

Pickering Community Infant & Nursery School
School Newsletter No 7
6th December 2024



OPAL





Our work with OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) is into the fourth year now with this being our first year as a Platinum Award winning school! 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:

-  Bus children only letter
-  Best of British lunch invitation (packed lunch children only)
-  Sports Club letter
Years 1 & 2 only
-  Silent Auction letter

Email:



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Attendance News for two weeks to 6th December
Congratulations to Squirrels Class with 99.6%
attendance





Christmas Jumper Day—In aid of Save the Children

On Friday 20th Dec (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 using the Just Giving link below

[Pickering Infant and Nursery School is fundraising for Save the Children](#)

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 £1892 on the night which will be match funded by a further £1000 from Barclays taking the total to just under **£3000**, with special thanks to Jane at Barclays in Pickering for giving up her time on the night to facilitate this. A huge thank you must go to all the local businesses, who without their support this event would not be the success it is. Friends of school support your children in so many different ways from providing resources to funding events and outings for all of the children. An enormous thank you must go, without doubt, to our volunteers who spent many hours preparing for this fun filled evening.

Christmas Post Box

If your child would like to send a Christmas card to friends in school, the school post box will be open from Monday 9th to Friday 13th



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 13th. 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.

Christmas Lunch

On **Tuesday 10th December**, our children will join together for their Christmas lunch.



Menu

Meals will differ from those advertised during the week beginning 9th December due to the special Christmas lunch on **Tuesday 10th December**. This will include a swap to Meatballs and Pasta on Wednesday and Minced Beef Pie on Thursday.

Nativity Photographs

School will be selling Nativity photographs, which will be displayed in the school entrance from **Monday 9th December – orders will be taken up until Friday 13th at 12 noon.**

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 13th 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.

Amendment to Date on Diary Sheet

The diary sheet states there will be no sports club on Friday 13th December— This is an error and Sports club will be taking place as usual. However, there will be **No Sports Club on Friday 20th December**

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 by either ringing school on: 01751 472620 or emailing admin2@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk

Redeem your vouchers for free holiday activities and food this

Christmas



On Monday

25th November we 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 to redeem your voucher and book your child's place on some of the fantastic activities on offer.

Don't worry if there's a waiting list - it doesn't always mean that an activity is full. To ensure that a wide range of families get to take part in FEAST, providers wait a number of days after vouchers are issued before accepting any bookings. Please request a place and you should receive notification from Holiday Activities if your place is confirmed. 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](#).

Pantomime Ticket Winners



Congratulations go to;

Ted—Nursery

Isabelle R—Butterflies

Georgina—Nursery

who are our lucky winners of tickets to

ATTENTION



No Photographs

Please respect the privacy of others.

DO NOT

take photographs on the school grounds

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

attend the Pickering Pantomime—Robinson Crusoe in January courtesy of donated tickets from Ryedale Lions.

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 have already started their day. 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. This also allows us to ensure that a dinner is ordered for every child.

Registering for School

Do you have a toddler or know of anyone that does? Are they registered with us for a Nursery or School place? If it is your/their intention for your/their child to attend our school, please make sure that they are registered as this helps us with future plans. This is particularly important if your child was born between:

01/09/21—31/08/22 for Nursery place
September 2025

01/09/20—31/08/21 for School place
September 2025

Current Nursery parents please don't

forget to complete your on line application for your child's place in Reception for September 2025. Current Year Two parents will also need to complete the online application for their child's place at the Junior school for September 2025. **Closing date 15th January 2025.**

Spare Clothing

For a wide range of reasons, there are times when children across school need a change of clothes. We have a small supply of underwear and donated school clothing. Please could we ask that you ensure that you wash and return these ready for someone else to use if your child has needed changing during the school day. We are also in great need of any donated underwear, tights and socks for both girls and boys (all ages!) Any donations are gratefully received through the office or classrooms.

GREEN CHRISTMAS FAIR

Ryedale Environment Group are holding a 'Green Christmas Fair' at the Hungate Centre 10am-3.00pm on Saturday 14th December with lots of eco-friendly ideas for the festive season. Recycle your old jars with lids to make a Christmas lantern, then light it up with its own solar panel or rechargeable tea light! Learn how to wrap presents sustainably and make your own gift tags! Make your own tree ornaments! There are plenty of gift ideas from our stallholders and refreshments are available throughout the day. All craft activities are free but there is a small charge for the solar lights.



Dates for your diary



Tuesday 10th December— School Christmas lunch

Friday 13th Dec—December Birthday Assembly 9.10am

Christmas Performances—Nursery, Butterflies and Hedgehogs (Rec)

Tuesday 17th—2.30pm, Wednesday 18th - 10.30am

Christmas Performances— Hedgehogs (Yr1), Squirrels, Badgers and Rabbits

Tuesday 17th - 1.30pm, Wednesday 18th— 9.30am

Thursday 19th Dec—Mini Sing Squad to sing at Mickle Hill (We would welcome volunteers to join us. We aim to leave school at 10am to return in time for lunch. Please let Mrs Carter know if you can help by emailing badgers@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk)

Thursday 19th Dec—School Christmas Church Service 2pm All Welcome

Friday 20th Dec — Christmas Jumper Day—in aid of Save the Children (This is different to the national Jumper Day)

School Closes for Christmas

School closes for Christmas at normal finish time on Friday 20th December and re-opens to children on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

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

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