

Pickering Community Infant & Nursery School
School Newsletter No 14
8th April 2022



Reading

Reading is a crucial life skill, important for so many aspects of life and learning. The children have enjoyed their spring term library visits this term with many unable to put down the book that they had chosen once they got back to school! Butterfly Class will be visiting the library on 5th May for their missed visit. Thank you to those parents who were able to join us and support the children on their visits. Don't forget to take the library books back!



Sharing a bedtime story every night can have a huge positive impact on so many things. Book Trust share that, 'Reading at home not only increases academic ability, but it also helps to strengthen family relationships and foster a lifelong love of books' Even when children can read books themselves, sharing bedtime stories together still remains one of the best things that you can do with your child to support learning at home.

Handouts:

- ✿ Summer Sports Club letter—Year one and two children only
- ✿ Summer term Menu
- ✿ Summer term 1 Diary Sheet
- ✿ School Transport letters—Bus/taxi children only
- ✿ Sponsored Bounce Form
- ✿ Easter Home Learning Bingo

Emails:

- ✿ Schools Out Club—Easter holiday timetable
- ✿ Beck Isle Museum Easter Events
- ✿ Pickering Cricket Club—All Stars Cricket

Congratulations to Squirrel class with 93.6% attendance for this half term



Dates for your Diary

Monday 25th April— SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN

Tuesday 26th April—School Reopens

Thursday 28th April—Class Photographs

Friday 29th April—April Birthday Assembly—9.10am

Friday 29th April—Summer Sports Club Starts

Monday 2nd May—May Day—School Closed

Class Photos

Classes will be having their class photographs taken on Thursday 28th April.



And the winner is.....

Congratulations to Daisy in Nursery who is the lucky winner of our 100 Square raffle for the Giant Easter Egg generously donated by the Ryedale Lions and made by Birdgate Chocolatiers.



Appointments

We would like to ask that, wherever possible, any appointments for children are made for after school or during holidays rather than during the school day particularly for dentist, doctor and optician appointments. We understand that this is sometimes not possible. In these cases, please let the office know so that they can ensure that lunch orders are correct and know when to expect the adult to collect your child. Please also let them have a copy of your child's appointment letter so that

this can be recorded as authorised.

Ukraine, children and schools

The war in Ukraine is a feature of news programmes at the moment. Parents and carers will have a wide range of opinions on what they are hearing and will have different views on whether this is appropriate to share with children or not. We have a number of children who have mentioned this in school though. In a recent publication the Historical Association has shared some interesting links, which parents and carers may find useful if faced with questions from children.

<https://theconversation.com/how-to-talk-to-children-about-the-invasion-of-ukraine-and-why-those-conversations-are-important-177983>

The author of the article shares, 'For example, you could say, 'One country is not being very nice to another country and it is making people feel upset.' Bringing up the conversation with your child allows you to talk about a shared plan and strategies that can help if they are feeling upset about it. For children of all ages, we also recommend being mindful of exposure to news and media, especially violent or destructive content. This is particularly paramount for young children who have more of a limited understanding of what is happening'.

Sunflower Day

On Friday 29th April we will be inviting staff and children to come to school in bright and cheerful non-uniform for our Sunflower Day in exchange for any donations that families feel they are

able to make. Any donations should be made, wherever possible, via Parent Mail +Pay. The sunflower is the national flower of Ukraine and any donations will be sent to Ukrainian Humanitarian Appeal



Staffing Update

We are delighted to share that Mrs Metcalfe will be returning to school after Easter following her maternity leave. She will work alongside Miss Duck as Butterfly Class teacher on a Thursday and Friday. Miss Storr will therefore be leaving us today. She has been a fabulous addition to our staff team this academic year and has done a wonderful job with Butterfly Class.

Miss Storr has also recently been supporting Rabbit Class during Mrs Green's afternoon out of class for their art sessions. Mrs Nichols will be taking over this role next term, alongside Mrs Kelly. We hope that we'll continue to see Miss Storr next term for some supply days across school.

Easter Home Learning Bingo

Your child will have brought home an Easter Home Learning Bingo sheet today. It has been designed to try to fit more easily around all of the things that families end up doing over the busy holiday period. The activities focus on building upper body or core strength and fine motor skills too.

Please ask your children to tick off their challenges and bring their completed sheet back to school next term. If they complete a 'line' or 'full house' they can enter our draw for a prize. We won't need any evidence as we trust that children and families will be honest with what they've been able to do and,

hopefully, these tasks won't take too much time or be too demanding. If you want to share any photos though, please send to class emails. Please let class teachers if you're happy for us to share on social media.

FoS Sponsored Bounce

This is always a much anticipated event in the school calendar. On 12th May, Friends of School (FoS) will have a bouncy castle in the hall for the children to use as classes. Each child will be asked to bounce as part of a small group from their class in order to raise money for Friends of School. Your child will have brought home a sponsor form for this in book bags today. This gives families a few weeks before the event to speak to family and friends to ask if they are able to help with sponsorship. We appreciate that family budgets are being increasingly squeezed from many sides and we appreciate any and all sponsorship that you are able to raise. Even if you are unable to help with sponsorship on this occasion, all children will still have the opportunity to bounce with their class.



Friends of School host an exciting range of events to fund a number of activities and events in school at a time where school budgets are being squeezed in the same way as family budgets. In the last year, Friends of School have funded new activity home learning packs in Nursery, our Tutti Frutti theatre production visit, the Reception and Nursery Orchestra Visit at The Memorial Hall, our visit from Imran Kotwal, have committed to supporting OPAL work as an annual commitment and will be contributing to up coming summer visits.

Don't forget FoS Pub Quiz at The Sun Inn Thursday 14th April at 8pm.

A word from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parent/Guardian

As we approach the end of another highly successful term here at Pickering Infants School, I have been so impressed with the incredible amount of hard work and effort that has gone into delivering a rounded education to your children despite very challenging times with Covid. During my visits to school I can't help but be impressed with the Staff's resolve to improve the opportunities of all the children. The relationships between pupils and staff are extremely positive and I see that the children are courteous, engaged and have excellent manners.

As Governors, we also share a common objective, which is the wider school community – working in partnership with you as parents and carers and staff to ensure that every child can succeed and reach their full potential. To achieve this, and to carry out our role as governors effectively, we need to know what issues are important to you (so we remain responsive) and ensure that you know what issues governors are discussing (so that we remain accountable). That is why, as governors, we work closely with Mrs Gillam and staff to ensure that we continue to deliver a high standard of education to our children at Pickering Infants School.

I would like to thank you for the excellent support you provide as parents and guardians, we all know how important these partnerships are in achieving success. I hope you all have a great Easter and a happy and relaxing couple of weeks.



Congratulations!

To our children who have achieved 100% attendance during
the **Spring term**

Toby	Joseph A
Aaron	Daniel
Imogen	Charlie H
Seren	Lilly K
Francesca	Etta
Hope	Max
Florence G	Teddie
Lincoln	Scarlett
Alfie	Billy H
Charlie N	Millie
Owen	Harrison
James	Matilda



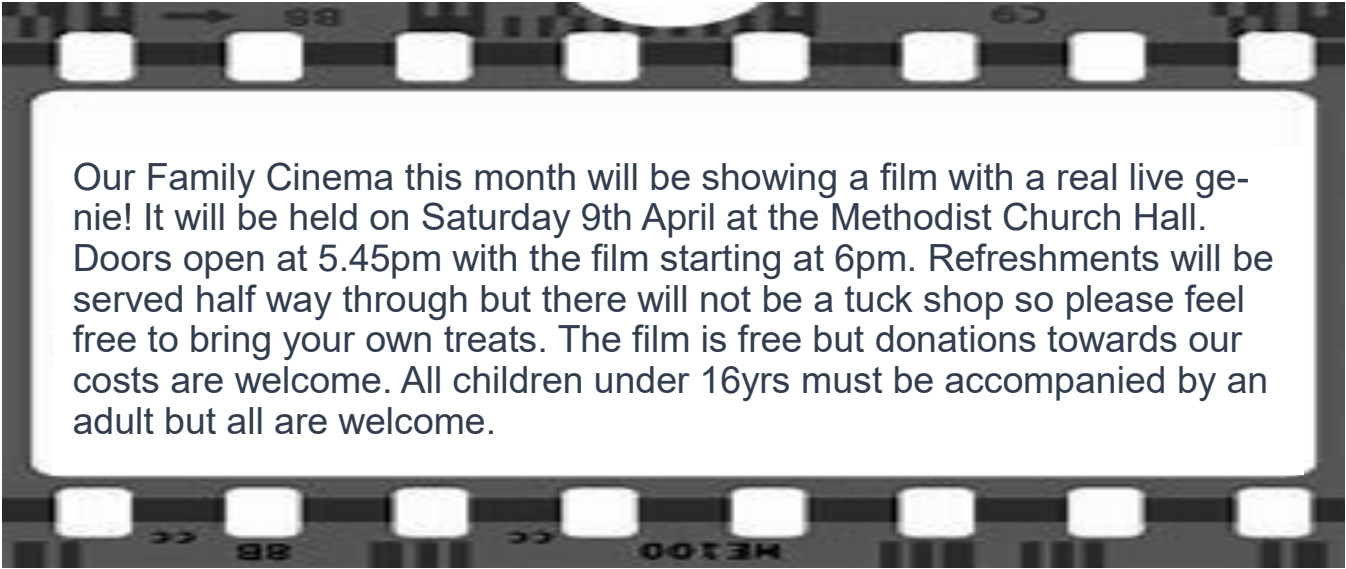
Community News



The spring digital magazine is full of great ideas to enjoy everything that Spring offers... crafting, gardening and enjoying park life that's just on the doorstep. We've got a great feature on '10 ways to love the Earth' (pg 26) to encourage parents and kids to get out and about and learn more about the environment in a fun way along with lots more things to do...

<https://magazines.raring2go.co.uk/yorkshirecoast/spring/>

PS, if you enjoy a bit of baking, the Bundt cake (p19) is definitely worth a go!



Our Family Cinema this month will be showing a film with a real live genie! It will be held on Saturday 9th April at the Methodist Church Hall. Doors open at 5.45pm with the film starting at 6pm. Refreshments will be served half way through but there will not be a tuck shop so please feel free to bring your own treats. The film is free but donations towards our costs are welcome. All children under 16yrs must be accompanied by an adult but all are welcome.

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

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For attendance/absences - admin2@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk