

Pickering Community Infant & Nursery School

School Newsletter No 2

19th September 2025



Reading and Parental Involvement

Reading is such an important life skill that opens up endless opportunities for children as they grow and learn but is also a great way to relax.

Thank you to all of those who were able to attend the Reception reading workshop on Wednesday after school. We hope that you found it useful. We appreciate that the time of this would not have suited all of our parents and staff will share some of the information covered on Tapestry and via class newsletter to make sure that everyone gets the same information.

We greatly appreciate parental support around reading; both helping children to read their school reading books and access Bug Club but in sharing books at home too.

Next week, all Year One and Two children will be assigned new books on their Bug Club login (Details in the reading section of their Busy Book) and will have already brought a reading book home. Please try to add a note and date in their Reading Record/Busy Book when they have read. It doesn't need to include lots of information but will help staff if they know what children have read at home.



Handouts:

- ⇒ Mini Sing Squad Letter—Yr1 and Yr2 only
- ⇒ Best of British Lunch Invitation—Packed lunch children only

Email:

- ⇒ Open Afternoon Poster
- ⇒ Flu Vaccination Programme Information—Rec, Yr1 and Yr 2 only
- ⇒ OPAL unwanted items plea



Attendance News

Congratulations to **Squirrel Class** for **98.5%** attendance for the first part of the Autumn term.



Individual School Photos



The school photographer will be in school on Monday 22nd September. All the children have an individual photograph taken. If there are siblings in school, they will also have a photograph taken together. The children will bring home details of how to place an order, however you are under no obligation to buy.

Flu Vaccinations in School For Reception Y1 and Y2

If your child is of Reception age, Year one or Year two and you would like them to receive this year's flu vaccination in school, please complete the online consent form at [Vaccination UK Immunisation](https://www.vaccinationuk.com/immunisation)

The vaccination team will be coming into school on **Monday 10th November** for the children whose parents have opted for the vaccination.



Birthdays



The celebration assembly for children who have had their birthday during the month of September will be Friday 26th September at **9.10am**. If we can ask parents to wait at the gate to the Eastwing playground, to the right of the school building as you come up the path.

Parents have enquired whether they are able to bring a treat for children in their child's class for their child's birthday. There is no expectation that you will share anything with the class. We teach the children that no food is

bad for you if eaten in appropriate moderation and as part of a well-balanced diet. However, with the frequency of birthdays in classes, these are becoming more of a norm than an exception. With this in mind and the development of our food curriculum and food policy we are therefore asking parents not to bring sweets and treats in for birthday celebrations. We appreciate that these are often part of birthday celebrations but would appreciate your support with this.

Playground Equipment

Please may we ask that in a morning the children do not touch or use the equipment out on the playgrounds. Staff spend time organising and tidying these and we appreciate families respecting the time given to do this.

Autumn Lunch Menu

Thursday 2nd October is our whole school 'Best of British' lunch where we invite children who usually bring a packed lunch to join us for a hot meal.



All dietary requirements catered for

School Office

During afternoons there is usually only one member of staff in the office. We ask for your patience in giving them time to answer the phone and door at these times. We have two phone lines and so your call may ring in the office but if the member of staff is away from their desk or on another line, they will not be able to answer straight away.

Dates for your Diary

- ✍ **Monday 22nd Sept**—Individual photographs
- ✍ **Tuesday 23rd Sept**—Open Afternoon 3.30pm—4.45pm
- ✍ **Friday 26th Sept**— September Birthday Assembly 9.10am
- ✍ **Tuesday 30th Sept**—Year 2 Map Making—Parents invited 9.10–10.30am
- ✍ **Wednesday 1st Oct**—Year 1 Map Making—Parents invited 9.10–10.30am
- ✍ **Thursday 2nd Oct**—Best of British Lunch

Open Afternoons

A reminder that our Open Afternoon will take place on **Tuesday 23rd September 2025 from 3.30pm** and it would be lovely to see some of our current families as well as some potential new ones. Everybody is welcome. There is a flyer attached about this. It says that booking is preferred. On this date, you will be able to see for yourself the developments in our Sensory Garden too. Mr Eddon (Parent to two children in school and Parent Governor) has been working with Mrs Smith, Mrs Carter and a team of dedicated staff who have generously given their time to

support the updates. Mr Eddon, Mrs Smith and Mrs Kelly have also been working on making the mud kitchen more accessible and have been working on getting our trim trail back in use. There is a plea from our OPAL team for unwanted items that might support our play. Any help greatly appreciated!

Outdoor Wear

We have such extensive grounds and it is great to be able to use lots of it at lunchtimes and playtimes. As long as it is safe to do so, we try to go out in all weathers. To this end we ask that all children have a coat in school with them every day. It would also be helpful for children to have their own pair of wellies in school for outdoor play. We have spare sets (and always welcome donations of pairs of wellies of any size from a small 5 to a size 2) but children often prefer their own if you can.

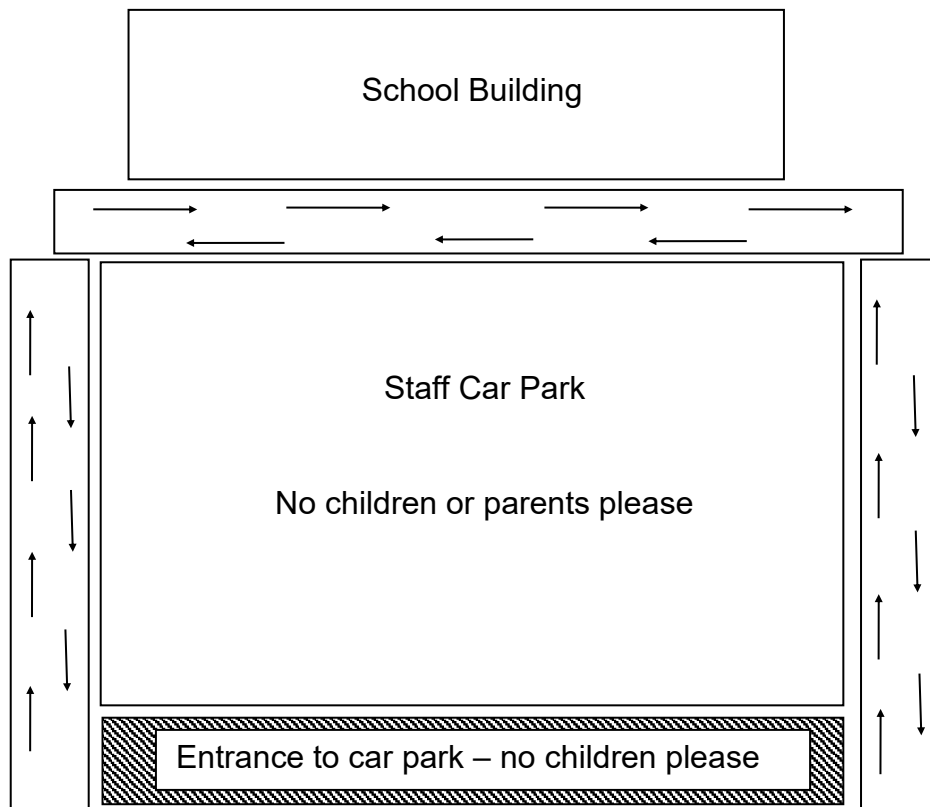
Plea for Volunteers

If you, or someone you know, have a spare hour or two at all and would like to come in to school to help support the children and staff, your help would be greatly appreciated. Support can be by listening to readers, helping with key words, photocopying or laminating resources, or even gardening. Please contact the school office to speak to Mrs Smith or speak to the member of staff directly.

Key Stage One Map Making

On Tuesday 30th September for Hedgehog and Squirrel classes and Wednesday 1st October for Badger and Rabbit classes, from 9.10am - 10.30am, We would love to have you join us! Please email your class email to let us know if you are able to attend.

Safe School Access



The safety of our pupils is paramount and that is why we ask that parents do not walk across the car park at drop off times but rather use the paths to the right and left of the car park (as above). The reason for this arrangement is that some of our staff arrive between 8.45 and 9am and leave between 3.25 and 3.40pm. They are always vigilant and ensure that there are no children behind them as they reverse, but to minimise the risk, I would stress the importance of using the paths.

Please could I also ask that parents do not let children climb on the grassed hill next to the car park. There is a steep drop at the other side of this.

It has been lovely to see some of the children arriving on scooters and bikes! Please ask your child to push these rather than ride them on school grounds as the paths can get busy and there are steep slopes leading directly to the road. There is a scooter and bike park at the entrance to the Reception playground where children are welcome to leave these during the day. These are left entirely at parents' own risk.

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

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