

Pickering Community Infant & Nursery School

School Newsletter No 12

28th February 2025



Belonging

Having a sense of belonging is hugely important to us all and to our well-being. We talk a lot in school about our logo on our uniform being a symbol that shows that we belong within our school community and that our actions to care for and look after each other show that too. It has been great to explore the idea of belonging from different points of view this week. It was great to see members of the Guide and Scouting communities in school in their uniforms for World Thinking Day and Founders Day celebrated on Monday.



It has been great to hear from Reverend Crosse before the holiday and Imran Kotwal this week about what belonging to their faith community means to them.



Handouts

Hard copies:

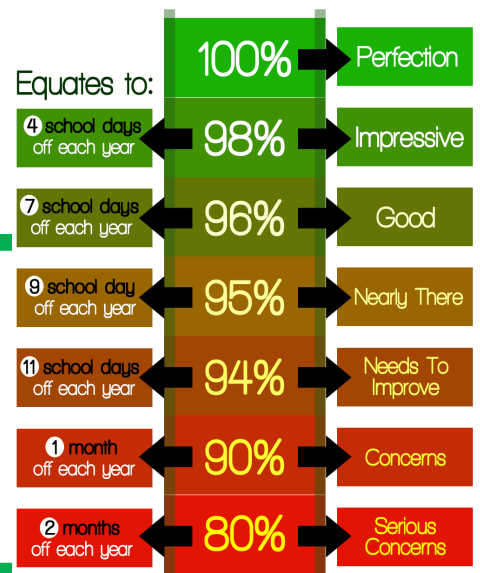
- ✿ Music Matters letter—Mini Sing Squad only
- ✿ VegPower packs—Rec, Yr1 & Yr2. VegPower week starting 10th March more information on class newsletters next week.

Email copies:

- ✿ Site access information

Attendance Ladder

How close are you to reaching the top?



Attendance
 Congratulations to **Rabbit Class** with
100% attendance for the first week back.



World Book Day



World Book Day is **Thursday 6th** March and will be based on: '**Read Your Way**' 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, the children from 'We're going on a bear hunt' or Peter from Detective Dog. 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

Monday 3rd March - Balance Bike Day—Reception and Nursery

Monday 3rd March - Nursery Stay and Play 2.15-3.15pm

Tuesday 4th March—The Puppet Man workshops

Thursday 6th March—World Book Day.

Monday 10th — Thursday 13th March—No Block 2 Activity Clubs this week due to Parent Evening

Monday 10th March— Parents' Evening 4.30pm—7pm

Tuesday 11th March—Parent Coffee and Chat with Mrs Gillam 9-10am—All welcome

Thursday 13th March—Parents' Evening 3.35pm-6.25pm

Friday 14th March—Aquatic Finatic animal workshop—Reception

Friday 21st March—Red Nose Day

Comic Relief



Friday 21st March is Comic Relief. This year the theme is '*Anything Goes When You Wear A Red Nose*'. 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 their brightest socks if children are more comfortable in their usual school clothes! Where families are able to, we would welcome donations for 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](#)

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 if they would like to.

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>

We are aware that some of the links no longer work and are looking for solutions to this but it gives you a list of useful books for a range of topics.

Coffee and Chat

These are sessions that we plan in throughout the year to get parental input on a number of topics. We try to vary the days and times to maximise the number of parents and carers who are available to attend. We are still looking for views and ideas around ensuring our uniform information available for and shared with parents is as clear and useful as it can be, including around Forest School and jewellery in school. Our next session will be 9am on Tuesday 11th March. Biscuits and a hot drink on offer in exchange for your time! Any help gratefully received! Just come to the office please.

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

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/ Breakfast Club and Afterschool Club bookings - 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

hedgehogs@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.

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