

**PENWORTHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL****Upcoming  
DIARY DATES –  
final week****December****Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> –****Junior Party****Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> –****Infant Party****Thursday – Dress****up day!****Year 5 Fun swim****Friday – 1.15pm****Year3/4 concert****Friday 2.15pm –****Year 5/6 concert****Term ends at 3.30****pm****Spring Term****begins Monday****6<sup>th</sup> January at 8.55****am****Dear Parents/Carers,**

As I begin my last week as Headteacher of this great school I wanted to take the opportunity to say a heartfelt thank you for the support and trust you have given to me over the past years. I have been an extremely fortunate person to have been able to lead the school for a short part of its history. As my mother put it after she had toured the school back in 2016, – “It’s fabulous – I just can’t actually believe that someone would let you be in charge of all this...” (this actually happened!).

The first letter I ever wrote to parents back in 2014 stated how I had found the children to be polite, welcoming and eloquent. I want my last letter to contain the exact same sentiment - the pupils of this school are simply brilliant.

I am extremely confident in the continued success and further development of the school. The staff team and governing body that we have enables future school leaders to push on with exciting new projects, whilst maintaining the fantastic ethos that the school is so rightly proud and protective of.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Penwortham Primary and I will miss everyone greatly. May I wish you and your families a Happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous 2020. Thank you again,

Chris Mitchell

**School Leadership Update**

I am pleased to announce that last week Mrs James was successfully appointed as Acting Deputy Headteacher for the Spring Term 2020. Well done to Mrs James – she is very excited to take on this important role and I am sure you will join me in wishing her well.

**School Games Gold Award**

Mrs Lambert was delighted to take receipt of our School Games Gold Award, which was awarded to recognise our high levels of participation and success in Physical Education and Sports. A big well done and thank you goes to Mrs Lambert for leading on this.

**Children in Need**

Thank you for your support with this – we are delighted that we raised £215 for this great cause.

**Infant Nativities**

Last week Years 1 and 2 very much impressed us with their great performances of ‘I’m Gonna Shine’. They certainly did. Well done to everyone involved.

This morning was the first performance of Reception Classes’ ‘A Miracle in Town’. The children were great, with lovely singing, loud voices and super learning of their lines.

Fingers crossed that this afternoon’s show is/was just as great!



## Survey results

This academic year we have sent home two short electronic surveys to gather your views on a range of subjects of key interest to the Governing Body. We were really pleased with the volume of responses received, and also in the detail contained within the answers given. I wanted to both assure you that the Governing Body considers all responses received and also that the questions asked are key aspects for the further development of the school.



The responses received around the Project Homework initiative were used as a key task on the new Headteacher selection day – candidates were given the responses and asked to explain in detail how/if they would proceed with the initiative. As such, Mrs Hesketh will have well-formed views in this area when she begins her work as Headteacher.

### Here are two of the key questions and their outcomes:

2. Do you support the continuation of the half-termly 'Project Homework' activities?

[More Details](#)



Almost a 50/50 split on the 82 responses received.

1. How well do you feel the pupils of this school are rewarded for their hard work and behaviour? (Five is high, one is low.)

[More Details](#)

56  
Responses



3.79 Average Rating

Overall, we were pleased with this outcome, but we are considering all suggestions given regarding new ways of rewarding the pupils – watch this space!

## My Personal Best

We are really pleased with how well this project is progressing. This term we have focussed on the following qualities and attributes:

***Self-belief, honesty, courage, fairness, empathy, concentration, curiosity, imagination, resilience  
Integrity, trust, respect, resourcefulness, reflection and gratitude.***

During the Spring Term we will cover the following:

- Responsibility
- Self-motivation
- Self-discipline
- Encouragement
- Communication
- Co-operation

### My Personal Best

My Personal Best helps me to be the best I can be.

<p>I will be <b>Healthy ME.</b></p> <p>This means I feel healthy, happy and confident.</p> <p>I will learn to have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Self-belief</li><li>• Honesty</li><li>• Courage</li></ul>	<p>I will be <b>Social ME.</b></p> <p>This means I have friends and can work with others.</p> <p>I will learn to have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gratitude</li><li>• Empathy</li><li>• Fairness</li></ul>	<p>I will be <b>Thinking ME.</b></p> <p>This means I like and am good at learning.</p> <p>I will learn to have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Curiosity</li><li>• Imagination</li><li>• Concentration</li></ul>
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