

Update

Pulford VA Lower School, Pulford Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1AB
01525 372188 office@pulford.cbeds.co.uk www.pulford.beds.sch.uk

Monday 11th September 2017

“I assure you that if you have faith the size of a **mustard seed**, you could say to this mountain, ‘Go from here to there,’ and it will go. There will be nothing that you can’t do.” *Matthew 17:20*

Welcome back to school! The children have settled well into their new classes and there are plenty of bright cheery faces about school. Please come and support this year’s Harvest Service on Sunday 1st October and good luck to all of the bean growers! I would also like to congratulate Mrs. Tew (previously Barnes) in the Finance Office on her marriage over the summer break and would like to welcome Mrs. Pickering to the teaching staff, Mrs. Togneri and Mrs. Mitchell to the Little Saints staff and Mr. Tippite from ‘The Future Game’ who will be taking sports clubs and PE lessons this year. Dave

1. Starting School: If your child was born between 01/09/2013 and 31/08/14 it is now time to start considering main school. Please remember there is no automatic transfer from pre-school to lower school or lower/middle school. Applications must be received by Central Bedfordshire Admissions by 15th January 2018 for Lower and Middle School Applications. Applications can be made online via www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/admissions. If you would like a visit to the main school, please phone 01525 372188 to book an appointment.

2. Saturday Football – Pulford Pirates: *Years 1 - 4* are welcome to come and try out with the Pulford Pirates. Our first taster session ran on Saturday 9th and we have another on **16th September**; training sessions are run with The Future Games supported by parent volunteers. Parents need to stay for the entire training session. **Training times: Y3 & 4 9.15am – 10.15am, Y1 & 2 10.15am – 11.15am on Pulford School field.** If your child would like to continue we have a new booking system. Please sign up with the school office by 9am Thursday 21st September. There is a £15 termly fee payable via the school office or the online shop. YR (Oak and Silver Birch) taster sessions will be held in October – look out for further information. Mr Tippite (TFG) is looking forward to seeing you then!

3. Y3 & Y4 only & Pre-School Dinners: We have carried on last years’ arrangements. If you want to change your child’s meals/days, this cannot be changed until after half term and must be received in writing to the Front Office by 9am Wednesday 11th October 2017. Lunches remain at **£2.30** per day Y3 & Y4 and **£4.30** per day for Preschool. Please pay now by cash, cheque, PayPal on the school website shop or in person by credit/debit card at the Front Office. Please see days below for this half term (up until the October break).

	Years 3 & 4	Pre-School
Mondays	£16.10	£25.80
Tuesdays	£16.10	£30.10
Wednesdays	£16.10	£30.10
Thursdays	£16.10	£30.10
Fridays	£16.10	£30.10
Everyday	£80.50	£146.20

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4. Housekeeping: Please have a thorough read through our helpful hints to help get you through the school year – whether you are new to Pulford or not!

- **Jargon Buster** – To help you navigate the minefield that is being a parent, we would like to help you with some of the terminology that we use:

Class	Year Group	Key Stage
Pre-School	-	Early Years
Silver Birch & Oak	Foundation Stage or Reception Class	Early Years
Horse Chestnut, Willow, Elm	Year 1 or Year 2	Key Stage 1 (KS1)
Cherry Blossom, Juniper, Beech	Year 3 or Year 4	Key Stage 2 (KS2)

- **Communication -**
 - 1) New email communications – all newsletters, trip letters etc will come out via email using the email address that you have given us.
 - 2) Our School website is kept up to date and reviewed frequently. It is a great way of finding out information about what is going on at school. When looking at our Diary Dates hover over the date/event and further details will appear. *Please keep looking at the school diary on our website as some events may be subject to change.*
 - 3) We also have a Facebook page – follow the link on the website. This is used for ‘flash notices only.
 - 4) Please feel free to call or email the Front Office team if you have a query of any nature – we are here to help. It’s good to talk!
- **Uniform** – Please make sure that your child comes to school in full, NAMED uniform and a coat everyday (the British weather is very changeable), the children do spend a lot of time outside rain or shine. PE Kit should be sent into school at the beginning of each half term. PE kits are sent home at the end of every half term for washing. PE lessons are held outside so please make sure that it contains correctly fitting plimsolls and a GREY tracksuit.
- **Forest School Kit** – this should come in on the day that your child is timetabled for Forest School and must be taken home the same day.
- **Long Hair** – luscious locks must be tied up for school. Not only is it smart but it’s a good way to keep ‘unwanted little friends’ away!
- **Lost Property** – At the end of last term, over 30 unclaimed (not named) jumpers/cardigans were sent to be recycled ☹️. Please make sure that name labels are clear and visible on all of your children’s belongings. Named items will be returned to your child’s peg. Lost property is located in the Front Office and will now be cleared out fortnightly, please make an effort to check.
- **House Points YR – Y4** – Every child is allocated to a ‘House’, new children will be told which one by their class teacher and they will stay in this ‘House’ during their time here at Pulford. BLUE – Stockgrove, WHITE – Tiddenfoot and RED – Rushmere. We operate a token system. Tokens are earned for displaying good behaviours/work during the school day. At the end of the term, the House with the most amount of tokens are given a reward e.g. a non-school uniform day. At the end of the year the House with the most tokens over the year receive another special treat – last year was ‘afternoon tea’ with Mr. Heather 😊
- **Little Saints Morning Club** – When dropping your child into Little Saints, please leave them with a member of staff at the internal hall door to avoid causing obstructions/near misses on the road outside. If you would like your child to have breakfast (cost of £1) that morning please let the staff know.

5. Teaching Staff List: Please see our staffing list below:-

CLASS	TEACHER	TEACHING ASSISTANT
Ash/Pre-School	Mrs. Major/Mrs. Crockett (Play Leaders)	Mrs. Young/Mrs. Herbert (Play workers)
Silverbirch	Mrs. Kirk	Mrs. Marchant
Oak	Miss. Grinyer	Mrs. Dominguez/Miss. Bak/Mrs. Norwood
Horse Chestnut	Mrs. Pickering/ Mrs. Nurden	Miss. Waterhouse
Willow	Mrs. M Quick/Mrs. Rees	Mrs. Bunn/Mrs. Keen
Elm	Miss. O'Neill/Mr. Heather	Mrs. Gregory
Cherry Blossom	Mrs. Horsfield/Mrs. Borrelli	Mrs. Perkins
Juniper	Mr. Webb/Mrs. Cox	Miss. McGahey
Beech	Mrs. Youngs/Mrs. Nurden	Mrs. Norwood/Miss. Bak

6. PTA Meeting Thursday 14th September, 7.30pm: The PTA would like to invite parents to the upcoming PTA meeting here at school in the Staff Room. Come along to find out what has been planned for the coming year, all fresh ideas are welcome! A member of the PTA will be here to let you in via the front entrance of the school until 7.40pm. They look forward to meeting you!

As we move into the time of harvest let's be thankful to God for all He provides for us.