



## Pirton School

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*Information from Mrs Driver*

**1<sup>st</sup> April 2022**

Dear Parents



Over the Easter break, ground work will be starting for the new building work which will commence after Easter. HCC are building a new block for us which will future proof the school. It will give Pirton a new classroom, but unfortunately they are not giving us the funding for a new teacher. This is all part of the future plans preparing Pirton to be able to become a 1 form entry school. The works should not affect the day to day access to the school as they will be working round the back of the hall.



I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you and goodbye to Mrs Michelle Lay who leaves us today to pursue new ambitions. I am sure you will all join me in wishing her all the best for the future and thank her for all she has done for Pirton. Mrs Ellie-May Hulme joins us as Kestrels' teacher after the Easter break.

**BAKE SALE**



We had a wonderful cake sale earlier in the week. Thank you to everyone who baked and brought in cakes. I am delighted to say we raised £128 for school funds. A special thank you to the parents who organised this for us. Let's hope we can have more community events in the summer term.



There has been lots to celebrate at Pirton School over the last term. Each week, in an assembly, children are awarded a certificate for a 'Perfect Pirton Performance'. They are nominated by their teacher and then celebrated by everyone in assembly. This is also a lovely opportunity to celebrate different achievements by the children. In today's assembly we also celebrated the Y5's & 6's who had undertaken their bikeability course and achieved level 1 or level 2. We also presented certificates from Liddington, the PGL adventure week that Y5's & 6's went on last week. They had an amazing time and I would like to thank all the staff who accompanied them. They were certainly lucky with the weather!



As we look forward to the summer term there are many exciting events we are planning. We hope to hold an exciting writing day in the first half term and then we will get involved in different activities to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee. We have arranged a plate painting workshop for all the children and we hope to hold a Jubilee Tea Party

We will be holding interviews for the new headteacher early in the new term but they will not be starting until September 2022. Therefore I will be remaining as Interim Headteacher for the summer term. Thank you for making me feel so welcome and I look forward to working with you all during the next term. **Remember, term starts on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022.**

If you have any concerns about your child at school, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to come and see me.

Yours sincerely

*Mary Driver*

## Dear Parents and Carers

As we step into spring, we're encouraging residents to be kind and stay healthy by following simple steps to live life safely with COVID-19, stop the spread and protect others. For up-to-date information go to <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/covidliving>

The simple steps people are encouraged to follow are:

- Be kind – respect people wearing masks or keeping their distance from you. They may well be very vulnerable to infection
- Be informed – know your level of risk and get good, trusted advice on managing it
- Be vaccinated or boosted – ensure you and those around you are vaccinated when invited
- Be safe – manage your risk when socially mixing (hands, face, space, fresh air)
- Be prepared – if you get Covid, stay at home and get early treatment should you need it
- Be supported – as well as your family and friends, HertsHelp can offer support

## COVID-19 vaccination

Vaccination continues to offer the best protection for ourselves and others around us from becoming seriously ill from COVID-19. There are lots of walk-in options available locally for first, second doses and boosters, you can find your nearest vaccination centre and also book an appointment at: <https://covid.healthierfuture.org.uk/>

The national booking system for healthy 5- to -11 year olds to receive their COVID-19 vaccination will open from 2 April. Parents and carers can book appointments at larger vaccination centres and in some community pharmacies. Appointments will also be available at some GP run sites, if so they will contact you directly and you can book through your practice.

Vaccinations are already available for clinically vulnerable 5- to 11-year-olds, and children in this age group who live with someone who has a weakened immune system. Until now vaccinations for this 'at risk' group of children have been available through GPs and special schools, but parents and carers will also be able to book through these through the national booking service from 2 April.

For more information on vaccinations for this age group visit: <https://covid.healthierfuture.org.uk/vaccine-information-for-young-people>

## Stay at home if you have symptoms

Guidance remains that if you have symptoms of COVID-19, **(a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste)**, you should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, regardless of a positive test result. [Get advice about staying at home and avoiding contact with others](#)

There is support available locally to help people who need to self-isolate, call HertsHelp on 0300 123 4044, email [info@hertshelp.net](mailto:info@hertshelp.net) or visit [www.hertshelp.net](http://www.hertshelp.net)

**Please don't send children and young people back to school following the Easter holidays if they have any symptoms or feel unwell. They should stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they no longer have a high temperature and are well enough to attend. There continues to be a high number of outbreaks across Hertfordshire's childcare and education settings – they need our support to help protect our communities and have the least disruption to children's learning and development as possible.**

**From Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April, the updated government guidance states that adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days.**

We'd like to once again say thank you for continuing to play your part and for helping to keep yourselves and others safe. We hope you enjoy a great Easter break.

**Hertfordshire County Council**