

# Pickering Community Infant & Nursery School

## School Newsletter No 13

16th March 2018



### Christopher Vine

Our Year Two children were lucky to spend the day last week with author Christophe Vine who writes stories based around railways and engineering.



The children spent time listening to his stories, learning about being an author and working with

him to begin writing their own stories. They have followed it up this week by continuing their own train based adventures. They also received a set of signed books to add to our library collection. Children and families were also given the option of purchasing signed copies of his books.

This visit was funded by the money that our Friends of School raise, with the support of our whole school community—thank you!

#### Handouts:

- ✿ Packed lunch children Spring Lunch letter
- ✿ Head lice and Nits Flyer
- ✿ Universal Credit NYCC letter and application form (Hard copies sent Fri 9th March)
- ✿ Y1/Y2 Club letter



### Easter Bunny Drive

On Tuesday 27th March the Friends of Pickering Infant School will be

holding their annual Easter Bunny Drive. It is very similar to a beetle drive but with an Easter theme.

The children will have the opportunity in school to design and make their own head band to be brought to the event in exchange for a small prize! Every headband will also be entered into the competition for best Easter headband. Doors open 5.30pm with the bunny drive due to start at 5.45pm.

Entry £1 including drink.

If you have never been to a beetle or bunny drive, don't worry, all will be explained on the night!

### Packed Lunches

A couple of quick reminders;

We are a nut free school due to life threatening allergies in school

If grapes are included, please ensure that they are chopped in half.

Whole grapes can cause a significant choking hazard.

Our packed lunch policy gives greater detail about balanced packed

lunches—there are a number of children who have cakes/biscuits, chocolate and crisps in their packed lunch every few days and some daily. These types of products often lead to poor concentration levels for children in the afternoon, negatively impacting on their learning. They are also adding in high calorie content to just one meal.

Our school kitchen team are magicians when it comes to creating sweet treats that actually have limited amounts of sugar in. And often are packed with fruit and vegetables! Please consider making the most of free school meals and the balanced food options that this provides our children.

### Maternity Cover

Following on from the last update, I am now able to share the final arrangements for the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) structure during my maternity leave.

Acting Head Teacher—Mr Rob Newton

Acting Deputy Head Teacher—Mr Rob Palmer (Tues and Thurs)

Acting Foundation Stage (Nursery

and Reception) Leader—Miss Cheryl Duck (Mon, Tues and Weds)

Acting Key Stage One (Year One and Year Two) Leader—Mrs Nicky Smith

Senior Teacher—Mrs Gemma Goff (Mon, Tues and Weds)

Mrs Kate Long will continue in her role as SENCO and Senior Leader working in school on Wednesdays. It is expected that these arrangements will begin sometime in May but the exact date is still quite flexible at this point—bump dependant!

### Universal Credits

If you are in receipt of universal credit please don't forget to complete the form that was sent on Friday 9th and return to the school office as soon as possible, alternatively you can apply on line <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/free-school-meals>.

Qualifying for free school meals entitles your child to free meals until at least 2022 (even if your circumstances change) and enables your school to gain valuable additional funding for your child. The deadline for this application is

the 1st April 2018.

### Head Lice and Nits

As happens in schools up and down the country, there are a few cases of head lice in school. Would you please be vigilant, checking your child's hair daily and treating it, if and when necessary. When you have treated your child's hair you still need to check to make sure that all the eggs have gone. If you are unsure as to what to do contact the doctors' surgery, clinic or pharmacy.



Mrs Close has included an interesting flyer about head lice, which is attached.

### Electronic Devices and Apps

You may recall the information shared around apps at the end of last term. I wanted to update you specifically about one of these apps which has a live element to it. Star Maker is one of these such apps. Children can sing live within the app and share their 'performances' with other users. Unfortunately, as with lots of other apps, there is no filter as to (continued over the page)

## Electronic Devices and Apps

who the audience is and our young children could be being watched by anyone. Comments can also be made by a world wide audience of any age, which could potentially lead to inappropriate and suggestive comments to our children, requests for further contact or for children to remove clothing or dance in particular ways. Please be vigilant when children are on devices particularly if you allow children to use live functions.

Remember that if you are unsure about how to setup appropriate controls on any device, O2 shop Gurus will support you with this, even if you aren't an O2 customer. All internet access for our young children should be supervised by a responsible adult.

## Reminders

- 🕒 Friday 23rd March - March birthday assembly 2.30pm
- 🕒 Tuesday 27th March - Bunny Drive
- 🕒 Thursday 29th March—break up for Easter holidays

## Community News

**Sarah-Louise Ashworth School of Dance—Showcase 2018**

**Lady Lumley's School, Pickering**

**Saturday 17th March**

**Tickets adults £5 children £4 from the dance school 07801 885044 or Claire Wood 07931 387768**

*Your support for your child's education is crucial to their progress. Please let us know if there is any adjustments we need to make to help you support your child, for example: letters in large font; letters in different languages; wheelchair access; explaining things over the phone.*

*Spare newsletters are available in the rack outside the office, together with term time dates, holiday forms, uniform order forms*

*Tel: 01751 472620 email: [admin@pickering--inf.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@pickering--inf.n-yorks.sch.uk)*

*For attendance/absences - [admin2@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin2@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk)*