

Pickering Community Infant & Nursery School
School Newsletter No 9
Friday 12th January 2024



Welcome to the Spring Term 2024

Happy new year! We hope that everyone has had an enjoyable break over the festive period. The children have all returned to school full of exciting stories about their holidays and have made a calm and settled start to the new term.

Following some work on the plants and trees as well as the fences making up the border of Forest School, we are delighted that this area is fully up and running again! Our Forest School area is a gated, wooded space across the bottom of the school field. It has some mature trees, a fenced and gated pond area with dipping station and a log seat circle surrounding our fire pit. We have worked as a school to develop a curriculum for this area that includes basic outdoor skills including tying knots, tree climbing and whittling as well as a focus on developing key life skills including team work, compromise and resilience.

Look out for information in class newsletters over the coming weeks about when your child's class will be taking part and what they will need.



Handouts

Hard copies:

Email:

PANTS Underwear Rule letter

Attendance News



Congratulations to Butterfly Class for 100% attendance in the first week back





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 12th Jan—Sports Club starts

Tuesday 16th Jan—Year 2 swimming Tuesdays weekly

Thursday 18th Jan—Winter Seaside Special lunch

Monday 22nd Jan—Parent 'Coffee and Chat' with Mrs Gillam 6pm

Thursday 25th Jan—The Puppet Man visit to school

Friday 26th 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. Please be aware that holiday requests will not be authorised. 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.

We ask that parents try to avoid holidays in term time and take these in the thirteen weeks of school holidays.

Choice Lunches

This week has seen the launch of our choice menu. Whilst there has been a lot of excitement about this, as with most changes to systems, there have also been a few challenges that we have needed to overcome. Parents and carers should have received a separate email about this, including details about some changes that have already been made. Because of our Winter Lunch, detailed below, the choice for Thursday will be that as shown below next week and the choice for Friday will be that shown on your menu as Thursday.

Winter Seaside Special Lunch

Thursday 18th January

~ Menu ~

Fish Fingers

or

Vegetarian option—Cheese Pizza
Pinwheel

Chips, Peas or Beans

Crusty Bread

or

Egg Mayo Sandwich

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Chocolate Vanilla  
Biscuit with Ice Cream

Fresh Fruit

All dietary  
requirements catered  
for



## 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, free access to school visits and even free access to FEAST for free holiday activities with meals (Further details available at <https://northyorkshiretogether.co.uk/feast/>). If you are in receipt of these benefits/credits (even temporarily) would you please contact the school office and complete the form to check eligibility.

### Registering for a School Place

Nursery parents—Don't forget to apply for your Reception school place by **15th January 2024**.

Year 2 Parents—Don't forget to apply for your Junior School place by **15th January 2024**.

The information you need to apply for either place is available at [www.northyorks.gov.uk/school-admissions](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/school-admissions)

### Block one clubs

Block one clubs start again next week and continue up to and including the week beginning 5th February.

These are:

Brilliant Builders: Tuesday 3.25—4.05pm

Be Happy Club: Wednesday 12.30-1pm

Gymnastics: Wednesday 3.25—4.05pm

Film Club: Wednesday 3.25—4.05pm

Sing Squad: Thursday 12.30-1pm

## Flu Catch-Up Clinic



MONDAY 15TH JANUARY 2024 - 3pm - 4.30PM

### VENUE

UNIT 19  
CAYLEY COURT  
EASTFIELD  
SCARBOROUGH  
YO11 3YJ

### IMPORTANT

To request an appointment, please email the team on [yorkshire@v-uk.co.uk](mailto:yorkshire@v-uk.co.uk) or alternatively please contact us on 01723 331506 with all the following details:

Child's name, date of birth, school, year group and parent/carer contact number.

They will contact the parent/carer to book an appointment.

**Please note, all clinics are APPOINTMENT ONLY**

### **North Yorkshire Council: Early Years Expansion of Childcare Support Survey**

We have been asked to share the survey link below with parents and ask if you would kindly take 5 minutes to complete the survey to help North Yorkshire Council understand the needs of families and local communities for April.

[Early Years Expansion of Childcare Support Survey - Parents \(northyorks.gov.uk\)](https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/early-years-expansion-of-childcare-support-survey-parents)

**Please could all survey responses be submitted by 8am on Friday, 19th January 2024.**

## **North Yorkshire Community Survey**

Parking outside schools can always be a challenge. We continue to offer the parking permit scheme that was put in place by Ryedale Council before the recent merger. Keeping our children and families safe outside of school continues to be a priority. With this in mind, Mrs Smith has been working closely with PCSO Luke Aaron over the last twelve months to look at how things outside our school can be improved. This is part of a wider project to look at how safety outside schools at drop off and pick up time can be improved. They are now in a position to begin gathering further viewpoints from parents and carers. PCSO Aaron has set up a survey to

gather views across the community. He would therefore ask that as many of our parents please take part in this as possible. The link is below and we will be placing posters along the school fencing which contains a QR code which will also link you to the survey.

[Start the survey.  
\(northyorkshirecommunitymessaging.co.uk\)](http://northyorkshirecommunitymessaging.co.uk)



**northyorkshire**  
**community messaging**

## **Safeguarding**

**Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and we all have a role to play.**

If you have concerns about your own or another child's safety then you can speak to our Designated Safeguarding Lead—Mrs Sarah Gillam or our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead—Mrs Nicky Smith.

Anyone can make a referral. If you believe a child to be at immediate risk, call 999. If you believe the situation to be urgent, please call: 0300 131 2 131

## **Communication**



Please remember to keep checking Parent Mail for updates. We will also continue to use Facebook and X formerly Twitter for sharing information and celebrating learning at home and school across our community. Follow us at facebook.com/PickeringInfant and @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 are 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)