

Pickering Community Infant & Nursery School

School Newsletter No 8

19th December 2025



Merry Christmas

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to our school community for all of your support over this rather long and busy term!

We were delighted to be able to share our Church Service with so many of our families on Thursday afternoon. This morning was our 'Carols round the Tree,' when we joined together as a school to celebrate and received a surprise visit from Father Christmas! We also use this as an opportunity to say thank you to our wide and dedicated team of volunteers who support the school's work in so many ways and without whom many things in school wouldn't happen.





Earlier in the week, the children did a sensational job putting on their nativity performances. Perfect for getting you in the Christmas spirit! Our tickets for these events are free but year on year families ask about making donations. We are very grateful for the donations received at these events. As an alternative this year, we also have an amazon wish list, which can be found at <https://amzn.eu/hRf086V>. Any donations this year will be used for updating classroom books with more recent ones and ones that support our in class learning. We appreciate your generosity at, what we know is, an expensive time of year.

From all of us here at school, we wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year and we look forward to continuing to work together in 2026.



Handouts: These will be sent home in book bags—don't forget to check for them!

-  Spring first half term Diary Sheet
-  Food in School Holiday Form (FISH) selected families

Email: These will be sent out via ParentMail—so watch out for them on the App.

-  Christmas Jumper Day
-  Sports Club Allocation of Place
-  Spring first half term Diary Sheet

Attendance News

Congratulations to **Rabbit class** with **96.2%** attendance for Autumn term



Diary Dates

Monday 5th January—School closed to children

Tuesday 6th January—school reopens

Clubs

🌟 **Friday 9th Jan—** Sports Club
Spring term1 starts

School Activity Clubs—re-start week beginning 12th January

🌟 **Mondays from 12th Jan—**Animal Encounters

🌟 **Tuesdays 13th Jan—**Gymnastics Club, Get Creative Club

🌟 **Thursday 9th Jan—**Mini Sing Squad, Funky Foods Club

Christmas Concert Donations

A huge **Thank you** for your generosity in donating towards purchasing further reading books to enhance the reading opportunities for our children and to those who have kindly purchased books through our Amazon Wishlist. Across the four performances we raised **£413.17** in cash.

Donations from past concerts have been used to buy a set of aprons for cooking for classes to use across school and for outdoor equipment for OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning). Your donations make a difference, thank you.



Redeem your vouchers for free holiday activities this Christmas

We have 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 email/text to redeem your voucher and book your child's place on some of the fantastic activities on offer across North Yorkshire.

To learn more about FEAST, and for information on activities, eligibility and how to manage your bookings, [visit the website.](#)



Mobile Phones



If you are fortunate enough to receive a new mobile phone for Christmas and you have a change of number, please remember to inform the office of your new number.

Christmas Jumper Day—In aid of Save the Children

It has been wonderful to see so many different Christmas jumpers around school today. 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 Community Infant and Nursery School - Christmas Jumper Day is raising money for Save The Children!](#)

Facebook and X (formerly Twitter)

Don't forget to find us on Facebook and X (formerly Twitter) to see updates of what the children are getting up to in school. You can find us at;

[https://www.facebook.com/
PickeringInfant/](https://www.facebook.com/PickeringInfant/)

@PickeringInfant on X

Every Minute Counts!

Being late for school reduces learning time.

5 minutes late every day = **3 days** of learning missed per year.

15 minutes late every day = **9 days** of learning missed per year.

Arriving late can be very disruptive for your child, the teacher, and the other children in the class.



It all adds up!

Attending school everyday gives your child the best chance of success. **100%**

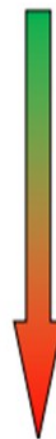
Attending **4½ days** a week = **4 weeks** learning missed per year **90%**

Attending **4 days** a week = **8 weeks** learning missed per year **80%**

Attending **3½ days** a week = **12 weeks** learning missed per year **70%**

80% attendance adds up to missing 2 full years of education over their school life!

Can they afford to keep missing out?



School closes for Christmas at 3.25pm today Friday 19th December and re-opens to children on Tuesday 6th January 2026.



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

Congratulations!

To our children who have achieved **100%**
attendance during the Autumn term

Finley HH-S

Penelope A

Aubrey W

Imogen

Dottie

Toby A

Ruby P

Ella

Rowan

Niamh

Mylo

Caleb HH-S

Oscar C

Emilia

Felix

Reggie

Lana

Tristan

Ava

Noah

Daniel

Thomas Sh

Ruth

Georgina

Arthur H

Phoebe

Ruby J

Lottie

Alfie

Odelia

Lucy

George Mc

Alex

Certificates will be
given out in the
celebration assembly
during the first week
back.

Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year!

Dear parents/carers,

As we reach the end of a busy autumn term, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the governing body, to celebrate some of the things that make Pickering Community Infant & Nursery School such a special place:

Exciting Events: This term has been packed with memorable trips, a fantastic winter fair, and brilliant festive performances. Thank you for joining in and supporting our school.

Friends of School: A huge thank you to our Friends of School for tireless fundraising, making so many opportunities possible.

Trim Trail Reopened: Our much-loved Trim Trail is open again! It's been wonderful to see the children enjoying it, and we're grateful to all the families who joined us for the reopening event.

Outdoor Play Platinum Award: We are proud to have achieved the highest OPAL award – meaning that our children enjoy fantastic play opportunities every day. Play is a big part of our school, and we make the most of our outdoor spaces for everyone to enjoy.

Healthy Schools Gold Award: We have just received the Gold Award for our commitment to health and wellbeing. This recognises our work to help children make healthy choices, look after their wellbeing, and learn in a caring environment.

We're lucky to have such a dedicated team of staff, governors, parents, carers and volunteers, all working together to make our school a happy and inspiring place.

What do governors do?

We work behind the scenes to support and challenge the school - we help plan for the future, check on school finances and ensure the school is a welcoming place for everyone. We work with the Headteacher and staff to make sure every child has the best possible chance to learn, achieve and enjoy their time at Pickering Infant & Nursery School.

We wish you all a restful and happy break, and we look forward to seeing everyone in the new year.

With warm wishes from all the governors,

Alice Coates, Chair of Governors