

# Pilgrim Primary Academy

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**Headteacher: Mrs L Meek (BA Hons, PGCE, N.P.Q.H)**



**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

**Dear parents, carers and families,**

Welcome to the first Newsletter of Term 2. We have got off to a flying start here at school. We have already survived Storm Ciaran last week and thanks for bearing with us with some extra communication on this while we found a flexible solution to keeping school open but providing options for late arrivals due to the weather.

Our year groups have really been throwing themselves into their new learning themes and we have also had an additional focus in all classes this week on Remembrance, discussing why we respect and remember people who have served (and are serving) to protect others.

We have been fundraising for the Royal British Legion with our sales of poppies and poppy-related items - the children have worn them proudly. Thank you to all families who have given children money to buy a poppy and donate this week.



Today, at 11.00am the whole school stood together for a special 2 minutes of silence showing our thanks and having our own thoughts for our servicemen and women. As always, the children did this beautifully showing great maturity and respect.

## Autumn Term Reports and Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings

Thanks to everyone who braved the wet weather this week to attend a meeting with their children's teacher on Wednesday and Thursday. This was a chance for you to collect your child's first written report of the year and discuss how your child has been getting on. I saw lots of smiling and proud faces (both parents and children!) and I hope that you found the meetings useful.

**For those of you who were not able to attend, there is still time! Please speak to your class teacher about booking a meeting in this coming week to get the report and discuss your child's progress. These are important meetings and it would be great if every family could attend.**

## IMPORTANT: New Attendance Policy

As part of our regular review of policies, **we have updated the Good Attendance and Punctuality Policy**. The policy is available on our website and can be accessed via the link here:

Attendance Matters



<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wri3dQKgi2iHdSkdi1Mu1gsVuKva2l8m/view?usp=sharing>

Alongside this Newsletter, I am also sending you a helpful summary of the policy with some of the key information in the format of a Policy On A Page. I would like to draw your attention to a key policy change regarding late arrival at school:

1. Children who arrive after registration has closed in the classroom (at 8.55 am) will be coded as LATE on the register. If a child has 3 late marks within a 2 week period, there will be a follow up communication to parents and this will be monitored for improvements
2. The school register will now fully close at **9.15am**. This is earlier than in our previous policy. Any children who are late after this time will be coded as an UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE for the whole morning session. If a pupil has 8 or more unauthorised sessions (for any reason) then they could be liable for a Penalty Notice (fine).

**I would encourage all parents & carers to click on the link to read the policy in full for more details about how we want to work with families to make sure all children at Pilgrim attend school regularly.**

## Children In Need

On Friday 17th November we will be participating in the annual Children in Need fundraising event. We will be hosting a non-uniform day at school, with children encouraged to wear clothes that are '**Colourful and Clashing**'. The bolder and brighter, the better! Children can wear their colourful clothes for a small donation of £1 per pupil to go to the charity. A payment page has been set up for our school. Please click into the link below to kindly make your donation, if you wish to do so.

This year, schools across the UK are being encouraged to celebrate the power of positive relationships, and the impact of these relationships in helping to support children and young people throughout the school years. They are also having fun performing "Bearpees" (burpees) alongside Joe wicks, helping us all to get some extra exercise!



<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=12437>

## Autumn (Term 2) Curriculum Themes

Last term our pupils enjoyed the following learning themes, which we hope you had a chance to see through our "Look at Our Learning" sessions and via exploring their books during Parents Meetings this week: **EYFS:** Being Me in the world: Little Red Hen book focus **Year 1:** Who am I and what can I do? **Year 2:** Castles **Year 3:** Why is the Rainforest Important? **Year 4:** The Age of change: The Victorians **Year 5:** Material Magic **Year 6:** Conflict and Resolution: WW2 **Butterflies:** All about Me

### This term the children will study the following curriculum themes:

<b>EYFS:</b>	Celebrating Difference: Red riding hood book focus
<b>Year 1:</b>	Home, sweet home: Learning about different types of homes
<b>Year 2:</b>	Celebrations around the world
<b>Year 3:</b>	Rainforest Civilisation: The Mayans
<b>Year 4:</b>	Fire and Ice: Volcanoes and Mountains
<b>Year 5:</b>	'Ere be Dragons: Shang Dynasty focus
<b>Year 6:</b>	Crime and Punishment
<b>Butterflies:</b>	Celebrations around the world

In each theme, the children will study various curriculum subjects such as Science, History, Geography, RE, Music, Art and Design Technology. They will also have their regular English, Maths, PE and PSHE learning too.

## CURRICULUM NEWS - WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

### EYES

In EYFS, we saw Little Red Riding Hood's granny looking very poorly. We thought of ways to help her feel better. We made her cards and pictures of flowers and healthy foods. Then we put them in a big envelope and posted them to her.



Meanwhile, we found a poster saying that Little Red Riding Hood had actually gone missing! We went to look for her and found lots of clues but we could not find Little Red Riding Hood...



### Year 1

In Year 1 this week, we have been learning all about Materials as part of our science learning. We have sorted, named and labelled lots of different materials. We have investigated what everyday objects are made from. We have also started to think about the properties of these materials and about why they have been used to make certain objects. We have enjoyed being scientists using our observation, question, test, observe, and conclude skills.



## Year 2

This week the Year 2 children received a package in the mail. It was a letter from the Jolly Postman! He sent the Owls and Penguins a copy of a book all about him, as he had heard that they had been learning fairy stories and rhymes last term. We have loved reading all about the Jolly Postman's adventures and looking at the different types of letters the characters received. Here are some pictures of the Owls sorting and ordering pictures from the book, to retell the story with a story map.



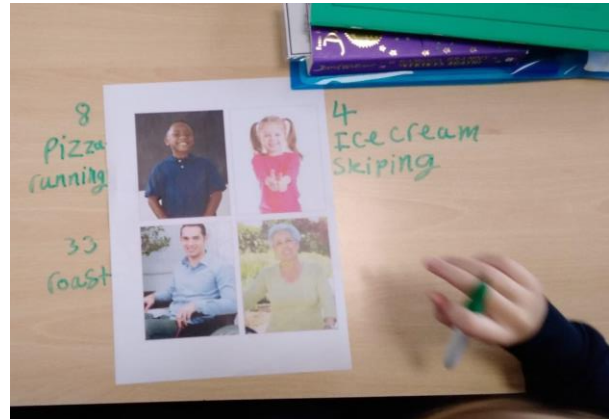
## Year 3

This week in Year 3 during our Teach Active English grammar lesson, we have been learning about the articles 'a' or 'an'. When hearing the word we had to decide whether it needed the article a or an, showing our answer by running to our target!



## Year 4

This week in Year 4, we have been learning and understanding in PSHE that we sometimes make assumptions about people based on their looks. We looked at four different people and guessed their ages, their favourite food, their hobbies and a secret about them. We were very surprised that the 74 year old's hobby was parachuting. None of us had assumed that!



Our teachers were very proud of us for how respectful we were during our remembrance assembly observing the two minute silence with the poppies we made earlier this week.



## Year 5

In Year 5 this week we have been learning about Remembrance Day and why people buy and wear poppies to mark the occasion. We made poppies of our own as part of our class's own act of Remembrance.



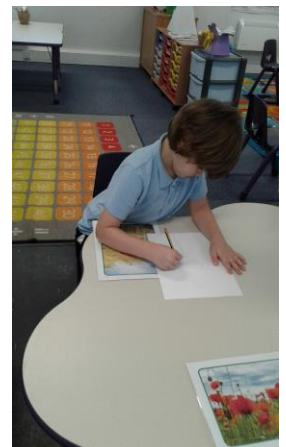
## Year 6

In Year 6 we have been continuing to explore a range of sports and physical activities with the professional coaches from 'A Chance to Shine' that are visiting Year 6 this term. This week they delivered some high quality cricket sessions which the children enjoyed and excelled at. The children practised their throwing and catching skills in their first session. Great focus and skills, Year 6.



## Butterflies

In Butterfly class, we have been learning all about Remembrance Day and why people wear poppies. We then looked at pictures of poppies and drew, then painted, what we could see. They all look amazing on our Remembrance Day display.



## Art Club

During art club this week, the Year 5 and 6 children also created some collaged poppy artwork for Remembrance Day. Look how well they turned out!



## Monday 13th November - Odd Socks Day for Anti Bullying Week



Next week, we will be celebrating Anti-bullying week with our theme being 'Make a Noise'. To start the week, we will be asking everyone to wear odd socks on Monday to represent how everyone is different. This is particularly important for the children to hear and know that we are all unique and that is what makes us special. We will be continuing to support Anti-bullying learning through our PSHE lessons and Circle Times this week.



## LOOKING AHEAD....DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

13th Nov	Odd Socks Day for Anti Bullying Week
17th Nov	Children in Need - Colourful & Clashing Clothes
24th Nov	Yr 6RH Class Assembly
1st Dec	Yr 1LW Class Assembly
8th Dec	Yr 5AC Class Assembly
19th Dec	Last day of Term
2nd Jan	First day of New Term



**There will be more dates coming in the next Newsletter - especially some of our Christmas events...**

### Pupils to Celebrate!

Well done to these children who have gained recognition from the adults and the children in school in the last fortnight. Great stuff!

	PAT ON THE BACK	STAR LEARNER
	From 30/10/23 until 10/11/23	
Yr 1	Archer W / Riley G	Jeffrey H / Izabel J / Mia-Rose W-L / Samyak T
Yr 2	Kalyan G	Hasan A-H / Lacey-Rose P-W / Keziah B / Mildred O
Yr 3	Skye B / Poppy S	Travis F / Oliver M / Carter H / Adejare A
Yr 4	Scarlett B / Lucca J	Sbhat T / Daisy-May N / Shaaban D / Raneem H
Yr 5	Evie-Grace S / Maddison A	Wiktor S / Charlie P / Favour A / Lilly G
Yr 6	Layal A / Evie L	Edlyn H-T / Charlie P / Laura O / Lacey W

### Attendance at Pilgrim

Children should be in school 'regularly' in order to get the best out of the education we provide. The Government is clear that regular attendance is 96% or better. Here are the attendance figures for the last 2 weeks since the last Newsletter. The classes in green are at or above 96% - our target.

There has been a huge amount of absence as we have had chicken pox and some other nasties going around school but our overall school attendance has really dropped. I hope that, with every child in every class being in school when they should be, we can improve this. **Well done to Mrs Matthews' class for being a regularly attending class over the last 2 weeks of school.**

### 30/10/23 until 10/11/23

<u>Registration Form</u>	<u>Present R/C: Marks</u>	<u>Late R/C: Marks</u>
Year F HG/ROL	93.2%	2.7%
Year F HT	92.7%	0.4%
Year 1 JM	96.9%	0.9%
Year 1 LW	85.9%	2.4%
Year 2 BF	93.0%	2.0%
Year 2 RH	94.1%	2.9%
Year 3 CB	93.6%	1.6%
Year 3 KC	95.3%	3.0%
Year 4 EK	92.9%	2.5%
Year 4 LJ	89.1%	2.3%
Year 5 AC	92.7%	2.1%
Year 5 SS	92.5%	2.1%
Year 6 RH	87.7%	1.3%
Year 6 SR	72.9%	1.2%

## Whole School Attendance Figures

<b>Pilgrim Primary Attendance (394 pupils)</b>	<b>Attendance School (target 96%+)</b>	<b>Attendance National (Primary schools)</b>	<b>Lateness (pupils arriving after 9.00 am)</b>
Up to w/e 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	<b>93.5%</b>	<b>95.0%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>

**And finally, have a super weekend - try to dodge the rain and keep dry!**



**Mrs L Meek  
Headteacher**