



## A happy school; Learning, caring, succeeding together.

Dear Parents and Carers,

So, here we are at the end of another busy, exciting week, and indeed half term- hello November.

During this week Year 2 had a fantastic day learning about the Great Fire of London. The children and team looked amazing and I am sure they told you all about it in the evening. Such drama! Our elections for school councillors In Years 1 and 2 have taken place and it was great to hear during Monday's Assembly that the children have "dreams" of being a school councillor. Harry told me that despite not becoming an eco lead his dream was still to be a leader in the school and he would persevere. A true leader indeed! I look forward to hearing the voting outcome later today. Reception's elections will take place in early December.

I wanted to take this opportunity to share with you the school's main priorities for the school in the year ahead; this is clearly also linked to our next steps from the Ofsted report in May '24.

**English-** to continue to prioritise phonic and early reading provision to improve phonic outcomes for all children, working as ever closely with all our families.

**EYFS-** to continue our work on language and vocabulary development to support all children including those children that have English as an additional Language; to strengthen the aspirational curriculum reflecting our diverse community.

We also continue to develop our inclusive environments, inside and out, with the support of our amazing PFA, who will be raising monies this year to develop our computing room and increase our IT capacity. Also Esther Curry from our Trust, who is working with the school team and BCP to create Penguin and Puffin provision to give children a bespoke curriculum that supports language and communication development.

Finally, weather permitting Mr Warriner begins the building work for our outdoor classroom, thanks to the generous monies raised by our community last year.

So now we begin to look forward to other events for the children and also for you as parents, as we head into winter and the Christmas season. This includes planning additional events with the PFA – these events can only happen with parental support. Please do get involved if you can– I hope to see many of you at our Quiz event in November—I know the letter has gone out!

Your children have worked hard in so many different ways over this half term and I thank all families for attending the parents evenings and for your support that ensures the best possible progress. The school team have continued to ensure that key learning is fitted into meaningful and exciting themes. Please remember curriculum learning for each subject area for each year group can be found on our website. I wish you all well in the weeks ahead and remember if you need to talk about your child we are here to listen. Happy half term—stay well, and enjoy the family time together with your children.

" Like the roots of the tree, your memories will keep you strong as you grow, and flourish and bloom" (Someday—Stephanie Stansbie Frances Ives)

Very best wishes

Mrs T. Edwards .

Headteacher

# Reading at Q.P.I.A.

Thank you for all your support with your child's home reading. It has been very exciting for us to be able to start celebrating regular reading with our first reading certificates being handed out.




The new Reading Record design helps us keep track of home reads. Could we please ask that you do not add forgotten reads in retrospectively as the staff regularly check and count the records.

Any backdated reading can not be counted as staff check weekly, and totals are recorded at that time.

Please try to remember to sign at the time of reading with your child.

Queens Park Infant Academy

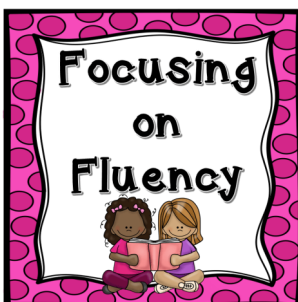


Reading Record

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

## What is Fluency?



Reading fluency is the ability to read easily, accurately, with proper expression and at a suitable pace. In order to understand what they read, children must be able to read fluently.

**Repeated reading** has proven to be one of the best strategies for developing reading fluency. Children need opportunities to read the same reading material aloud several times. Reading the same text 3 times is helpful in developing fluency.

When listening to your child read, when he/she comes to an unknown word, allow him/her to use their phonics to decode the word. If you have to provide the word for your child, or he/she has struggled over a word, ask him/her to re-read the whole sentence in which the tricky word is found.

A good tip is to record your child reading, evaluate together, and then repeat!



## Reading Ambassadors

We have an exciting new role available at Queens Park Infant Academy. We are looking for children who really love books to help promote a love of reading at our school.

One child from each class in KS1 will be chosen each term to help carry out the reading ambassador jobs. Keep an eye out for the application letter coming home after half term. Children in Reception will have the chance to be a reading ambassador in the Summer term.

### The Role of the Reading Ambassador

- Take care of the reading area in your classroom
- Recommend books to other children in assemblies, our newsletters or weekly reminders
- Taking pride in the school library, reading areas and book displays around the school. Ensure they are tidy, presentable and fun for all children.
- Take pride in your role by showcasing your 'Reading Ambassador Badge'.
- Read each half term to another class
- Promote a love of reading across the school!

We will shortly be having our own school page on the **Pop-up Bookshop website**. Here you can read about new and exciting children's books, find suggested reading lists and keep up to date with our Reading Ambassador news.



## Reading Ambassadors Design A Badge Competition

Our reading ambassadors will have a badge to wear. What this badge looks like is up to you!

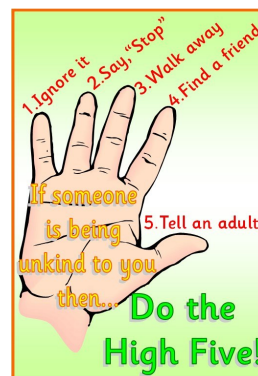
Visit the website or take a template from your classroom if you would like a chance to design our brand new badge.

One design will be chosen as our reading ambassador badge for this year.

# Friendship week is back!

From the 11<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> November the children will getting involved with a range of activities. The children will talk about the best ways to be a good friend, discuss words of kindness and things we could do to help someone who was feeling upset. We will listen to a range of stories about friendship such as 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers, Elmer by David McKee and Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister.

We can also remind one another of the 'High Five!' approach, which we can use if someone is being unkind.



To round-off the week, it is **Children in Need Day on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November.**

This year Children in Need is collaborating with the lovable cartoon character **Bluey**. To celebrate the day, we will have a **Bluey** and **Pudsey** themed mufti day.

The children can come into school wearing their own clothes, please feel free to incorporate spots and / or blue clothing.

During the day each class will get active with **Bluey's Dance Mode Challenge** and will be having fun striking Bluey-themed dance moves! Wackadoo!

<https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/fundraising/blueys-dance-mode-challenge/>

[Bluey's Dance Mode Challenge - BBC Children in Need](https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/fundraising/blueys-dance-mode-challenge/)

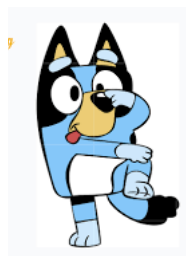


[www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk](http://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk)

Please bring a donation if you can, your child will get the opportunity to pop their donation into Pudsey Bear's collection pouch.

We look forward to seeing all the children dressed up and finding out how much we can raise for Children in Need.

Mrs Durrent PSHE Lead



# Eco Leaders Announcement



We are delighted to announce our eight Eco leaders for this academic year.

**George B** (Grasshoppers), **Neve** (Badgers), **Samantha** (Otters), **Joel** (Butterflies), **Jim** (Foxes), **Callum** (Hedgehogs), **Sophie** (Bumblebees), **Eva** (Dragonflies)

Thank you to all 101 children who applied to be an Eco leader. Please don't be disappointed if you were not chosen to be an Eco leader because there will still be plenty of opportunities for you to help make our school more eco friendly place.

Next half term our Eco leaders will complete our Environmental review which will detail three areas for us to develop in our school.

Keep a look out for information throughout the year to see how you might be able to help us maintain our green flag status.

Mr Waller Eco Lead Teacher

*"I have ideas on how to keep the Earth clean! Don't throw rubbish on the floor."*

– Callum (Hedgehogs)

*"I am good at recycling rubbish and food waste. I love playing outside and want to look after our local area."* – George B (Grasshoppers)

*"I love nature and I love looking after it. We should set up bug hotels and bird feeders so we can see beautiful nature in our playground"* – Joel (Butterflies)



**SOUNDSTORM**  
MUSIC EDUCATION AGENCY



After an exciting year of Music last year we continue our partnership with the music agency Soundstorm. Already this term Miss Ali has been working with Year 1, exploring using different types of voice (chanting, singing) and the children have enjoyed singing echo songs and call and response chants.

After Christmas she will teach the children in Reception and in the Summer term year 2 will start to learn how to play the recorders. The children will also be given opportunities to listen and watch each other's performances as the year progresses.

Hazel Mansell  
Music lead

## Remembrance Poppies

Each year we mark Remembrance Day by selling poppies on behalf of the Royal British Legion.

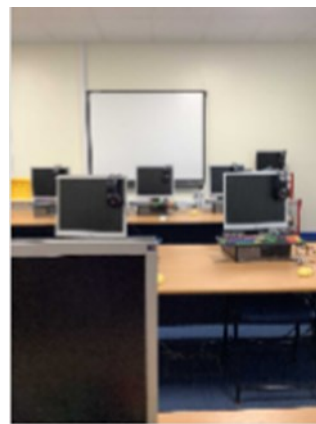
A 100% of the profits from the Poppy Appeal goes towards their work in supporting the Armed Forces and their families.

**Poppies will be on sale in school from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> - Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November, all donations welcome.**





As Mrs Edwards mentioned in our last newsletter we are redeveloping our Computing room and updating the equipment we need for our learning. Work began this term and we are already beginning to see how much potential the room has. The original layout didn't allow for clear sight of the Interactive Whiteboard when sat at the computers.



Last Friday when we moved all the existing tables to the sides of the room we were amazed at just how large the space is and are thinking carefully about how best to use the space.



We thank the PFA who are supporting this development and will be helping raise funds to purchase laptops, iPads and charging trolleys to enhance our curriculum.

Miss Lucas– Computing Lead

## QPIA PFA Update

Our PFA have held their annual AGM on the 3rd October and it was great to welcome so many new faces that want to support our school. This year brings a change in both chairperson and secretary with the previous holders stepping down, although they will still be taking a full and active role as they always have done.

The fundraising goal for the year is focused on IT and the provision of new laptops and equipment for the school. IT is at the heart of everything we do in modern society so providing the best possible equipment for our children to learn and embed these fundamental skills is essential.

The PFA are starting this years events with our regular uniform, cake and book sale which will continue to be held before every half term holiday. This years event will be on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October after school at 3.10pm so please come along, pick yourself up a bargain and support this great event.

There are also a range of uniform items available hanging on the pink rail in the community corridor. This can be accessed from the main playground during school drop off and collection. All donations for these items are welcome.

Other dates for your diary:

15<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – PFA Quiz Night and Dessert Auction

12<sup>th</sup> December 2024 – Winter Bazaar and Carols with the Band

More details of these events, and other events happening throughout the year, will be coming soon.

Kind regards

QPIA PFA



Emma Wellard– PFA Chair and Matthew Harvey PFA Secretary

# After School Clubs

## QPIA Bee Happy

We offer a secure, fun and caring after school childcare environment exclusively for children who attend Queen's Park Infant Academy, from 3.10-5.30pm

**For new reception children and for all new enquiries, please send an email with your child's name and class. I will then send out a welcome letter including details of how to book sessions for the new term. Reception children can only be booked in from their first full school day on 16th September.**

Please can all payments for Bee Happy sessions be made at the time of booking as follows:

**For online payments:** top up is required before booking.

**For childcare voucher payments:** Please transfer childcare vouchers, (we are registered as Queens Park Infant Academy), at time of booking. You will also need to advise Miss Abel by email, of the amount sent along with the date transferred. This can then be verified and added to your account.

**Email address is:** [bee.happy@coastalpartnership.co.uk](mailto:bee.happy@coastalpartnership.co.uk)

**New parents using childcare vouchers:** please advise Miss Abel on the above email address if you are using Bee Happy for the first time and wish to pay using childcare vouchers. She can then adjust your child's account so you can book sessions while waiting for the payment to arrive.

## Foundation Sports

An award winning and Ofsted registered childcare provider.

**After-school Club:** A specific sport each day

**15.15 - 16.30pm** £6.50

Mondays: Football

Tuesday– Multi sports

Wednesday– Gymnastics

For more information and to book please click the link below;

<https://www.foundation-play.com/qpia>

## Forest School After School Club– Year 2 Only

Forest school runs on Tuesday straight after school, until 4.15pm, to book please click the link below.

<https://www.primary-forest-school.co.uk/bookings>

# Office Reminders

## **The Late Book**

If you arrive at school after the gates have been locked and enter through the main office please sign your child into school by completing the late book.

## **Medication**

If your child needs to take a dose of prescribed medicine during the school day, (4 x a day only) please come to the main office where you will need to fill in a form with one of our first aiders. Please do not send medicine into school in book bags.

Please be aware that we are unable to administer Calpol to children unless prescribed as part of a medical plan.

## **Named clothing**

Please can all items of clothing including: School uniform, hats, coats, PE kit, lunch boxes, drink bottles etc be clearly named.

It makes it much easier to reunite them with the right person if they are lost.

## **Bikes and Scooters**

The school cannot accept liability for bicycles and scooters left on the school grounds. The gates and bike sheds are locked during the day between 9am and 3pm, but at all other times they may be insecure and unattended, so please take bikes and scooter home at the end of each day.

Please remember bikes and scooters are not allowed in the playground unless being carried by an adult.



## **Second Hand Uniform**

Please email the PFA for all second hand uniform enquires on; [qpia.pfauniform@gmail.com](mailto:qpia.pfauniform@gmail.com)

## **Parking Outside School**

**To keep children safe & healthy, please turn your engines off when parked on the road outside school.**



## ARBOR—PARENT PORTAL

Thank you to those that have signed up for the Parent Portal already.

Did you know on the Arbor Parent Portal you can:

- Check the contact details we have registered for your child
- Amend contact details
- Add dietary requirements
- See your child's attendance
- Pay for trips online
- Book Bee Happy After School Club

It is best, once you have registered via the Arbor website, to then download the App onto your phone with notifications activated, as you can also receive messages via the App.

If you need the register email re sent, please email the office on

[gpia.office@coastalpartnership.co.uk](mailto:gpia.office@coastalpartnership.co.uk)

## Important Information regarding Absence Messages

If your child is unwell and going to be absent from school please telephone the school office and leave a message on the absence line.

The phone number is **01202 528805** and choose Option 1. Please leave your child's name, class and reason for absence.

If no explanation for absence is received, you will be sent a text via the Arbor system, you can then either respond to this text or phone the school.



# Attendance

## School Matters!

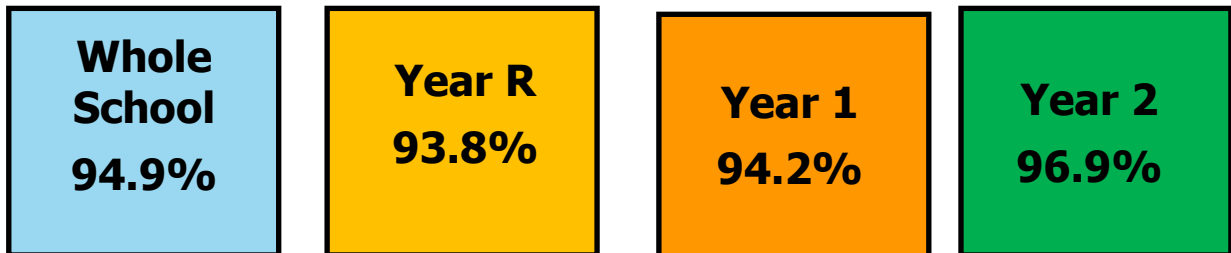


At QPIA we continue to work together to ensure that every child's attendance is the best it can be.

Quite simply, children do better at school if they attend regularly and we aim for at least 96%.

Well done to Year 2 who have the highest attendance:

Attendance figures since September.



If your child has a medical or dental appointment during the school day, please let the office know in advance of the absence.

We will ask for an appointment letter to be seen.

Please remember you can speak with Mrs Parker, our Family Support Worker , if you have worries or concerns in regards to attendance and thankyou for your ongoing support.

## Attendance Matters



# Dates for your Diary



**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November - Half Term**

## **November**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>**

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>

Friday 8<sup>th</sup>

## **Inset Day**

First Day of term

Individual Photos

Reception Heights & Weights

Monday 11<sup>th</sup>—Friday 15<sup>th</sup>

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November

Friday 15<sup>th</sup>

Friendship Week

Creature Teacher visits Kingfishers and Barn Owls

Children In Need– mufti day- Spots or Blue clothing

Creature Teacher visits Blackbirds and Robins

7pm PFA Quiz

## **December**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup>

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>

Yr1 Trip to Etches Museum—Badgers

Yr1 Trip to Etches Museum—Foxes

Yr1 Trip to Etches Museum—Hedgehogs

Yr1 Trip to Etches Museum –Otters

Monday 9<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>

Yr1 Visit St Francis Church

9.15am– Kingfishers Nativity

10.15am Robins Nativity

Yr1 Visit St Francis Church

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>

9.15am– Blackbirds Nativity

10.15– Barn Owls Nativity

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>

Winter Bazaar

5.30pm Carols with the Band

Friday 13<sup>th</sup>

Treehouse Theatre present Cinderella

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>

Friday 20<sup>th</sup>

Christmas Lunch menu

Christmas party day

Last Day of term- **1.30pm Finish**

## **Christmas Holidays**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January**

## **Staff Training Days**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025- CLP Trust Inset