

# Pixies news

Welcome back!



I believe no matter  
who you are,  
respect yourself  
and respect others

Mo Farah

## Value of the month

It's always a good start to the school year when we begin with a value that is core to our actions and behaviours. Through learning about **Respect**, the children have made a positive start and have thought about what this word means in relation to abilities, qualities and achievements. We then looked at some examples of being disrespectful and thought about some of the reasons why people don't always show respect. Rounding this value off, we tied it to the 3 golden rules present in our Reward and Behaviour Policy: *Respect for yourself, Respect for one another and Respect for each others property.*

Our value of the month for October is **Honesty**.

Martin Smith, Headteacher

## Improvements to the school building

The summer holidays is always a good time for us to make improvements to the school building and this year has been no exception. For years, we've wanted to improve the library area which has been unused and unloved. We've had a good sort out of books, only keeping newer or usual books and removing titles such as 'Hair Fashion' written in 1971! Over a few months, staff were involved in tweaking designs and making suggestions. Our very own Mr Woods executed the plan with paint, decoration, upholstery and lighting and we are really proud of the area. The photo really doesn't do it justice so do please feel free to have a look at the end of a school day.

We have also had a new wall built outside the Y6 classroom and have improved our drainage on the school playground.



## Upcoming events

### Thurs 5th Oct

Individual Class Photos

### Fri 6th Oct | 2.30pm

New building event - FOPHS

### Tues 10th Oct

Pupil Progress Meetings

### Tues 10th Oct 7pm

Governor Resources Committee

### Thurs 12th Oct | 2pm

FOPHS AGM

### Thurs 12th Oct | 9.15am

KS1 Harvest Assembly

### Thurs 12th Oct | 2.30pm

KS2 Harvest Assembly

### Thurs 12th Oct | 3.15pm

FOPHS Harvest Bake

### Fri 13th Oct

Non-uniform – Hope for Children

### Mon 16th Oct

Governor Improvement Committee

### Tues 17th Oct | 5-7.30pm

Parent Consultations

### Wed 18th Oct | 3.30-6pm

Parent Consultations

### Thurs 19th Oct | 9.15am

Year 2 Class Assembly

### Mon 23rd Oct - Fri 27th Oct

HALF TERM

## New Parent Governor

At the end of last term, we announced that we were looking for a new parent governor and I'm very pleased to announce the news that **Wayne Stevens** is stepping into the role.

Wayne says: *'I am a civil servant with 20 years experience in the public sector. During that time I've worked in a wide variety of roles within the Department for Education and the Home Office. I have two children in Year 1 at Pixies and will be undertaking safeguarding responsibilities on the Governing Body.'*



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We love to learn  
and learn to love!

## New Building Opening

I'm sure you'll have seen by now our terrific new building which has been partly funded by (several years of) FOPHS events. We are keen to do an official opening of this building and to say our thank you to many in our community who have helped realise this project. On Friday 6th October at 2.30pm, we will be gathering around the building to say a few words, have a look around and open the building for business. We would be honoured if members of FOPHS past and present would join us for the event – members of the school council will be on hand to serve you with tea and cake. Due to space restrictions, we are not able to invite all parents but we will be having an open day where you can visit the building a little later in the term once we have some furniture in place (which is on order).



## Hope for Children Charity

The proceeds from the sale of our school magazine from last year are going to be donated to Hope for Children charity, a local charity based in Hemel who are involved in an appeal called Head Held High aimed at providing an education for vulnerable children in African countries. For a period of time, the government are match funding donations to this appeal so we have decided to have an additional non-uniform day on Friday 13th October. Please do support this event by providing your child with a £1 donation. We will invite a spokesperson from the charity to talk to the children in an assembly and give a cheque to help make a difference to the lives of other children in the world.

## Mrs Bhandal

We bring you the sad news that Mrs Bhandal will be leaving us at Christmas. She had just taken up the post of PPA teacher this term on a permanent contract following a successful spell in school last year. Unfortunately, due to longer term health reasons, she needs to be free of school commitments. In the meantime, we have placed an advert for a new PPA teacher.

## Attendance

Thank you to all parents who are committed to strong attendance. Certificates were given to a number of children last year who ended the year with 100% attendance. We do still have some children who over the last academic year had non-authorized attendance (holidays, excessive lates etc) in and around 80%. This equates to 1 day per week or 7 weeks of absence which is clearly a barrier to learning. Unfortunately, myself and the governors have taken the difficult decision to introduce fines for excessive unauthorised attendance starting from January. This is not something we have been keen to do but a child's education must remain central to what we do as a school. More details will follow early next term once a policy has been finalised.

In the meantime, all children with 100% attendance across the academic year will be put into a hat and the winning ticket will receive a Kindle Fire!

## Stars of the week



### Week of 08/09/17

Reception: **Not in assembly**  
Year 1: **Freya McMahon**  
Year 2: **Klara Ajazi**  
Year 3: **Oliver Carroll**  
Year 4: **Whole Class**  
Year 5: **Raphael Diaconu**  
Year 6: **Ryan Barnes**

### Week of 15/09/17

Reception: **Whole Class**  
Year 1: **Luca Timms**  
Year 2: **Jamie Gubbins**  
Year 3: **Isabelle Oliver**  
Year 4: **Ryan Jackson**  
Year 5: **Grace Deane**  
Year 6: **Whole Class**

### Week of 22/09/17

Reception: **Amelia Beddall**  
Year 1: **Frankie Marsh**  
Year 2: **Rebecca Stevens**  
Year 3: **Chloe Michael**  
Year 4: **Cameron Eyles**  
Year 5: **Sofia Milligan**  
Year 6: **Sophie Brand**

### Week of 29/09/17

Reception: **Toby Butterworth**  
Year 1: **Rosie Olsanik**  
Year 2: **Aiden Hardiman**  
Year 3: **Oliver Godfrey**  
Year 4: **Christopher Arnett**  
Year 5: **Whole Class**  
Year 6: **Anna Lilley**

## News Bites

- The school website calendar has been updated and includes key FOPHS events. Please treat events as subject to change or confirmation, particularly the more distant events.
- We have remodelled our values mug award this year. The mug (see below) has gone through quite a redesign to make it even more unique and special.



**Well done**  
to everyone!