

# Pickering Community Infant & Nursery School

## School Newsletter No 7

### 8th December 2023



#### OPAL

Our work with OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) is into the third year now! Our play leaders, Mrs Carter and Mrs Kelly, have worked with their lunchtime colleagues in particular, to enable us to use as much of our school grounds as possible for play. As many of you will see from your own children at home, children can use most things that they find lying around for play. Anything from a stick to an old tyre! This sometimes makes our school field and playground look a little untidy as we often leave their creations for development over the week. Please excuse our appearance and remember that these are part of the wide range of play opportunities for children that benefit them in developing resilience, confidence, negotiation skills, independence and also supports creativity and problem solving.



You may have heard the phrase that there is no such thing as bad weather, just inappropriate clothing! We aim to be outside most days, regardless of the weather and, in fact, try to use the weather to influence the play. Please make sure that children have appropriate outdoor clothing for the weather and please be understanding if children come back dirty—it might just be a sign of a good play day!

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



Bus children only letter



Sports Club letter  
Years 1 & 2 only



Swimming letter  
Year 2 only



Mini Sing Squad  
letter—members of  
sing squad only



Silent Auction letter



Food in School  
Holiday Form (FISH)  
selected families

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



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**Attendance News for two weeks to 8th December**  
**Congratulations to Rabbits Class with 97.6%**  
**attendance**





## **Christmas Jumper Day—In aid of Save the Children**

On Friday 22nd December (Different date to the national day) your child is invited to come to school in their Christmas or winter jumper instead of their usual school jumper. We ask that children still please wear the rest of their usual school uniform. If you would like to, and are able to make a donation to Save the Children this can be done through the Just Giving link below

[Pickering Infant and Nursery School - Christmas Jumper Day is raising money for Save The Children!](#)

### **Computer Games**

As Christmas draws near and children share their Christmas lists (of various lengths!) we are still hearing that a number of children are requesting computer games that are not age appropriate.



We wanted to share with parents that games such as Grand Theft Auto and Call of Duty have been rated as suitable for adults aged 18 or over. This is because they have violent and sexual content that is unsuitable for children below the age of 18. Children of the age at our school are still learning to distinguish between reality and fantasy. They learn how to socially interact and learn what is acceptable behaviour from their environment and this includes video games. As disappointing as it is for children to hear, it is our role as adults to keep our children safe and protected from age inappropriate content such as that contained in these games. The

thinkuknow website has some hints and tips about this area at <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming-whats-appropriate-for-your-child/> This includes advice on gaming as a family so that adults can support children through their gaming play. Mrs Metcalfe, as our Computing Lead has also produced some information sheets about age ratings that we have attached and that she hopes that you will find useful.

### **Winter Fair**

A huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who supported our Winter Fair this year. It was a joy to see so many families in our school being as generous as always. We were able to raise a huge £1977.10 on the night and if the application to the charity partner match funding by Barclays is successful this will increase to a very impressive £2977.10, with special thanks to Jane at Barclays in Pickering for giving up her time on the night to facilitate this. Friends of school support your children in so many different ways from providing resources to funding events and outings for all of the children. A huge thank you must also go to all the volunteers who spent many hours preparing for this fun filled evening.

### **Arriving on time**

Thank you to those parents who ensure that children arrive at school on time and prepared for the day. We ask all parents to make every effort to get children to school on time as arriving in class late can mean that children miss important information about the day and feel uncomfortable or unsettled

arriving in class when their classmates are already in the middle of their tasks. We appreciate that sometimes, despite our best efforts, there are occasions where you may arrive slightly late. If you do, please bring your child to the office to sign them in. They will be marked in the register as late. This is to ensure that our legally required registration documents are accurate and that we have an accurate record of which children are in school and this allows us to ensure that a dinner is ordered for every child.

### **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 11th December to Friday 15th December in the hall. Please make sure that the **recipient's first name (and 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 after the 15th. If anyone would like to help to sort the cards in a morning, your help would be greatly appreciated, please sign up at the office.

### **Illness**

At this time of year there are lots of different illnesses and bugs around in the community. Please can I remind you that if your child is absent from school to inform the office of their absence. This is for all children in school including Nursery children. This can be done either ringing

school on: 01751 472620 or emailing [admin2@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin2@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk)

### **Parent Governor News**

We are pleased to welcome Mr Mathew Eddon to our Governing Body who has been appointed as our new parent Governor.

### **Menu**

Meals will differ from those advertised during the week beginning 11th December due to the special Christmas lunch on **Tuesday 12th December**. This will include a swap to Mexican Beef on Wednesday and Chicken Burgers on Thursday

### **Christmas Lunch**



**Roast Turkey & Christmas  
Chipolatas**

**Santa's Seasonal Stuffing**

**Mrs Claus' Roast Potatoes**

**A Merry Mix of Seasonal  
Vegetables**

**With the Rudolph's Favourite  
Gravyvegetarian Option:  
Christmas Cheesy Leek  
Croquette**

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**The Elves' Hand Decorated  
Chocolate Orange Christmas  
Biscuits**

**or Fresh Fruit**



### **Nativity Photographs**

School will be selling Nativity photographs, which will be displayed in the school entrance from **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December – orders will be taken up until Friday 15<sup>th</sup> at 1pm.**

**Please note** this is actually the week before the performances are being held. We will aim to get these to you by the end of term.

**Order by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December to avoid disappointment as we will be unable to accommodate late orders.**

***Photographs and videos by parents are not permitted as it disrupts the performances and potentially breaches the rights of families by***

***having unconsented images of their child shared.***

### **No Sports Club on Friday 22nd December**

### **School Closes for Christmas**

**School closes for Christmas at normal finish time on Friday 22nd December and re-opens to children on Tuesday 9th January 2023.**



### **Dates for your diary**

**Tuesday 12th December**— School Christmas lunch

**Friday 15th Dec**—December Birthday Assembly 9.10am

**Christmas Performances—Nursery, Butterflies and Lady-birds**

Monday 18th—2.30pm, Tuesday 19th 10.30am

**Christmas Performances— Squirrels, Badgers and Rabbits**

Monday 18th 1.30pm, Tuesday 19th 9.30am

**Thursday 21st Dec**—School Christmas Church Service 2pm All Welcome

**Friday 22nd Dec — Christmas Jumper Day**—in aid of Save the Children (This is different to the national Jumper Day)



***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](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)



|                                           | Lunch Menu WC 11th Dec                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>                             | Pasta Bolognese Bake<br>Broccoli and Sweetcorn<br>Garlic Flatbread<br>Custard Cookie with Fruit and Ice Cream                                                                                                      |
| <b>Tuesday</b><br><b>CHRISTMAS DINNER</b> |  <p>Roast Turkey &amp; Chipolatas<br/>Stuffing<br/>Roast Potatoes, Gravy<br/>Seasonal Vegetables<br/>Chocolate Orange Cookies</p> |
| <b>Weds</b>                               | Mexican Beef Pitta with Rice<br>Medley of Vegetables<br>Homebaked Sunflower Seed Bread<br>Toffee Apple Muffin                                                                                                      |
| <b>Thursday</b>                           | Chicken Burger in a Bun<br>Potato Wedges<br>Peas and Coleslaw<br>Chocolate Sponge and Chocolate Sauce                                                                                                              |
| <b>Friday</b>                             | Battered Fish<br>Chips<br>Ketchup<br>Sweetcorn and Peas                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Vegetarian</b>                         | Lunch Menu WC 11th Dec                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Monday</b>                             | Oven Baked Sausage and Bean Bake                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Tuesday</b>                            | Cheesy Leek Croquette                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Weds</b>                               | Pea-ter Croquette                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Thursday</b>                           | Cauliflower Cheese Bake                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Friday</b>                             | Cheese Whirl                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

|                   | Lunch Menu WC 18th December                                                                                              |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>     | Creamy Mac and Cheese<br>Broccoli and Carrots<br>Homebaked Garlic Bread<br>Berry Crumble Mousse Pot                      |
| <b>Tuesday</b>    | Nacho Beef Bake<br>Rice<br>Sweetcorn and Peas<br>Chocolate Berry Brownie                                                 |
| <b>Weds</b>       | Roast Chicken and Stuffing<br>Mashed Potato<br>Medley of Vegetables<br>Gravy<br>Crusty Bread<br>Rice Pudding and Peaches |
| <b>Thursday</b>   | All Day Breakfast<br>Homebaked Bread<br>Oatie Cookie and Cheese                                                          |
| <b>Friday</b>     | Fish Star and Chips<br>Peas and Carrots<br>Homebaked Wholemeal Bread<br>Fruity Jam Sandwich and Custard                  |
| <b>Vegetarian</b> | Lunch Menu WC 18th Dec                                                                                                   |
| <b>Monday</b>     | Lightly Spiced Bean and                                                                                                  |
| <b>Tuesday</b>    | Cheese and Bean Enchilada                                                                                                |
| <b>Weds</b>       | Vegetable Cottage Pie                                                                                                    |
| <b>Thursday</b>   | Veggie All Day Breakfast                                                                                                 |
| <b>Friday</b>     | Crunchy Garlic Bread Topped<br>Tomato Pasta                                                                              |