

Pickering Community Infant & Nursery School

School Newsletter No 12

27th February 2026



Outdoor Learning

It was wonderful to welcome so many family members to the Key Stage One (Years One and Two) outdoor learning event on Thursday morning. Across school, outdoor learning gives all of our children opportunities to take part in learning on a much bigger scale and in a different learning environment.



Children across school have lots of opportunities to learn outside of the classroom. For Foundation Stage, this is every day in their outdoor learning environment, in forest school for all classes and for those times where the learning just needs that bigger or open space!

Families on the Key Stage One side of school may have noticed a few updates to our outdoor area with the addition of a new sand pit funded by Ryedale Lions and built and installed by Mr and Mrs Kelly over the half term holiday. We are awaiting our delivery of sand and an opportunity in OPAL assembly in the coming weeks to discuss together and decide on how this will be used.



Handouts

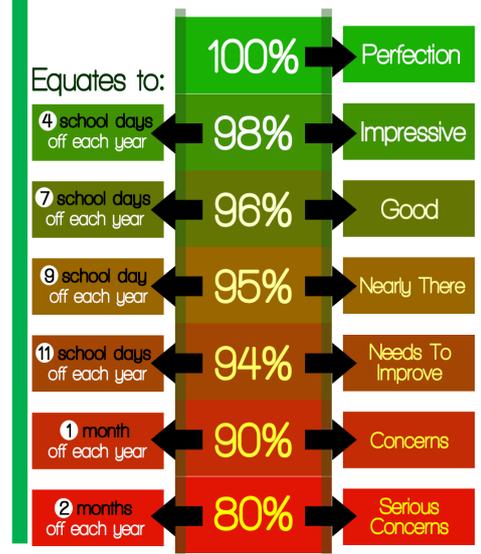
Hard copies:

Email copies:

- ✿ Site access information
- ✿ Attendance brochure

Attendance Ladder

How close are you to reaching the top?



Attendance

Congratulations to **Rabbit and Badger Classes** with **99.1%** attendance for the first week back.



World Book Day

World Book Day is **Thursday 5th March** and will be based on: '**You are a Reader**' 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!

World Book Day Lunch

Thursday 5th March

This will be different to the published meal on the menu for this day. The Nursery meal for the day will be Wormy Spaghetti. All dietary requirements will be catered for.



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.

Diary Dates

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 3rd March—Aquatic Finatic animal workshop for Nursery and Reception

Thursday 5th March—World Book Day and World Book Day lunch

Saturday 7th March—Music Matters

Concert 2-4pm St Peter and St Paul's Church

Monday 9th — Thursday 13th March—No Block 2 Activity Clubs this week due to Parent Evening

Monday 9th March—Balance Bike Day—Reception and Nursery

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

Thursday 12th March—Parents' Evening 3.35pm-6.25pm

Friday 20th March—Red Nose Day

Comic Relief



Friday 20th March is Comic Relief. This year the theme is '*Doing something funny for money*'. 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.

Just Giving is fundraising for Comic Relief

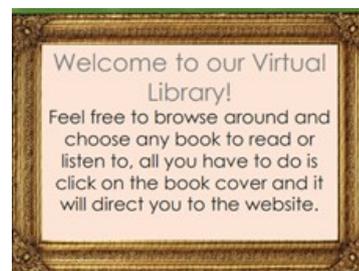
Regardless of whether families are in a position to make a charitable donation at this time, we still encourage all children to come in non-uniform if they would like to.

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 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.



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

ladybird@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk

hedgehogs@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk

squirrels@pickering-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk

badgers@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 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.



Congratulations!

To our children who achieved 100% attendance during
the Spring 1 half-term

Maisie	Jack T	Oscar C
Dolly	Aubrey	Toby D
Oswald	Max W	Jack Ev
Theo E	Penny A	Beth
Theo H	Dottie	Orson
Caleb	Jenson	Logan N
Emma	Oscar G	Evie
Felix	Axel	Ava
Isaac	Herbie	Aiden
Tristan	Isabelle J	William S
Albert	Theo M	Georgina
Mylo	Matilda	Luke
Theo C	Beatrix	Max E
Lana	Phoebe	Rex
Noah	Lenny B	Lewis
Jack Ed	Arthur C-S	Finley HH-S
Ruth	Sam C	Ruby P
Finley G	Teddy C	Marlowe
Morgan	Margot	Logan W
Alyssia	Lottie	
Alex	George Mc	

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