



Philpots Manor School Newsletter Spring Term 2

A message from Gina Wagland:

Message from the Headteacher:

Dear Parents and Carers

We spoke to some parents recently who said that they would like a newsletter...so here goes! We are planning to send a newsletter each half-term and would welcome your thoughts and feedback too.

I hope that you are all well and have a great holiday.

Gina Wagland

Headteacher



Upcoming Events & Reminders:



Tuesday 31st March 2.30pm - Parents/carers meet the Head of Safeguarding and Therapies, Jane Waites

Wednesday 1st April - Learners 100% attendance breakfast & end of term 1pm finish

Tuesday 21st April - Return to school

Monday 4th May - Spring bank Holiday

Thursday 7th & Friday 8th May - Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition

Friday 15th May 11am - Parents/carers meet the Head of Academic Curriculum, Emma Williams

Tuesday 19th May - Immunisation catch up session

Thursday 21st May - 100% attendance breakfast

Friday 22nd May - End of half-term 1pm finish

Tuesday 2nd June - Return to school

Thursday 4th June - World Autism Awareness Day

Wednesday 17th - Friday 19th June - Silver Duke of Edinburgh expedition

Friday 26th June - Year 11 leavers last day

Friday 10th July - School summer fair (details to follow)

Friday 17th July - Last day of term 1pm finish

Safeguarding:

Jane Waites, our Head of Therapies and Wellbeing is our Designated Safeguarding Lead. She is organising some online safety training for parents to be provided by the Breck Foundation in the summer term and will email you all shortly with details.

Lower School News:

Adventure sports this term have been at V1 Climbing in East Grinstead, where our young people have demonstrated incredible resilience, strength and determination to challenge themselves and work together as a team.

Lower school learners have continued to engage well with their music lessons on Friday, and we have recently been lucky enough to receive donations of a high-quality electronic keyboard and an electronic drum set.

Key staff have benefitted from accessing phonics training delivered by Ruth Miskin Training to enable them to deliver targeted 1:1 phonics interventions for those learners who have gaps in their phonological awareness.

Our learners and staff positively engaged in activities planned to support World Book Day. We have introduced new reading record books to enable us to record engagement in reading across lower school, to include access to our online library.

End-of-unit assessments within maths are scheduled to take place at the end of this term to inform interventions moving forward.

In food-technology, learners are icing and decorating their Easter cupcakes to bring home and share.

Next Half Term in Lower School:

We will be working with a specialist from Talk for Writing to develop our English curriculum. We believe that implementing this approach will have a positive impact upon our learners' engagement and progress within English. More details to follow.



Upper School News:

It has been a busy term for upper school with a group of eight young people having a successful week at the Outward Bound centre in Ullswater in early March. All of the young people took part in power-boating, rowing, hiking, cold water experiences, tunneling, climbing, abseiling, gorge-walking and developed their leadership and communication skills.

Speaking and Listening exams are underway as part of the English GCSE and Functional Skills curriculum, where our learners have structured discussions around a range of their interests. Entry level maths exams are underway.

We had a Local Authority licensing inspection of our yard and we were awarded Highly Commended.

Next Half Term in Upper School:

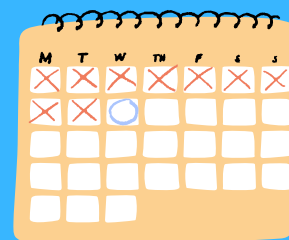
Our adventure team are busy planning the bronze and silver Duke of Edinburgh expeditions for May and June; more information to follow.

Learners will be completing a range of formal exams, including BTECs and GCSEs within a variety of subjects to support them in progressing to their chosen pathway.



Attendance

We understand how difficult and challenging it is for our young people to attend school sometimes. However, we have 22 young people who have achieved 100% attendance this last half-term.



School Council

In February, the School Council developed an electronic form to get feedback from every class regarding what play equipment learners would most value. They met again in March to review their findings with the Estates Manager, and they are now considering new playground equipment and are hoping to see some new monkey bars and a trim-trail in the summer.

Another focus for the School Council is food in school. They are keen to suggest improvements to the menu so that the food meets the needs of everyone and reflects our neurodiverse school community.



Behaviour

The reward cupboard continues to be open every Monday at 3.00pm so that learners can come and look and decide whether to save or spend their reward points that they have earned.



Estates

We are looking forward to the road to school being resurfaced soon, and our new science room is nearing completion, and we expect this to be opened before the new academic year.

