



Pear Tree School

Achieving the Best We Can in Everything We Do

Newsletter

Summer 1 2023

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This has been quite a strange half term with all the bank holidays in it; we have had to cram in a lot of learning into a short period of time. I hope you were all able to enjoy the King's coronation and we had a great time celebrating this in school too.

Now that the good weather has finally arrived, the children are more than ever taking full advantage of our outdoor spaces and continuing their learning in the outside environment. Please can I remind you to provide your son/daughter with a hat (if they will wear one) on warm days and also put sun cream on them before they arrive in school.

Don't forget that we have an extended break at this next holiday and school will re-open on Thursday 8th June.

With the warmest of wishes

Kate



Open Mornings

It was great to once again see so many parents and families attend our Open Mornings this half term. I think it is a really great opportunity for you all to come and see how our classes run and to spend time with the staff supporting your son/daughter.

We have held parent workshops after each session but unfortunately they are not being very well attended. I really want any workshop that we put on to be of benefit to parents and so would ask that you provide me with some feedback on how we could improve these and better tailor them to meet your needs. A Microsoft Form will be sent out shortly to ask for your feedback on this.



Parent Governor

Being a Parent Governor at Pear Tree, gives you the opportunity to represent all parents across school and take an active role in supporting the school to provide the best opportunities and outcomes for our children and young people. There are 3 Full Governing Body meetings each year, which take place at 10am and you would also attend 3 committee meetings each year, held at 2.30pm (we can offer childcare at the end of the school day to support your attendance).

We currently have one vacancy for a Parent Governor and would ask if you are interested to give the School Business Manager, Fiona Wafer a call about this and to provide further information.

Creative Curriculum

This half term our creative curriculum topic 'our families' has produced some fantastic work and led to some fantastic new learning across school. We have focused our families at home, our class families and we have looked at different family types through stories and activities

Our stories have included:

- And Tango Makes Three – Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell
- Part of the Party – Twinkl Story
- Giraffes Can't Dance – Jiles Andreae
- Bill's New Frock – Anne Fine

The Family Book – Todd Parr

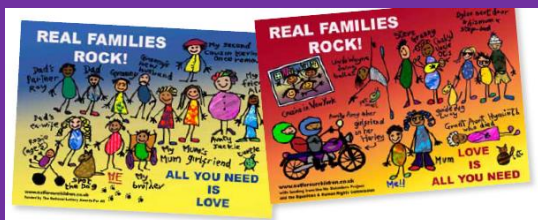
At the start of the half term we welcomed Andrew into school to deliver a rainbow themed Zumba session for all pupils. All the children loved the sessions and we were very grateful to Andrew for the kind donation to our school.



Bay Tree Class produced a fantastic assembly for their parents on the story of The Smeds and The Smoods which is a modern retelling of Romeo and Juliet. This looked at different family types, celebrated each other's differences, and helped us all to be good friends. All children took part in recreating the story, thank you to Bay Tree parents for all coming.

This half term we have also engaged in lots of different Attention Autism sessions across school, one of which included making a large rainbow. The children enjoyed taking turns to squirt the different coloured paints and spreading them across large pieces of paper to make a rainbow. Other activities have included:

- Following instructions to make rainbow kebabs.
- Rainbow marble painting.
- Popping balloons full of different coloured paints.



In Upper School, we have focused more on LGBTQ+ family types in which we have addressed stereotypes through role play. We have also looked at the 'Out for Our Children' resources which has led to discussion around who is in our families and who cares for us.

A fantastic half term of learning has taken place and we have all enjoyed the creative curriculum theme of 'Our Families' 😊

Preparing for Adulthood

Healthy Lifestyles

This half term students have learnt from a range of people visiting school. A visitor from Fylde Coast Women's Aid has been supporting some students to develop their understanding about healthy relationships and consent.

Students have learnt about how to stay healthy in the summer in relation to fire. They have learnt about fire safety from the local fire brigade, which involved smelling clothing that smelt of fire and an understanding around BBQ safety. The group learnt the importance of staying low and practised crawling under the smoke and out of the door. These are all skills that they will be able to take forward into adulthood to keep themselves safe as they enter adulthood.

Employment and Future Options

The employability group have had a very important business meeting with the CEO of Morrisons! David Platt kindly gave up his time to talk with pupils about the world of work and answer questions from the group. Students left the meeting feeling inspired and we were hugely grateful to David and his team for the opportunity. He has even been in touch with our local store to arrange a meeting to discuss how we can work more closely together to prepare pupils for future employment opportunities.



Independent Living

During independent living sessions, pupils have been developing their fine motor skills to squeeze pegs. They have practised this skill as well as the ability to coordinate hanging washing on a washing line during Attention Autism sessions. The final tricky skill students found with this was stretching the washing out so that it could dry well without being bunched up.



Community Inclusion

A group of pupils have been developing their ukulele skills each week in preparation for a performance at Ribby Hall. As part of this community event, the ukulele band performed two of their favourite songs in front of a large audience of parents and special guests including the local mayor. The event also provided opportunities for students to mix with pupils from sixth other local special schools as part of a celebratory disco at the end of the concert. The ukulele band certainly did themselves and the school proud!



Leading Parent Partnership Award

I am delighted to inform you that we have been successful with our re-accreditation of the Leading Parent Partnership Award. Following on from the lockdowns during with Covid, we have worked extremely hard to engage face to face with parents and it is wonderful that this has been formally recognised. A huge thank you to all parents who attended on the assessment day and to those who provided some feedback. Kirsty Hall and the team worked very hard to demonstrate our effective working relationships and sharing all the good practice in place.



School Website

Thank you to those parents who have already provided us with some comments to go onto the school website to share positive stories about the work we do at Pear Tree. I think they are vital as they give a first-hand experience of the difference we make here at Pear Tree and are great for prospective parents and families to read.

We would like some more comments so please email admin@peartree.lancs.sch.uk with just a few lines sharing the impact Pear Tree has had on your son/daughter.



Date for diaries

Friday 26th May

Thursday 8th June

Monday 26th June

Wednesday 5th July 7pm

Monday 10th July

Wednesday 12th July

Wednesday 12th July

Wednesday 19th July

Thursday 20th July

Thursday 20th July

Friday 21st July

Break up for half term

School re-opens

Sports Festival

Pear Tree family disco at Ribby Hall

Annual Reports sent home

Transition morning in school

Open Evening

Prize Giving Assembly

Leavers' Assembly

Leavers' last day

School closes for summer

