



NEWSLETTER

MARCH '23

HEADTEACHER'S ADDRESS...

Dear Parent / Carer,

Welcome to this newsletter regarding the Pilgrim School. As always, the term has been a busy one again for staff and pupils alike. The newsletter gives a flavour of the wide range of activities and opportunities that your child has at the Pilgrim school.

The building of hope is central to the work of the school. Our curriculum thinking has the building of psychological hope as its key work. This helps improve pupil academic outcomes, attendance, health and ability to regulate. Everything you read about in this newsletter connects to hope and helps build pupils up. This might be through the "big" events such as the school trip to Bradford or through smaller activities such as cooking. At its core is the work in the classroom. I am very proud of all our pupils as I see them re-engage with education at their own pace.

The culmination of many pupils work at Pilgrim school will be their year 11 examinations. Sometimes pupils can feel these exams looming and the pressure of them. Nobody can deny that there is exam pressure. However, we would remind pupils that these exams are an opportunity for them to demonstrate what they have learnt at this point, what they have learnt as they re-engage with education. The exams are not their final destination on their educational journey, more of a station stop and soon they will continue on their way.



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Get in touch:

enquiries@pilgrim.lincs.sch.uk

01522 682319

I would like to thank the governors for all they do in supporting the work of the school – holding leaders to account; ensuring the school is heading in the right direction and being financially responsible.

Even after being at the school for over 10 years I continue to be amazed and thankful for all the opportunities that the school provides for pupils and adults, the hard work of staff and the resilience of “our” young people.

I hope everybody is able to have a good and restful Easter break.

Regards,

Steve Barnes.

GOVERNORS' UPDATE...

Being a relatively new grandmother, I am amazed at how quickly my granddaughter has grown and developed in the first three years of her life. I am being re-educated in parenting/grandparenting styles and approaches to life in the 2020's. In particular, my eyes have been opened as to how we use language and how we are influenced by historical and traditional stereotypes from Pre-School age, right through Primary and Secondary School ages. I am learning there are now a variety of different opportunities to include a more diverse response to living in this decade.

That set me off thinking about the many different ways there are to approach education in schools and how to be inclusive and diverse. The Pilgrim School has much to offer our students; to help each person to be self-confident and to have an attitude of acceptance towards a varied and diverse approach to life. The education on offer is undoubtedly different to the education we received when we were all school age! As adults, we are indeed being re-educated.

As Governors we have every confidence that our students are going to be great members of society based on the acceptance and guidance of the hope filled education on offer; whether it be within the subject content; within the staff/student rapport; or within peer-to-peer support. Learning for life is so much more than traditional subject learning and as educators, parents, and carers we all have a supportive role to play. Yes, those students preparing for national exams will need confidence and support from school and from home; but all students require our support as they learn to adapt to living life in all its fullness in the 2020's.

We hope you all enjoy the holiday break; rest and relaxation are vital ingredients for us to be the best that we can be. And as we bring our own inner light to shine on those around us, we can be beacons of hope in our local communities. If anyone is thinking of offering to be a Governor at The Pilgrim School, we would welcome you with openness and thankfulness. The more inclusive and diverse we can be as a group of Governors, then the better we will govern!

Barbara Temple

Chair of Governors on behalf of the Full Governing Body.

SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION...

Thank you to all parents and carers for the continued positive relationships that you have formed with the staff at Pilgrim. This has proven to be highly effective in allowing us to safeguard and support the pupils.

If support is required over the holidays, please reach out!

You don't need to be at rock bottom to ask for help



Samaritans:	116 123
Childline:	0800 111
Mind:	0300 123 3393
Young Minds:	Txt YM to 85258 (youth)
Shout	Txt 85258 (any age)
Domestic abuse hotline:	0808 2000 247
SANEline:	0300 304 7000
Drink line:	0300 123 1110
Cruise Bereavement Care:	0808 808 1677
Age UK:	0800 169 6565

It's good to talk!

@youthwhispering

Professor Paul McGee's (Sumo Guy) practical guide to help you, and those close to you, manage, not banish, your blues:

1. Hippo Time is OK, but...

What do Hippos do in mud? They wallow. It's ok to have some wallow time in order to digest our disappointment, process our pain, or sit with our sadness.

It's healthy to do so.

Just remember, Hippo Time is temporary. It's a detour, not a destination.

2. Remember, feeling bad could do you good.

This is counterintuitive and controversial I know, but feeling low could be your body's way of flagging up a problem that needs resolving.

Pain is a signal. So is feeling low.

Ask yourself 'What's causing me to feel this way?'

3. Nature is your best therapist.

We didn't evolve as a species to stay indoors and look at screens.

So... don't scroll inside, take a stroll outside.

Notice the changing seasons. Listen. Watch. Feel.

4. Seeking support is not a sign of weakness, it's a sign of wisdom.

Life wasn't meant to be faced alone. You don't need to emote to everyone, but do talk to someone.

A stiff upper lip is not a great look.

5. Don't be a 'Happy Clappy' friend.

Although it can be well-meaning, telling someone to 'cheer up' is rarely helpful.

As the psychologist Adam Grant states, some people don't want to be told to look on the bright side, but they do want to know you are by their side.

6. You don't have to feel great to do good.

Feeling low can be the catalyst for intense introspection, which can leave us feeling disconnected from our outside world.

Showing kindness and support to others - even when you don't feel like it - can boost your sense of self-worth.

7. Limit your consumption of C.N.N.

Consuming a daily diet of Constant Negative News, via the media or your mates, is the perfect cocktail for lowering your mood.

If you eat rubbish, you'll feel rubbish. The same goes for what you feed your mind. Remember that.

Lincolnshire Police Prevent Team

It can be hard to know what to do if you're worried someone close is expressing extreme views or hatred, which could lead to them harming themselves or others. Working with other organisations, the police protect vulnerable people from being exploited by extremists through a Home Office programme called Prevent.

Young people can be at a greater risk of being targeted by extremists and the internet has made it much easier for radicalisers to find and identify people who might be easily influenced.

In Lincolnshire, last year most of the cases referred to Prevent related to young people and one of the biggest concerns was online activity including the sharing of extremist information.

Friends and family are often the first to spot worrying changes taking place. These can be big or small changes that take place very quickly or over a longer period. Trust your instincts and if you're concerned seek advice.

ACT Early provides advice on the risks of radicalisation, spotting the signs and what to do if concerned.

[ACT Early | Prevent radicalisation](#)

<https://actearly.uk>

CALL HOPELINEUK 0800 068 41 41

BECOME

0800 023 2033

www.becomecharity.org.uk

Help, support and advice to children in care and young care leavers so that they can unleash their potential and take control of their lives.

Runaway Helpline

116 000

www.runawayhelpline.org.uk

Runaway Helpline is here if you are thinking about running away, if you have already run away, or if you have been away and come back. You can also contact the Helpline if you are worried that someone else is going to run away or if they are being treated badly or abused. You can call or text for free, 24 hours a day. It's all confidential.

The Mix

0808 808 4994

www.themix.org.uk

Essential support for under 25s. Phone, Email, Web support and Counselling.

www.themix.org.uk/get-support/speak-to-our-team/crisis-messenger - The Mix's Crisis Messenger text service is available 24/7 and open to anyone aged 25 or under living in the UK.

If you're in crisis and need to talk, text **THEMIX to 85258**

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HOPE CURRICULUM...

At The Pilgrim School, we follow a Hope curriculum which has been created and developed to meet the needs of the community we serve. We think of Hope as a verb rather than a noun; by this we mean that being hopeful is an action and not a feeling. Being Hopeful means:

1. Thinking to the future (goal setting).
2. Being able to imagine different ways of reaching that future (pathways).
3. Making decisions and working towards the future in as many small steps as are needed (agency).

Of course nothing is straightforward, and we know that many of our pupils and families come to us following really challenging times and aren't ready to think about Hope themselves. This is OK, and needing time to 'survive' is normal. This is where we come in. We can 'lend' you our hope whilst you have space to breathe. We can think about your future and the skills and qualities you possess. Emeka Nnaka, someone who has experienced very difficult times, said: 'It's in those moments that we need others to shine a little light for us until they can find the light for themselves'.

Something else we do to support our hopeful thinking is to focus on 'Hopeful Heroes' who can give us examples of ways in which they have been hopeful. One of these is Marcus Rashford and below is a little bit of information about him and how he has acted with hope. He overcame difficult circumstances and acted with hope; something which we try to develop.

How did he act with hope?

Goals: Firstly, Marcus wanted to play for Manchester United. Subsequently he wanted to reduce child food poverty.

Having pathways: As a youngster Marcus practiced football every day. Now, he continues to work tirelessly to reduce child poverty.

Working towards a goal: There were different routes to both his football career and awareness raising about food poverty. He has found ways to work around obstacles in his way.

Marcus Rashford:

A Pilgrim Hopeful Hero

"Big things rarely happen overnight and good things rarely happen as if by magic."



What is

a Hopeful Hero?

These are famous people whose stories are talked about across all subjects. They have been voted for by members of the school community because their stories reflect the three strands of Hope:

1. Setting goals
2. Having pathways
3. Working towards the goals

What is his story?

Marcus was the youngest of five children and was raised by their single Mum who had multiple jobs to try and make ends meet.

Aged 11, at his Mum's request, he enrolled on Manchester United's Schoolboy Scholar scheme, partly because there was catered accommodation on offer.

Marcus' football career has since gone from strength to strength, even after being a victim of racist abuse following an England penalty miss in Euro 2020.

However it is his awareness raising in relation to child food poverty which has set him apart! During the pandemic, Rashford campaigned for free school meals to be continued during lockdowns and throughout the school holidays, helping to raise enough money for the provision of more than 21 million meals. He has spoken very openly about his own experiences and has so far written two books aimed to help young people fulfil their destiny.

PILGRIM SCHOOL TERMS & HOLIDAYS 2022/2023

<i>Inset Days: Friday 2nd September & Monday 5th September 2022</i>		
Term 1	to	Tuesday 6 September 2022
	Friday	21 October 2022
<i>Inset Day: Monday 31st October 2022</i>		
Term 2	to	Tuesday 1 November 2022
	Monday	19 December 2022
Bank Holidays:- Monday 26, Tuesday 27 December 2022 & Monday 2 January 2023		
<i>Inset Day: Tuesday 3rd January 2023</i>		
Term 3	to	Wednesday 4 January 2023
	Friday	10 February 2023
Term 4	Monday	20 February 2023
	to	
	Friday	31 March 2023
Bank Holidays:- Friday 7 April & Monday 10 April 2023		
<i>Inset Day Monday 17th April 2023</i>		
Term 5	to	Tuesday 18 April 2023
	Friday	26 May 2023
Bank Holidays:- Monday 1 & Monday 29 May 2023		
Term 6	Monday	5 June 2023
	to	
	Friday	21 July 2023

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN OUR BASES THIS TERM

AMBER HILL NEWS....



Australia Day

On Australia Day we wore bright colours. We also had several quizzes on the day, one on facts about Australia and another one about Australian slang! As well as all that we enjoyed a BBQ at lunchtime and watched an episode of Neighbours.



Drawing club

On Monday lunchtimes we have drawing club! Some of the students use this time to practice drawing techniques, socialise and to do some fun creative games.

Pokémon Day

On the 27th of February, we celebrated national Pokémon day. Students and staff came in dressed as their favourite Pokémon character. We also had a Pokémon themed bake sale to raise some money for the Turkey/Syria earthquake at break and lunch. We managed to raise £12. At lunch we held a Pokémon scavenger hunt where the students had to find hidden around the school a variety of Pokémon cards.



Red Nose Day

In Amber Hill we had lots of activities with Pie Face being the crowd favourite! We dressed in our PJs for the day and at break and lunch we had lots of homemade goodies for our bake sale, including lots of gluten free options. We were also raising money by having a raffle and selling votes for pie face. At lunch time we held the first official Pilgrim Family Fortunes that was a lot of fun and the students beat the staff even though it was 3 students against 10 staff. To finish the day, we pried 3 people - John Blomeley, Kieran Montgomery and one of our willing students NG. Overall, as a base we raised £130, which is amazing, so thank you to everyone who contributed.

So overall across the three bases we raised an amazing £171.18 for Red Nose Day.

Thank you so much!

Prom planning

There hasn't been much planning for prom yet, but we have got a venue booked, it will be at the Princess Royal Sport Arena in Boston. The date is confirmed for Thursday 29th June. We have also had a few song requests from the students already from the likes of Sweet Caroline, The Macarena and plenty of Taylor Swift.

BAUMBER NEWS...

Pancake Day

February 21st saw some sweet treats for lunch. Baumber's kitchen was full of staff and students eager to get started on what was on offer. We had Chloe making Pancakes large and small and Lynne bought in her waffle maker. Toppings included sugar, lemon, caramel sauce, golden syrup, ice-cream and to top it off squirry cream. Needless to say, we were all very sleepy by the afternoon.



Dwayne

At Baumber we have had a new addition to the family. Please all meet Dwayne 'The Rock' Pilgrim. He is a real delight to have in school. The students all enjoy holding him due to his calming effect and they also like to give him a bath twice a week. They have been researching what he can and cannot eat and how to handle him properly. He has also become good friends with Otto.

WOW and Nature

This term in WOW we have been exploring nature. For some of it we have been planting bulbs in our front flower box. All the WOW and DofE students enjoyed taking part and helping to plan where the bulbs were to go as well as planting them. We are hoping that they will flower springtime next year. We have planted some snow drops, daffodils, tulips, and crocuses to give us a range of colours and heights.



We also went and had a look at the Baumber Walled Garden which is just down the road to help give us some inspiration on what we could do with our garden patch and walked around the small lake as well as the flower stalls.

Red Nose Day

At Baumber we wore green as comic relief fell on St Patrick's day. We also had a joke competition which Steve Lingard won obviously and then a comedy/Irish themed quiz. All together we raised about £12.

D of E and Archery

For part of the Bronze level Duke of Edinburgh award and also our Wednesday afternoon WOW session, staff and students took to learning a new skill - we had an amazing afternoon learning Archery - one by one staff and students had great guidance and advice from registered instructor Steve Robinson.

Thank you so much for coming to Baumber, we thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon.



LINCOLN NEWS...

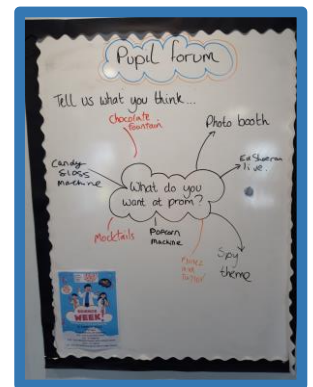
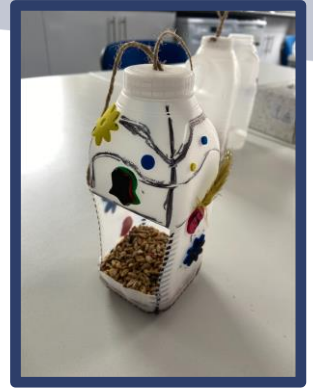


This Term our topic for WOW has been nature and we have been on walks, made bird feeders and planted seeds for the garden to harvest later in the year. As part of this we have also had a trip to 'Happy Hooves' with students from the Baumber base and everyone had great fun cuddling the animals and bathing the tortoises!

We do pupil forum a little differently in Lincoln and leave the questions for the pupils to answer, here is the all-important prom question: (we might struggle to fulfil a few requests!)

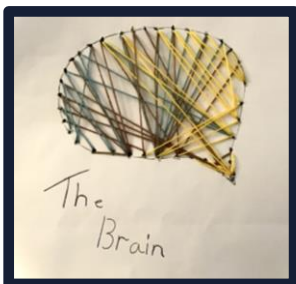
For Red Nose Day in Lincoln we wore red and had a table tennis competition, at lunch we had a bake off and then sold the cakes. It was a really fun day and raised an amazing £29.18.

The 'Ultimate Uno Challenge' or UUC is well under way in Lincoln! Staff and pupils are battling it out to become the ultimate UUC champion!!!!!!! Who will win????

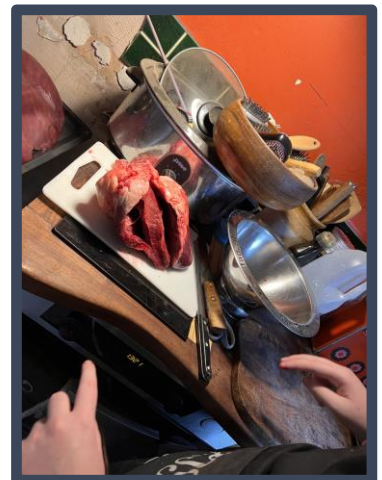


HOME TAUGHT...

I continue to be amazed and proud of all of the achievements of our students who, at the moment, are unable to access a base, meaning they receive an aspect of their learning in the home. Students embrace so many different ways for learning - face to face, virtually, sometimes coming to a base or your mainstream, and for some students a mixture of everything! We have a very talented team of teachers, pastoral support, academic links, and administrative team all working together to help you to access and experience as much of Pilgrim life as you can. Thank you to all of **you, your** families and **your** Pilgrim team.



Year 11s continue to prepare for their Summer exams and are looking towards the future looking at, and applying for colleges and other pathways for Post 16. Many of you will be sitting your exams in your home environment and some of you will sit them in a Pilgrim base or mainstream. Whichever way you are sitting your exams, we wish you the best of luck. We hope we may see you at our Celebration day (23rd June) and Prom (29th June)?



Other students have also been trying new things and learning in different ways. Some of you have been experiencing some hands-on Forest school style lessons, making adverts for headbands, taking part in a Braintastic day for British Science week, a city trip to Bradford and work experience at an equestrian centre. We have even had heart dissections on the kitchen side! Great Meraki!

Students continue to wow with their hobbies. One of our students has been made a Minecraft Moderator. This is an official role and they have



to moderate one of the minecraft servers for Spectrum Gaming (unpaid of course). This is a huge achievement! Congratulations!

One of our home students who has made a tray in their forest school lessons from scrap pallet wood. Great sustainability and thanks to Sharon's Dad for providing the wood!

Have a lovely Easter Everyone.

Sharon



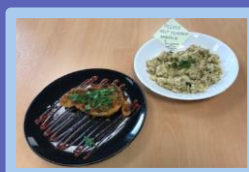
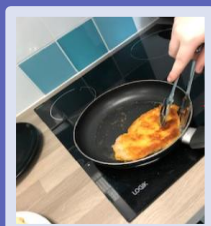
NATIONAL CHEMISTRY WEEK ...

One of the many highlights of last term was National Chemistry Week. Organised by the Science department working with The Royal Society of Chemistry, we took part in the Global Battery Project. We also invited Leicester Hospital School to take part, they thoroughly enjoyed the week. Students were challenged to make batteries from everyday items including using foil, copper washers and coins, vinegar and LEDs as well as potatoes and fruit! Students used Eunoia to work out how to build the best battery which would light as many LEDs as possible and /or give the highest voltage. Sharon recorded the results on the Global Battery Project website where they will be analysed with other school's results from as far as Japan and Australia.

Carrying on with the battery theme, during the week we received a virtual talk from Matthew and other PhD students from University College London (UCL) about their work in developing new style batteries and what it's like to be a PhD student. Sharon met the group during a Summer trip to the Royal Society Chemistry, London where they were demonstrating their work with car batteries and potato batteries. She discovered whilst chatting to Matthew that he was in fact from Boston and knew Pilgrim School well!

The finale for National Chemistry week was the presenting of the Science Department with their award for 'Excellence in Secondary and Further Education' from the Royal Society of Chemistry. Emily from the Education department visited Amber Hill to present the trophy and we were joined virtually by Professor Dudley Shallcross from Bristol University. Students and staff joined us from Baumber and Lincoln bases where we received an informative talk about Climate Change from Dudley and enjoyed yummy 'Periodic table' cakes.

LANGUAGES NEWS ...



In languages lessons at Pilgrim, we have continued to learn about different cultures, as well as new vocabulary. Students did a tour of the school (in German) and have been creating delicious recipes in the kitchen. As our topic has been 'Food & Drink' in German recently, we decided to create restaurant-style dishes and some other traditional culinary delights! We enjoyed cooking Schnitzel & Spätzle in Baumber recently and baking festive Lebkuchen in all bases. French cuisine coming soon....

OTTO...

Otto has continued with his training around the bases this term and now the weather is a bit brighter, tutor time walks and outings have started again.

He is increasingly familiar with the layout of each base and what is/isn't for chewing (although door stops are a current favourite!)

He has passed the next level of his obedience training and is now working towards the Silver Good Citizen Award. However, as adolescence hits this may take a little longer to achieve 😊

Otto's natural aptitude for the job is evident and highlights this term include gently comforting pupils in distress, supporting as a 'weighted blanket' when needed and generally working out how to behave around individual pupils (and staff) with different confidence levels around dogs.

We are very much looking forward to the summer term and making the most of the outdoor space available.

Please see below a few memories from Otto's second term at school:



Out at Hartsholme with Lincoln WOW



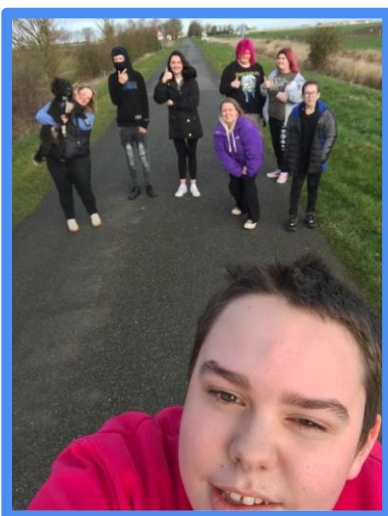
Otto the Viking on a walk



Bronze award



World Book Day, with Dwayne the tortoise.



Walk at Amber Hill



First Snow at Baumber



Walk at the Walled Garden, Baumber

DRAMA THERAPY...

The Pilgrim School is proud to be hosting a student drama therapist from the University of Derby for the first time. Previous placements for student art therapists have been a success and we are excited to be expanding this offer to other creative therapies in the hope that we can work towards a more consistent therapeutic offer.

As with previous placements, unfortunately there is limited capacity for our pupils to access this support and so referrals are carefully considered by the Pastoral Assistant Head, school counsellor and PSWS team. If you would like more information about this process please get in touch. The following is provided to help aid understanding of drama therapy and introduce our current student, Bobbie:

My name is Bobbie. I am a trainee Drama Therapist, studying MA Drama Therapy at the University of Derby. I will be working with clients within the The Pilgrim School until the end of the school year and have been with the school since the end of January, understanding the procedures and obligations the school requires from me.

What is Drama Therapy?

Drama therapy is a form of psychotherapy that uses drama as its primary mode of expression and communication. As the drama therapy process can be a mask form of communication, it can help individuals who might find it difficult to talk about their experiences using words.

Drama Therapy aims to support and promote mental, emotional, and physical well-being. Within a safe environment, it can help individuals to explore a variety of issues or concerns, such as;

- Difficulty in communicating emotions
- Increased depression or anxiety
- Feelings of isolation
- Friend and Family relationships
- Resolving conflict
- Managing stress
- Coping mechanisms

Drama Therapy can be a positive experience that can increase a sense of identity, personal value or self-awareness. It can also be a chance to reflect on what is happening for you now and what you may want for the future.

Drama Therapy is not a drama class and there is no expectation to be good at acting. However, a willingness to engage and embody yourself in the acting materials will show the therapeutic process.

Drama Therapists work in line with the professional codes of conduct and principles of practice set by the British Association of Drama Therapists (BADTH) and the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC). With this comes confidentiality, anything created during therapy sessions will remain confidential and kept in locked storage until the end of therapy. What is discussed within the session will remain private. However, if concerns arise regarding risk or harm, there may be a need to breach confidentiality, wherever possible this will be discussed with client before further steps are taken.

A typical session may be on a 1:1 basis or in a group depending on requirements. The day and time of the sessions will be chosen in consideration of the client's lessons with the aim of having minimal disruption to their learning. Sessions aim to last for around 50 minutes but can be adapted to suit the client's needs. In the session, clients will be able to work at their own pace and we can explore the material brought to a session, this could be through playing games, looking at stories or you can choose what you would like to create and talk about.

For further information or support, please visit British Association of Drama therapists: www.Badth.org.uk . Health Care and Professions Council: www.hcpc-uk.org .

Contacts: vicki.steadman@pilgrim.lincs.sch.uk bobbie.dilloway@pilgrim.lincs.sch.uk

MEET THE ENGLISH TEAM...

Jen

Hi, I am Jen. My main subjects at the Pilgrim School are languages and I teach French and German across the bases. I also teach English to Key Stage Three (KS3) and have recently enjoyed delving into the stories of the Shakespearean characters of Romeo & Juliet with the KS3 group in Baumber. I sometimes teach PSHE and humanities as well. I enjoy the variety of subjects I teach here at Pilgrim. My favourite books to read are related to psychology and particularly how the brain functions- I highly recommend the book 'My Inner Chimp' by Prof. Steve Peters to young readers.

Sarah

Hello I'm Sarah and I teach English at Lincoln and Amber Hill. I am married and have a 10-year-old son. I love animals and we have two dogs and a guinea pig. In my spare time, I love going to the theatre, reading crime novels and crocheting blankets. I really enjoy teaching the Literature at Pilgrim School, especially An Inspector Calls and A Christmas Carol.

Claire

English teacher at Pilgrim Lincoln and Baumber.

I love my job!

I enjoy teaching Literature particularly, especially Shakespeare and Poetry.

My passion outside of school is shared between cycling (not very fast) and dog walking (also at a leisurely pace!)

Hope

My name is Hope and I am (now) a trainee English Teacher. I have worked at Pilgrim for almost 10 years, in a variety of roles, and have been in the education field for 25 years. Prior to moving to Lincoln many years ago, I worked in Berkshire for an educational charity, working in a number of roles supporting young people, my last post being a SEND Adviser.

I am thoroughly enjoying my experience of teaching at Pilgrim, and I have really enjoyed the challenge of our most recent topic - Power and Conflict poetry.

Whilst I have always loved reading, I am finding I have less and less time to get into a good book, so have been listening to a lot of podcasts lately - I can multitask whilst cleaning, cooking or walking the dogs!

Yvonne

I am Yvonne. I teach mainly English literature alongside PSHE, Careers and BTECs. I studied modern literature, political history and sociology at college so am always very interested in social context. My first love of literature began with being given The Malory Towers series of books by Enid Blyton at the age of 5. I learnt to read by devouring them and the 'Famous Five' and 'Secret Seven' series before moving on to my mother's Jean Plaidy and grandfather's Agatha Christie collections. My favourite book of all time is probably 'Rebecca' and favourite writer is George Orwell. I developed a love of 'new - angry young writers' from 1950s and 1960s at college. A good proportion of my salary has gone on buying illustrated children books for my children and grand-child and my own collection of hundreds of detective and psychological thrillers which I now mainly read.

Becky

My name is Becky and I am the Head of English at The Pilgrim School. I believe that young people deserve the chance to be guided to learn about the vast array of literature, text and spoken word that is in the world, and that it will enrich their lives. I love reading and listening to audiobooks and podcasts, especially things that challenge my thinking. My favourite novels are psychological thrillers.

E-SAFETY...

It has been a term of minor upheaval for our ICT at Pilgrim, as staff have migrated to Office 365. Hopefully the students will very shortly be able to take the same leap.

Following a 360 degree Online Safety Review earlier in the year, we are about to establish Online Safety Groups in each base. These will consist of myself as the Online Safety Coordinator and Governor with responsibility for Online Safety, each base's IT Champion, a Designated Safeguarding Lead or representative, and most importantly a number of students depending on the size of the base cohort at that time.

We will meet once a term, and expect to discuss a number of issues with the pupils, eg:

- What are the children doing at home? What are the latest fads?
- What have the pupils been taught since the last meeting?
- What actions could contribute to increasing online safety at school?
- What should we include in this part of the newsletter, and who should write it? What should we report to the Governors?
- Preparation for special events, such as Safer Internet Day, Anti-Bullying Week.
- Any new technology ideas?

They will work with the Pupil Forum as well, potentially sharing group members.

We will also aim to keep you informed of any concerns in the wider school community, and provide you with e-safety hints, tips and links via Parentmail. We do receive positive feedback and are very pleased to receive any!

Regards,

Jon Stevenson.

TRIPS...

Theatre trip to York to see An Inspector Calls

On Thursday 9th February we took a group of Year 10 and 11 students to York to see a production of 'An Inspector Calls'. We took two minibuses and even had some students and staff travel by train. 'An Inspector Calls' is a set text on the English Literature curriculum, so having the opportunity to see the play performed live, in a theatre was a valuable experience for the students. Everyone seemed to have a great time and really enjoyed the show. As always, our Pilgrim students behaved impeccably and were a credit to the school. Well done to all the pupils who attended and a massive thanks to the staff who accompanied them.

Please enjoy a Lincoln pupil's experience of the day:

Pupils from the Lincoln base went in Joe's car to the train station in Newark, where we caught the train to York. When we got to York we went to McDonald's and ate in. Then we went to the theatre. When we arrived, we were escorted to our seats. After a while the show started. The play was AMAZING and very well acted. The bit that surprised me the most was when the Inspector left and the house fell apart, with fireworks exploding everywhere!

Trip to Bradford – A student's account

On the 23rd of March we went on a school trip to Bradford to explore the science and media museum and to go do VR.

The museum was fun and interesting to see. I learnt more about animation and more information about Stephen Hawkins, that I didn't know before. It was very relaxed and a comfortable environment.

After was lunch, and we had the option of Indian or burgers. I had a burger because I am quite fussy. But I still enjoyed it.

After lunch was my favourite part of the day, which was the VR. I watched my friend do the racing car VR first. It was very funny as it was a competition with other students and some staff members. I had a go on a standard VR set with my friend and we played a zombie game. Even though we were shouting a lot, we were having a lot of fun!

It was a very fun day, overall, so much fun that most of us fell asleep on the way home!

PARENTS' EVENING ...

Due to technical issues, with the communication of different IT systems, Pilgrim Staff are working hard to ensure this is functional and up and running in the very near future.

STAFFING CHANGES...

This term we have had the following changes to our staff:

NEW STARTERS:

Home Tuition Team

- Chelsea-Lea Garner - Pastoral Support
- Laura Graham - Pastoral Support
- Neil Phillips - Pastoral Support
- Melanie Bailey - Teacher
- Linda Spence – Teacher

Base staff:

- Jaimee-Leigh Burn - Pastoral Support
- Georgina Cooper - TA
- Abigail Baldock - TA

STAFF LEAVING:

Home Tuition Team

- Cara Salway - Teacher
- Leisha Jerram - Teacher

OTHER NEWS:

We work closely with Bishop Grosseteste University (BGU) and have students with us during the year on placements at the bases. We are also working with Derby University and have a drama therapy student with us on a placement.

EXAMS UPDATE ...

Most of our Year 11 students took their GCSE mock exams in January with papers being sat across all 3 bases, and some home students sitting at home.

There are just a few weeks left until Summer GCSEs begin, which this year run from Monday 15th May – Friday 16th June. Across the whole school we will have:

- 48 year 11s entered for GCSEs by either Pilgrim or their mainstream school.
- 15 students sitting their exams either at home or their mainstream school.
- 4 home taught / blended students who will be sitting some or all of their exams in a Pilgrim base.

All families of year 11 pupils should have received a copy of their individual candidate timetable and a covering letter explaining procedures for transport and expected attendance during exams.

In summary for Year 11 pupils:

- On non-exam days, attendance according to their normal timetable is expected.
- On exam days attendance in the session of their exams only is expected (am or pm). We will amend taxis for exam days where needed.
- Attendance is not expected after a student's last exam and up to Friday 23rd June. Parents should cancel taxis on these days.
- Students last day will be on Friday 23rd June for Celebration Day.

Families should be aware of the awarding bodies contingency days which would be invoked in the event of national or significant local disruption to exams in the United Kingdom for example, extremely high temperatures or other national emergency. In the event of a national event or incident exams can be moved to these contingency days at short notice.

For this Summer's exams the contingency sessions are on the afternoons of Thursday 8th June and Thursday 15th June. The standard contingency day is at the end of the timetable on Wednesday 28th June 2023.

Candidates must remain available until Wednesday 28th June 2023 should examinations need to be rescheduled. Please bear this in mind when making your plans for after the end of exams.

If you have any questions or concerns relating to exams please contact our exams officer liz.hallissey@pilgrim.lincs.sch.uk We wish all of our Year 11 students the very best of luck in their upcoming examinations. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of you, and how you have overcome many challenges and difficulties which brought you to this point, along your own, unique journey. Achieving your qualifications is just one small part of your whole Pilgrim experience and whatever those results slips say in August, know that we are all proud.

Happy Easter

