



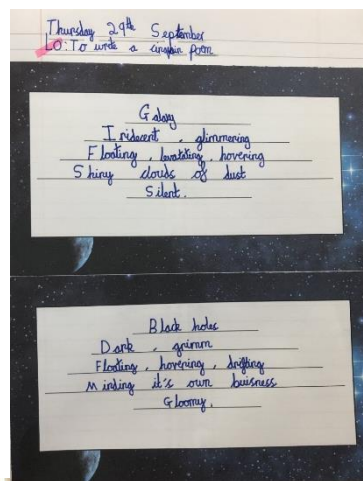
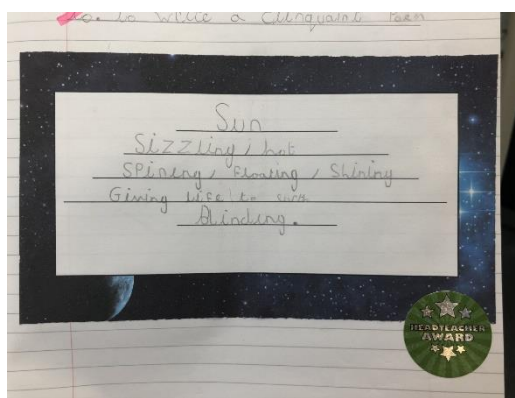
Headteacher: Mrs Alex Evans  
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## Newsletter Autumn Term 2022: 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022

We're well and truly into Autumn now; the trees on the school site and around Letchworth have started to change colour and our resident black squirrels have been busy on the school grounds collecting acorns and nuts!

The children have been busy with their learning: Year 3 enjoyed a Rocks and Fossils workshop yesterday linked to their science work; Year 4 have been mummifying tomatoes to help them write instructions linked to their Egyptians work. Year 5 have been writing some Haikus about space ahead of their trip to see the Mars Rover next week and Year 6 have been practicing their mindfulness with Anne Pestieux from the Well Being Centre.



We celebrated our Harvest in assembly today, where Mrs Emma Vernon from St Paul's Church came along to talk about being thankful, and we've been blown away by how generous our families have been. We have a huge amount of food which we can share out amongst families in need within the school as well as some for the Letchworth Food Bank. Thank you so much for your generosity!



### **\*Important Reminder for All Parents\***

**This year we have a child in school with a compromised immunity. Please make us aware if your child has been in contact with any contagious illness, including COVID19, or has a contagious illness. It is important we notify the parents as soon as possible so they can act on the information.**

**This need not be the case with coughs and colds.**

**If your child has sickness and diarrhoea, please keep them at home for 48 hours.**



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### **Year 6 Secondary School Applications**

Our Year 6s have been busy visiting some of the local secondary schools as they prepare to make their applications for secondary places for September. Can we please ask parents to inform the school if their child is visiting a secondary school so we can mark them appropriately in the register and parents can avoid a phone call to ascertain why their child is not in.

Secondly, Mrs Jarvis and Mrs Jones wanted me to remind parents to ensure they have completed their child's online secondary application by **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October** as often parents have had problems doing it over half term due to the demands on the website. We have had parents not able to complete applications because the website has had problems or crashed!

The application asks you to name 4 schools and we always advise you name at least 3. There is no guarantee that you will get your first choice school and some parents previously have been under the impression that if they only put one down, that's the one they will get. This is not the case. If your child does not get their first choice school and you have not put any other choices down, then your child could be assigned a place in any school in Hertfordshire. **Please do put down 3 schools at least!!!**

The official deadline for secondary applications is **31<sup>st</sup> October** but give yourself plenty of time and do it early! Any late applications are dealt with after all of the on-time applications are assigned; as such you are at a higher risk of not receiving your first choice school.

If parents are struggling and need any help, please call the office or come in and Mrs Jarvis will be able to help you complete the application online.



### **Reminder about Haircuts**

We are seeing a few children with haircuts that are not appropriate in school including shaved heads under long hair on top. Whilst this is not visible when the hair is worn down, many of the boys in particular are wearing their hair in top knots as seems to be fashionable amongst footballers. This means the very closely shaved part of the hair is on display.

Our uniform policy is clear – hair should be short without tramlines, shaved heads or Mohicans styles which are not permitted. Shaved lines in eyebrows are also against our school uniform policy. We will speak or contact parents if a child arrives to school with an unsuitable hair style and will expect the hair style to be rectified as soon as possible.

We are also increasingly seeing long hair not being tied back. Nits are a real risk for children with long hair which is untied and can be a nightmare for parents to get rid of. Please don't take the chance; please use hair bands or ties (school colours preferably) to tie back your child's hair.

### **Pixmore School Association**

Many thanks to all those parents who were able to attend the Pixmore School Association Annual General Meeting on Wednesday this week. It was lovely to have so many parents willing to support the school after a lean year. Mrs Sarah Inman will continue to be the Chair for this year with Ms Carol Smith as Vice-Chair. We now have a committee and have been busy planning some events for the year.



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The first event is a Remembrance Colouring competition, which we will launch just before half term. We will also be holding a Christmas Jumper Exchange in the weeks leading up to Christmas ready for our Christmas Dinner and Jumper day on 14<sup>th</sup> December so if you have any old Christmas jumpers that you or your family have outgrown or don't need anymore, please consider donating them to the school so we can begin to raise money to further develop our outdoor learning and purchase some software aimed at developing literacy for the Chromebooks we have in school. Details will follow shortly about both events.

In addition, we will also be holding our annual Christmas Raffle this term and so are on the lookout for local business or parents linked with the school who are able to donate a prize. We are hoping to put together some food hampers as prizes in addition to others we are given. If you work for or know a company that might be willing to donate a prize to the school raffle, please do contact the PSA on [pta@pixmore.herts.sch.uk](mailto:pta@pixmore.herts.sch.uk)

One further way you could support the PSA is by nominating them for a £1000 prize from the Benefact Group's Movement for Good initiative. Parents can log on to the website and nominate the Pixmore School Association. The more votes we receive the better the chance of us receiving the money. The group give away 250 awards of £1000 at points throughout the year so please do support us and nominate the PSA.



<https://movementforgood.com/#nominateACharity>

### **Behaviour**

At Pixmore we want all of our pupils to be ready to learn, to be respectful and feel valued and safe. We have our Pixmore Behaviour Ladder which outlines what a 'Positive Pixmore Pupil' should be. As parents and carers, you play a huge part in ensuring your child comes to school in a positive way. We ask parents to read through the 'Positive Pixmore Pupils' expectations with your child to remind them of our expectations.

We will know you are ready, respectful and safe if you:

Ready	Respectful	Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Arrive to school and lessons on time</li> <li>➤ Stop and line up when the whistle goes</li> <li>➤ Complete homework well and on time</li> <li>➤ Take pride in your appearance</li> <li>➤ Always try your best to use Pixmore Learning Powers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Respond appropriately, politely and kindly to everyone</li> <li>➤ Show Pixmore listening</li> <li>➤ Have good manners</li> <li>➤ Show tolerance for the views of other people (mutual respect)</li> <li>➤ Look after property and the school environment</li> <li>➤ Take ownership of regulating your emotions and actions</li> <li>➤ Take pride in your work and other peoples work</li> <li>➤ Always ask permission to leave the classroom</li> <li>➤ Show patience, share and wait your turn</li> <li>➤ Are helpful and offer to do jobs for your teacher</li> <li>➤ Tell the truth</li> <li>➤ Keep to your own personal space</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Walk around school in the Pixmore Way</li> <li>➤ Wear correct uniform</li> <li>➤ Show Pixmore sitting</li> <li>➤ Speak to an adult about worries or concerns</li> <li>➤ Follow Pixmore e-safety rules</li> </ul>



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## Information, Workshops and Support for Parents

- [NESSie](#)  
[Bookings1 - NESSie IN ED, CIC](#) **Supporting children who Self Harm** 18 October 1pm to 2:30pm  
[Bookings1 - NESSie IN ED, CIC](#) **Relationships, Puberty, Staying Safe** 8 November 1pm to 2:30pm

Free online workshops for parents, carers and older siblings of young people struggling with body image and/or their relationship with food. Register interest, programme for parents/carers with young people struggling with body image/eating disorder.

- Body image/eating disorder
- BeeZee Bodies
- **BZ Families (5-15 year olds and their families)** - FREE, fun, family-focused programme. 12 weeks. Call 01707 248 638 Email [beezeebodies@nhs.net](mailto:beezeebodies@nhs.net) Online [Award Winning Weight Loss Programmes | Behaviour change for good \(beezeebodies.com\)](#)
- Masterclasses - **Feeding your family on a budget**  
FREE  
[Feeding Your Family on a Budget Tickets, Wed 26 Oct 2022 at 18:00 | Eventbrite](#)
- Youth Health and Wellbeing Programmes for 13-17 years. 10 week programme.  
[Health, Wellbeing and Weight Management Support for Teens • BeeZee Bodies](#)  
BeeZee, Healthy Family focused, On a budget
- **CAMHS Online Support Group** – Does your child visit a CAMHS clinic or Step2 Early Intervention CAMHS – speak to people who understand, learn more about strategies to help, support for yourself. [contact@carersinherts.org.uk](mailto:contact@carersinherts.org.uk) 01992 58 69 69.  
[CAMHS Online Support Group \(carersinherts.org.uk\)](#)
- **ADD-vance** [Eventbrite](#)  
[Preparing for an EHCP Annual Review - FREE ONLINE WORKSHOP Tickets, Mon 10 Oct 2022 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)  
[Understanding ADHD in Girls - FREE ONLINE WORKSHOP Tickets, Wed 12 Oct 2022 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)  
[Tips & Tools to Support Learning \(Executive Function\) FREE ONLINE WORKSHOP Tickets, Thu 13 Oct 2022 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)  
[Support for Dads - FREE ONLINE WORKSHOP Tickets, Mon 17 Oct 2022 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)  
[Understanding Autism in Girls - FREE ONLINE WORKSHOP Tickets, Wed 19 Oct 2022 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)
- [Angels](#) Support Group - See website for full Autumn Term [Programme](#) covers Autism/ADHD, Healthcare, Benefit Advice, Applying EHC needs assessment , Support Groups
- [SPACE](#) Autism/ ADHD, Neurodiverse Conditions.  
Neurodiversity Conference for Parent/Carers  
Supporting Emotional Self Regulation, Executive Functioning and Sensory Integration.  
11 November, 9:30am to 2:30pm - Cheshunt  
[SPACE Autumn Conference: Supporting Neurodiverse Children and Young People Tickets, Fri 11 Nov 2022 at 09:30 | Eventbrite](#) £55  
[Understanding Specific Literacy Difficulties Including Dyslexia. Tickets, Fri 7 Oct 2022 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)



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[Children's Spaceman Art Session Tickets, Fri 7 Oct 2022 at 17:00 | Eventbrite](#)  
[Mental Health in Neurodiverse Children and Young People Tickets, Mon 10 Oct 2022 at 18:00 | Eventbrite](#)  
[ADHD in Girls and Women Tickets, Tue 11 Oct 2022 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)  
[Ranger Stu's Virtual Zoo Tickets, Wed 12 Oct 2022 at 17:30 | Eventbrite](#)

- [Supporting Links](#)  
To view details and book : [New What's On \(supportinglinks.co.uk\)](http://supportinglinks.co.uk)
- Talking Families - 6 week course  
Parents of Children 0-12, Challenging Behaviour/Build Child Self-Esteem, Boundaries, Relationships - 1 Nov to 6 Dec 8pm to 9:30pm Course 529
- Talking Teens - 6 week course  
Parents of Children 12-19, Teen Brain, Behaviour, Communicating Difficult Feelings, Relationships, Risk taking: drugs, alcohol, gang culture, reduce conflict.  
6 Nov to 8 Dec 7:45pm to 9:15pm Course 532
- Talking Dads - 6 week course  
Parents of Children 0-19, Increase Confidence in Parenting, Improve Listening and Communication, Strategies for Conflict, Boundaries.  
31 Oct to 5 Dec 7:45pm to 9:15pm Course 534
- Talking Additional Needs - 6 week course  
Parents of Children 2-19, Understand Child's Behaviour, Strategies that work, Motive and Encourage your child  
31 Oct to 5 Dec 8pm to 9:30pm Course 527

### **Safeguarding at Pixmore**

Attached to this newsletter is information for children and parents/carers about how we work to keep children safe at Pixmore School. We have a team of staff who work together, and with all staff, as well as external services, to provide a safe environment, and to notice when a child may need to talk to someone, providing guidance and advice, or when a child may be at risk of harm. We also consult with a range of external services to provide early help and advice to children and their families. Please read through the attached information with your child, and perhaps ask your child who they would speak with at school and at home if they want to share a worry. We believe it is important to teach children that **there is nothing too small or too big that you can't talk about it with an adult**, so that they feel able to talk about anything that makes them feel unsafe. The link below is to the NSPCC website, which includes resources for children and families related to safeguarding. Thank you for your support in helping to keep your children safe, and with supporting us with this important role.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/our-services/nspcc-helpline/>

Such a busy term so far and still lots more to come with a whole school Geography Day, Year 4's Egyptian Day, Year 5 visiting the Mars Rover, school photos and our Open Afternoons for parents all before half term!

We look forward to sharing what we've been doing in the next newsletter!

**Mrs Alex Evans & Mrs Sarah Inman, Co-Headteachers**



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## Calendar dates 2022/23

<b>AUTUMN TERM 2022</b>	
10 October	Whole School Geography Day
12 October	Individual (& sibling group) School Photos
13 October	Year 5 STEM Discover Centre including Mars Rover trip
14 October	Year 4 Egyptian Day
17 October	<b>Year 3/4 Open Afternoon</b> parents to look through their children's books and share their work. Parents can attend from 2pm through the school office. Your child can join you to share their work. Parents can then sign their child out and take them home early. <b>**Please note this is not a parent's evening as class teachers will still be in class teaching**</b>
18 October	<b>Year 5/6 Open Afternoon</b> parents to look through their children's books and share their work. Parents can attend from 2pm through the school office. Your child can join you to share their work. Parents can then sign their child out and take them home early. <b>**Please note this is not a parent's evening as class teachers will still be in class teaching**</b>
20 October	Year 4 Assembly to parents at 9.30am
<b>21 October</b>	<b>INSET Day – School closed to children</b>
<b>24 – 28 October</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>
<b>31 October</b>	<b>Children return to school</b>
31 October	Start of Multicultural Week in school
3 November	Year 6 Assembly to parents at 9.30am
10 November	Year 5 Assembly to parents at 9.30am
14 November	Year 6 Pirate Day
24 November	Year 3 Assembly to parents at 9.30am
24 November	Year 6 Milton Keynes Museum ( <i>provisional booking</i> )
12 & 13 December	Year 3/4 Christmas performance ( <i>tbc</i> )
14 December	School Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
19 December	Year 5/6 Carol Concert
<b>21 December</b>	<b>End of Term (EARLY FINISH AT 12 NOON)</b>
<b>SPRING TERM 2023</b>	
<b>5 January</b>	<b>INSET Day – School closed to children</b>
<b>6 January</b>	<b>INSET Day – School Closed to children</b>
<b>9 January</b>	<b>Children return to school</b>
<b>13 – 17 February</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>
<b>1-3 March</b>	<b>Book Fair (3.30-4.30pm in school dining room)</b>
<b>2 March</b>	<b>World Book Day</b>
<b>31 March</b>	<b>End of Term (NORMAL FINISH AT 3.15pm)</b>