

Pix Brook Academy

Press



Issue 3: 18th October 2019

I thought I would take the opportunity to write an additional newsletter to celebrate the end of the first half term at Pix Brook Academy.

In the last few weeks we have had a number of events that are worth noting. First and foremost, I would like to express my thanks to those of you who were able to come along on Friday to celebrate our official opening. We were very fortunate that a number of dignitaries were able to join us and I am delighted to say that Alistair Burt MP was the guest of honour and officially cut the ribbon to open the school. I am particularly proud of the efforts made by all the staff, both teaching and non-teaching who have thrown themselves into all the aspects of the school. The grand opening was a great example of everyone pulling together to undertake an activity that is "outside the normal" and it was a great success. For those of you who had a chance to visit, you will have seen the fantastic images of the pupils on the walls. These have really lifted the corridor spaces and will be something that travels with us to the permanent site next year. My thanks goes to Darren Miles of 'Miles of Smiles Creative Portrait Photography' for undertaking this work so quickly.

Many of you may have noticed that the construction work on the permanent site has now started. The groundworks and preliminary foundations are already taking shape. I took the opportunity to visit the operations manager this week to arrange a visit for the pupils to the site. On Thursday 31st October, pupils will have a chance to see some of the construction work happening. This will be at the Willmott Dixon site office and while they will not be on the build site itself (no hard hats necessary), they will be able to see some of the diggers in action (very exciting!). Pupils will walk down with staff in the afternoon and have a chance to ask some questions and see the scale of the site from the site office. Details to follow via ParentMail.

You will have also seen the request from Mr King-Mand for entries to the praise postcard competition. Praise is a vital part of the working day at PBA and in addition to the praise emails sent by staff and my Principals and "Juice and Biscuits" every other Friday, I am keen that we have praise postcards to send home. This is a voluntary competition to provide the images that will be used as the school's praise postcards this year.

You will also note that we are beginning the process of preparing for the school's Open Evening. This is happening on Wednesday 27th November from 6pm until 8pm. As you might expect, I am keen that as many pupils as possible join us for the evening. Our pupils are by far and away our most powerful advocates for the school and I would be delighted if they could all join us. Pupils will be asked to arrive at school from 5:45pm so that they can contribute to the singing introduction and then support teachers in their classes and talk to prospective parents. I realise that this this will be a slightly later bed time than normal and as a compromise, school lessons will be more relaxed than usual on Thursday morning. Further information and an invite will be sent via ParentMail after half term.

Finally, let me take this opportunity to wish you a restful and relaxing half term break. Pupils have worked really hard and they have all contributed to a really great atmosphere in school. They need their break to re-charge and have some fun so that we can start again on Tuesday 29th October (staff training day on Monday 28th October).

Mr Steve Adams
Principal

Ambitious

Aspirational

Responsible



Pix Brook Academy
New Admissions Open Evening

Wednesday November 27th 6pm-8pm
Presentations at 18.15 and 19.15



Pix Brook Academy & Pendleton Centre
Stotfold Road
Arlesey SG15 6XS

Teaching and Learning News

School Trip to Cadbury World

On Monday 14th October, Pix Brook Academy enjoyed their first school trip to Cadbury World to further enhance the topic of 'Curious Confectionery'. Throughout the day, the children displayed exemplary behaviour which was commented on by the staff at Cadbury World. They were a real credit to Pix Brook Academy and were living our core values consistently. A truly wonderful visit with lots of information but also lots of chocolate!



Homework

This week, we will not be setting the children specific Maths and English homework except for Spellings. However, we would like them to spend 30 minutes every day combining their reading and practising their times tables as this will help immensely with the work we are doing in class.

Class Names

An exciting opportunity! Could you be the person that decides the names for each of the Year 5 classes and the future classes at Pix Brook Academy? We are looking for ideas of themes which would be suitable for not only Year 5 but also for Year 11. Common ones in lower schools are birds, trees, gemstones: can you think of a theme that would be perfect for the Pix Brook Academy classes? Mrs Smyth will place a box in the library where you can put your completed idea sheet. So get thinking PBA pupils: this is your chance to add something special to our school!

PE

After half term, the pupils will be doing tag rugby so they will need football boots (moulded studs) that are suitable for the 4G pitch.

School Library



Our school library is now up and running thanks to Bedfordshire Schools Library Service and the fantastic donations from parents and carers. We are always grateful for more books so please do keep those donations coming!

Please could we ask for the support of parents/carers in looking after the borrowed books.

Library days will be as follows and books can be borrowed for one week:

Mrs Smyth's class	- Monday
Miss Broadbent's class	- Wednesday
Mr Van Wyk's class	- Friday

Visit to the new PBA site

On Thursday 31st October, we will be visiting the new Pix Brook Academy site.

As we begin the process of working with Willmott Dixon, there may be opportunities for pupils to be photographed on or near the construction site. Please can you complete the attached form to indicate if you consent for these images to be used by Willmott Dixon.



Other News

Charity

Thank you to everyone who contributed to 'Jeans for Genes' Day on September 20th. Across the BEST Trust we raised £1,057.94 for the charity!



Today we are taking part in 'Wear It Pink Day' for Breast Cancer. We will let you know how much we raised in the next issue of PBA Press.

Flu Immunisations

We are awaiting a date from the school nursing team for when the flu immunisations will take place at PBA. As soon as we have been informed, we will let parents/carers know via ParentMail.

After School Clubs and PBA Extra

Forms for next half term's After School Clubs and PBA Extra have been sent out via ParentMail. Please can you complete these as soon as possible if you wish your child to attend. All PBA Extra bookings are treated as a regular booking and will be invoiced as so.

Pencil Cases

Over the half term break, please can you take a look in your child's pencil case and replenish any stationary that is missing. All children should have the following items and they should be brought into school every day:

- Notebook
- Pencils
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- Ruler (not bendy)
- Glue stick
- Blue handwriting pens (fibre tip, not a biro or fountain pen)
- Colouring pencils
- Scissors (rounded end)
- Highlighters



Toys

Please note that card and card games are allowed to be brought into school but please can we avoid bringing in any other items/toys that could be broken.

School Photographs

The orders have now been placed and the photographs will be delivered to school on our return from the half term break. If you missed the deadline, you can still order through the photography company website at www.dsp-order.uk

Building Works Photos

Did you take any photographs of the current Pix Brook Academy building works? If you did, we would love to see them so we can create a time-lapse video on our website! Please contact Gary Wilson on gwilson@bestacademies.org.uk



HALF PRICE PROMOTION!

BRAND NEW HOLIDAY COURSE

PENDLETON SPORTS CENTRE
Etonbury Academy, Stotfold Rd, Arlesey SG15 6XS



Choose Football, Multi-sports or BOTH!
for 4-11 year olds

Tuesday 22nd to Thursday 25th October '19
DAILY TROPHIES & PRIZES!!

(FUN, Enthusiastic, Experienced Coaches, DBS
checked, Child Protection & First Aid Certified)



ONLY £10.50
(9AM-3:30PM)

sports-future.com

03300 101 442
(Early drop, late pick-up available)



Diary & Term Dates

October	Monday 28 th Tuesday 29 th Thursday 31 st	- Staff Training Day (no school) - Start of Winter Term - School visit to new PBA site
November	Monday 4 th Friday 8 th Monday 11 th Friday 15 th Wednesday 27 th	- PBA Parent Group meeting (4-5pm) - PBA Press Issue 4 - Remembrance Assembly / Student Services Uniform Day - Bake Sale for 'Children In Need' - PBA Open Evening for prospective parents (6-8pm)
December	Friday 6 th Friday 13 th Date TBC Tuesday 17 th Thursday 19 th Date TBC Friday 20 th Monday 21 st - Friday 3 rd Jan	- PBA Press Issue 5 - Christmas Jumper Day for Save The Children - Christmas Dinner - Pantomime Trip to the Gordan Craig Theatre - End of Term Assembly at St Marys Church (period 5) - Class Christmas Party - Last Day of Term, finish at 3.05pm (NO after school clubs) - Christmas Holidays
January	Monday 6 th Tuesday 7 th Friday 10 th	- Staff Training Day (no school) - Start of Spring Term - PBA Press Issue 6
February	Friday 6 th Thursday 13 th Monday 17 th – Friday 21 st	- PBA Press Issue 7 - Parents Visit (afternoon) - Half Term
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	Friday 3 rd Monday 6 th - Friday 17 th	- PBA Press Issue 9 - Easter Holidays
May	Thursday 7 th Friday 8 th Monday 25 th - Friday 29 th	- PBA Press Issue 10 - Bank Holiday - 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