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Pashley Down Infant School

Kindness Positivity Honesty Resilience Respect Independence



Newsletter 3 – Monday 12th January

Dear Parents,

A belated "Happy New Year" to you all! This newsletter is slightly late coming to you, but there have been a few things I needed to get finalised before I detailed it in here, and didn't want to send a load of separate messages out in dribs and drabs as that's counter-productive.

I really hope you all had a good Christmas and some much-needed family time. I have to say, I have been so impressed in the way all of our children have returned in 2026 and last week was a fantastic start to term. The value we are focusing on this term is "Positive Panda" and I have challenged the children on thinking what they can do even better in 2026. There were quite a few who said they wanted to be better at tidying their bedrooms and helping their adults at home, so I do hope this is the case!

2026 marks the arrival of the brand new Pashley Pre-School and we are delighted to confirm that booking forms for this have gone out today. The information is also available on the [school website](#).

Friday Assemblies

We have introduced a new Friday Celebration Assembly this term, where children will be chosen for being their animal of the week (e.g. Robin of the Week if they are in Robins) and also to give an opportunity for children to celebrate anything they have achieved outside of school. This could be a swimming certificate or badge they have earnt, a dance certificate for passing an exam etc. Anything where they can show they have achieved something and they can start bringing these in on a Friday from this week, 16th January. In order for us to ensure we aren't inundated on the first week, it needs to be something they have achieved since 1st December 2025. Eventually I would like Parents to be able to attend these assemblies, but at this stage it is something for us to perfect within school.

Tricky Mornings Parent Workshop

We are running our next Parent Workshop from East Sussex Mental Health team on Monday 26th January at 9.00am in the hall. We have chosen this because we know this is relevant for many of our families, where the children find it difficult to get ready for school in the morning, or are anxious about coming in. Please see the poster at the end of this newsletter to book yourself on. I highly recommend it.

Support Directory for Parents

I am delighted to share with you a brand new "directory" that gives you information on where to look, should you be wanting support for a whole range of parenting needs around your child. For example, if your child is struggling to sleep, when there has been a bereavement in the family and you aren't sure how to approach this with your child etc. The list is extensive and can be found on the school website by clicking [this link](#).

Little Adventurers Summer Holiday Club 2026

We are delighted to confirm we will be running this again in 2026 and it will run from Monday, 3rd August to Friday 14th August. Information on how to book a place will be coming out very soon....!

Reading

Reading regularly at home is one of the most powerful things parents can do to support their child's learning, particularly in the early years. Even 5 minutes a day builds vocabulary, confidence and comprehension, and children who develop this habit early go on to make significantly stronger progress across school. We encourage families to invest in a small set of decodable reading books for home alongside the school reading book, as re-reading familiar texts is key for developing fluency and enjoyment. It doesn't matter what scheme you buy, as long as it is 'synthetic phonics'. Second hand is a great idea! Ask Mrs Lewis if you want specific links.

EYFS and Year 1 parents will also see new phonics bookmarks attached to reading diaries, showing the sounds and tricky words children are working on, repeated practice of these makes a real difference. Little and often truly works, and the payoff for children is huge.

Library/ Reading Volunteers

We are also looking for parent and carer (or grandparent!) volunteers who may be able to support reading and help in the school library. This could include listening to children read, helping them choose books, or supporting the organisation of the library. Even a small, regular commitment makes a real difference to children's confidence and enjoyment of reading. If you are able to help or would like more information, please contact the school office, we would love to hear from you.

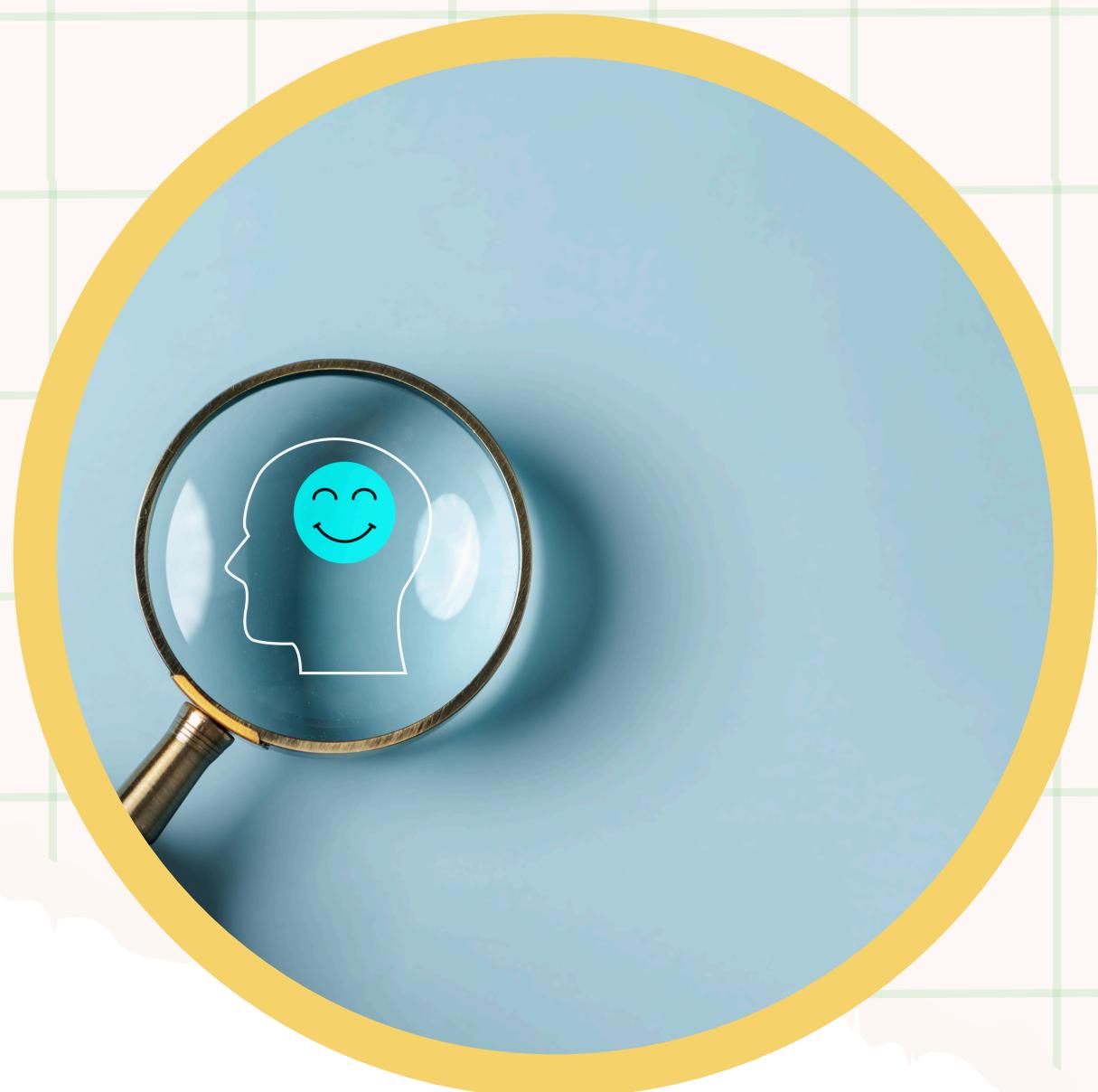
Change of Clothes

We are asking for all children to have a spare change of clothes in a bag that can sit on their peg, just in case they need it. This could be for a toilet accident but also if getting wet at playtimes etc. Hopefully it won't need to be used, but we as a school are struggling to have the clothes available should a child need them.

Raising Money for School Resources

This March staff and parents are raising funds through the Eastbourne Half Marathon, and we'd love your support. Any donations, big or small, will make a real difference and go directly towards supporting our school and children. If you're feeling brave and would like to run with us, we'd be delighted to have you on the team, it's a great way to get involved and support the school community. You can donate or find out more via our [JustGiving page](#), and thank you in advance for your generosity and encouragement.

ME & MY MIND, MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM

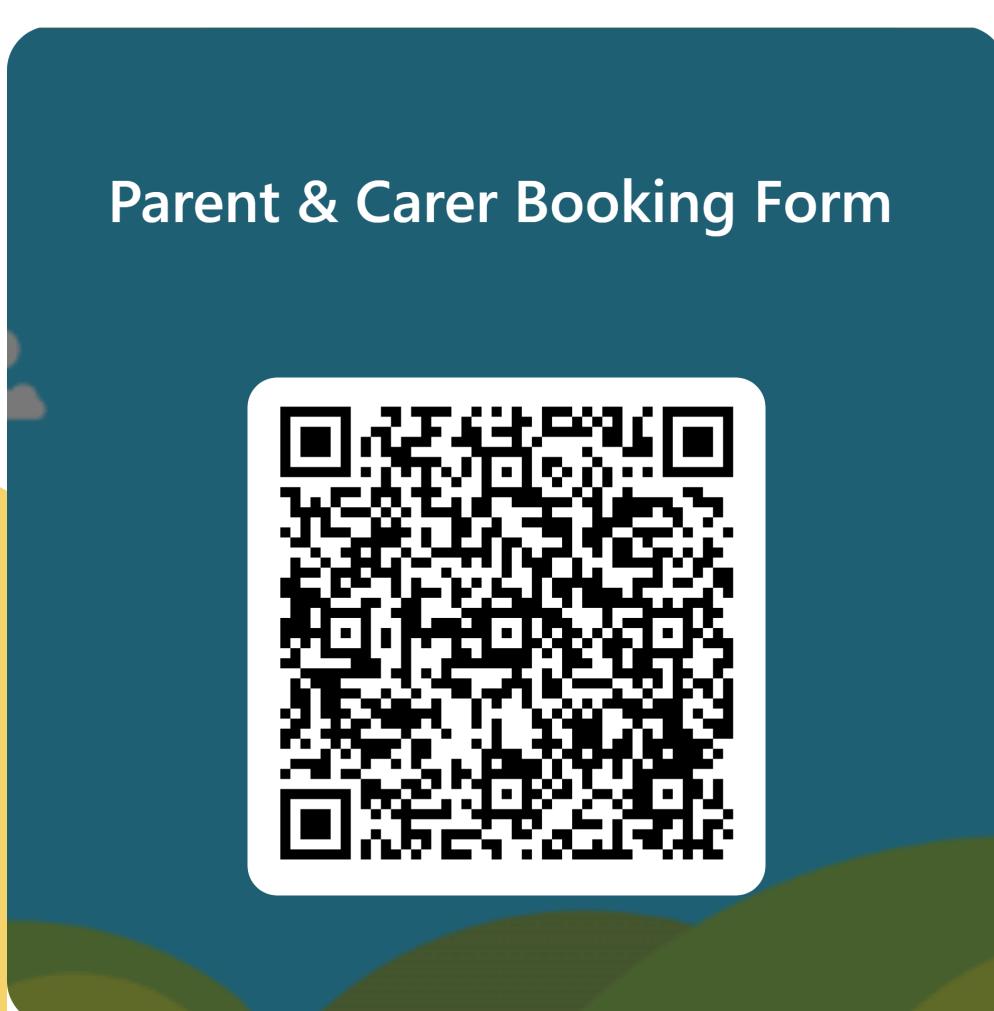


In this session, we will share information about children's mental health and wellbeing and ideas for supporting them.

We aim to make these sessions as informal and comfortable for you as possible. There is no pressure for you to share anything about yourself or your family.

Booking Information

Please use this booking form to book your space by clicking this link or scanning the QR code



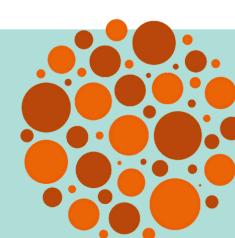
INFORMATION











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