



Learn together. Grow together. Succeed together.

**Edition 3: Friday 6th October
2023**

Dates for your Diary

Tues 3 rd Oct	PDSA AGM 6pm at school.
Tues 10 th Oct	Flu immunisation EYFS to Y6 pupils*
Mon 16 th Oct	Current EYFS open morning 8.45-9.30am
Weds 18 th and Thurs 19 th Oct	Parents' evening
Fri 20 th Oct	INSET Day-school closed for all pupils
Fri 20 th to Mon 30 th Oct	Half Term Holiday
Mon 30 th Oct	INSET Day-school closed for all pupils
Tues 31 st Oct	Start of autumn 2
Weds 1 st Nov	Year 6 Heights and Weights
Thurs 2 nd and Fri 3 rd Nov	Level 1 Bikeability for Y5/6
Mon 6 th to Thurs 9 th Nov	Level 2 Bikeability for Y6
Tues 21 st Nov	Current EYFS open morning 8.45-9.30am

**More information coming*

This week at Parsons Down...

- ✓ It's been another busy week and a highlight was celebrating **National Poetry Day** yesterday. My thanks to Mrs Hayward for taking on the challenge of writing our first ever PDP poem with everyone from EYFS to Year 6. We've added another page to this week's newsletter to share it with you all.
- ✓ This week's **attendance** for EYFS and Key Stage 1 was 95% and for Key Stage 2 it was 95%.
- ✓ We're keen to build on all of our hard work with sports and yesterday we hosted a series of matches as part of a local competition. Our **Under 11 Girls' Football Team** put on a fantastic performance. We won our first match 2-1 and our second match 6-0 which means the girls progress to the ESFA finals. Good luck to the Under 11 boys with their first match on Monday.
- ✓ Thank you so much to the very select group that joined Miss Shepherd for the **PDSA AGM on Tuesday**. They will really need your support to run a host of events that are already pencilled in the diary from discos to the Christmas fayre to bake sales. This year we really want to continue to provide enrichment opportunities for the children and continue to develop the school grounds but we need your support. Even if you couldn't make the meeting it's never too late to offer to lend a hand, bake a cake or donate.
- ✓ The **PDSA** have organised a **Halloween cake sale & trick or treat lucky dip** on Thursday 19th October at 3.15pm to coincide with parents' evening. Donations of cakes/bakes to be dropped off at reception by 9am. They will also be selling **Christmas Jumpers** on Thursday 19th October (ahead of Christmas Jumper Day 8th December) for £2.00.
- ✓ We sent out info about the national **Year 6 Heights and Weights Programme**. We understand some parents have had an issue viewing the info from the School Nursing Team. If you wish to opt your child out, please email the School Nursing Team csnwestberks@berkshire.nhs.uk
- ✓ The West Berks Nursing Team are in next week to complete the **Flu Immunisations** for pupils across the Partnership. You do need to give permission via the letter and links previously sent out. The deadline for completing this is Monday 9th October.
- ✓ Today we have sent home a letter with an update about the **Year 4 trip to Minstead** in February 2024. We were delighted with the response and the trip will go ahead.
- ✓ We appreciate that **Year 5** pupils are only just finding their feet in Year 5 but we have already started planning their Year 6 residential. A letter will be sent out tomorrow and we have arranged an information evening for next Wednesday. It's a fantastic opportunity. Please do come and find out more

Finally, be kind, be safe, be respectful, Mrs Bull



The Week in Pictures

Infant children enjoying learning outdoors and the Under 11 Girls' football team.



Thursday 5th October was **National Poetry Day**. This year the theme was Refuge. Mrs Hayward took on the challenge of creating a shared poem with all pupils. I think it's fantastic and I hope it resonates with you. What a talented bunch of poets we have.

Here is the link to the poem we based our ideas on thinking of what refuge means as a place of safety. <https://nationalpoetryday.co.uk/poem/take-a-deep-breath/>

Joseph Coelho FRSL is a British poet and children's book author who was elected Children's Laureate in 2022. In 2023, he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.



Parsons Down Shared Poem – Refuge

Feeling anxious or sad, go to your bedroom and have some time alone.

If your feeling worried or stressed, go to the place that you know best. And let go of the mess. Take a deep breath,

And Think of a colour that you like.

If your feeling cold – hearted and miserable, count to ten. Cuddle your teddies, and now you're happy again!

When we go to the park, going on the slides makes us feel good. Restaurants make us feel happy – having conversations with family and friends.

Trampoline park and bouncing, making a den to play and feel safe in. Going in the sea and exploring makes me happy. Thinking of animals like penguins.

Being pushed on the swing so I laugh with delight. The funny feeling in my stomach as I am pushed up up up high in the sky makes me feel so happy.

What makes you feel happy and safe?

Close your eyes and take a deep breath.