no school) - Start of Spring Term - PBA Press Issue 6 - County Lines assembly at Etonbury - Science Day - NSPCC 'Speak Out Stay Safe' assembly - PBPA Meeting at 6pm - Parents Evening - Visit to new PBA site
February	Friday 6 th Tuesday 11 th Friday 14 th Monday 17 th – Friday 21 st Tuesday 25 th Wednesday 26 th	- PBA Press Issue 7 - Safer Internet Day - NSPCC thank you assembly - Half Term - Author (Lou Treleaven) visit - History Trip to Duxford
March	Thursday 5 th Friday 6 th Friday 13 th Friday 13 th	- World Book Day (Non-uniform) - PBA Press Issue 8 - STEM Day - Sport Relief (Non-uniform Day)
April	Thursday 2 nd Friday 3 rd Monday 6 th - Friday 17 th	- Easter Concert at St Mary's Church - PBA Press Issue 9 - Easter Holidays
May	Thursday 7 th Friday 8 th Monday 11 th Monday 25 th - Friday 29 th	- PBA Press Issue 10 - Bank Holiday - Bikeability Course (TBC) - Half Term
June	Friday 12 th Friday 26 th	- PBA Press Issue 11 - Sports Day
July	Friday 3 rd Wednesday 8 th Friday 10 th Monday 13 th Friday 17 th Monday 20 th - Friday 4 th Sept	- Step Up Day - Awards Afternoon - PBA Press Issue 12 - New Year 5's Visit - Last Day of Term, finish at 3.05pm (NO after school clubs) - Summer Holidays
September	Thursday 3 rd Friday 4 th Monday 7 th	- Staff Training Day (no school) - Staff Training Day (no school) - Start of Autumn Term