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Head Teacher: Andy Best

Pashley Down Infant School

Honesty Responsibility Equality Resilience Perseverance Positivity Kindness



[Facebook](#)



[School Website](#)



Newsletter 2 – Wednesday 1st November

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to say a huge thank you to you all for making me feel so welcome throughout my first term at Pashley Down. I have enjoyed every moment and have been struck by the wonderful community feel that runs through this school. I am really enjoying being at the front gate / back gate in the mornings and end of the day and getting to know all the families. It's such a privilege to have this as my job!

So here we are starting Term 2, which has that wonderful Christmas finish at the end. I must warn you that I am a fan of a good Christmas Jumper and everything that Christmas in an Infant school will have to offer. Before we get there though, we are this term introducing the new Pashley Value of "The Respectful Rhino" to Year 1 and 2, whilst Early Years will be introduced to "The Independent Iguana"! The children showed this morning in Assembly that they already have a really good understanding of what Respect means, but please do ensure that it's a word they hear at home as much as possible and ask them for yourselves, "How can you show respect at home with your family?" This was something we discussed in our assembly yesterday! In the coming weeks we will be celebrating Anti-Bullying and Road Safety week, as well as Children in Need and these will give us the perfect opportunity to explore Respect in more detail. Regards Early Years, "The Independent Iguana" is being introduced earlier (it will be the focus in Term 3 for Year 1 and 2) in order to encourage the children to be more resilient and self confident in thinking for themselves.

Last term the Year 2 class assemblies proved to be a great way to finish a week on those Friday afternoons and I can't wait for the Year 1 assemblies this term. There is also the excitement of the Year 2 Art Gallery for Parents on the way and Early Years having their first visit to Old Town library. This school really is the gift that keeps on giving.

Just a note on attendance. I am really pleased to say that Pashley continues to be above the national average at a time when the scrutiny on school attendance is the highest it's ever been. We are now tracking attendance on a weekly basis and meeting with parents as soon as we feel there is a conversation worth happening. Rest assured though, this will always be a positive and supportive meeting.

However, we would just like to raise awareness around the importance of children arriving at school on time and what a positive effect this has on their day. It means that they are with their friends and all starting their day together, choosing their lunch and settling in at the same time. *Children have shared that it can feel difficult and unsettling for them, when they are late joining the class.* We fully appreciate that there are some mornings when this can not be avoided, we all have those days! We just want to raise awareness of how being late can effect children, as we want to set them up to be ready to learn and having a positive start, which sets them up for a more positive day. Similarly, children really appreciate being collected on time as this can alleviate uncertainty and creates a reassuring routine for the child.

Andy Best

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Emergency Services Appeal

We appeal for any parents who work in the Emergency services and would be happy to come in and speak with the children in Early years. Please contact the office to arrange the visit.

Quiz Night

Back by popular demand is the Pashley Quiz night! It will be held in the school hall on Thursday 16th November. More details sent out separately by the wonderful Friends of Pashley.

Christmas Fair

It is the Christmas Fair on Saturday 2nd December and we are very excited! It takes around 100 volunteers to make this occasion amazing. Many of our staff volunteer and we really appreciate anyone who can help before, on the day or with the tidy up.

Friends of Pashley will be asking for volunteers, so please do sign up if you can. It's a great event to be involved in!

Afterschool Activity Clubs

If you have any questions about the afterschool clubs, please contact the club directly.

Dates for your diary for Term 1

Thursday 9th November	Twilight training (no Ladybirds)
Monday 13th November	Odd Sock Day (anti-bullying)
Thursday 16th November	Friends of Pashley quiz night
Friday 17th November	MUFTI for Children in Need
Monday 20th November	Road Safety week
Thursday 23rd November	Flu Vaccines
Friday 24th November	MUFTI for Pashley Christmas Fair
Saturday 2nd December	Christmas Fair
Friday 8th December	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner
15th December	End of term 2
2nd January	Inset Day
3rd January	Start of term 3