

Pickering Community Infant & Nursery School

School Newsletter No 8

22nd December 2023



Merry Christmas

The children have had an incredibly busy first term this school year. These last two weeks have been filled with lots of learning in classes mixed in with our Christmas events. The children did an amazing job at the start of the week with 'Born in a Barn' and 'Boogie Woogie Nativity'. We were delighted to be able to share our Church Service with so many of our families on Thursday afternoon. This morning was our 'Carols round the tree' when we join together as a school to celebrate and get a surprise visit from Father Christmas! We also use this as an opportunity to say thank you to our wide and dedicated team of volunteers who support the school's work in so many ways and without whom many things in school wouldn't happen.



From all of us here at school, we wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year and we look forward to continuing to work together in 2024.

Handouts: These will be sent home in book bags—don't forget to check for them!



Spring first half term Diary Sheet



Spring Term Menu



New Year Lunch—packed lunch children only

Email: These will be sent out via ParentMail—so watch out for them on the App.



Christmas Jumper Day



Sports Club Allocation of Place



Menu Choice Information



Attendance News

Congratulations to Rabbit class with 96.7% attendance for Autumn term



Clubs re-start

- 🌲 Tuesdays 16th January—Brilliant Builders
- 🌲 Wednesday 17th January – Gymnastics Club, Film Club, Be Happy Club
- 🌲 Thursday 18th January—Singing Squad
- 🌲 Friday 10th Jan—Sports Club Spring 1 start

Swimming for Year Two Starts

Tuesday 9th January—Note this is the first day back so please don't forget to send your child with their swimming kit. Your child needs to bring a swimming costume, towel and comb. Children with long hair need to have it tied back for swimming. We strongly recommend a swimming cap as it reduces how wet a child's hair becomes. Please ensure that everything is labelled and brought together in a clearly labelled bag that children can wear on their backs.



Redeem your vouchers for free holiday activities this Christmas

We have issued vouchers to all families whose children are eligible for free places on FEAST activities this Christmas. You should have received this via email or text, from a platform called Holiday Activities. Follow the link in this email/text to redeem your

voucher and book your child's place on some of the fantastic activities on offer across North Yorkshire.

If you believe your child is eligible and you have not yet received your voucher, or you have lost it, please contact the school office.

To learn more about FEAST, and for information on activities, eligibility and how to manage your bookings, [visit the website](#).

Mobile Phones



If you are fortunate enough to receive a new mobile phone for Christmas and you have a change of number, please remember to inform the office of your new number.

Facebook and Twitter

Don't forget to find us on Facebook and Twitter to see updates of what the children are getting up to in school. You can find us at;

<https://www.facebook.com/PickeringInfant/>

@PickeringInfant on Twitter

Poppy Appeal

Thank you very much to all who sent in money for their child to purchase a poppy this year. A total of £82.35 has been raised for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.



Forest School

After lots of work on the boundary fences and work by volunteers, staff and one of our parents to clean some of the overgrown vegetation in our Forest School area, we will be back

using this amazing space in January. Forest School is where we take our learning outside, in ALL weathers in a woodland area at the bottom of our school field. Some Forest School activities are; making dens and objects from natural resources, using small tools to whittle, problem solving and caring for/looking after our natural environment.

With this in mind and as it is an ALL weather activity, we would like your child to bring in:

- wellingtons
- waterproofs
- waterproof 'old' coat that you do not mind your child getting muddy
- hats, gloves, scarves (if it is a particularly cold day)

Please make sure these are all clearly named and in a named bag.

If you have any difficulties bringing any of these items into school please let your child's class teacher or our office staff know and we will do what we can to help. Information will follow on class newsletters in January, including where classes are looking for parent volunteers to help them in their sessions! The children get so much learning from this area, including team work, resilience and compromise!



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

School closes for Christmas at 3.25pm today Friday 22nd December and re-opens to children on Tuesday 9th January 2024.



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

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



Congratulations!

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

Oswald

Arthur H

Ruby

Felix

Liam Y

Harry B

Aaron

Olivia-Rose

Harry L

Leo

Ethan Bo

Connie

Joey

Adam

Amelia L-S

Evie M

Jack W

Kai

Melody

Vesper

Catherine

Erin

Francesca

Theo H

Max W



Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year!

Dear parents/carers,

As we reach the end of the year 2023, I would like to take this opportunity to say what is so special about Pickering Infant and Nursery School.

I am so proud as Chair of Governors of the school that we strive for a very high expectation for all pupils' happiness, enjoyment, behaviour and learning enabling them to achieve the very best they can. The school's aim is to help our pupils to be confident, independent and interested in the world around them, and to be prepared for the challenges they will face in the future.

With the support and guidance of a dedicated leadership team, all staff working in the school demonstrate commitment and dedication to creating a happy, safe and educationally exciting environment in which all children can learn and develop for which the Governing Board are most grateful.

Children's progress and attainment remain the focus of our efforts and we continuously strive for children to access the best possible education. As with many other schools, the financial position is challenging and requires all staff to be creative with the limited funds we have available to us. With the support from the Leaders, I have every confidence that the high levels of teaching and pupil support will be maintained. The success of the school is utmost in our minds and very much a team effort.

Externally, the school is judged in many areas, from its results to the happiness of the children and how well they are safeguarded. I have great confidence the school is good in most areas, but there is one particular area in which I hope you can help us with, that of attendance. It is disappointing that school is below the national expected level for attendance and the Governing Board would like to promote higher levels in the coming year so we can be proud of all aspects of the school.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Governors for giving up their valuable time, and for the effort they put into supporting the school. It is a privilege to work with such professional and enthusiastic people. Governors provide support to the school in a number of ways, using our experience from our varied backgrounds. In my view, the most important role of a Governor is to make sure that our already successful school continues to improve and build upon its successes.

On behalf of the whole Governing Body, I would like to extend our thanks to all our parents, volunteers and friends for their continued support of the school.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you and your families and the staff of the school a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

John Goodyear

Chair of Governors