

Pickering Community Infant & Nursery School

School Newsletter No 4

18th October 2024



Autumn Watch

This week has seen the launch of our 'Autumn Watch' where children are provided with a wealth of opportunities to explore the wonders of the changing world around us!

Children in Hedgehog, Rabbit, Squirrel and Badger Classes have taken their seasonal visit to Outgang Lane Allotments, giving them opportunities to compare what they saw this time to what they saw there in the summer. A huge thank you, as ever, to the wonderful Sallie Harland for sharing her time and expertise with us and to all of our fabulous volunteers who helped to make these visits possible.

The children across school have used the seasonal vegetables available to make some delicious soup. Nursery based theirs on the story of 'Pumpkin Soup' by Helen Cooper and children in Year Two worked on theirs with Chris Lord and his team from Lordy's Thrive Kitchen. Year One children will be making and tasting their soup next week.



May we take this opportunity to wish our whole school community a restful and fun filled half term break.

Attendance News



Congratulations to Badger Class for achieving **99.4%** attendance for the last two weeks and for achieving an **AMAZING** **99.7%** attendance for last week.

Handouts

Email:

- ✦ Common Childhood Diseases
- ✦ Diary sheet for Autumn 2 half term
- ✦ Parent Governor Vacancy Letter

Hard copies:

- ✦ Transport letter for next half term— School Transport children only
- ✦ Autumn 2 Golf Club Letter Years 1 and 2 only
- ✦ Autumn 2 Sports Club Letter Years 1 and 2 only
- ✦ School Activity Clubs Years 1 and 2 only
- ✦ Mini Singing Squad Letter Years 1 and 2 only
- ✦ Asthma Review Forms—Selected Pupils only
- ✦ Common Childhood Diseases
- ✦ Diary sheet for Autumn 2 half term
- ✦ Book Fair competition

School and Eco Councillors

As part of our work on democracy, the children have voted in their classes in Years One and Two for councillors. Congratulations go to...

Badger Class

School Councillors - Ella and Violet

Eco Councillors - Elsie and Rory

Squirrel Class

School Councillors— Pippa and Jack

Eco Councillors - Arthur and Teddie

Rabbit Class

School Councillors - Ruth and Emilia

Eco Councillors - Max and Dalton

Hedgehog Class

School Councillors - Penelope and Dominic

Eco Councillors - Allysia and Ruby

Mrs Gillam, as school council leader, and Mrs Green, as eco council leader, are looking forward to their first meetings and their work together over the coming year. We were very impressed by how many children were keen to take positions of responsibility and stand for these roles as well as other monitor roles in school.

Parents' Evening

Our parents' evenings are due to be held after the half term holiday on **Tuesday 5th November 4pm-7pm** and **Thursday 7th November 3.30pm—6pm**, with additional day time appointments for Nursery on Thursday 14th November. The online booking system through Parent Mail will be available from Monday 21st October at 4pm.

Poppies



In the run up to Remembrance Day on 11th November poppies will be on sale in school from **4th to 8th November**. Please send any donations with your child for them to purchase a poppy in class during the day.

Nut Aware School

Many parents will already be aware that we operate as a nut aware school. This is to reduce the exposure of our school community to this allergen. This also affects items brought into school such as empty boxes for junk modelling. Please do not send any containers/packaging in that has contained a nut product.



Common Childhood Illnesses



We are approaching the time of year when winter bugs start to come out in force. As a guide for 'if and when' your child needs to stay at home we have sent home a copy of our revised 'Notes on Infectious Diseases in School and Nurseries — Common Childhood Diseases' for your information. A colour copy of this will be emailed with this newsletter.

Non Uniform Day

The staff and children are invited to come to school in their 'ordinary' clothes, whatever they are comfortable in, on **Thursday 24th October** in exchange for a gift or prize for the forthcoming Winter Fair which will be held on Friday 29th November. All gifts/prizes should be taken into class on

24th October and will be collected by one of our dedicated Friends of School team in preparation for the Fair.

Children in Need—Friday 15th November



This year we will be having a non uniform day for Children in Need. The theme for Children in Need is '***Make Life Lighter for Children***, you are invited to wear something spotty if you have anything or any non uniform should you wish to take part. If you are able to and would like to make a donation, this can be done via JustGiving through the link;

[pickering-infant-and-nursery-school-1728901851338](https://www.justgiving.com/pickering-infant-and-nursery-school-1728901851338)

Safeguarding Visit

Thank you to everyone who took the time to talk so positively and openly to Karen Butler on Wednesday morning about safeguarding. She looked at a range of topics including how we train our staff and volunteers, how we teach the children about keeping safe, how we support the children with behaviour and how we work together as a school community! She talked to groups of children about safeguarding. They did an amazing job and she was very impressed with the information that they were able to share! We look forward to receiving her report.

Car Parking

The space outside of schools across the country at drop off and pick up times is always very busy. As a school community it is incredibly important that we all play our part in keeping the road outside of our school as safe as possible

for our children. This means, first and foremost, making use of the parking scheme in East Gate Car Park. We also ask that families do not ever park in the bus lane or on the white lines outside of school and that parking does not block access to road ways or drive ways of local residents. We are incredibly grateful that so many of our families put the safety of our children first, despite the pressures that we all face in our busy lives, by parking courteously.

Autumn 2 Clubs—Years One and Two only

Golf Club—Thursdays, Sports Club—Fridays

Block One School Clubs

If your child is in Year One or Two they will have recently brought home letters inviting them to attend any of the Clubs running. If your child would like to be offered a place, slips need to be returned back to school by the date specified on each letter. You will receive a confirmation of place email via ParentMail by 24th Oct. Please ensure payments are received by **Wednesday 6th Nov for sports club and by Friday 8th Nov for golf club.**

Scholastic Books

If you are looking to buy books in the near future why not try out Scholastic Books and earn free books for school at the same time. You can find them at www.scholastic.co.uk, select shop and earn free books for your school. It's as simple as that! We also have an upcoming book fair from 5th November until 11th November. Take a preview of some book available at:[scholastic-primary-invitation-autumn-2024-2270926.pdf](https://www.scholastic.co.uk/primary-invitation-autumn-2024-2270926.pdf)

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 24th October—Non-uniform Day—in exchange for a gift/prize for the Winter Fair

Thursday 24th October—School breaks up for half term

Friday 25th October—Training Day, School Closed to children

Monday 4th Nov—School reopens

4th-8th Nov—Poppies on sale

Wednesday 6th Nov—Parents evening 4.00-7pm

Thursday 7th Nov—Parents evening 3.30-6pm

Friday 8th Nov—Autumn 2 Sports Club starts

Monday 11th Nov—Flu Vaccinations Rec, Year1 and Year2. For those registered for the vaccination.

Thursday 14th Nov—Autumn 2 Golf Club starts

Week commencing 18th Nov—Block one clubs start

Library Visits

Our termly visits will continue to Pickering Library on the following dates. Parent and family volunteers are always needed. Please let your child's teacher know if you or a family member is able to join us.

Thursday 14th Nov—Butterflies

Tuesday 19th Nov—Hedgehogs

Thursday 21st Nov—Rabbits

Tuesday 26th Nov—Nursery

Thursday 28th Nov—Squirrels

Tuesday 3rd Dec—Badgers



Follow us at facebook.com/PickeringInfant and @PickeringInfant on X



Please like and share your favourite posts and tweets

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 order forms

Tel: 01751 472620 email: admin@pickering--inf.n-yorks.sch.uk

Parent Governor Vacancy

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.

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 Thursday 24th October 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.

Co-Opted Governor Vacancies

We also have vacancies for co-opted governors, who are appointed by the governing board. They are people who, in the opinion of the board, have the skills required to contribute to effective governance and the success of the school. If you, or someone you know may be interested please contact the Clerk of Governors at clerkofg@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk

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

