

Pickering Community Infant & Nursery School

School Newsletter No 9

Friday 9th January 2026



Welcome to the Spring Term 2026

If we haven't had chance to already, we'd like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a 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 great start to the new term and their learning.

On behalf of the staff team, I would like to share a huge thank you and our gratitude to families for all of your gifts, cards and kind words before the holidays.

Another big thank you to our school community too for your generous donations following our Christmas Concerts. This year we have allocated any donations to provide some new and updated books for classes. Some of the classes were extra keen and got their wish list in for the end of last term. They were very excited to take delivery this week of the books that they chose! Reception classes will receive theirs next week with other classes still debating which books to select! We also introduced a wish list through Amazon and have been delighted to receive such a lovely selection of books for classrooms. It is lovely to see and hear the excitement that the new books have created—thank you!



Handouts

Hard copies:

Email:

- * Talk PANTS

Congratulations also to **Squirrel Class** for achieving **99.2%** attendance for the first week of the Spring Term.

Attendance News





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 9th Jan—Sports Club starts

Thursday 15th Jan—Pizza Party lunch

Friday 30th Jan—January Birthday assembly 9.10am

Wednesday 4th Feb—A visit from Imran Kotwal

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.

Pizza Party Lunch

Thursday 15th January

All dietary requirements will be catered for.



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 2026**.

Year 2 Parents—Don't forget to apply for your Junior School place by **15th January 2026**.

The information you need to apply for either place is available at [School admissions | North Yorkshire Council](https://www.northyorkshire.gov.uk/school-admissions)

Clubs

Block one school activity clubs start again next week and continue up to and including the week beginning 2nd February. There will be no school activity clubs in the last week of this half term only the sports club will be on during the last week.

Spring 1 half-term Sports Club starts today.

Clubs running are:

Mondays 3.25-4.00pm—Animal Encounters

Tuesdays 3.25-4.00pm—Gymnastics Club and Get Creative Club

Thursdays 12.35-1pm—Sing Squad

Thursdays 3.25-4.00pm—Funky Foods

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.

Spare Items

At this time of year, in particular, it is always helpful to have extra pairs of socks, tights, trousers, skirts, t-shirts and jumpers in school for those days where children get a little bit wet and soggy! Any donations welcome, although we do have a very large stock of cardigans. Anything else, including underwear for both boys and girls in good condition always welcome!



Class and School email addresses

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

Office

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

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](https://www.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