

July 2024 newsletter

In This Issue

We share some news of activities that have taken place this half term, share more information about next half term and some important reminders.

- **Message from Mrs Peden, Headteacher**
- **What's coming up next term?**
- **FOPTM update**
- **What's been going on this half term?**
- **Reminders**
- **Gardeners wanted**
- **Contact Us**

Message from Mrs Peden, Headteacher

Dear parents

What a fun and busy term we have had. During this half term we have had lots of opportunities for parents to come in, including an amazing rock band show, an educational Year 3 class assembly, a busy Fathers day event, fun EY sports days, book look events with the children, meet the new teacher events and our Year 6 leavers assembly. Its been lovely to see such a great turn out from parents and we thank you for your support for the school and your children.

Our children have been working really hard with year gathering their positive notes. These are for children demonstrating our behaviour expectations above and beyond. I am pleased to have seen 170 children for share a hot chocolate with this year. Well done to those children who have received 6 positive notes. I have also been very proud of the children coming to share work with me this year for Headteachers Awards. Many children reached 5 and received a post card in the post. Some were very close to reaching 10 and receiving the metal HTA badge. Keep up the great work.

Our Year 6 children have now left PTM. They ended the year with a water fight, pizza, shirt and leavers book signing, a party, a trip to Southend and then their leavers assembly. The children ended their leavers assembly by sharing their SATs results with their visitors. We

are very proud of the grown up children that our Year 6's have become and they should be very proud of their SATs results and other school achievements whilst at PTM. The secondary schools they are going to are very lucky to have them. Our Year 6 school SATs results can be seen below compared to National results. Well done to everyone involved in these results. Our children and staff have worked really hard to achieve results above national expectations.

This year we had a new transition event due to joining PCLC. Our Year 6 children joining Passmores have spent the week with their new Passmores team. Children in Year 6 attending other schools have been meeting together with other PCLC primary schools to meet new children who will be attending their secondary school. All other year groups have moved up to their new classes to spend some time with their new teacher and class for the last full week of school. I am pleased to let you that we conducted interviews (after letters of application) for our Year 6 jobs for September 2024. Below you can see our new roles ready for the coming year.

We have had lots of school trips, special days and visitors to the school this half term. Thank you to the staff who have helped organise these events and making sure that the children have had great experiences. On many of our trips it was commented on how well the PTM children behaved and represented the school. Well done to the children.

Our OPAL project has been going really well this year. Please see the attached sway to get an update. <https://sway.cloud.microsoft/1ecqOpjOfC6F9BVR?ref=Link> We are still looking for volunteers to help us build some new areas and we will still be taking donations in September.

On behalf of the staff we would like to thank you for your generous gifts, I know staff appreciate these and love to read the personal notes of thanks. We wish you all a wonderful summer holidays and we look forward to seeing you all in September if you are returning to PTM. Good luck to those who are moving on to new adventures.

Mrs Peden

School and National Comparisons

This information allows you to compare your child's performance at the end of key stage 2 with the attainment of other year 6 pupils in our school and across England.

Subject	Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard		Average scaled score	
	School	Nationally ¹	School ²	Nationally ³
Reading	82%	74%	105	105
Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling	89%	72%	108	105
Maths	85%	73%	106	104
Writing	82%	72%	N/A	N/A
Science	97%	81%	N/A	N/A

1. Percentages for Reading, Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling, Maths, and Writing teacher assessment (TA) are based on provisional headline information on the 2024 national curriculum assessments.

2. Scaled scores guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/scaled-scores-at-key-stage-2>

3. Average scaled scores for Reading, Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling and Maths are based on provisional headline information on the 2024 national curriculum assessments.

Letter from Governors

Dear Parents & Carers,

I am pleased to provide you with the Annual Statement on behalf of the Governing body at Pear Tree Mead. We've had a wonderful year, with much to celebrate.

Firstly, our smooth transition into joining PCLC. Since officially joining the MAT in January this year, there has been lots of opportunities for Pear Tree Mead students to visit Passmores for different events including sporting events, transition days and recently some students going to watch Passmores' production of The Addams family. The new house system has been an exciting change and congratulations to members of Dragon house for being top of the league this term!

We've been very pleased to be able to visit and spend time in the school with staff and students. This year our governors have volunteered with reading with early years, supported on various trips, been present during assemblies and Rock Steady concerts, provided a tea service for the staff, volunteered with the Friends of Pear Tree Mead, been invited to be part of Inset days with staff, and have been able to meet with staff and students when monitoring areas of the school. I was delighted to once again attend the Easter and Summer Fairs, organised by our fantastic Friends of Pear Tree Mead. Both events were a tremendous success, and we are so grateful to have such a hard-working team who put on so many wonderful events for our school and many thanks goes to all the volunteers, without whom these events wouldn't be possible. The Friends of Pear Tree Mead are a very welcoming and friendly team, and I would urge more to lend a hand where they can, to support them in raising funds for the children at our school.

It has been great to see all the progress made this year to the OPAL project. There have been lots of donations made to the school and some exciting changes to the site, including the digging area, sandpit and book nooks. It has been lovely to see pictures of these activities enjoyed by so many students, and I'm looking forward to watching the project continue to grow.

Since joining PCLC we are now a local governing body. We meet 4 times a year, some of which are face to face and others via teams. During these meetings, we discuss important things which have been happening at school, school policies, the school development plan and upcoming events. One of our main responsibilities as governors is to monitor various areas of the school including different curriculum areas, safeguarding, health & safety and SEND. The aim for our monitoring is to ensure the strategic development of the school and high standards are upheld. To complete our monitoring we get to visit the school and talk to the staff responsible for these areas. Speaking for myself and on behalf of the rest of the governing team, we are extremely impressed with how dedicated and hard-working all the staff are at Pear Tree Mead.

We still have vacancies for parent and community governors, and if you are interested in finding out more about becoming a governor, please feel free to contact me via email.

I'd like to congratulate the students and staff on the fantastic results Mrs Peden shared with the governors at our final meeting for the year. This year's results are once again a huge improvement on the ones obtained last year throughout the school. In particular the Year 6 for their amazing SATS results, many of which have not only shown improvement from last year, but in many cases are higher than the national average! We're so proud of how hard you worked preparing to take these tests, especially those who attended early morning revision sessions before the start of the school day. These results show your determination to succeed at whatever you set your mind to do. Well done! We're also thankful for our dedicated and hardworking staff who support our students in achieving so well.

Finally, I'd like to wish the very best for our current Year 6 students as they move onto their secondary education. You've clearly made so many wonderful memories whilst at Pear Tree Mead, including all the fun you had at Kingswood and your trip to Southend which we heard about at the Year 6 Leavers Assembly. It was a pleasure watching you all collect your SATS results, which I know you, your teachers and LSA's worked so hard for. However, it was your wonderful performances, confident speeches and watching you support and celebrate your classmates in their achievements at the assembly that made the event truly special. Your new schools are very lucky to have such brilliant students joining them and you will always be **Pupils That Matter**.

Rebecca Harvey

Chair of Governors

What's coming up next year?

Key Dates will be issued in September for the Year. Please see below a few key events already booked in.

2nd September - Non-Pupil Day – INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED

3rd September - School starts for Year 1 to 6.

3rd – 6th September. Home visits and staggered starts Preschool, Nursery and Reception - transition visits – please see separate letters for more info.

9th September - 9.15am- Year 6 Badges and SC to be awarded - Parents to be invited.

10th September - LKS2 Sports Day 9.30am - 11.30am

11th September - UKS2 Sports Day 9.30am - 11.30am

A reminder that gates will be closed between 9.30 and 11.30 for sports day. Parents will be unable to arrive late or leave early during sports days.

13th September - FOPTM coffee morning (9am) - Small hall

17th September - School Photos – individual photos during the school day Year R to Year 6 (all day)

23rd September - Kingswood Trip for Year 6 children

HALF TERM - 24th OCTOBER to the 4th NOVEMBER



Academic Year 2024-2025

Summer Library Read

Marvellous Makers Library Summer Reading Challenge, As we are sure most of you know, every summer the library run a Summer Reading Challenge for the children to take part in. This year, the challenge is called Marvellous Makers. It focuses on a group of children (along with Tails the squirrel and Bob the pug) and the various adventures they have whilst making exciting things to share with their friends. Miss Parr and Mrs Rothon took a group of ten Year 5 pupils to the Tye Green Library to take part in some training around the challenge so that, when they returned to school, they would be able to tell the rest of the school about the challenge. When we went to the library, we were lucky enough to get a tour of the library, including the sorting room out the back. We even got a sneak peek of some of the new books that are going to be rolled out especially for the challenge. The children then got all the information and resources they need to pass on the information to the rest of the school. The main idea of the challenge is to read six books over the summer holidays. For every book you read and take back to the library, you will get a set of stickers to keep in your challenge folder. Each set of stickers has a QR code and some of them are even scratch and sniff! Once you have completed the challenge, you will get a certificate and medal. All you need is a library card and the challenge is completely free for you to join.

Each child should have brought home an invitation to join the challenge and each class has posters up with more information. We hope lots of you take part in the challenge over the Summer, and the teachers would love to see your medals and certificates when you come back in September. Happy reading!



Reminders

SCHOOL UNIFORM

A reminder that children should attend school every day in the correct uniform.

- Grey bottoms - trousers, skirts or shorts.
- Black shoes
- Green jumpers or cardigans
- Ties for Year 3,4,5 and 6
- White shirts
- Black, white or grey socks or tights.
- Green hairbands or bows - not too big.
- Gingham dresses in the warmer months. These should not be worn with tights, but with white short or long socks.

CHILDREN WILL NEED WELLIES for the OPAL project for lunch times.

For more information please see :-

[Pear Tree Mead Academy - Uniform](#)

Please name all items of uniform. All named items will be sent back to classes. Any unnamed will be kept on display for half a term outside the front office. After that it will be donated to FOPTM.

We have second hand uniform for sale if you need any more uniform. Please ask via the FOPTM Facebook page. There is a sale in the small hall at the end of every half term.

Children must be suitably dressed for the weather and have their coat in school every day. Otherwise they may not be able to play outside when it is cold. In the summer months children should have suitable shoes for school and sun hats when it is warm.

The School Day

Due to the governments expectation of the length of the school day we are extending the day in September.

The government have produced a statutory guidance that all schools must be open to children for 32.5 hours a week from September 2024.

With this in mind the governors have agreed that our school day must increase from September 2024 for all school aged children. (Nursery and Pre school times will not change)

The new school times will be

Doors open at 8.40 am

Door close at 8.45 am

Registers will begin at 8.45am and close at 8.50am, after this point children will be recorded as late.

The school day will end at 3.15pm.

This way the school hours are increased by 15 minutes a day allowing us to reach the 32.5 hours a week.

There will be no change to breakfast club or after school club times.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU ARE AWARE OF THIS CHANGE AND THAT CHILDREN ARRIVE AT SCHOOL ON TIME.

Attendance

There is some new government guidance about attendance that comes into place at the beginning of next term. With this in mind we have changed our attendance policy and this will be sent to you to read. There is also a shortened version of the changes that we will also send to you. There is a change to the way that penalty notices are issued for non attendance of school.

Please be aware that for children to do their very best they need to come to school every day. There is guidance around illness and coming to school on the NHS website. This can help you decide if you child should not come to school. [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#) (

Please see information below:

You may be aware that from 19th August 2024 the following changes come into place and apply to any absence from this time:

- Penalty Notice Fines are issued to **each parent** who allows their child to be absent from school.
- First time penalty notices have **increased to £80 per parent, per child.**
- Second time penalty notice have **increased to £160 per parent, per child.**
- A period of 3 years attendance is taken into consideration, therefore, if a 2nd holiday is taken within a 3-year period, **a second time penalty notice will be issued.**
- **Schools cannot issue a third penalty notice in 3 years**, and must consider other sanctions, **which may include prosecution.**
- **The period of 3 years will be transferred to a new school** should a child leave within 3 years of the first penalty notice.
- Sessions included in the penalty notice do not have to be consecutive and can consist of any unauthorised absence, including lateness. For example, if 3 days holiday are

taken, and medical evidence is not provided for 2 days absence later in the year, a penalty notice can be issued.

What's been going on this half term?

Saplings

On Wednesday 26th June Saplings had their sports morning. It was lovely to see grown ups come along and take part in some of the sports activities with the children. They then watched the children take part in an egg and spoon race. Mrs Tappenden and Mrs Nash presented the children with a medal and certificate. They finished the morning with a ice pop.









On Wednesday 17th July Saplings class had a Ugly Bug Ball Party. They all came to school dressed as their favourite bugs. There was ladybirds, spiders, butterflies, bumble bees and Caterpillars. They had yummy party food and danced to some party songs. They all had a great time!







Pre-School Graduation

On the 18th of July Pre-School had their graduation to say goodbye to Isabella, Hadley, Saxon, Zohair, Aleksander and Navy who are moving up to Nursery in September. We wish them all the best!









In Nursery the children have enjoyed the 'Under the Sea' topic this term, learning about different sea creatures. They have been taking part in different creative and messy activities based around this topic.

They've had lots of fun at sports day, the children did so well. Well done everybody!

During book look, the children got to share all their busy work with their grown-ups.

We would also like to congratulate the selected Nursery Children that received their Headteacher Awards. We are very proud of them.

























The Reception class children enjoyed their sports day! They participated in different races such as a wheelbarrow race and egg and spoon race. They enjoyed seeing their parents cheer them on throughout the morning!



Reception Animal Visit

The children loved meeting the different animals that came into school to visit them. Each child was given the opportunity to hold/stroke the different animals. We learnt lots of interesting facts about the different animals too! Thank you to 'Spirit of the Wild', who were fabulous.















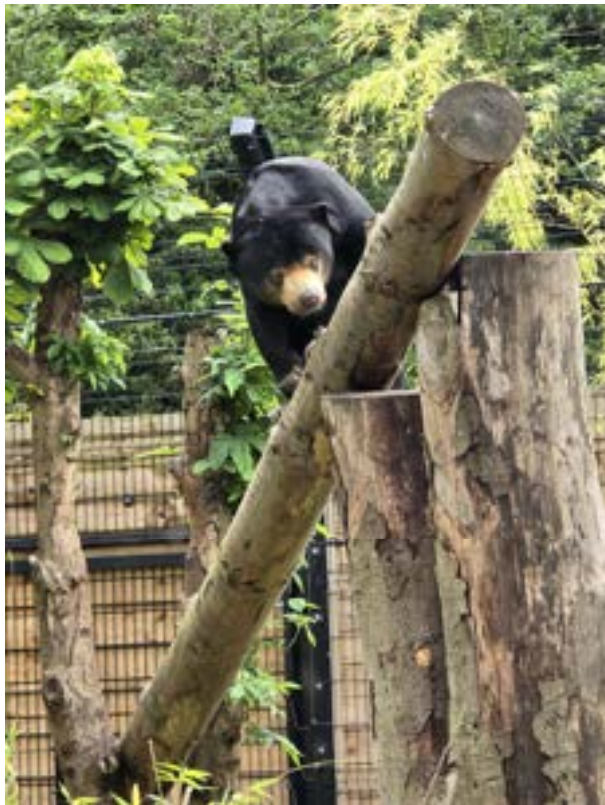


Year 1 & 2 Fathers Day Afternoon

Year 1 & 2 Teachers are thrilled to share how lovely our Father's Day event was! It was heartwarming to see so many important men in our lives come in to spend quality time with the children. The atmosphere was filled with joy and laughter as fathers, grandfathers, uncles, and other significant male figures engaged in various activities with the children. From storytelling and crafting to playing games, every moment was cherished. The children were beaming with pride and happiness to have their special guests participate in their afternoon. Thank you to everyone who made this event truly memorable and meaningful!

The year 1s enjoyed their trip to Hertfordshire zoo. They saw lots of exciting things and listened brilliantly across the day.

























Year 2 Trip

Wow, what an adventure our Year 2 Pirate Day was! It was exhausting but incredibly fun and filled with laughter and team-building activities. The children enthusiastically participated in every part of the day, from building their own ship and making pirate flags to hiding treasure and creating their own maps. There was even some walking the plank! The excitement and creativity on display were wonderful to see, and the team spirit among the children was truly inspiring. It was a memorable day that everyone enjoyed, and we can't wait for our next adventure!































































Year 3

Year 3 students embarked on an exciting adventure to the Verulamium Museum in St Albans. The trip began with a hands-on workshop where students dressed up in authentic Roman tunics and experienced Roman shopping, searching for specific items that would have used at the time. The children then explored the museum, marvelling at the fascinating artefacts on display. Highlights included intricate pottery, ancient coins, and Roman armour. A short walk led us to the stunning remains of a Roman mosaic floor, which transported us back in time with its detailed patterns and vibrant colours. The weather was perfect, allowing us to enjoy the beautiful surroundings as we imagined life in Roman Britain. For many, this was their first ever school trip, making it an unforgettable experience filled with learning, laughter, and a deeper connection to history.



















Roman Day

Year 3 students recently enjoyed a fascinating Roman themed day, diving into the ancient world of Rome. Dressed as Romans in togas and tunics, the children spent the morning engaging in creative activities. They crafted Roman coins, designed intricate mosaic tiles, and made their own leaf crowns. In the afternoon, the excitement continued with students participating in the Roman sport of javelin throwing. They then demonstrated the impressive 'testudo' shield formation, successfully defending themselves against a simulated attacking army. The day concluded with a delightful Roman feast, featuring an array of fruits, dried meats, and plenty of bread. To top it off, the children even got to try some Roman 'wine' (grape juice). The immersive activities provided a rich educational experience, making history come alive and leaving the students with lasting memories of their journey back in time.

Year 3 Roman Assembly

In the Year 3's class assembly, students proudly showcased their learning about the Romans from the Summer Term. They explained all the fascinating facts about Roman life, culture, and history, demonstrating their newfound knowledge and enthusiasm. Children also presented their poems inspired by Mount Vesuvius, created during their English lessons.

These poems depicted the eruption and its impact, showcasing the children's creativity and writing skills. Adding a musical touch, the class performed a song about Roman Numerals, making math both fun and memorable. The assembly concluded with the song "Like a Roman." The assembly highlighted their hard work within Year 3.









Year 4

Year 4 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Mountfitchet Castle. The children loved exploring the grounds of the Anglo Saxon village. We also had a chance to look at the toy museum, there were thousands of toys to see. Some of which the children believed were ancient!











Last Friday, our year 4 children come back to the school on Friday evening for the year 4 sleepover. During the evening, they participated in a variety of activities, including; badminton, table tennis, dodgeball and football. The evening ended with the children watching a film and then going to sleep. Thank you on your prompt arrival on Saturday morning so that staff could make their way back to bed!









On Tuesday 2nd July, year 4 walked to Passmores school to watch some of their students perform their show: The Addams family. The show was amazing, and the children really enjoyed the experience!

Year 4 had a wonderful visit from Harlow Playhouse. During this workshop, they had the opportunity to compose and rehearse their own song! They had a great time learning different notes, hearing different instruments and it was an enjoyable experience for all.





Year 5 RAF Museum Hendon Trip in June, both Year 5 classes went to the RAF Museum in Hendon for our trip. This linked to our Summer Term Experience topic of World War Two. Throughout the day, the children had a range of worksheets to complete that were all based on the planes that we were going to see in the different hangars of the museum. These included a checklist of different planes to find, being able to describe different features of the planes and how they worked, and also finding the oldest plane in the museum. The children in Sycamore class were overjoyed to find the one named 'Sycamore' and were eager to get a picture with it. After walking around these hangars, we finished off our day by visiting the World War One hangar. We looked at the differences between the planes in here and the ones we had already seen. This gave children a real insight into how technology changes over time. The children really enjoyed the trip and there was even time for a short trip to the museum gift shop. A huge thank you to all the staff that made this trip possible.

Year 5 Passmores University Experience Day Earlier this term, a group of thirty pupils, accompanied by Miss Parr and Mrs Ward, attended Passmores Academy for a University

Experience Day. The day was run by lecturers from the University of Essex, who supplied a range of activities for the children to complete. The main focus of the day was problem solving and the skills that are needed to be successful at this. We also discussed the importance of being resilient, having a Growth Mindset, and not giving up when things are not going the way we want at the beginning. Some of the activities included a colour pattern problem, frog leaping problem and even playing some darts! Here are a few comments from the children that attended: "I liked playing darts because it allowed me to improve my hand-eye co-ordination and it was very fun." "I like solving the frog leaping problem because it was really fun and the more frogs that we added, the harder it got. I enjoyed completing the puzzle." "I enjoyed getting a head-start to the lessons and finding out some of the activities they did at Passmores." "I liked playing darts because there was an opportunity to win chocolate and sweets, and it was fun." "I liked playing darts because it was really fun and it's a great sport." "I enjoyed the darts the most because we all had good fun."

It was a really enjoyable day and we have even brought some puzzles back with us to try out for ourselves.

Please also see the link below for a newspaper article featuring Pear Tree Mead Pupils visiting Passmores as part of a Essex University day for Year 5 children.

[Essex University inspires Manningtree children about maths | Harwich and Manningtree Standard](#)

Year 5 Day at Passmores on 19th June 2024, all of Year 5 attended Passmores for the day. This gave children an opportunity to experience what a typical day at the school is like, including lessons and form time. The children took part in a range of subjects, including Spanish, English, PE, Science and Design Technology. This gave children an insight into some of the subjects they would study when they go to secondary school, as well as some of the equipment that would be available to them. One of the favourite lessons of the day was Science, where the children had a chance to use a bunsen burner for the first time. They were asked to use this to see how the temperature of a beaker of water changed over a period of time. The children had to work in groups to achieve this, lighting the bunsen burner and then taking recordings of temperature every 30 seconds for a set period of time. Another favourite for the children was Design Technology. In this lesson, the children learnt how to correctly draw a diagram of a cube, as well as how to use rendering to shade their drawings. It was a very enjoyable day and the children liked experiencing a day in the life of a secondary school pupil.













Year 6 have had a very busy term

On Monday 8th July, our Year 6 pupils were taken to Adventure Island in Southend, as a reward for all their hard work this year. The day was filled with lots of thrills and treats and many super memories were made! This is always a real highlight of the year and a special treat for working so hard during the school year.









Year 6 Water fight:

On the afternoon of Tuesday 9th July, our Year 6's took part in a very wet water fight with the Year 6 staff. When everyone finally dried off (after getting another soaking from rain!) they were treated to freshly delivered pizza! Great fun was had by all! Thank you to FOPTM for buying our pizzas.

On Tuesday 2nd July, our Yr. 6 pupils took part in an all-day workshop run virtually by the Royal Opera House in London. During the day, pupils gained artform specific skills and knowledge, performed a collaborative dance, and also deepened their knowledge of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Well done to all who showed amazing participation!







We bid a sad farewell to our Year 6 pupils on the 12th July with a celebratory assembly, in which the Year 6's sang and shared some amazing moments of their journey at Pear Tree Mead. Some children received special trophies and we had speeches from our Pupil Leadership team. Our pupils were also presented with their KS2 SATS results in scrolls and were very proud of their achievements. They will be sadly missed by all at P.T.M but we wish them all the very best as they continue their journeys.











Play Leader Mentors

Message from Mrs Davies & Mrs Throne for the Play Leader Mentors:

On behalf of Mrs Thorne and Myself (Mrs Davies), we would like to say a huge thank you and well done to our playleader mentors! This is a very special role at Pear Tree Mead, where Y6 pupils pair up with younger children to ensure that their lunchtime is a successful one. These children have gone above and beyond, giving up their free time to support others. Their dedication and willingness has been commented on numerous times throughout the year by staff, parents and other pupils. They have shown determination and perseverance as

playleader mentors, always displaying the school values and tremendous role models for others. The last couple of weeks, this group has passed the baton to what will be our new playleader mentors next year, currently in Y5, imparting their knowledge and experience.

What a super job they have done, a true inspiration - well done team!

Thank you so much, couldn't have done this without you.

Mrs Thorne and Mrs Davies



Year 6 Transition Week

Things were a little different this year, with the Year 6's spending the last full week of school either at Passmores if that is their school starting in September. For those children that are going to other secondary school they spent the week at the PCLC primary schools doing all sorts of fun activities in their groups of children who will be going to the same secondary school as them. When the Primaries spent the day at Pear Tree Mead they enjoyed a day of Swimming, Forest School, Pond Dipping, being in the sandpit and some sporting activities. This week has given the children an opportunity to build some friendships before they get to their new School in September. They all had a really fun week.













Class Parties

On Monday 22nd July 2024, every class had their class party. Lots of delicious foods and drinks were brought in and shared throughout the year groups, providing the children with a lovely feast to finish off the last full day of the term. Lots of children demonstrated their various talents to their peers, including some brilliant dance moves, fabulous singing and brilliant football. Both children and staff alike had an enjoyable time throughout the class parties and it was a great way to end the school year.



















BOOK LOOK and meet the new teachers

Book Look and meet the new Teacher week, as this term drew to a close, all parents were invited into the large hall to look through their children's books and a selection of work that they have produced throughout the year. This gave the children a wonderful opportunity to discuss what they have been learning about across the year group, as well as choose a piece of work that they were most proud of and that they had worked the hardest on. Children then stuck a sticker on these pieces of work and explained why they had chosen them. After the book look, it was time to meet the teachers for the next year group. This gave everyone a chance to find out some more information about the next year and ask any questions they have.





The EUROS

As the Euro's tournament was taking place across Germany, just some of our fanatic Year 6 pupils helped to update the points system on the interactive Math's display in the hall, and with much dedication! Well done to all who have been helping out!

Earlier on this month, PTM hosted a euros assembly to celebrate the start of the 2024 Euros tournament. During the assembly, each class was given some teams to follow through the tournament. They earned points based on their teams performance through the tournament. We also hosted a football tournament based on these teams which all KS2 children participated in and enjoyed.

Winners

Lavender Class: Germany: 18 points (on the statistics board about the games)

Slovenia and Denmark won the PE side - Slovenian for year 4 and Denmark for year 3

Year 5 was Slovakia and In Year 6 was Austria.

Well done to all the teams that played in our Euros day.





Rock Steady

Rock Steady Concert

Throughout this school year, Rocksteady has worked hard with the children to ensure they are ready to perform for their adults at the end of each term. The children thoroughly enjoy their weekly practise sessions and have loved showcasing their hard work to their adults. A big well done to all involved!



















FOPTM Update

What an amazing term has it been full of fun!!!

This year we were able to hold our summer fair thanks to the amount of volunteers that stepped forward to help! And what a day it was! Was so lovely seeing so many families have so much fun.

A MASSIVE thank you to Nova Haus for sponsoring our bouncy castles! If anyone would like to sponsor our events next year please do get in touch. Also thank you to KK mascots for coming back this time with stitch! An amazing £2,730.64 was raised!

Over the last two weeks we have had our Summer Splash! A real favourite for the children. We hope your children had a great time in our school pool with their friend's. Thank you to the PTM staff for their support making this event possible.

It's also that time of year when we say good bye to our year 6's. The FOPTM would like to say a massive thank you to our two FOPTM reps Alice & Leon! They have been such a massive help over the year. FOPTM were able to buy pizzas for the year 6 to enjoy after their water fight. We hope they enjoyed them.

During transition week the year 6's had a chance to apply to be a representative for the school in the FOPTM. We love to have two more students to be our representatives! We can't wait to meet our new helpers.

Lastly we had our break the Rules day. A great way to end the year!

Reflecting on the year FOPTM has definitely been through some highs and lows but what a year it's been! Please see poster for how much we raised and what we funded for this year.

What an amazing achievement!!! A massive thank you to the FOPTM team, PTM staff for all their hard work and to all of you for your support but giving donations, buying tickets and attending our events.

Also a very special thank you to Mrs Peden, you have always supported FOPTM and given us the freedom to try new things.

We hold our AGM In September to vote in our new committee. Please keep an eye out for information in September. But it would be lovely so see more people wanting to get involved. We hope your children have had the best year! We hope you have the best summer and look forward to another year full of fun for your children when they return.

The FOPTM team







Thank you - OPAL

Thank you to Parent's who helped out with the following for the OPAL setting up.

Thank you for the donated tyres from parents we used them for boarders of the mud kitchen. Thank you to Gottschalk Plant Hire Ltd for the 6 tractor tyres that have gone into social and climbing areas.

Thank you to parents for your kind donations of bikes, scooters, small world play and mud kitchen resources.

Thank you to Mike Williams for making the sand pit.

Thank you to the two parents who have offered to build the following, Mr Brinkley who has offered to build more mud kitchen items and Miss Gliddon - who has offered to make a stage area.

We are still looking for someone to help us build a water system base - this would be building a wooden base and lining the base and then some stones on top. We can provide the resources.

Well Done

A massive well done to Hope Koulle in Yew class for reading a whopping 606 times this year! This staggering amount of reading dedication has never been achieved before and we are all super proud of her!



Important information

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB - Treehouse & Night Owls Club's

Dear parents

We are really pleased to let you know that our new After School Provision will be carrying on in September.

The Treehouse Club will run in two sessions. Firstly from 3.15pm till 4.10pm for a themed activity session and then NIGHT OWLS will run from 4.10pm till 6pm.

The price of these sessions will be £5.50 for Treehouse and £8.50 for Night Owls. All of the staff running The Treehouse Club are very experienced current staff members. We are looking at seeing how we can accept child care vouchers as soon as possible.

If you are interested in your child attending either of these sessions you will be asked to complete a registration form. Once this is completed you will be added to our bookings group on ParentMail and you will be able to book any of the sessions. Bookings and cancellations must be completed 48 hours before the session. Our Treehouse Club policy can be found on the school website. Bookings will open up each half term and themes will change at the same time. All bookings must be paid for at the time of booking. Registration forms will need to be recompleted every year.

September Treehouse Club Themes

Monday - OPAL outdoor play

Tuesday - Swimming

Wednesday - Games (PE)

Thursday - Eco Club

Friday - DT (Craft - Design and Technology)

During Night Owls (4.10pm – 6pm) children will have a choice of activities including

- Art and craft activities.
- Completion of homework tasks
- Practicing reading, spelling etc
- Sports activities and team games.
- Lego and construction.
- Board games.
- Imaginative toys

Children will be given a snack during night owls such as a wrap, crackers, sandwich etc.

Staff Information

At the end of this term we would like to say goodbye to a few staff who are leaving.

Mrs Luljeta Ajdini who will be leaving our cleaning team. We look forward to welcoming Mrs Michelle Jackson to our cleaning team in September.

Miss Tara Jeffreys who will be leaving Pre school at the end of term.

Miss Donnan will be leaving us as a LSA at the end of term but she will be completing her SCITT training with us in Year 1 starting in September.

We have also welcomed Miss Ferran as our new Year 3 teacher who is covering Miss Fry Smith whilst on maternity leave.

I would like to send our congratulations to Miss Fry Smith and Mr Thurgood who had a baby boy on the 11th July. All are doing well and we are hoping for a visit from the 3 of them soon.

Congratulations to our staff who received new PCLC badges of commitment this week. These are awarded to staff who have worked at the school for 5,10,15, 20, 25 or 30 years. Thank you for your service to the school.

PTM Governors



Governor news

Who we are: The Governing Body currently consists of 3 Parent Governors and 4 Community Governors. We are a friendly team that works with each other and the staff to ensure the students are able to reach their full potential whilst at Pear Tree Mead. You can find out more about who we are by visiting the school website. **What we do:** The governors are interested in ensuring the pupils at the school get the best, and we work towards this by volunteering in a variety of ways. One of our main duties is to meet as a team to discuss and review school policies and other school business. These meetings take place during the evening several times a term and are either face to face at the school, or via Teams. Each of us are linked with specific areas and subjects within the school and we monitor these throughout the academic year by communicating with the staff responsible for these areas, and by spending time in school. We also support the school and pupils in other ways, for

example reading with younger students, being present at school events such as assemblies and sports days, and the recruitment of new staff.

What makes a good Governor: School governors can be employed part time or full time, self-employed, a stay at home parent or retired. Formal qualifications are not necessary, all you need is the ability to work as part of a team, an interest in how the school runs, and be able to ask questions. Training is provided, and the team are friendly and supportive to new members.

Interested in joining the team:

Current Vacancies: Community Governor Waiting List open for Parent Governors and Community Governors

If you would like more information about being a governor at PTM or are interested in joining the team please contact kate.townsend@peartreemead.essex.sch.uk

Parent Information

Please see below links for workshops, things to do in the holidays and general information & support.

[Virtual HE workshop flyer October 24.pdf](#)

[Cooking Treehouse Multiply Maths Flyer.pdf](#)

[School HAF letter template.docx](#)

[EA-Timeless-Flyer-A5-2.pdf](#)

[16412 Summer flyer rev4.pdf](#)

[Support Services Useful Contacts \(Dec23\).pdf](#) - Support for parents during the holidays

[Harlow Flyer.pdf](#)

[Game Design and Coding Course Poster.pdf](#)

[Harlow Rock School Summer 24.png](#)

[holiday at home.pdf](#)

[July Calendar 24.jpg](#)

[August calendar 24.jpg](#)

[Summer activities 24.jpg](#)

[DS21_7346_PrivateFosteringWeek_A4PosterFRAME_with_QR_code.pdf](#)

[DS21_7346_PrivateFosteringWeek_A5LeafPROF_with_QR_code.pdf](#)

Full list of activities taking place across Essex

Fun & Activities

Accuro - Don't miss our Accuro Games Family Fun Day on Sunday 14th July!

We are celebrating 40 years of supporting people with a disability in West Essex with a fun day of inclusive sports, fun fair games, disco, food and drink, and much more!

The event is FREE to attend. Simply register on: [Accuro Games 2024 - Accuro \(Care Services\)](#)

Harlow Fun Day – The Butterfly Effect. Harlow Rugby Club – Sunday 26th July 10-6

Games, food trucks, ice cream, face painting and signing and dancing.

Call 07760 288198 or www.butterflyeffectwellbeing.com

Autism Central online summer support groups - Autism Central will be available to support parent and carers over the summer holidays.

They will be providing a variety of informal online summer support groups for parent and carers to connect with each other, share successes and seek advice. There will also be targeted sessions focussing on things to do in your area.

Please visit the [autism central website](#) to book.

This is a free, all age, service which does not require a diagnosis to access.

Essex Short Breaks - Short Breaks gives families the chance to take a break from their normal routine and enjoy doing fun things together. They also give children and young people the chance to do fun and different activities.

Visit the [Short Breaks website](#) for more information.

Essex Libraries Summer Reading Challenge - The Summer Reading Challenge is running from 20 July to 7 September. It is open in all Essex libraries and mobile libraries and suitable for all children of all ages.

Children will be asked to read six books throughout the summer holidays. As they read their library books, they will collect special stickers to fill up their folder, and other rewards along the way. After reading six books they will earn their certificate and medal. They can read any library book of their choice, including picture books. There is also a special version for children under 4 years old.

To find out more visit the [Essex Libraries website](#).

Essex ActivAte: summer holiday clubs (24 June to 30 August) - Essex ActivAte offer free holiday clubs with enriching activities and healthy meals for children aged 4 to 16 that are eligible for free school meals. Paid for and discretionary free places are also available.

They work with a number of different providers. Activities offered include arts and crafts, sports, day trips, and performing arts. There is also a specialist SEND and Mental Wellbeing club.

To find out more visit the [Active Essex Website](#).

Summer holiday music workshops - Essex Music Service are hosting a number of summer workshops in various venues across Essex. Workshops include Samba, Singing and DJing.

To find out more visit the [Essex Music Education Hub Website](#).

ACL family and adult only sessions - Adult Community Learning (ACL) Essex have a number of family sessions running across Essex during the summer holidays. Family sessions include:

- Summer crafts and learning
- Make me a scientist
- LEGO challenge

They also have a number of sessions for adults only including:

- Surviving the Summer for Parents
- Starting Primary/Junior School
- SEND Support for parents and carers

To find out more visit the [ACL website](#).

Visit Essex - Find things to do in the summer holidays on the [Visit Essex website](#).

Explore Essex: Kid's play parks and trails - Find a new park or trail to visit this summer on the [Explore Essex website](#)

Essex Wildlife Trust - Essex Wildlife Trust are offering wildlife themed events during the school holidays, from family activities to drop-off days.

Events include:

- a kite festival – kite displays and decorating workshops.
- Wilder holiday club – at various locations across Essex, for children who love wildlife and the outdoors.

More information and booking details can be found on the [Essex Wildlife Trust website](#)

All Ability Activity Days - Run by Essex Outdoors, these days at the Harlow centre are for children aged 8 to 16 with SEND.

Each day has groups of up to eight participants. They get an opportunity to take part in four fun challenges during the day. The day is fully supervised by staff from Essex Outdoors.

For more information visit [The Essex Outdoors website](#)

Upwards with Downs family fun day - This charity provides events and activities for adults and children with Down Syndrome.

Their annual fun day is on Sunday 14 July in Harlow. To find out more information visit the [Upwards with Downs website](#)

West Essex Inclusion Project - West Essex Inclusion Project are offering a range of fun activities throughout the summer holidays. These include Inflatable Mayhem at Ongar Leisure Centre and Waltham Abbey Leisure Centre.

Children and young people must be registered with Essex Short Breaks to attend. To find out more visit the [West Essex Inclusion project's Facebook Page](#).

Accuro - Accuro support local children, young people and adults with disabilities in West Essex. They are hosting a family fun day on 14 July at Howe Green House School. This will take place from 1pm until 6pm. It is a free event to support 40 years of Accuro and is inspired by the Paralympic games.

Complete registration using the [Accuro Group's registration form](#).

Epping Forest District Council summer activities - Epping Forest District Council have a number of activities running over the summer. These include a butterfly and bug hunt, pond dipping and a teddy bears' picnic.

To find out more and book onto events, visit [Epping Forest District Council's website](#).

Audley End Enchanted Summer Adventure - The Enchanted Summer Adventure will run between 20 July and 1 September. Young explorers will discover mythical creatures living in the woods.

There is also a fairy and elf walk and adventure playground. To find out more, visit [Audley End's website](#).

Pets Corner - Pets Corner is a free, small farm located in Harlow Town Park. As well as traditional farm animals, there are also more exotic and rare animals. A Changing Places toilet is on site.

Visit the [Harlow Council website](#) for more information.

North Weald and District Miniature Railway - This miniature railway operating out of Harlow Garden Centre is open throughout the summer. They have standard operating days and some special events such as a Teddy Bear's Picnic and a Miniature and Model Fest.

To find out more, visit [North Weald and District Miniature Railway's Facebook page](#).

Epping Ongar Railway - This railway is open all summer. They have steam and diesel trains and Heritage buses. Children's tickets are being sold for one pound on standard timetable days.

To find out more, visit [Epping Ongar Railway's website](#).

Old MacDonalds Farm - This farm and fun park have a summer circus running between Saturday 20 July and Sunday 1 September.

For more information visit [Old MacDonalds Farm website](#)

Essex Child & Family Wellbeing Service - National Play Day Come and Join us to celebrate play! Free activities for children up to the age of 11 years and their families Date: 7 th August 2024 Time: 11am -2:30pm Venue: Harlow Town Park, Band Stand Area, CM20 2QQ This is a family fun day with lots of fun activities and useful information for children and their parents/carers. No booking required!

Brentwood Youth Skate Project – Loan equipment, skateboards and scooters. Everything free including food and drink.

Brentwood Skate Park, King George’s Playing Fields, Hartswood Road, Essex CM14 5AE

Thursdays 1st, 8th & 15th August. 11-4. Skate coaching/ urban art.

Thursday 22nd Skate Jam

For info 01277 442528

HARLOW FIRE STATION OPEN DAY

ESSEX Fire and Rescue are excited to be opening their fire station doors again throughout the year for station open days.

“Please park considerately when visiting our fire stations, many of our stations have limited spaces. “You can find the nearest car parks at <https://www.parkme.com/en-gb>

Harlow Fire Station - Saturday, 27 July 10am – 4pm

Come along to Harlow Fire Station’s open day where you can meet our team, explore our fire station and find out more about how we work to keep Essex safe. There will be activities for the whole family as well as local stalls.

Harlow Fire Station

Fourth Avenue

Harlow

CM20 1DU

Community Embrace UK – Around the World Food Festival. Saturday 24th August GPCA Playing Fields. **Bookings & enquiries 07800 839033 or 07525 131261.** www.communityembraceuk.org

Lambourne End - Here is a link to the website for Lambourne End Centre for Outdoor Learning: <https://www.lambourne-end.org.uk/summer-holidays>. Find out what's going on and see the activities on offer.

Brentwood Summer Youth Programme – ages 13-19 (25 with SEND). Monday 12 – Wednesday 14th August. Come and join Essex Youth Service for a free, fun and engaging summer programme. Join us for an action packed 3 days of fun, challenges and games. For more information including poster to display, contact Kayleigh.Southern@essex.gov.uk 07385 000853

Brentwood Youth Centre, Shenfield Road, Brentwood. CM15 8AG

Beyond The Horizon - SEND Group for young people aged 13-25 years old – Coming soon to Stansted. @STANSTED YOUTH CLUB - PETER KIRK CENTRE- CM24 8JP

Contact: charlotte.lewington@essex.gov.uk

Summer Fun Day – Saturday 13th August 11-1pm FREE @ Peter Kirk, St Johns Road, Stansted. CM24 8JP (SEND Friendly)

Stansted Summer Youth Programme – ages 13-18 (25 with SEND). Monday 29th – Wednesday 31st July. Come and join Essex Youth Service for a free, fun and engaging summer programme. Join us for an action packed 3 days of fun, challenges and games. For more information including poster to display, contact Charlotte.Lewington@essex.gov.uk 07584 000850. Stansted Youth Centre, Peter Kirk Centre, St Johns Road, Stansted. CM24 8JP

Ongar Boys Boxing Club - Free Boxing classes are available in Ongar. Full details can be found [here](#)

Summer Sound with Everyone Loves Music. Get moving and start making music! – 31st July – 1st August @ Peter Kirk, St Johns Road, Stansted. CM24 8JP. Aged 11-18. Mondays 2-4pm and Wednesday's and Fridays 6.30-8.30pm Free snacks! E: Charlotte.Lewington@essex.gov.uk M: **07584 000850**

ZINC Arts - SEN Holiday fun - ZINC Arts are running activities for young adults and adults with learning disabilities aged 16+

Activities will run Monday 12th August until Friday 23rd August. Each day will start at 10.00 and finish at 3.00pm. Zinc Arts is an arts-based charity that uses many different mediums, including Digital Art, Dance, Drama, Visual Art, Textiles, and cooking. The theme of the 2 weeks of activities will be 'The World'. Participants will start with a blank 'Passport', they will then through different activities, experience cultures, environments, and practises of different countries around the world. Places on these summer activities are **£40 per person, per day**. There are 20 spaces available per day. For more details contact [Sonia Cakebread](#)

Things to consider for families.

Healthier Together Summer Promotion - The Healthier Together website was developed to provide parents with easily accessible information about common childhood illnesses including when and where to get help and to also offer support to healthcare professionals to make sure consistent messages are given to parents. It includes close collaboration with professionals across health and social care (schools, local authorities, health visitors, school nurses, practice nurses, acute children's community nurses, GPs, midwives, ambulance services and NHS 111). As summer arrives, the aim of this toolkit is to continue to remind parents about this valuable resource. There was an earlier version which included newsletters and social media appropriate to spring and has been updated to include more seasonal messages with the warmer weather and summer school holidays ahead.

<https://www.hwehealthiertogether.nhs.uk/>

Hay Fever - Tips to help tackle hay fever this summer - Hay fever season is here. The NHS provide a range of [ways to help relieve hay fever symptoms](#). If you're struggling with hay

fever try wearing wraparound sunglasses to stop pollen getting into your eyes or putting petroleum jelly around your nostrils to trap pollen.

Online safety - summer campaign - The summer holidays are fast approaching and while more time may be spent outside away from screens, it's important to remember that the risk of online harm and child exploitation doesn't disappear.

Parents and carers should remain aware of their child's internet use over the summer - as much as any other time of year. Child exploitation and grooming often starts with contact on social media. Any child is at risk and it's important to remember that both boys and girls can be groomed.

The [ESCB website](#) has resources for parents, carers and professionals including podcasts, videos, how to report concerns and information about spotting the signs of exploitation.- [ESCB - Online Safety](#)

Help children to stay safe online by creating a supportive environment - Caregivers can create a supportive environment, where online safety is discussed regularly in the same way as road safety or stranger danger, enabling children to speak up about any concerns they may have. By taking an interest in what games they are playing and trying to understand their online world, parents and carers can initiate important conversations. It's also worthwhile double checking that devices have the correct parental controls, especially if they're new.

The Essex Safeguarding Children Board website has [resources for parents, carers and professionals](#) including podcasts, videos, how to report concerns, and information about spotting the signs of exploitation.

It is important to remember that exploitation is not the child's fault, and they are never to blame.

Concerns about child exploitation can be reported anonymously by calling **Crimestoppers on 0800 555111**.

There is also a dedicated Essex Police Child Exploitation hotline for parents, carers and members of the public to seek advice on concerns they may have about their own or other children with regards to criminal and sexual exploitation. Call **01245 452058**.

Weed areas around the school

Keep the allotment tidy and in good working order

Pot and plant flowers, vegetables and plants

If you would be interested in helping out on a regular basis you would need to be DBS checked.

Please pop into the office and let them know you would be able to help.

We will then get in touch.

Reminders

Please can you talk to your children about how to behave on the school site before and after school.

- Children should not arrive on school site until 8.35 - 8.40 and should leave promptly at the end of the day.
- Children should not be on any school equipment - eg the hill, climbing wall, outdoor gym or the climbing equipment.
- Gates and doors will be closed at 8.45. Children arriving after this time will need to sign in at the office. Parents will need to give a reason for lateness to the office staff.
- Children should not be playing football or other ball games.
- Children should not be on bikes or scooters
- Children should be careful around each other, smaller children and our parents / visitors on site.
- Children should use kind and polite language to each other and other adults.

Gates after school will be closed promptly as our after school club could be outside completing their activities. Please leave the school grounds as quickly as you can.

If children who walk to and from school without an adult are seen continuously not following these guidelines we will have to ask parents to attend school for drop off and pick up and not leave their children unoccupied. For those children that walk and cycle to school could we please remind them of safety on the roads and around the streets.

If you have any general enquiries please email these to info@peartreemead.essex.sch.uk

Many thanks for your understanding.

Online Safety Information

<https://sway.office.com/TAHiBj16IjgTC7ZM?ref=Link>

Parking

Please can we ask that parents park carefully outside the school. We are encouraging children to try and walk to school as much as possible.

Vaping

It has been reported to us that some parents are vaping on school site. Please be reminded that this is not allowed. Many thanks

Final Note

If you have any questions or need any more information please contact us.

Please use our communication flow chart to find out who you need to speak to.

More information can be found about staff on our website.

<https://www.peartreemead.essex.sch.uk/about-us/meet-the-team/>

Pear Tree Mead Academy

Harlow

Essex CM18 7BY

01279 836181

For general enquiries please email info@peartreemead.essex.sch.uk

For complaints, concerns, admissions or attendance enquires please email kate.townsend@peartreemead.essex.sch.uk

for support with school payments and breakfast club please contact the school office and they will pass you to Mrs Robinson.

If you wish to email anyone else, please email Mrs Hayton on info@peartreemead.essex.sch.uk and she will pass your email on to them.

Please join our FOPTM Facebook group by searching Friends of Pear Tree Mead for more information about FOPTM events.

Visit us on the web for an Events Calendar and more school information at www.peartreemead.essex.sch.uk

On behalf of myself and all of the staff at Pear Tree Mead we would like to wish you all a very happy 6 week summer break.