

Pickering Community Infant & Nursery School

School Newsletter No 11

6th February 2026



myHappymind



We hope that many of you have already heard lots about our work with myHappymind as the children have really enjoyed their learning so far on our first unit, 'Know your brain'. The children have picked up the language around this very well as well as the 'jobs' that the three parts of the brain do; amygdala, hippocampus and prefrontal cortex.

As PSED and Well-being Leader, Mrs Green will soon be sending out information about the accompanying parent app, which provides families with information to extend learning from school to home, allows parents to access videos, audio sessions, and activities to help children with mental health strategies. We will also be sharing more information about this through a rolling presentation at Parents Evenings, week beginning 9th March.

The work with myHappymind complements the great work that we already do focusing on personal development and well-being. We share the myHappymind ambition to make sure that every child has the tools that they need to thrive in the modern world by teaching all children strategies that develop positive behaviours and that strengthen their mental health, resilience and well-being.

Attendance

Congratulations to **Rabbits** Class for achieving **97.2%** attendance for the two weeks from 26th January to 6th February 2026.



School Day

Rec, Y1 and Y2 doors open at 8.55am and close at 9.05am. End of day is 3.25pm



Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 10th February will be the national Safer Internet Day. With the speed at which technology develops and changes, it is vital that we all know how to keep ourselves and our children safe online. We will send out links and information relating to online safety next week via ParentMail. Further information can be found on our school website on the 'E Safety' section in our 'Safety and Wellbeing' page.

Mrs Metcalfe and Miss Robson have challenged the children to design a school mascot for online safety and the closing date is today! You can still return these at our Family Computing Workshop after school today where you can explore and play with computing resources that we use in school and find out more about online safety. A fun afternoon starting straight after school until around 4pm. Siblings welcome!

Scouts Founders Day and Guiding World Thinking Day



February 22nd is a day of celebration for all sections of Guides and Scouts across the world. As 22nd February is not a school day, on Monday 24th February, to support our children in this celebration, we welcome any of our children who are members of Rainbows, Brownies, Squirrels or Beavers to wear their uniform to school on that day.



ParentMail Payment Accounts

As we approach the end of the financial year, we would be extremely grateful if you could ensure that your child's payment accounts are paid up to date. This will include Nursery fees, Nursery lunches, Breakfast Club and After School Club payments through ParentMail. Please could this be done by the end of March. Thank you

Breakfast and After School Clubs



As a school we recognise that the times of the school day don't always coincide well with the times of a working day. Over recent years we have established and built up our own Breakfast Club and After School Club provision to help with this.

We are able to offer hours **from 8am until 6pm daily**. If you feel that this is something that you would find helpful and would like to take advantage of, please speak to the office. It is open to all children across school including Nursery, daily.

We have recently had a change in staff at our After School Club with Mrs Connors stepping down from her Supervisor role. We are in the process of recruiting new staff to join our team and will keep you updated. In the meantime, the club continues to be supported by Mrs Crowder alongside Miss Green, Mrs Maguire and Mrs Weighell.

Clubs

Block One Activity Clubs have now finished. Only Sports Club will take

place next week.

Singing Squad will continue with the same children throughout the year.

Block 2 activity clubs will start after the half term break for the Spring 2 and Summer 1 terms.

Sports club will start on Friday 27th Feb for 5 weeks.



Diary Dates

Fri 6th Feb—Family Computer Workshop 3.25-4pm

Tues 10th Feb—Pancake Day Lunch

Tues 10th Feb—Safer Internet Day

Wed 11th Feb—5.30—6.30pm –
Bedtime Event run by our Friends of School Team. —**Postponed until later in the year.**

Friday 13th Feb—School closes for half term

Monday 23rd Feb — School reopens

Tuesday 24th Feb 4pm—Parents Evening Sign-up system goes live on ParentMail

Thurs 26th Feb 9-11am—KS1 Outdoor Learning Event—Parents Welcome

Friday 27th Feb—February Birthday Assembly—9.10am

Please remember to keep checking Parent Mail for updates.

Parking

PWhilst we know that parking on the streets around school can be difficult, we ask that families of children at school park respectfully and carefully.

Please remember that we have the parking permit system in place to help

with this. For a charge of £5, an annual permit can be purchased for Eastgate car park for parking until 9.15am and between 3.15pm and 3.40pm during term time. Please contact the school office if you would like to purchase a permit for this year. Alternatively, this can be accessed on our website under 'Parents' and 'Travelling to school'.

The staff car park in front of school is for staff only and must not be used by parents to drop off or collect their children from school. There is strictly no stopping or parking in the bus lane and parking tickets for offenders can be issued by parking wardens. It is essential these are kept clear at the start and end of the school day. Our local PCSO continues to regularly patrol the area.

A huge **THANK YOU** to all of our parents who make use of this scheme or who ensure that they park safely and courteously around school.

Correspondence

Correspondence, reply slips etc can be sent into school with your child to be placed in the class basket which will then be sent to the office for actioning. Should any correspondence for the office contain personal information please bring directly to the office.



Music Matters



This has become an annual event over the last few years, celebrating the musical talents of children and young people locally. It will take place on Saturday



7th March at St Peter and St Paul's Church in Pickering. Mrs Carter will be sending an invitation to Singing Squad. If your child plays a musical instrument or is a keen singer, they are welcome to perform at this event. If this is the case, please contact Gina Southey at ginasouthey@gmail.com or by phone on 07753682004. Equally, you don't need to perform. All are welcome to come and be a part of the audience for this lively event!

Thank you!

A huge thank you to Pocklington Carpets for providing us with some off cuts of carpet for the children to use inside their crates to slide down the slope during their playtimes. This not only makes it much safer it also enhances their experience as it is so much more comfortable for them!

Signs of Spring!

The days are gradually getting longer and it is lovely to see bulbs and spring



flowers springing up around us as spring approaches. Under our very large beech tree at the front of school there are lots of crocus bulbs springing into life. We have spoken to the children this week about being respectful to nature and staying off the grass under the tree where these bulbs are growing. We kindly ask that parents remind children of this message on your way onto and off the school site.

Pancake Day Lunch

10th February

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



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