



Headteacher:  
Mr Wheeler

*“Shine like stars in the sky as you hold on to the word of life”  
(Philippians 2:15)*

Friday 9th June  
2023

Evening all,

It's been another busy couple of weeks in the life of Pamphill First School for everyone and an especially busy time for our Year 4s and the staff in Stags. The Leeson House residential has brought absolute joy to those involved and the children made us very proud of them for the enthusiasm, kindness and maturity they showed. Stags also honed their debating skills on Monday, putting me to shame with their smart attire. Mrs Pinto's judge wig was the winning garment though (I doubt she will thank me for the photo, but look at all those smiles!). Most importantly though, we were so impressed with their courage and clarity as they explained their opinions to the class and listened to others.



Owls and Foxes have engaged brilliantly with their learning following the half term break too, with hundreds of Dojos earned. They have also responded fabulously to some time in their new classes. The logistics of arranging a week like this one with such a small staff are complex and I must thank the children and the staff enormously for their flexibility, we just couldn't do these special things without that team effort.

### **Polite reminder regarding the start of the school day and holidays in term time:**

School gates are open from 8:45 - 8:55. Arriving any time after that is late, and more importantly, the children will have missed out on the settling/starter activity that their teachers have prepared for them.

If you need to notify the school of a planned absence for a family occasion, medical appointment (or any other reason), you should do so by notifying the office. You may be asked to complete a 'Leave of Absence' form. We do not have 'holiday forms' for absences during term time and such instances will not be authorised. You could also incur a penalty notice of £60 per child for taking them on holiday during term times. As part of the school's safeguarding responsibilities for all children, we need to know where they are during school hours. If you do decide to go on holiday during term time, please show us the courtesy of notifying us, so that we can effectively fulfil that safeguarding duty.

### **Leeson House Photos**

I have updated the website to include an article with some photos from Leeson house, in addition to the update on Class Dojo today, feel free to take a look by following [this link](#).

### **Folk Festival Tomorrow**

There's lots to look forward to still though, not least our involvement in the Pamphill Folk Festival tomorrow! Don't forget, performances start at 11am in Wimborne Model Town with Foxes' maypole dancing followed by Stags performing their longsword dance. It would be great if you can arrive 15 minutes before the scheduled start time.

- Stags have been asked to wear their PE kits
- Foxes please wear smart casual party clothes

We wish you a fantastic weekend, and I hope to see many of you tomorrow. Don't forget to check out the events section below as there's so much to look forward to coming up that might be worth aligning to the family calendars!

Mr Wheeler

## Reading @ Pamphill

This week and over the half term, has been the best return yet for reads taking place at home, so thank you for your continued support in this endeavour - it really is the biggest area you can have an impact on your child's learning. The classes all moved up on our game board this week in pursuit of their next prizes.



## Online Safety

This is hopefully something you are yet to encounter first hand but a warning has been shared with schools this week about OmeTV - which I had never heard of.

### What Parents and Carers Need to Know about OmeTV

Most of us love meeting interesting people, making connections and forging new friendships. It's this exact experience that OmeTV promises: letting users interact with people across the globe via randomly connected video chats. At their best, apps like this let you talk to some amazing people you'd never have met otherwise. At worst, they connect you with unpleasant, dangerous characters, who are interested in far less innocent activities than talking.

OmeTV is popular with younger users, despite coming with clear warnings that it's intended for over-18s only. As our #WakeUpWednesday guide outlines, this presents obvious dangers to any children and young people who *do* use the app, with reports of predators trying to exploit OmeTV for their own ends.

You can follow [this link](#) to a Facebook post for further detail.

## Citizens Advice Bus

We have been made aware of a new local service offering advice on the following topics as we navigate the cost of living crisis:

Benefits, Debt & Money, Energy, Employment, Family, Housing, Legal and help with bills.

They are a mobile service who can be found weekly at the following locations:

Mondays 10-12 @ Colehill Village Hall

Tuesdays 10-12 @ Verwood Hub

Tuesdays 1-3 @ Parkway Car Park, West Moors

Wednesdays 10-12 (excluding first Wed of the month) @ St Nicholas Church, Corfe Mullen



## Upcoming School /PTFA Events

**Saturday 10th June:** Wimborne Folk Festival - performances in the model town late morning (timings TBC)

**w/b 12th June:** KS1 phonics screening (mostly Year 1 Pupils) and Year 4 Multiplication Tables Assessments

**Tuesday 13th June:** Owl's class trip to Launceston Farm

**Tuesday 20th June:** Foxes art workshop as part of Glow Badbury Project

**Friday 23rd June:** Owls art workshop as part of Glow Badbury Project

**Friday 30th June:** Stags art workshop as part of Glow Badbury Project

**Friday 30th June - 3:30-5:30pm:** Strawberry Fair

**Friday 7th July:** Transfer Day (including Y4s to new schools)

**Monday 10th July:** Sports Day (pm)

**Tuesday 11th July:** Sports Day (pm) - back up

**Thursday 20th July:** Leavers' Service 6-8pm

**Friday 21st July:** Last day of the year inc. church service at St. Stephen's in the morning and our End of Year Party 1-3pm

Some parents have also kindly offered to do a little bit of fundraising by selling **ice lollies after school on**

**Wednesdays** in good weather. Thank you to them!

We are also hoping to arrange a local river walk and river sampling event for Stags as part of their geography learning later this term (TBC).