

Pixies news



Happy Easter!



Quality is not an act, it is a habit

Aristotle



Value of the month

This month, we have been looking at the value of **Quality** and relating it to the fact that we all like to have and receive quality in our lives, whether a cheese burger, a holiday or a piece of work someone has done for us. The children looked at efforts that they put into their own work and everyday things and we collectively concluded that putting your best effort into something usually results in good quality outcomes even if they're not perfect. Finally, we looked at practicing and improving to build on quality efforts.

Our value of the month for April/May is **Forgiveness**.

Martin Smith, Headteacher

World Book Day

World Book Day was successfully received by all the children who showed off a myriad of wonderful costumes. The children had a themed day around a book and many lessons related to reading. Some classes were having so much fun with their activities that they extended the activities further into the week. **A big thank you** to parents for the wonderful efforts that went into providing the children with costumes. Listening to a radio debate about this element, I am aware that many parents find this aspect of World Book Day stressful but even simple costumes raise the profile of reading. Please do give feedback to teachers so we can tweak the event if needed for next year.



DO SOMETHING BOOKY

Upcoming events

Mon 24th April 3.30pm
Governor Improvement Committee

Thurs 27th April 7pm
Governor Resources Committee

Monday 1st May
BANK HOLIDAY

Thurs 4th May 9.15am
Year 4 Class Assembly

Mon 8th May – Fri 12th May
KS2 SATs Week

Mon 15th May – Fri 19th May
KS1 SATs Week

Mon 15th May – Fri 19th May
Walk to School Week

Tues 23rd May
Pupil Progress Meetings

Wed 24th May | 6.30pm
Resilience Workshop

Mon 29th May – Fri 2nd June
HALF TERM

CONSIDERATE PARKING



This is often an item in the newsletter but recently, we've had a lot more complaints and of a more serious nature such as people parking across driveways and reports of people being rude. Please do be considerate of our residents when parking for school. Please also use the rugby club car park where at all possible and walk up to the school. In the summer term, we are going to launch 'Walk to School Friday' to encourage as many of our children as possible to walk to school at least once a week. Details to come soon. We will also be taking part in the annual walk to school week event taking place in the week beginning Monday 15th May.

School will resume on
Wednesday 19th April

Pixies Hill Primary School, Hemel Hempstead

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We love to learn
and learn to love!

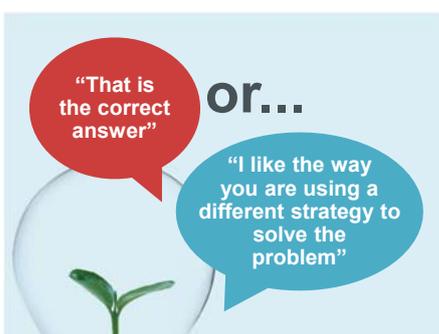
Sports Festival

Children in Year 1 had a fantastic morning taking part in the Dacorum Sports Festival. The children were tasked with competing in a wide range of events including basketball, hockey hurdles, speed stacking and target throwing. The children had a terrific time thanks to the organisation of the teachers and our merry band of parent helpers. There were nine schools competing at the event and Year 1 children managed to finish an impressive third place which bodes well for their sporting futures. **Great effort Year 1.** What do you need to do to reach top spot?



Growth Mindsets

Carol Dweck's research into 'Growth Mindsets' demonstrates that how we praise or discipline children matters. We now know there are long term effects over negative memories and experiences which in turn affect the way we approach things but praise can also be a limiting factor in enabling children to grow their minds. In one experiment, Carol Dweck set a task for children where she had one set of children she praised unconditionally for a task they did 'That's a good score, you must be smart at this.' and another group where she praised the effort 'That's a good score, you must've tried really hard'. The outcomes showed that children in the first group when doing the task again and when doing further tasks scored lower. They had been given a label, a subliminal message which had inadvertently fed a fixed mindset. However, the children in the second group consistently went on to perform better when they retook the task and when they did other tasks.



In school, we are trying to take on board the following messages so we can encourage children towards a growth mindset:

- Praise effort
- Praise a strategy that leads to a success
- Praise resilience
- Avoid praising intelligence, innate talent or labelling

News in Brief

- A number of children at the school have been spotted climbing school gates well after 3.15pm. Aside from damaging the school gates, children could be seriously hurt. Please can we ask that everyone vigilantly challenges this if they see it happening
- Please avoid taking term time holidays. Schools are expected to meet the national average target of 96.2% and we are currently falling just short of this with 95.8%. Whilst I fully understand the reasons for term time holidays, they can have an adverse affect on a child's attainment and progress
- There will be a Rock UK meeting on Tuesday 16th May at 6pm for Year 6 children and parents.

Mobile Phones

We have been asked by Hertfordshire Road Safety Department to share the following message:

Law change for using your mobile phone whilst driving

- It is illegal to use a hand-held phone or similar device while driving, or riding a motorcycle - this is still the case stopped at traffic lights or queuing in traffic
- Did you know? It is also illegal to use a hand-held mobile when supervising a learner driver or rider
- New penalties now mean that motorists and motorcyclists caught using a phone while driving and riding will receive six penalty points on their licence and a £200 fine. This means that new drivers, within two years of passing their test, run the risk of losing their licence for a single offence
- Keep safe – put your phone away in the glove compartment

Stars of the week



Week of 03/03/17

Reception: **Lola Morgan**
Year 1: **Jasmine Curtain**
Year 2: **Lilah Lee**
Year 3: **Bella Bruce**
Year 4: **Sammy Harris**
Year 5: **Mia Crouch**
Year 6: **Max Kingsbury**

Week of 10/03/17

Reception: **Luca Timms**
Year 1: **Harry Brennan**
Year 2: **Isabella Coles**
Year 3: **Ava-Lee Sarosh-White**
Year 4: **Katie Beaumont**
Year 5: **Alice Whiteman**
Year 6: **Max Taylor**

Week of 17/03/17

Reception: **Isabella-May Ryan**
Year 1: **Jack Steel**
Year 2: **Kayne Derham**
Year 3: **Finley Corcoran**
Year 4: **Mia Lilywhite**
Year 5: **Ryan Barnes**
Year 6: **Year 6**

Week of 24/03/17

Reception: **Tristan Stevens**
Year 1: **Ella-Louise Howard**
Year 2: **Louie Edmund**
Year 3: **William Morgan**
Year 4: **Louie Rayment**
Year 5: **Year 5**
Year 6: **Ryan Pearce**

Well done to everyone!