

Pickering Community Infant & Nursery School
School Newsletter No 12
1st March 2024



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Following parental feedback, each month, I will try to share information about some of our subject areas in our school newsletter. We are starting this week with Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED for Nursery and Reception) and Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship and Economy (PSHCE for Years One and Two). This is an area that is of huge significance for our children given their stage of development and we invest a lot of time supporting children with this. Our delivery of this curriculum and continual support for our children in this area is a real strength of our school. Mrs Green, our PSHCE and Well-being Leader in school has created a Spring Newsletter for you., which is attached.

Alongside our PSHCE/PSED Curriculum we also teach about personal values that support our work around our school expectations; Be respectful; Be kind and helpful; Be the best you. The values that we focus on, particularly in our assemblies, include

Resilience **Courage**
Patience
Appreciation
Kindness
Thoughtfulness **Respect**

Handouts

Hard copies:

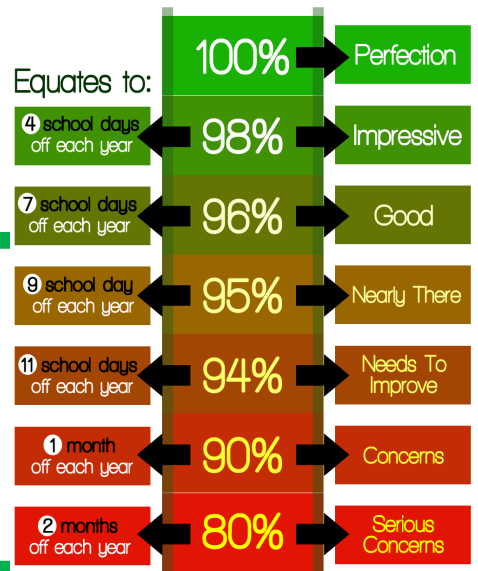
- ✿ Block 2 Club letters –Year 1 and 2 only
- ✿ Music Matters letter—Mini Sing Squad only
- ✿ Site access information

Email copies:

- ✿ Parent Governor Vacancy Information
- ✿ PSHCE/PSED Spring Newsletter

Attendance Ladder

How close are you to reaching the top?



Attendance

Congratulations to **Squirrel Class** with **98.7%** attendance for the first two weeks of Spring term 2.



World Book Day

World Book Day is **Thursday 7th** March and will be based on: **'Using your imagination. Books as a way to imagine the impossible.'** We are inviting children to come dressed as a book character or anything imaginative. This does not involve buying a specific costume, it can be as simple as wearing their own 'out of school' clothes to be a character, for example, Flat Stanley or Charlie Bucket from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Your child may choose to come in pyjamas, they may be in a dream imagining the impossible. There is no limit to a child's imagination!

Window Safety

When coming to school in the mornings and leaving at the end of the school day, could you please make sure that children stay on the paths at the front of the school and not walk or play in front of the kitchen and classroom windows. The kitchen and classroom windows may be open and are easily walked into.



We also ask that children are encouraged not to play on the grass around the large tree at the front of school. We know that this is a tempting play space but our spring flowers can be damaged by lots of little feet.

Holidays

As we approach the more popular part of the year for holidays, I wanted to take the opportunity to ask families to give great consideration to the timings of holidays. As ever, I would ask that parents try to avoid days off for their children due to holidays. Staff have great empathy with parents who find it

difficult to arrange holidays during school holiday time as they are in a similar position. It is widely accepted though that establishing good routines and attitudes to attendance from a very early age gives children a positive start to their learning through our education system. Our children deserve the opportunity to as much uninterrupted education as we are able to offer them.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesdays weekly - Year Two Badger class swimming

Tuesday 5th March—Nursery Open Session 2.10-3.10pm

Thursday 7th March—World Book Day.

Monday 11th March— Balance Bike Day for Nursery and Reception

Tuesday 12th March—Parents' Evening 3.40-6pm

Wednesday 13th March—Parents' Evening 4.30-7pm

Thursday 14th March—Nursery Open Morning 8.45-9.45am

Friday 15th March—Red Nose Day

Wednesday 20th March—Year 1 and 2 Build a Structure Parent Workshop 9.15-10.15am, Additional Nursery Parents Meetings

Thursday 21st March—Spring Bunny Bingo 5.15pm—All welcome

Friday 22nd March—March Birthday Assembly 9.10am, Break up for Easter Break

Comic Relief

Friday 15th March is Comic Relief. This year the theme is *'Do something funny for money'*. Children



(and staff) are welcome to wear something that ***makes them smile***, this could be a home made costume, red from head to toe or simply dig out your brightest socks! If you are more comfortable in your usual 'out of school' clothes, that is fine too, in exchange for a donation to Comic Relief, where families are able. This year donations are to be made via the School's Comic Relief Just Giving page which can be accessed through the link below. We would therefore request that cash is not sent into school for this.

[Pickering Infant and Nursery School is fundraising for Comic Relief \(justgiving.com\)](https://www.justgiving.com/pickering-infant-nursery-school)

Regardless of whether families are in a position to make a charitable donation at this time, we still encourage all children to come in non-uniform.

Parent Governor Vacancy

We Need You!

We are looking for a new Parent Governor to join our existing team. No qualifications or past experience are necessary, just enthusiasm, time and an interest in shaping the strategic direction of our school.

School governors make a valuable contribution to children's education, opportunities and futures. Being a school governor is a challenging but hugely rewarding role. It will give you the chance to make a real difference to children, give something back to our local community and use and develop your skills in a board-level environment. Parent governors bring their wealth of experience and knowledge, contributing to the successful running of the school. As a governor, the decisions made by the

board influence the whole school, but governors are not responsible for, or involved in, the day-to-day running of the school. Governors set the ethos of the school and drive for continuous improvement, and they also oversee financial performance and ensure money is well-spent.

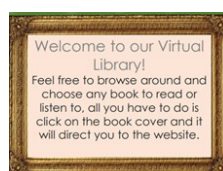
You can find more information at [Be a school governor or trustee - National Governance Association \(nga.org.uk\)](https://www.nga.org.uk)

If this sounds like a role for you, please call at the office to request a nomination form for completion and return it to the headteacher **by 12.00 noon Friday 15th March 2024** at the school office – in a sealed envelope marked “confidential – PG nomination” or via email to admin2@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk with “confidential – PG nomination” in the subject line.

Our Virtual Library

In school we use a wide range of both stories and non-fiction texts to explore emotions and well-being both as part of our PSHCE/PSED curriculum but also to support our work on British Values, personal values and to support children in understanding and following our school expectations. Parents can access a number of online videos of popular stories that support a range of themes in our Virtual Library in the Safety and Wellbeing section of our website

<http://pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Virtual-Library-Pickering-Infant-School.pdf>



Communication

We pride ourselves as a school on our open door policy where we welcome discussions between school staff and families. If you ever have any concerns, queries, suggestions or just want to chat something through, I urge all families to please make contact with school if it is school related or related to your child. Any of our staff can be contacted in person, by phone or email through the school office;

Phone number - 01751 472620

Email for general enquiries or information, including contacting me as Head Teacher - admin@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk

Email for attendance related enquiries or information - admin2@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk

Class teachers are generally available for a quick chat at the end of the school day, as am I, but their priority is supporting children at the start of the school day. Teachers can be contacted through class emails. Please note that staff will not monitor these in school holidays or at weekends but welcome communication during term time in this way. Staff are equally available to make face to face meetings at mutually convenient times.

nursery@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk

butterfly@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk

ladybird@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk

badgers@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk

squirrels@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk

rabbits@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk

Some members of our school community may also have access to staff's individual work email addresses through their other roles in school, including our Governors or Friends of School or as one of our partners such as Preschool or Early Help. We ask that these addresses are only used for these professional purposes and are not used as a way of contacting members of staff about your child. We ask that this is please done through the above email addresses. This enables us to support our staff in achieving their desired work life and home life balance and support their well-being.

The best way to find the answers to questions that you have about anything that is going on in school, to access support from school or one of our partners or to share your ideas and suggestions **is to get in touch with us**.

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

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 ordering information