

May 2025 newsletter

Pear Tree Mead Academy May 2025 Newsletter



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

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Message from Mrs Peden, Headteacher

Dear parents

We are well and truly into the summer term now and the school events have kept us very busy. Our government national testing has been taking place. The 6 children have completed their SATs and we have, Year 2 SATs, Year 1 phonics and Year 4 multilocation left to go next term. We are very proud of how the children conduct themselves during testing season. Trying their very best and focussing hard on their learning. We enjoyed having the Year 6 children in each morning for their SATs breakfast and the children I'm sure are pleased that the before school booster classes have finished.

Our Year 6 children now have a few weeks left at PTM before they move onto their next adventures. There are lots of fun things coming up for them over the next half term. All children will be taking part in transition events to help them get ready for the next stage of their education. This includes our now embedded transition with the PCLC primaries and secondaries.

We managed to hold two sports day this half term and it was lovely to see parents enjoying this event. The rest of our sports days are next half term. We have also enjoyed seeing visitors enjoy Grandparents afternoon and nurture group visits. There are some more visits coming up next half term too.

Please see below to see what else we have been up to this half term. Some exciting mentor dog and Opal news too.

Its school trip half term coming up and we are excited to see so many classes going out on trips. Please make sure that you pay for these trips so that we can continue to run these year after year. Below are the list of all the activities going on next half term. These can also be found on the school website and on the Arbor events. Please take some time to move through the days on the Arbor app and you will be able to see what is planned.

Next half term we welcome secondary children into school for their work experience. from John Warner, Passmores, Stewards, Burnt Mill and St marks for their opportunity to see what it is like to be a teacher.

I am really pleased to have seen so many children their half term for their 6 positive notes hot chocolate visit with me. I have enjoyed chatting with them and celebrating their successes. I have also seen lots of children with their work to receive Headteachers Awards. Keep up the amazing work.

Over this term our older children have some opportunities to visit Passmores and experience being inside a secondary school. Next half term we will be forward planning as a school, welcoming new children to the school, supporting all children with transition, and working with the other PCLC schools to plan for 2025-26. This continues to be an exciting time for the school as things change and move forward.

We hope you enjoy your half term and that the sun shines on us all.

Mrs Peden

What's coming up next term?

All month (June) – Yr 4 New Government Multiplication test

2nd June - Inset Day - non pupil day

3rd June – Back to school

3rd June - Year 5 trip to Hendon RAF

3rd June - Great Open Door assembly - KS1 & KS2

4th June - Reception Induction Meeting - 9.30 - 10.30am - for new Reception parents - large hall

6th June - Year 6 Careers session with Wincanton

6th June - Year 4 Sleepover – Year 4 children

9th to 16th June - All week – Year 1 Phonics Screening check for pupils

9th and 10th June - Fathers Day – present sale – FOPTM - £2.50 a gift

9th June - Class photos - all day - Whole School

11th June - Induction Meeting 9.30 - 10.30am - New Nursery parents

13th June - Father's Day Afternoon 1.30pm - 3pm - Year 1 and 2 male adults to attend

16th June - Dog Movie Night - 3:15-4:45pm - Information has been sent out - booking information to follow.

17th June Nursery Sports Day (am and pm) parents invited. Gates will be closed during this time

18th June Reception Sports Day (am) parents invited. Gates will be closed during this time

19th June - Year 3 Colchester Castle trip

23rd June - Year 1 - Seaside Event at school

25th June – Pre school Sports Day - parents invited. Gates will be closed during this time

26th June - Year 6 to visit new Secondary Schools for the day - transition day

27th June - Year 3 Roman Day

27th June - FOPTM donation day - Non uniform in return for a donation

Saturday 28th June – School Summer Event FOPTM 12pm – 3pm - All welcome

30th June - Yr 6 Southend Trip

30th June to 4th July - Summer Splash Week - More information on dates to follow

30th June - Year 3 class Assembly 9.30am - 10.00am - parents to be invited

30th June - 4th July - Reception - Yr 5 find out their new classes this week

2nd July - Early Years Reports home for parents – Nursery and Reception

1st July – Year 5 children to Passmores for the day - more information will follow

3rd July – Year 4 school trip - Mountfitchet

7th July - to 11th July - All week – dates to be confirmed – Book look with children and parents and new Teacher presentations to parents. - Whole school. Dates to be confirmed via Arbor and the school calendar on the website.

7th July - Launch of PCLC TTRS event. Year 2 to Year 6

8th July – Year 4 children to Passmores for the morning

9th July - Year 6 pizza's and water fight

10th July - Rock Band Concert - Information will be sent out from Rock Band

11th July – House Reward - to be announced which house

14th July - Year 6 shirt signing

14th or 15th July – class parties – children to wear party clothes all day Year R to 6 - date to be confirmed

15th July – Year 6 leavers assembly and SATS results to be given out – 9.30am - 10.30am - parents invited - Ticketed event – LAST official DAY AT PTM for Year 6.

15th July – children's last day in their current classes - Year R to Year 5

16th - 22nd July – New Passmores children to Passmores, Children not attending Passmores will take part in transition activities with the other PCLC Primary schools across the trust. Year 6 children. This finishes a day earlier than the main school. More information will follow.

16th - 23rd July – Transition week for whole school - children to spend the week in their new classes. Year R to 5

16th July – Pre school – Gruffalo Party

17th July - End of Year results and attendance records for Year 1 – 5

18th July -Last day of Pre-school and Nursery for the year. Pre School Graduation.

18th July - Nursery Ugly Bug Ball

22nd July - Break the rules day FOPTM – all day – Whole school

23rd July – Last day of term – finish at 1.30pm

23rd – Preloved uniform sale and book give away – .130pm – small hall.

What's been going on this half term?

VE Day Celebrations

In honor of the 80th anniversary of VE Day, we hosted a vibrant celebration, bringing history to life for students. The school grounds were adorned with flags and balloons, creating a festive atmosphere as we came together to reflect on this pivotal moment in history. Children enjoyed picnics outside, sharing laughter while eating their lunches under the sunshine. Students also participated in learning and singing wartime songs. The day was a beautiful reminder of the sacrifices made and the triumphs of peace, as our school community showed its support and gratitude for those who served. All the children and staff came home with a PCLC magnet to commemorate the day. Thank you to FOPTM for funding this for us.











Crazy Hair Day for PACT

On 16th May, we embraced a fun and colorful way to show our support for PACT for Autism, a charity dedicated to supporting families with autistic children, autistic adults and those with similar conditions. Our Crazy Hair Day was a vibrant celebration of creativity, as both students and staff arrived with wild and wonderful hairstyles. From cupcake hair buns and multicolored Mohican's to rainbow-colored locks topped with fluffy clouds, the day was filled with laughter and excitement. Not only did everyone have a blast, but we also raised awareness for this important cause. We raised £255.19, thank you to all who donated.



Pact for Autism supports families with Autistic children, Autistic adults and those with similar conditions. By working in partnership with education, health and other professionals, we strive to achieve the best possible outcomes for all.

We aim to develop long term strategies with local communities that will improve living, working and social opportunities for all people living life through the Autistic lens.

Our key services include:

- **Support and Information phone lines**
- **Support and Information meetings for Parents, Carers, Individuals and Professionals.**
- **Workshops**
- **Activities**
- **Talks**
- **Signposting to services**

No formal diagnosis is necessary to access any of our services.

For further details visit www.pactforautism.org.uk

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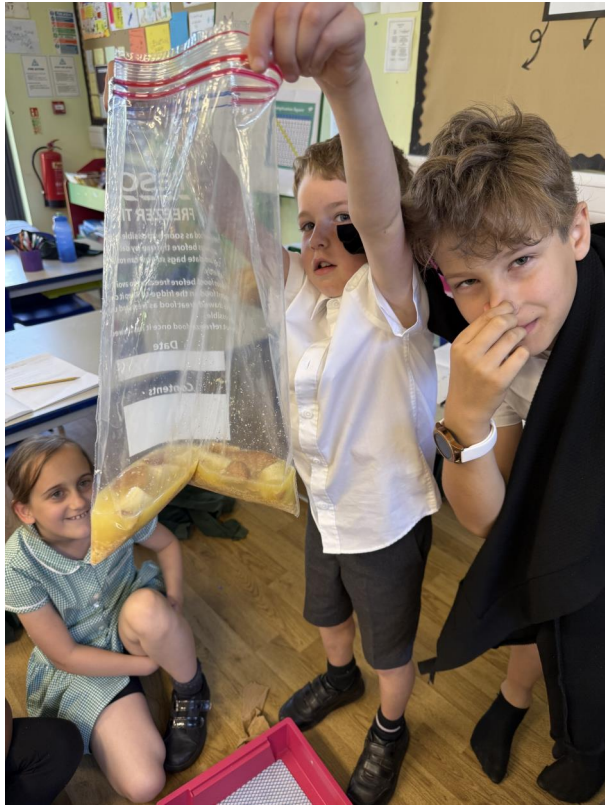


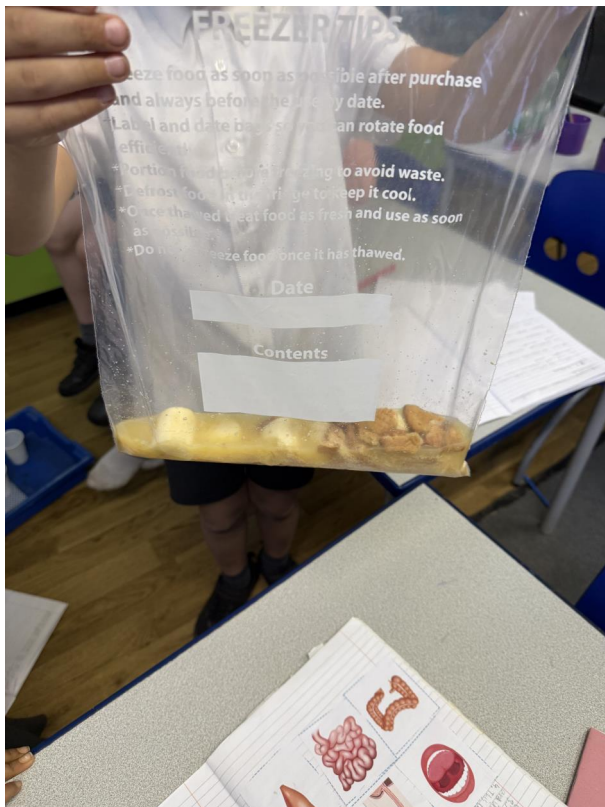
Year 4 Modelling Digestion Experiment

As part of year 4's 'Animals including humans' science unit, we spent an afternoon modelling the digestive system. This was a very interactive experiment, where children got to see and test, how some of the main organs work in the human body!









Year 5 Netball Tournament

On Monday 12th May, some of our year 5 pupils went to Passmores for our Summer 1 PCLC tournament. This half term the trust tournament was netball, which was a new sport that the year 5s had to learn. Everybody who participated in the tournament did amazingly and tried so hard! Well done to everybody involved



Year 1 & 2 Sports Days

This week, the year 1s and 2s had their sports days! Both events ran really smoothly, and the children tried really hard in all of their sports. There were 5 field events, which tested the children's ability in a range of sports. These were accompanied by three sets of races: sprints, hurdles and the egg and spoon race.

A big thank you to the year 5 and 6 helpers who helped the event run smoothly.























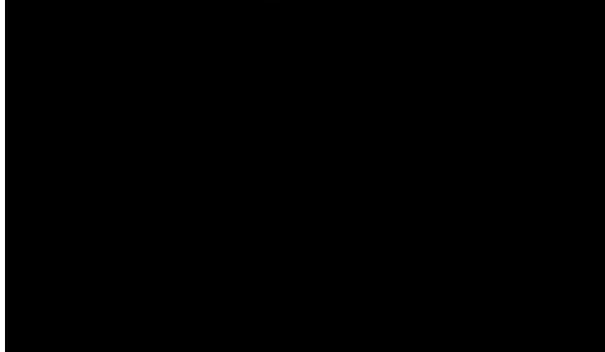


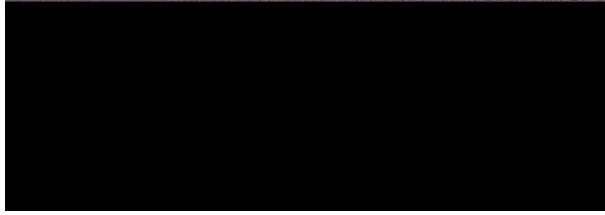




Year 3 Tennis Coaching

Over the last half term, our Year 3 students have been sharpening their tennis skills with expert coaching. They had a fantastic time learning new techniques, improving their game, and building teamwork on the court. A big thank you to our coach for making it such a fun and educational experience – the students can't wait to put their new skills into practice!







Numbers The Mentor Dog Training

We are so pleased to let you know that Numbers is settling in at PTM so well. He has been exploring the classrooms and outdoor areas and has loved meeting the staff and children.

This week he had his first assessment with 'the dog mentor' company who have assessed him and we are pleased to let you know that he has received his bronze award and his dog license. This meant that we were able to move to Silver which allowed Mrs Arnould, Mrs Davies, Mrs Peden and Mrs Thurgood to become trained handlers. We are also pleased to let you know that we also passed this section of the course.

Below are some photos of our training day.

More news and information will follow about Numbers soon.

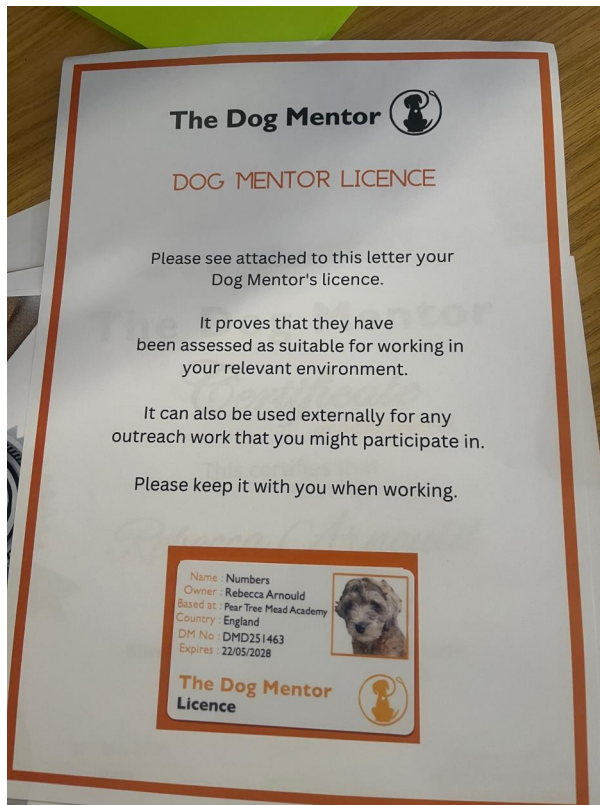














MP Chris Vince Visit

We were really pleased to welcome our local MP into school. He did a full school tour and then chatted to the year 5 children and the school council. He was very impressed with the school and is excited to talk about our OPAL project the next time he is in the house of lords.





Saplings Pets Corner Visit

On Friday 16th May Saplings had a trip to Harlow Park. First we played in the park which was lots of fun. Then we had a lady show us round Pets Corner and we were able to feed the pigs and goats., we also got to see the meerkats and giant tortoise. We had a great morning and had lots of fun.









Year 3&4 Grandparents Afternoon

Year 3 and 4 recently enjoyed a wonderful Grandparent's Afternoon. The children and their grandparents took part in a range of activities, including shield making, biscuit decorating, and creating family trees. The afternoon also included some fantastic OPAL activities, giving everyone a chance to explore and enjoy the outdoor play areas. It was a joyful event for all involved—thank you to all the grandparents who joined us!







Road Safety Week

PTM children took part in Road Safety week. They learnt about safety in the surrounding areas and the community as a whole. Below is a link where we advise discussions with your children. Please read them carefully and upskill your family on how to be safe with, or without, adult supervision.

Please see the useful link below for more information this

<https://capt.org.uk/pages/category/safety-advice-injury-types/>

Next half term we have bikeability for our children to learn about cycling safely on the roads.

FOPTM UPDATE

Not much has been going on this half term for FOPTM but we ended it with a Bang!!! Our Summer Disco was an absolute hit with the children and we hope they had the best time.

For our year 6 students this was their last ever FOPTM disco, we hope they will have great memories of the night. A massive thank you to DJ FINLAY TM for coming along and making our disco that little extra special, he was absolutely amazing and the children loved dancing the evening away.

If you're looking for a DJ please consider Finlay, you can contact him on 07776828788 or finlaytmusic@gmail.com.

We would also like to say a big thank you to our parent and staff volunteers. Thanks to them we are able to do these events as well as raise money for the school.

We're excited to announce that we raised £1537.19, thank you to everyone who supported this event.

If you would like to get involved, make some new friends and put smiles of the students of PTM faces please just get in contact.

Now moving onto next term, this is going to be a great one!!!

9th & 10th June – FATHERS & SUPER HEROS PRESENT SALE – A chance for your children to choose a present for their loved ones for Father's Day. £2.50 per present and it will be run during school hours. Just simply send your child in with their money on the day, there are lots of great presents up for grabs.

28th June – SUMMER FAIR – Loads of fun for all the family from 12-3pm. We will also be having the Fire and Ambulance service attend! As well as a very special guest! Super Mario is coming to PTM.

30th June week – FOPTM SUMMER SPLASH – Your child will get a chance to have some fun in our school pool with inflatables as well as getting an ice pop. Tickets will be sold online please keep an eye out for more details.

22nd July – BREAK THE RULES DAY – Because sometimes you have to be a little bit naughty. 20p per rule break. Please keep an eye out for more details.

YEAR 6 PARENTS – We hope to make this last half term extra special for our year 6 students and one of the things coming up is the YEAR 6 LEAVERS ASSEMBLY (tissues at the ready). Would you like a chance to get to sit near the front? Why not volunteer at our Summer Fair and other events so you can earn vouchers so you can get the best seats in the house. Simply just get in contact with us to find out more details. We hope you all have a great half term from the FOPTM team

Class Requests

We are already at the time of year where we are looking at the plans for classes for September.

At Pear Tree Mead we believe that our year groups are one big team. We believe that children should have the possibility of meeting all 60 new friends in their year group, working with different children across the year groups. This way they get closer friendships with more children and learn to deal with the challenges of working with new peers throughout their time in school.

Each year the classes are mixed up and put into different classes every year. The teachers work for many hours looking at these new class lists considering many factors for the new classes. These include making sure the classes are split by gender, SEND needs, friendship

groups, clashes of personalities, children who may depend on a friendship too much etc. They work with the current teachers and talk to them about how the children would be best placed for the following year.

We do give parents an opportunity to put in class requests. This is a chance for parents to write a letter to Mrs Peden to request either children you would like your child to be with or not. Please put this in writing to info@peartreemead.com We do not take requests for staff as this is decided by the school.

We cannot guarantee that your requests will be met as it can be a very difficult task to manage if a parent makes many different requests or if as a school we receive multiple requests that clash with other parents requests. We always try our very best and have the children's best interests at heart.

The deadline for these requests is 9am Friday 6th June. No request after this date will be met as we will have sorted the classes ready for changeover day. Once the class are set and changeover day has taken place we cannot move children as this isn't fair on the classes or other children.

Well Done

We have some exciting OPAL news coming soon. This half term we completed our final assessment with the opal team to see if we would achieve the bronze, silver, gold or platinum award. Keep an eye out to see how we got on.



Reminders

Parent information

Essex County Council SEND Survey - [parent survey comms to all.pdf](#)

Purford Green School - [The Hangout Holiday Club.png.png](#)

25/26 Term Dates - [PTM-TERM-DATES-2025-2026-1-1.351614953.pdf](#)

Treehouse & Night Owls After School Clubs

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB - Treehouse & Night Owls Club's

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 can book on Arbor under the clubs section. 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.

Summer Term 2 Treehouse Club Themes

Monday - Football

Tuesday - Swimming

Wednesday - Arts & Crafts

Thursday - Group Outside Games

Friday - Cooking

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

- Art and craft activities.

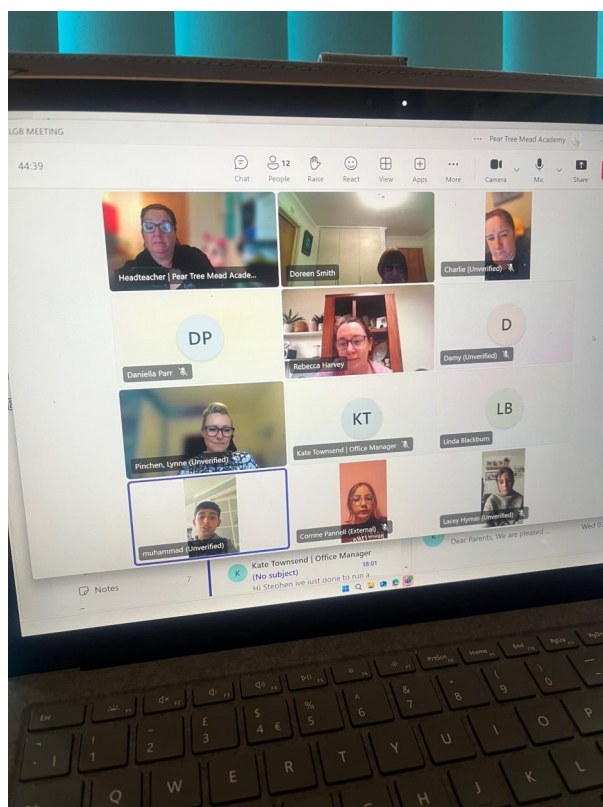
- Completion of homework tasks
- Practicing reading, spelling etc
- Sports activities and team games.
- Lego and construction.
- Board games.
- Imaginative toys

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

PTM Governors



A massive thank you and well done to our Pupil Leadership Team who attended our Governors meeting this half term. They joined via zoom. The three of them spoke confidently about their SATs and being in Year 6, Numbers our school dog and the OPAL project. The governors enjoyed their visit and asked them lots of questions.



Governor newsr.

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 Reminders

Online Safety Information

<https://sway.office.com/TAHiBj16IJgTC7ZM?ref=Link>

School uniform

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

- Grey bottoms
- 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
- Gingham dresses in the warmer months. These should not be worn with tights, but with white short or long socks.
- All children need wellies at school for OPAL play.

For more information please see :-

<https://www.peartreemead.essex.sch.uk/about-us/uniform/>

We have some un-named lost property. Please name all items of uniform.

We have second hand uniform for sale if you need any more uniform. Please ask via the FOPTM Facebook page.

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.

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

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01279 836181

For general enquiries please email info@peartreemead.com

For complaints, concerns, admissions or attendance enquires please email k.townsend@peartreemead.com

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.com 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 Half Term break.