

# Newsletter



**PATTISON**  
COLLEGE  
**2/05/2017**  
**ISSUE 15**

Dear Parents

I do hope you had a lovely Bank Holiday and that Easter is not too distant a memory the as we start another very busy term with exams and the school shows.

Speaking of which, if you would like to advertise your company in our programme, please contact Mrs Hanks, sooner rather than later.

A reminder as always, not to hesitate to contact us should you have any concerns. We are here to do the best for your children.

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## Easter Celebrations

Thanks to everyone who came to join the festivities on what was a most enjoyable occasion for pupils, parents and staff, at a particularly busy end of term. Thanks also to the PTA for providing so many lovely prizes and delightful refreshments.

Congratulations to all the Prep School children on their creativity decorating the hall and to the enthusiastic support families gave to everyone who entered the various competitions. It was delightful to see such imaginative chocolate eggs, poems and headwear.

## Staff News

I am sure parents would like to join me in thanking Mrs Coleman for all her hard work and commitment over the years and wishing her well for the future. She is leaving for family reasons but has been a key member of Pattisons staff since 2002, with only a short break away. Originally she worked with Miss Connor in the Nursery when the Early Years was awarded an Outstanding Ofsted Inspection in 2004. Now most parents will know Mrs Coleman from the pre-school supervision however. To find someone to follow in her footsteps will not be an easy task and certainly pupils with whom she has worked as a teaching assistant and playground supervisor, as well as all the staff, will miss her greatly.

## Summer Uniform

Summer uniform is now optional, although the weather is still very changeable. Summer dresses will be available at the Clive Mark uniform sale. See below.

## Clive Mark Uniform Sale Friday 26 May 3pm

The date of the next uniform sale is Friday 26 May in the downstairs front classroom in the senior school. This is instead of the sale planned for Saturday 6 May to ensure Clive Mark have an adequate stock of summer dresses.

## Examinations

The Prep School, Years 1 to 6, will be starting their assessments next week but Years 7, 8 and 9 are already busy with their examinations. Year 9 are starting some of their GCSE courses now, as a result of the much more demanding requirements of the new examinations. See over for an explanation of grades.

### Examination Levels

For your information we have decided in the senior school to keep using the original National Curriculum levels that parents are familiar with for now and will be introducing a new system from September for Years 7 to 9. Years 10 and 11s grades will use the 9-1 system that the English and Maths GCSEs will be using this year. A serious explanation of the changes is available to view on the Ofqual YouTube channel called "GCSE grades in England are changing". A slightly more entertaining but equally informative video is available on the Teaching and Learning Resources for Me YouTube channel called "The New GCSE Grades 9-1 Explained in 2 Minutes". You could always turn the music down!

### School Outings

This Friday the Early Years will be spending a fun packed morning at Brandon Marsh learning all about their "Prickly Friends" i.e. hedgehogs. On Friday 12 May the Year 11 pupils will be going to Drayton Manor, thanks to the generosity of the PTA. Finally, also on 12 May, Mr & Mrs Thompson will be taking 15 pupils from Years 4 to 7 for an adventure weekend at the Boreatton Park PGL centre.

### Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

The Sainsbury Active Kids scheme finishes today but there is still time to send in any vouchers that may be languishing at the bottom of purses, bags or pockets. All vouchers will be gratefully received.

### School Show Step by Step 24 June

Tickets for the school show are now available to purchase on the Albany Theatre website <http://albanytheatre.co.uk/step-by-step>. Just days after going on sale, 119 tickets have already been sold, so please do not delay in purchasing yours!

Could I please ask parents to ensure that the licence exemption reply slip is returned to school this week. The information is needed by the local authority and without it pupils will not be allowed to perform. The information on this form will also be used to create the cast list used on the DVDs and in the programme, so it is most important that they are returned as soon as possible.

We are in the process of finalising the programme for this year's show if anyone would like to take the opportunity to advertise their company. Please contact Mrs Hanks for more details.

## **DIARY DATES**

MAY	2	Year 7, 8 & 9 exams all week	4	EYFS outing to Brandon Marsh
	8	SATS week	8	Mental Health Awareness Week
	10	PTA meeting	12	Y11 to Drayton Manor
	12	PGL Adventure weekend	14	Students & Troupe in Charity Cabaret at Coventry University
	16	GCSEs start	20	Young Entertainer at Belgrade Theatre
	26	Clive Mark Uniform Sale 3pm in Senior School	29	May Half Term
	JUNE	5	School reopens	10
15		Y11 Geography field trip	17	<b>School Show Dress Rehearsals in school hall</b>
20		LAMDA exams	23	<b>Show rehearsals at Albany Theatre</b>
24		<b>School show—two performances</b>	26	<b>School closed (Inset)</b>
JULY	8	Clive Mark Uniform Sale	17	Prep School parents afternoon
	18	Prep School disco?	19	School closes 3pm

**School reopens on Wednesday 6 September. Next year's holiday dates will be published soon.**