



Perryfields Junior School

The Friday Flyer

Week 26 – April 2025

Headteacher's Message

It's hard to believe the Spring term has already come to an end, and Easter is just around the corner. The past few weeks at school have flown by with so much happening.

On Monday, our boys' football team played an incredible match against Springfield Primary, winning 12-0! They're still unbeaten in the league, and we couldn't be prouder of their performance.

A huge well done to all our Maths Bee finalists. Thursday's contest was thrilling and incredibly close, with some fantastic performances. Congratulations to Fleming House, our Lower School winners, and to our Upper School champions—Tara, Nicole, Zaviar, Taelan, Arnav, Vedansh, and Reyansh!

During our final whole-school assembly of the term, we celebrated personal achievements, house points, and the outstanding efforts across the school. It was lovely to come together as a community and reflect on all of our successes. A special congratulations to Anning House for leading the way so far this year.

Thank you to everyone who attended Parents' Evening this week. It's always a pleasure for our teachers to share the progress and achievements of your children, and it was a wonderful way to wrap up the term before the Easter break.

Thank you to everyone who attended our annual Art Gallery on Thursday. The talent and creativity displayed by our students were truly exceptional, and we appreciate your support in celebrating their hard work. A special thank you also goes to everyone who contributed to and supported the cake sale—it was a huge success. We are delighted to share that the funds raised will go towards installing an outdoor water fountain, a request made by our student body. They will be thrilled to see their idea come to life!

It's been a busy and productive term, full of valuable experiences and memorable events. A big thank you to our staff for their hard work and dedication in making this Spring term a success.

Wishing you all a very Happy Easter!

Samantha Edwards

Pupil of the Week

Cowell: Menul
Seuss: Sananya
Walliams: Thanvi Rao
Lewis: Aarav
Dahl: Dexter
Rowling: Alexxa T
Tolkien: Areebah
Morpurgo: James
Pullman: Daniel

Mrs Siddall's Attendance Award
Cowell Class – 99.5%

Award for
Outstanding Manners
Lottie – Morpurgo Class
Nakshatra – Lewis Class

PE Award
Samuel – Morpurgo Class

Spellers Award
Cowell Class

Random Act of Kindness
Mohid – Rowling Class
Tyler – Morpurgo Class

ATTENDANCE

The national expectation for attendance is 96%. The government has clarified the position regarding the term 'regular' attendance. It means children must be in school **EVERY DAY**. Every second counts at Perryfields. We **must** work together to improve attendance and punctuality even more.

Year 3	97.2%
Year 4	97.4%
Year 5	96.8%
Year 6	95.9%



Coming Up So Far Next Half Term!

Tuesday 22 nd April	After school clubs go live from 4.15pm
Monday 28 th April	Uniform Sale – Please join us in the hall from 3.30pm
Wednesday 30 th April	Dance Club starts
Thursday 1 st May	LAMDA starts
Friday 2 nd May	Fencing Club starts
Tuesday 6 th May	Morning and after school clubs start
Monday 12 th May	SATs Week for Year 6
Monday 19 th May	Braintree Museum Trip Year 5 – email sent
Tuesday 20 th May	Class Photographs and Year 6 Individual Photos
Tuesday 20 th May	Residential Talk for Year 6 Parents – Please join us in the hall at 3.30pm
Friday 23 rd May	Summer Inflatable Fayre – Please see poster below

Please see below NEW menu for the Summer Term!

Please note that we can also provide a packed lunch if your child would prefer this. This will be either the baguette, wrap or soft roll and also includes a drink, fruit, biscuits or the dessert of the day.

Menu Summer Term starting w/c 21/04/25

Week: One

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main course	Meat	Cheese & Tomato Baguette Pizza	Tuna,Cheese,Ham & Tuna + Sweetcorn Baguette	Roast Gammon Steak	Chicken Fajitas	Omega 3 Fish Fingers
	Vegetarian	Cheese & Tomato Baguette Pizza	As Above	Garlic and Herb Roast fillet	Mexican Bean Fajitas	Cheese Pinwheels
	Gluten Free	Gluten Free Pizza	Gluten Free Wraps	As Above	Chicken Fajitas	Gluten Free Fish Fingers
	Jacket Potato	Tuna & Cheese	Cheese & Beans	Beans & Tuna	Cheese & Tuna	Tuna,Cheese & Beans
	Side Dish	Coleslaw Potato Salad	Cucumber Raisins	Gravy	Couscous	Chips & Beans
	Vegetables	Sweetcorn Salad Bar	Salad Bar	Potato Slice Shredded cabbage cauliflower	Broccoli	Salad Bar
	Packed Lunch	Baguette (Tuna, Cheese or Ham)	Baguette (Tuna, Cheese or Ham)	Wrap (Tuna, Cheese or Ham)	Wrap (Tuna, Cheese or Ham)	Baguette (Tuna, Cheese or Ham)
	Dessert	Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Victoria Sponge	Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Jelly	Oat cookies
	Drinks	Water/Milk	Water/Milk	Water/Milk	Water/Milk	Water/Milk



MEGA INFLATABLE DAY

Please come along and join us on
Friday 23rd May 2025 from 3.30pm-5.00pm

Wristbands £7

Please pay for wristbands through your ScoPay
account. Children will be given their bands in
school on the day.

Wristbands also available on the gate.

Bouncy Castles, Bungee Run, Penalty Shoot-Out,
Coconut Shy, Sumo Suits, Face Painting, Bottle
Tombola plus much more!

BBQ, Drinks, Ice Creams!

**This event is for children up to year 6 only.
Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate year 7 and
above.**

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Currently, children are growing up in an immediate and throwaway culture when it comes to content that's consumed online. So much material is now deliberately created to be shorter in nature – and may often contain hidden elements such as advertising, or extreme political and cultural views. With complex algorithms built to keep people on their phones and engaging with social media content, it's becoming increasingly difficult to reduce time spent on these platforms.

1 REDUCE DOOMSCROLLING

It's concerning how common for young people to spend hours 'doomscrolling': trawling through social media and aimlessly viewing every post they see, many of which might make them feel sad or anxious. Social media can be useful for keeping in touch with friends and family, as well as staying up to date on current events. However, it's important to use it with a clear purpose. Instead of endlessly scrolling through content, which could lead to young people accidentally discovering harmful material.

2 TALK ABOUT THE CONTENT

It's important to keep abreast of the kind of content that a young person is being exposed to. Discussing what they're watching online can help you understand why they're using social media in the first place. Furthermore, ensure that children are aware of hidden content, such as advertising of a product – and that they know how to spot that the creator is being paid to talk about it.

3 FIND POSITIVE ASPECTS

Despite all the concerns, there's plenty of wholesome content on social media. It's worth spending time with children to help them find something suitable and enjoyable. Perhaps you'll even discover a joint interest, and you can enjoy the content alongside the child. As part of this, you should also point out why certain things shouldn't be given attention, explaining why it isn't suitable and why it's been created in the first place.

4 REDUCE SCREENTIME

Young people can sometimes be unaware of the exact amount of time they spend looking at social media. Smart phones don't just have the capacity to monitor screen time; they also record how much time is spent on each app. Consider setting targets to reduce this and support children to meet these goals, gradually reducing the amount of time spent on different apps.

5 FILL THE VOID

Monitoring and reducing screen time can create a lot of free time to fill, and young people can even face withdrawal symptoms when made to step away from their phones. To mitigate this, consider what offline activities you could introduce the child to, and what they would enjoy. This can ensure that young users will permanently cut down on their screen time, rather than temporarily doing so while they know it's being monitored.

6 REDUCE NOTIFICATIONS

One way in which social media platforms keep people coming back is through notifications. The algorithms behind these apps track people's daily habits, including the times of the day where they're most likely to engage with the platform. This data is then used to deliver specifically timed notifications to draw them back in. To avoid young users being exposed to this tactic, simply turn off notifications for the app in their phone's settings.

7 LIVE IN THE REAL WORLD

Overexposure to social media can distort someone's perception of the real world – from body norms to social conventions. This filtered environment can make it hard for young people to distinguish reality from online content, which is now becoming even more difficult with the rise of AI. To mitigate this concern, take time to teach young people how to discern truth from fiction, both on and off social media.

8 DIGITAL DETOX

Encouraging young people to take a 'digital detox', from even just a couple of the apps that they use, can result in an overall reduction of screen time and less exposure to potentially harmful content. Alternatively, rather than avoiding the app entirely, encourage children to take a 'digital detox' from content creators and influencers, and instead, keep in touch with friends and family – which is generally a far healthier use of these platforms.

9 MODEL GOOD BEHAVIOUR

Consider the habits that you're demonstrating to your children. How much time do you spend on your phone? How much do you 'doomscroll'? Comparing your own usage with the child's could put things into perspective for them – or if it turns out that you're also overusing social media, it can turn screen time reduction into a joint mission, which you and the child can work on together.

10 BE CLEAR ON THE "WHY"

Research shows that young people can become addicted to social media. There are many schools that are moving towards being 'phone free' due to the negative impacts of using social media and phones continuously. It's important to explain to young people why managing screen time is important. Set out the benefits and ensure they have all the relevant information, so it's not just seen as a punishment.

Meet Our Expert

John Inley is a senior leader in a Birmingham secondary school and has vast experience in leading schools over the past 15 years – including the development of computing curriculums across primary and secondary schools, writing e-safety policies and supporting schools with computing and e-safety advice.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

PERRYFIELDS JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs. Samantha Edwards BA Education Studies (Hons)



26th March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you of a vacancy for the role of parent governor on our governing board.

The role of the governing board

The school's governing board is responsible for providing confident and strategic leadership, and creating robust accountability, oversight and assurance for the school's educational performance.

The board is passionate about education and committed to the continuous improvement of our school to ensure the best possible outcomes for our pupils.

The role of a parent governor

As a parent governor, you will work with the board to make sure it effectively carries out the duties referred to above. You will also play a vital role in bringing a **parental perspective** to the governing board, but you're not there to speak 'on behalf' of the parent body.

To be a parent governor you should have:

- A strong commitment to the role and to improving outcomes for children
- Good inter-personal skills, curiosity, and a willingness to learn and develop new skills
- The skills required to make sure the governing board delivers effective governance

Expectations of governors

- Governors are expected to attend 3 meetings of the local governing body per year. These meetings are held on Thursdays at 10am in the school.
- Preparation for meetings includes reading papers and preparing questions for senior leaders.
- Governors are also expected to visit the academy while it is open to pupils at least 3 times per year. These visits are usually scheduled immediately before the meetings.
- Governors are expected to undertake any training required to enable them to discharge their role effectively. This includes online safeguarding training upon appointment and at the start of each new academic year thereafter.
- The term of office is 4 years.

How to apply

If you are interested in applying for the role, please complete and submit the nomination form using the link [Parent governor vacancy nomination form](#) by **Friday, 25 April 2025 at 3pm**. If we receive more applications than there are vacancies, a ballot will be carried out. We will inform you closer to the time if we have to do this.

Yours sincerely,

Louisa Usherwood

Clerk to Trust Board and Governing Body





Parent Governor Opportunities at Perryfields Enterprise Academy Trust

We are currently looking for parent governors to join the school governing board at Perryfields Enterprise Academy Trust. We are hoping that one of our Parent/Carers can help us to fill this gap.

There are approximately 250,000 school governors in England – the largest volunteer force in the country. High quality governance has a significant impact on how well a school is run and what pupils can achieve.

What does a governing board do?

The trust governing board is responsible for:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction of the trust
- Holding the trust leaders to account for the educational performance of the trust
- Overseeing the financial performance of the trust and making sure money is well spent

The board is passionate about education and committed to continuous school improvement to ensure the best possible outcomes for our pupils.

What we are looking for

Contrary to popular thought – you do not have to have a background in education or be connected to the trust in some way to be a governor.

For the trust, the main advantage of having someone from the local community join our governing board, is the expertise and experience you can bring to the role. Knowledge of human resources, data analysis, financial management, marketing, IT, facilities management and health and safety will greatly improve the effectiveness of our governing board and have a positive impact on the education of our pupils.

What governors get

As a new governor you will be supported with an induction programme and have access to a range of training courses that you can select to attend to support you in your new role. You will also be part of a supportive, cohesive board that help each other.



About our school

Perryfields Junior School converted to academy status on the 1st December 2016, becoming the first school in the Perryfields Enterprise Academy Trust.

Perryfields Enterprise Trust has at its core the pursuit of the highest standards possible in education. We believe in high aspirations, high motivation and high achievement for all. Our driving principles are underpinned with values and mindsets which will build character, confidence, a collaborative spirit and a caring attitude:

Perseverance and Resilience
Excellence and Effort
Achievement for All
Trust and Collaboration

Perryfields Junior School is a vibrant learning community where expectations and standards are high. Our pupils make huge progress in terms of learning, creativity and their understanding of themselves and others. We are very proud of what they achieve and we are relentless in our efforts to ensure that they are academically, socially and emotionally prepared for the future. We all work tirelessly to inspire pupils to achieve their full potential through excellent teaching that develops confidence, curiosity and independent learning.

The school has a team of 13 teachers and 29 teaching assistants and support staff. We have 302 pupils on role and have recently been awarded Outstanding in our Ofsted report.

What we require of governors

In terms of time commitment, we expect that governors will attend at least 3 meetings a year, which will take place in the daytime and rarely last more than 2 hours. Visits to see and monitor the school in action will also be required. This is one of the many highlights of the role as you get to see first-hand the children learning.

Experience tells us that our governors not only make a difference to the school, but also gain much personal and professional satisfaction from the role such as learning new skills, making new friends and enhancing CVs.

We are happy to talk with anyone interested, or arrange a visit to the school, if you'd like to find out more. Please feel free to email admin@perryfields-jun.essex.sch.uk or call 01245 250781.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Samantha Edwards
Headteacher

