

**Pickering Community Infant & Nursery School**  
**School Newsletter No 8**  
**Friday 7th January 2022**



**Welcome to the Spring Term 2022**

We hope that everyone had an enjoyable break over the festive period. For some, self-isolation has continued to impact on family life but the children have all returned to school full of exciting stories about their holidays and lots of family together despite this. Their enthusiasm at the start of the term has made us all smile. I'm not sure that any smile is as big as this one though!



The children in Years One and Two have been exploring the school grounds focusing on seasonal changes in winter week, comparing their observations from autumn week last term. Children across school were all incredibly excited with the arrival of a snow flurry at lunchtime yesterday even though it didn't

stay for long.

The cold winter weather has resulted in lots of learning opportunities and chances for lots of discussions.



**Attendance News**

**Congratulations to Rabbit Class for 94.6% attendance during the last half term**



**Handouts**

Hard copies:

- ☞ New Year lunch letter—Packed lunch children only

Email:



## Mobile Phones

If you were fortunate enough to receive a new mobile phone for Christmas and you have a change of number, please let the office know your new number.

## January Reminders.....

Friday 7th Jan—Sports Club starts

Week beginning Monday 10th Jan—**Block One** clubs resume

Tuesday 18th Jan—Year 2 swimming starts Tuesdays weekly

Thursday 20th Jan—New Year lunch

Friday 28th Jan—January Birthday assembly 9.10am

## Attendance

We have recently had a number of leave requests for holidays. I am sure that we can all appreciate the benefits to our health and well-being of holidays and the important family time that it gives. Holiday requests will not be authorised though. There can sometimes be a misconception that, for our age children, that ‘they won’t miss much—it’s just a week’. This is a crucial time in a child’s education where the foundations for all future learning are laid. We are all aware how important solid foundations are for any structure. Children who are older, if they have the solid foundations that we build at this early age, will be far more capable of self-study to enable them to catch up on lost learning that holidays in term time cause.

As well as the usual seasonal illness over the autumn and spring terms, we have all also have to contend with the impact of COVID and self-isolation. Despite staffing disruption, staff are

keeping everything as consistent for the children as possible to give them the best possible standard of education and care. We ask that parents try to avoid holidays in term time and take these in the thirteen weeks of school holidays.

## Pupil Premium

School may be entitled to additional ‘Pupil Premium Funding’ if parents are in receipt of Income Support; Income Based Job Seekers allowance etc. Applying is easy to do and your child will receive free milk daily in school from Year One onwards and three free school jumpers each year. It may also mean that you get subsidised or even free access to visits in the future. If you are in receipt of these benefits/credits (even temporarily) would you please contact the school office by 14th January and complete the form to check eligibility.

## New Year Lunch

**Thursday 20th January**

~ Menu ~

Sausages, Mashed Potato, Peas or Baked Beans

Vegetarian option—Vegetarian Sausages

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Jam Sponge and Custard

Fresh Fruit

All dietary requirements catered for

## Safeguarding

As part of our ongoing commitment to safeguarding, we will be taking advantage of an offer by the Local Authority to review safeguarding arrangements in our school and on the school site. As part of this, Local

Authority Advisor, Christine Johnston, will be on school site on the morning of Thursday 13th January. She will be outside from 8.30am to speak to parents and carers about safeguarding. Some of our safeguarding information can be found in the 'Safety and Wellbeing' section of the school website.

### Covid Reminders

The following information is a repeat of the information sent via Parentmail on Wednesday for anyone who missed it.

#### Symptoms

The main symptoms of COVID-19 continue to be described as a high temperature, a new, continuous cough and/or a loss or change to your sense of taste or smell. If your child has any of these symptoms, even mildly, they need to self-isolate and have a PCR test, even if they have had an LFD test.

#### Close contacts

Adults who are fully vaccinated and all children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months identified as a contact of someone with

COVID-19 are strongly advised to take an LFD test every day for 7 days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result. This daily testing of close contacts applies to all contacts including those who are fully vaccinated, all children aged 5 to 18 years old, people who are unable to get vaccinated for medical reasons and people taking part in an approved Covid-19 clinical trial.

If someone tests positive on PCR, they are still required to self-isolate. There are new guidelines on the length of time for self-isolation. Individuals may take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results no longer need to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. Anyone who tests positive on day 6 or 7 LFD tests or who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10-day period of self-isolation.

If members of your household have tested positive for COVID-19, we appreciate that this can cause difficulties with our children, who cannot bring themselves to school. In these cases, please contact the school office as soon as possible to discuss this further.



### Communication



Please remember to keep checking Parent Mail for updates. We will also continue to use Facebook and Twitter for sharing information and celebrating learning at home and school across our community. Follow us at [facebook.com/PickeringInfant](https://www.facebook.com/PickeringInfant) and [@PickeringInfant](https://twitter.com/PickeringInfant) on Twitter

Please share or retweet your favourite posts

***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.***

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)