

# Padnell Post



Giving Citizen Resilient Learner Original Thinker Wise Worker

**9<sup>th</sup> January 2026. Spring Term No 1**

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a lovely Christmas with families and friends and that 2026 brings you happiness and health.



## **Playtime and Lunchtime changes**

Your child may have made a comment or two about some changes at playtime and lunchtime. We are trying to make these unstructured times as happy and interactive as possible for all children and so are trialling a few little changes.

Year 1 and Year 2 will now have separate playtimes and only staff from their year group will be covering them. This will allow for greater proactive engagement by the staff and clearer communication, spotting behaviour patterns. (Year R don't have a formal break time).

At lunchtime we have swapped around how years 1 and 2 have access to the hall. It is a little complicated to explain but please be assured that no child gets less than 30 minutes eating time under these new arrangements. Year 2 children having sandwiches will now eat at 12noon in Owls classroom rather than the dinner hall.



## **Welcome**

We welcome Mrs Steph Eaton to the team as a Special Needs Assistant. This term she will be supporting in year R across all three classes.

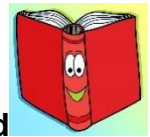


## **Curriculum Newsletters**

Please see the website for this half term's Newsletters and Key Vocabulary sheets:

[Padnell Infant School - Curriculum Newsletters](#)

Last term sadly, nobody engaged with the optional home learning provided around our GROW values. Teachers have once again added these to the curriculum newsletter and there is an opportunity to bring in anything completed at home to share on our 'Open School' events. Our next one is on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February so check out the information on the Curriculum Newsletter to participate.



## **If you read you will succeed**

We all had a great time using the large PE equipment yesterday afternoon to celebrate all the fantastic home reading being undertaken.

We start again from today for 5 weeks, finishing on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>. Remember we count up the number of reads written in the reading log which have taken place out of school every Friday. There needs to be at least 4 to get the week to count towards the target.



## **School Councillors**

Today year two children were invited to write to their class peers to put themselves forward to be the representatives for their class. This needs to be a handwritten letter stating why they think they will be good at the role and

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they need to present this to their peers next Friday. A democratic vote will then take place and the children with the most votes will be elected (1 girl and 1 boy in each class).

## **“Beat the Blues” Day Monday 19th Jan**

The end of January can be hard for lots of people who feel the winter blues or are struggling financially, so this our little way of spreading cheer.

Children will be busy next week colouring in little flower notes of hope and love ready for our newly elected School Councillors to accompany myself and Mrs Young in spreading good will in our local community on “Blue Monday”.



## **PIPSA Cake Sale (Beat the Blues)**

In addition, in order to spread a little happiness on this day our lovely PIPSA team will be holding a Bake Sale after school. PIPSA are supplying all the goodies so no need for donations, please just bring some money and visit the stall!



## **Choir – Years 1 & 2**

If your child is in year 1 or 2, please see the attached letter with details on our new lunchtime Choir.



## **Attendance**

Our whole school Attendance figure for the Autumn term was 96.7%. Thank you for working with us on this. Every day missed means your child has learning to catch up on and this can cause anxiety, so it really does make a difference.

As shared with you previously, it is my duty to inform you regularly of your child’s attendance. This ensures that it is accurate and also, that if it slips below the required 96%, we work together to improve this. We are aware that holidays and genuine illness impact this figure, but we are obliged to still send the information regularly. So, if your child has missed some schooling over the last term, please expect a letter on Monday. Do however, come and see me if you need any further explanation or are having any difficulties. Thank you.



## **Lateness**

School officially starts at 8.55am but we invite you to arrive from 8.40am. We have had an increase in a few children arriving late and this not only affects them but interrupts the learning of the other children. Please support us by being on time each day. Thank you.



## **Governor Position**

Our Governing Body are keen to recruit a new Parent Governor. If you would like to support them in fulfilling our school vision by giving your time regularly to support the school, please do come and have an informal chat with me.

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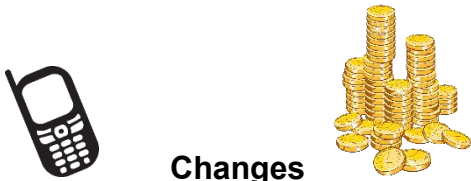
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## Whole School Dinner Day

Attached is the special "Dolce Diner" special menu for **Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> January**. This is Census day and the second of our whole school dinner events. It will run just like it did in October with all except a few children with exceptional reasons being given a hot school dinner on this day.

Thank you for your support with this day. For those that don't know, this bizarrely impacts on the school budget, so it really helps if we can work as a team on this event.



## Changes

Please keep us up to date if your financial circumstances have changed either due to separation or employment. It could mean you are entitled to additional support from school.

Also, if you have moved house over the holidays or you, or any of your emergency contacts, have changed phone number please let us know. Thank you.

## Year R & 3 Applications

APPLICATION

A reminder that the deadline for applications for Year R and Year 3 is next week, on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026. Please visit [www.hants.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hants.gov.uk/admissions) for further information.

## Uniform, PE Kits & Joey's Field Clothes

Please ensure all uniform, hats, gloves, coats and scarves are named. We have a vast amount of lost property!

Also, a reminder that PE Kits and clothes for Joey's Field should be returned on the first day of each half term please.

## Online Safety Newsletter

Attached you will see this half term's Online Safety Newsletter.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Mandy Grayson  
Headteacher



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## Diary Dates 2025 – 2026

Thursday 15th January	Whole School Dinner Day	Whole School	
Monday 19th January	Beat the Blues Day PIPSA Cake Sale after school	Whole School	Cake Sale after school in the playground
Thursday 12th February	Wear a Scarf Day	Whole School	
Thursday 12th February	Sponsored Bounce	Whole School	

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Thursday 12th February 3.05 - 3.45pm	Open School		An opportunity to look around your child's class and their books
Thursday 12th February	Last Day of Term		
Friday 13th February	INSET Day	Whole School	
Monday 16th to Friday 20th February	Half Term		School Closed
Monday 23rd February	Return to School		

**Stay and play for little ones  
every Wednesday**



## **Parent Hub with our Parent Partner**

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday  
8.40am – 10am

Help & Advice on sleep, eating,  
behaviour, support, relationships.

Food bank info, community  
events.

Pre-loved Uniform, Coat Swap

Coffee and Chat