

Pickering Community Infant & Nursery School

School Newsletter No 5

13th November 2020



Friendship Week

Next week is our whole school themed week linked to friendship and national anti-bullying week. We will be spending time in school talking with the children about the term bullying. At Pickering Infant and Nursery School, we describe bullying as “unacceptable behaviour which occurs on repeated occasions, on purpose”, which all of our children know is unacceptable.

Because of the age of our children, we spend a lot of time talking to children about and supporting them with developing friendships and negotiating with each other.

As with every aspect of learning, children learn these social skills at different times and in different ways. Part of the focus will also be on helping our children to understand the difference between falling out with our friends and classmates and bullying, explaining that falling out with our friends or someone saying unkind words to us is not acceptable and needs to be dealt with but also is not bullying. Parental support with this would be greatly appreciated in helping children to understand the difference.

As part of the national anti-bullying campaign, we are asking everyone in school to wear odd socks to school on Monday 16th November as an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique!

Handouts

Hard copies:

- ✉ NSMW 2020 menu—packed lunch children only
- ✉ Bad Weather Plans & Emergency Collection Arrangements

Email:

- ✉ NSMW 2020 menu
- ✉ Adult Learning and Skills Service flyer
- ✉ After School Club
- ✉ Y2—Applying for a Junior School Place
- ✉ Nursery Children—Applying for a Reception school place



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Attendance News

Congratulations to Hedgehog Class who achieved 97.9% attendance for the first half term.



Bags2School



Thank you to everyone who contributed in having a good clear out for our Bags2School collection. Your donations have raised a fantastic £188.50 for much needed funds for Friends of School.

Friends of School Non-Uniform Day

Friday 27th November

Due to the current restrictions in place, our Friends of School will be unable to host their Christmas Fair this year. This is one of their biggest fundraising opportunities and this is disappointing but unavoidable. They would like to continue to fund raise for our children.

They are busy making plans for next calendar year for other events to go ahead, subject to the government guidance at the time. In the meantime, children are invited to come to school in non-uniform on Friday 27th November.

If you would like to make a donation, there are two options to do this;

We have set up a payment item on +Pay through ParentMail. This will reduce the amount of money going into the school office. To make a donation this way log into ParentMail and select 'payments', followed by 'shop', select a donation amount and either 'pay now' or 'add to basket' to donate later.

Alternatively you can send donations into school for collection in classrooms.

Your support in these events is greatly appreciated as always. All children are welcome to come in non-uniform regardless of whether you are able or

willing to make a donation.

To help support our Friends of School please also use smile.amazon.co.uk or easyfundraising.org.uk Both of these websites do not cost you anything additional to what you would be spending on your online shops but raise funds for our Friends of School.

Children in Need Day

Friday 15th November

Today the children and staff were invited to come to school wearing appropriate clothing for a ramble around the school grounds. For those children not in school, they were encouraged to participate in their garden. Thank you to everyone who joined in and for your donations.



Registering for School

Do you have a toddler or know of anyone that does? Are they registered with us for a Nursery or School place? If it is your/their intention for your/their child to attend our school, please make sure that they are registered as this helps us with future plans. This is particularly important if your child was born between:

01/09/17—31/08/18 for Nursery place
September 2021

01/09/16—31/08/17 for School place
September 2021

Current Nursery parents please don't forget to complete your on line application for your child's place in Reception for September 2021.

Clubs

Usually at this time of year, we would be starting our after school clubs kindly run by our staff team. Due to not wanting our staff to cross between bubbles more than is essential to the daily running of classes they won't be doing this at the moment.

Instead, Miss Bointon as our PE Leader in school, has been looking at how we can use our Sports Funding to be able to offer sport clubs to class bubbles this year. Rabbit Class bubble have been the first to benefit from a football club this term for up to 15 children in their class bubble. The intention is that we are hoping to be able to offer each year one and two class bubble a term of sports clubs over the year. At the moment, arrangements for these are subject to review and any changes in government guidance for schools. After School Clubs, at the moment, are not going ahead due to the national lockdown. Further details will be sent out later this term.

Nursery Rhyme Week

Mrs Durant will be launching our work for Nursery Rhyme Week 2020 on Monday 23rd November. Our involvement will be a week later than the national Nursery Rhyme Week. This is the second year that we have taken part in this event. There is a lot of evidence that suggests that those children who know around eight nursery rhymes off by heart at the start of their school journey are more

successful with reading and spelling in the following years than those children who don't. The children will be working on a host of nursery rhymes next week. There are lots of video links and ideas for supporting this work at <https://www.worldnurseryrhymeweek.com>

Christmas Post Box

If your child would like to send a Christmas card to their friends in school, the school post box will be open from Monday 7th

December to Friday 11th December outside the main school door. Please make sure that the **recipient's first name (& surname if known) and class** are clearly written on the envelopes - this makes sorting much easier and there are no disappointed children whose cards do not reach their destination!

Please **DO NOT** send any cards in before the 7th or after the 11th.

Cards will be sent home with children on Thursday 17th December

Dates reminder

19th Nov—Flu Immunisations Rec, Yr1 & Yr2

23rd Nov— Music Day with Mrs Durant

27th Nov—Non uniform day

28th Nov-19th Dec—ALSS

Family Christmas Crafts course 4 weeks Saturdays 6pm-7pm—Free

2nd Dec—16th Dec—ALSS



Christmas Crafts for Tots course 3 weeks Wednesdays 6pm-7pm—Free (for further details of these and other courses available see attached flyer)

Age Inappropriate Films

Following the fun of dressing up for Halloween for those families who chose to, there were some discussions between a small number of our children about age inappropriate films, such as 'Saw' and 'Scream'. These films are rated as only being suitable for adults due to the strong graphic violence and language that is entirely inappropriate for young children. Whether they have become aware of these things through information shared by older siblings and relatives or through clips that they see on devices without appropriate parental controls, I would encourage all parents to speak to children about the ratings on films as a way of them understanding how to keep themselves safe. With Christmas coming up, it is a good idea to outline too that games such as Grand Theft Auto and Call of Duty are not appropriate Christmas presents as they have adult rated certificates as games suitable for persons aged 18 years and over. This is sometimes a

disappointing message for children to hear but, again, is a good opportunity to discuss safety with our young children.

Staffing Update

It is with a mixture of sadness for school and excitement for her, that I share that Miss Green who works mainly in Nursery and our After School Club has secured a new post in Malton. We are beginning the process of appointing staff to these roles and will update you when we have further information. I am sure that you will join me in thanking Miss Green for her work in school and wishing her luck in her new post.

Operation Encompass

This scheme has been running for a number of years now. It is a link between the police and schools where schools are informed if a child has been present at the scene of a domestic violence incident that they are called to. No further information is shared by the police and this is treated in confidence by school, as with all other child protection information. By knowing that a child has had this experience, schools are in a better position to be supportive and understanding of the child's needs and possible behaviours.

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