

Pickering Community Infant & Nursery School
School Newsletter No 9
Friday 10th January 2025



Welcome to the Spring Term 2025

Happy new year! We hope that everyone has had an enjoyable break over the festive period. The children have all returned to school full of exciting stories about their holidays and have made a calm and settled start to the new term despite the rather chilly weather.

It has been lovely to see the children playing and exploring the elements at break times and in foundation stage in their free flow. There have been many learning experiences taking place such as what happens to ice when it is placed in pockets. We do go outside in all weathers and it has been wonderful to see so many children fully prepared and appropriately dressed for the cold conditions. Please do remember to name the extra hats, scarves, gloves and extra items of clothing as well as the usual school clothes.

Next week classes will begin again to use the forest school area. Our Forest School area is a gated, wooded space across the bottom of the school field. It has some mature trees, a fenced and gated pond area with dipping station and a log seat circle surrounding our fire pit. The curriculum for this area includes basic outdoor skills including tying knots, tree climbing and whittling as well as a focus on developing key life skills including team work, compromise and resilience. Look out for information in class newsletters over the coming weeks about when your child's class will be taking part and what they will need.

Handouts

Hard copies:

Email:

- * NumBots Day
Parent Letter

Attendance News

Congratulations to the whole school as we achieved **100%** attendance on our first day back.

Congratulations also to **Rabbit Class** for maintaining 100% attendance for the full week.





Mobile Phones

If you were fortunate enough to receive a new mobile phone for Christmas and you have a change of number, please let the office know your new number.

January Reminders.....

Friday 10th Jan—Sports Club starts

Wednesday 15th Jan—NumBots Day—whole school event

Thursday 16th Jan—Scooter Day Years 1 and 2

Thursday 16th Jan—Best of British lunch

Friday 31st Jan—January Birthday assembly 9.10am

Monday 3rd Feb—Parent 'Coffee and Chat' with Mrs Gillam 6pm

Wednesday 5th Feb—Outdoor Learning and Winter Watch—9.30-11.30am—Years 1 and 2—Parents Welcome

Attendance

We continue to have a number of leave requests for holidays. I am sure that we can all appreciate the benefits to our health and well-being of holidays and the important family time that it gives. Please be aware that holiday requests will not be authorised. There can sometimes be a misconception that, for our age children, that 'they won't miss much—it's just a week'. This is a crucial time in a child's education where the foundations for all future learning are laid. We are all aware how important solid foundations are for any structure. Children who are older, if they have the solid foundations that we build at this

early age, will be far more capable of self-study to enable them to catch up on lost learning that holidays in term time cause.

We ask that parents try to avoid holidays in term time and take these in the thirteen weeks of school holidays.

Best of British Lunch

Thursday 16th January



All dietary requirements will be catered for.

Due to the Best of British lunch on Thursday there will be a slight change to the meal served on Wednesday to avoid 'pie' two days running. Wednesday will now be minced beef and pasta rather than minced beef pie and mashed potato. The remainder of the menu for this day is unchanged.

Pupil Premium

School may be entitled to additional 'Pupil Premium Funding' if parents are in receipt of Income Support; Income Based Job Seekers Allowance, etc. Applying is easy to do and your child will receive free milk daily in school from Year One onwards and three free school jumpers each year. It may also mean that you get subsidised, free access to school visits and even free access to FEAST for free holiday activities with meals (Further details available at <https://northyorkshiretogether.co.uk/feast/>). If you are in receipt of these benefits/credits (even temporarily) would you please contact the school office and complete the form to check eligibility.

Registering for a School Place

Nursery parents—Don't forget to apply for your Reception school place by **15th January 2025**.

Year 2 Parents—Don't forget to apply for your Junior School place by **15th January 2025**.

The information you need to apply for either place is available at www.northyorks.gov.uk/school-admissions

School Caretaker Vacancy

An opportunity has arisen within our school as North Yorkshire Council are looking to appoint a caretaker to work with our current team. If this is an area of interest please click the links below for more information and how to apply. The closing date is 26th January 2025.

Caretaker: Pickering Infant School (FSC104807)

Clubs

Block one activity clubs started again this week and continue up to and including the week beginning 10th February.

Spring 1 half-term Golf Club and Sports Club also started this week.

Clubs running are:

Mondays 3.25-4.05pm—Puzzle Club

Tuesdays 3.25-4.05pm—Recorder Club

Wednesdays 3.25-4.05pm—Funky Foods, Gymnastics Club

Thursdays 12.35-1pm—Sing Squad

Thursdays 3.25-4.25pm—Golf Club -
No golf club on 6th Feb

Fridays 12.30-1pm—Get Creative

Fridays —Sports Club

Joining these clubs does involve commitment as children are expected to attend all sessions they are in school for. They can not pick and choose when to come.

Key Stage One Scooter Day

On Thursday the 16th January children in Key Stage One will be experiencing a session looking at safety and having a go with scooters. The children need nothing different with them on this day as all safety equipment and scooters are supplied. If the weather prevents us from working outside then the experience will be brought into the hall.



Class and School email addresses

Mrs Green	rabbits@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk
Miss Bointon	hedgehogs@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk
Mrs Smith	squirrels@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk
Miss Robson	butterfly@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk
Mrs Carter	badgers@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk
Miss Duck and Mrs Dunsmore	nursery@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk

Office

General - Mrs Newby	admin@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk
Absences/before and after	admin2@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk
School club etc—Mrs Cook	

Office Hours

Mrs Newby—All day Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday. Wednesday morning only

Mrs Cook—Mornings daily, Monday and Wednesday afternoons only

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

Communication



Please remember to keep checking Parent Mail for updates. We will also continue to use Facebook and X formerly Twitter for sharing information and celebrating learning at home and school across our community. Follow us at facebook.com/PickeringInfant and [@PickeringInfant](https://twitter.com/PickeringInfant) on X (Twitter)

Please share or retweet your favourite posts

Your support for your child's education is crucial to their progress. Please let us know if there are 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.

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

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