



Ponteland Community Middle School

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Newsletter 12—May 2017

'We take our vision from John 10:10 'that they have life and have it abundantly'

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had the most exciting week with Y5 and Y6 Swimming Galas and class photographs. Thank you, too, to so many KS2 parents who came along to the galas to cheer their child along. The noise in the swimming pool could be heard in the Sainsbury's carpark! The galas were great fun and very entertaining.

Michelle Fowler, the photographer has had two happy days taking relaxed photographs of the children and grouping them together to make class photographs with their form teacher.

Thank you to the parents who came to the Parents Forum meeting last Monday. It was a great opportunity to discuss recent events especially since the new leader of NCC, Councillor Peter Jackson released the following statement: 'Councillor Peter Jackson has confirmed that the Council will take early legal advice from officers relating to the housing, schools and leisure developments proposed on green belt in Ponteland.' He said, 'we won't impose large projects or developments on communities, we will actually work with them to create their own futures.'

On page 2 of the newsletter you will see a response procedure reminder in the event of a child needing to use an Epipen. Please read this as we are all here to keep your child safe and the more information shared the safer our children will be. A gentle reminder too that we are a nut free school. Please do not send in any nut products for break, snacks, packed lunch or food for trips. To reassure you we do not have nuts in school at all, including school dinners.

Please do not allow your children to pop down to school to play on the school yard or the school field during the evenings, weekends of holidays. We have some lettings anyway and we also need to keep the site clean and tidy as it is in all honesty the classrooms for the PE department.

We have some staffing news to share. We are very, very sad to be losing Mr and Mrs Salter who are moving to Myanmar to teach; Mr Oglethorpe who is moving to Tanzania to teach; and Miss Rainbow who is moving to Manchester to teach and be closer to her family. We celebrate the time, energy and commitment they have given to school and wish them every success in their travels and careers. I know we shall keep in touch. In the meantime we have made very exciting appointments: Mrs Catherine Weare will join Y5 and also teach KS3 French; Miss Adele Percival will teach whole school Art; Mr Mark Walker will teach PE and KS3 Geography; Mr Tom Bodley will teach PE and KS3 History; Miss Embleton will join Y6 team to cover Miss Rainbow's class. And we have a Miss Eleanor Peach who is joining us from Manchester to cover a temporary placement in school. If you are reading closely you will see that we are swapping a Rainbow for a Peach! Such a lot of 'welcome' and 'farewell' and we are looking forward to it all.

Wishing the Y6 children a fantastic week in Barcelona, London or enjoying the WowWeek in school. Lots of adventures and happy times.

Have a lovely weekend

Caroline Pryer
Headteacher

Attendance percentages to date for each class— Target for school is 98%
Percentages taken 19.05.2017

5MG	5JH	5LC	5SS	5MB	6DB	6VR	6KR	6KS	6OT
97.7	96.8	97.3	97.2	97.2	96.9	96.5	96.2	97.3	97.6
7MP	7AO	7JO	7ABe	7CC	8BF	8DR	8NM	8VS	8CJ
95.7	96.6	96.6	96.1	96.8	96.2	96.0	96.1	94.7	96.2



[/Ponteland Middle](https://www.facebook.com/PontelandMiddle)



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Sports News

Quad kids athletics

Congratulations to the Year 5 and 6 quad kids athletics team who competed in the rain at Morpeth on Monday. Both teams stood out on the day from the opposition, with the A team winning by more than 200 points. They now represent the area at the County Finals.

Track and Field Cup

Well done to the boys and girls' Track and Field Cup team who competed at Gateshead last week. The standard was really high with all of the big sporting schools from Northumberland present. The boys were County Champions, beating Dame Allans into second place by 70 points, with the girls being runners up to RGS in a very tight competition. Both should have enough points to reach the regional A final.



Ponteland u13 Girls' Rugby

The final 'contact' tournament of the year was held on Thursday afternoon at Ponteland Leisure Center. PCMS entered 2 competitive teams with the help of Andrew Slater. The girls were tournament winners beating Richard Coates, Rothbury, Churchill and Newminster schools. A big thank you to Alex and Trevor Geddes for their support and help throughout the season. I'd also like to thank Andrew Slater who has facilitated year round school rugby and successfully re-launched girls' rugby at Ponteland Rugby club. Parents of Year 8 players should wait for news of Andrew taking on this role in Year 9 at the High School. Well done to all the girls for their commitment, bravery and desire to improve.

Mr Burgess



Dates for your diary

W/C 22 May—Barcelona and London Trips
W/C 22 May—Y7 & Y8 Assessments
Friday 26 May—3.30 –Close for Half Term
Monday 5 June—Re open for last half of Summer term

Maths Challenge

Almost 90 children completed the Junior Maths challenge in April and the results are in. Congratulations to all those who took part. Lauren Stott, Sam Armstrong and Charlie Russell were the top 3 scorers in Year 8. A special mention must go to 3 Year 7 pupils, Sophie Petts, Matthew Dobson and Abigail Ely who have all scored highly enough to be entered for the next round of the competition which will take place in June. Well done!

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Math

Mild-moderate allergic reaction:

- Swollen lips, face or eyes
- Itchy / tingling mouth
- Hives or itchy skin rash
- Abdominal pain or vomiting
- Sudden change in behaviour

ACTION:

- Stay with the child, call for help if necessary
- Give antihistamine:
- Contact parent/carer (if vomited, can repeat dose)

Watch for signs of ANAPHYLAXIS (life-threatening allergic reaction):

- AIRWAY:** Persistent cough, hoarse voice, difficulty swallowing, swollen tongue
- BREATHING:** Difficult or noisy breathing, wheeze or persistent cough
- CONSCIOUSNESS:** Persistent dizziness / pale or floppy suddenly sleepy, collapse, unconscious

If ANY ONE of these signs are present:

1. Lie child flat. If breathing is difficult, allow to sit
2. Give EpiPen® or EpiPen® Junior
3. Dial 999 for an ambulance* and say ANAPHYLAXIS ("ANA-FIL-AX-IS")

If in doubt, give EpiPen®

After giving EpiPen:

1. Stay with child, contact parent/carer
2. Commence CPR if there are no signs of life
3. If no improvement after 5 minutes, give a further EpiPen® or alternative adrenaline autoinjector device, if available

*You can dial 999 from any phone, even if there is no credit left on a mobile. Medical observation in hospital is recommended after anaphylaxis.

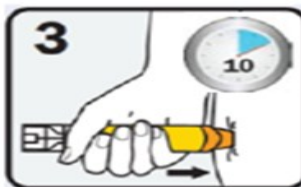
How to give EpiPen®



Form fist around EpiPen® and PULL OFF BLUE SAFETY CAP



SWING AND PUSH ORANGE TIP against outer thigh (with or without clothing) until a click is heard



HOLD FIRMLY in place for 10 seconds



REMOVE EpiPen®. Massage injection site for 10 seconds