

Pilgrim Primary Academy

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Friday 10th February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are officially half way through the year and it seems to be flying by! The children have worked really hard this term but I think they are ready for a bit of a break. Next week is half term week and we will see the children back to school on Tuesday 21st February (there is a Non Pupil Day for staff training on Monday 20th so school is closed for children on that day).

School Events

Children's Mental Health Week- Let's Connect



For Children's Mental Health Week 2023, we have been encouraging the children to connect with others in healthy, rewarding and meaningful ways. Let's Connect is about making meaningful connections as people thrive in communities and this connection is vital for our wellbeing.

During this week the children have been engaging with daily activities that promote connections and support children to keep mentally healthy. They have been singing together, meditating together, dancing together, practising mindfulness techniques, trying yoga and engaging in activities where they cooperate and collaborate with each other, as well as activities that explore healthy connections.

On Tuesday of this week the children also explored healthy and safe relations on the internet, as part of Safer Internet day.

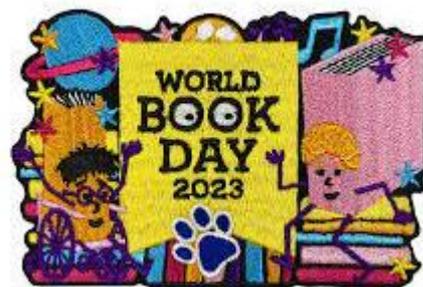


Today, our Reception children finished the week with a Wellbeing Walk together in the school grounds - looks like fun!



World Book Day

At Pilgrim we will be taking part in World Book Day 2023. We will be getting stuck into books and stories on Friday 3rd March. Coming home today is a letter about our plans and our school theme. There is an opportunity to dress up (if you want to) and to snuggle up for some bedtime stories. Also coming home today will be the £1 book token for every child. Special edition £1 books go on sale on February 16th so grab a book and get reading in half term!



Learning Round Up

Here are just a few of the things that we have been up to in the last week or two:

Year 6 - Row, row, row your boat!: Year 6 took part on an indoor rowing circuit, where they had to row the furthest in the shortest amount of time. They competed across 8 lanes and went head to head over 4 rounds of races to beat their own highest scores. They did fantastically, we certainly have some future rowing stars in our midst!



Year 2 - Working Together

In PSHE this week, Year 2 have been working on a group project to design an imaginary bird. We spent time communicating our ideas with each other and created a picture of what our bird should look like. We are going to work together to make our birds in our next lesson. Our focus during these lessons has been how we work well as a group and ensure everyone in the group has both a role and a voice.



Year 1 - A visit to the Hoe



Year 1 visited Plymouth Hoe as part of our geography learning. We identified human and physical features and spotted lots of landmarks. We sat by the lighthouse and played one of our favourite whole class games, Duck, Duck Goose for our wellbeing. The sun was shining, we had fun and learned loads!

Whole School - Storytelling Spoons



To celebrate National Storytelling Week, every child was given a wooden spoon so they could create a character and make up a story about them.

We have seen some brilliant characters and heard some wonderful stories this week! Some of us also listened to author and storyteller Wendy Shearer, create and tell a story about a gecko.



Community Information

Free bike health check at school: Friday 24th February

Is your bike in tip-top working order? On Friday the 24th February, Ella and Yaz from Sustrans will be on the school site all day to do FREE safety checks on all bikes brought into school. This can be any bike in your family (children and adults).

- They'll aim to fix anything they can; brakes, gears and flat tyres included!
- If there is something they can't fix, they'll give advice and direct you to the best place to go.
- They aim to have the bikes ready for collection at the end of the school day.
- Please bring bikes to the small hall first thing in the morning. Please remember to dismount from your bike and walk it to the small hall - and remember to wear a helmet if riding it to school!



Find out more about bike safety at <https://ibike.sustrans.org.uk/welcome/parents/carers/>

Also, calling all ADULTS - would you like FREE bike riding lessons?

Please visit this link to see Bikeability's offer on FREE adult cycle training for anyone over 16 years of age. <https://www.cyclepass.co.uk/Course/adult-training/>

Vacancies for Mealtime Assistant Roles (MTAs)

We are looking to recruit 3 more Mealtime Assistants to help us with our lunchtime provision. The roles are for 1 hour 30 mins each day over the lunchtime period and are Monday - Friday in term time only. No previous experience is needed and training will be given. The role is subject to an enhanced DBS check. Please click on the link below or see the full advert which accompanies this Newsletter.

To apply: Please visit the Reach South Academy Trust website online at: www.reachsouth.org/careers

Dates for your Diary

13.02.23	Half Term
20.02.23	Non Pupil Day (staff training)
21.02.23	TUESDAY - Children return to school after half term
22.02.23	Year 4LJ Rockpooling trip to Aquarium - Generation Ocean
24.02.23	Falcons Class Assembly
03.03.23	Penguins Class Assembly
03.03.23	WORLD BOOK DAY - more details will follow
10.03.23	Tigers Class Assembly
15.03.23	Parents Consultation Meetings
16.03.23	Parents Consultation Meetings
17.03.23	COMIC RELIEF DAY - more details will follow
24.03.23	Owls Class Assembly
31.03.23	Orcas Class Assembly
03.04.23	Easter Break



Pupils to Celebrate!

We are now presenting a Star Learner recognition in every class weekly AND the children are recognising one of their class team for a Pat on the Back for conduct each week too. Lots to celebrate so well done to these children:

	PAT ON THE BACK	STAR LEARNER
	From 23/01/2023 until 10/02/2023	
Year 1	Oscar K / Megan F Ollie M / Esmæ M Esmæ M / Sam G	Bianca P / Willow B Sonia R/ Cameron A Ilyas A / Ibrahim B
Year 2	Lena C / Travis S Oscar W / Casey B Oakley W / Amira O	Adejare A / Amira O Oliver Mc / Oliver W Lydia W / Theo W
Year 3	Katie-Maie H / Chioma L Mae L / Tiwa O Myron L / Aaliyah P	Edith-May S / Layla L Michael R / Ella M-W Richie M / Patrick P
Year 4	Mehrad A / Katelyn H Robyn F / Gracie M-C Perin S / Blake H-G	Lilyana W / Sulaiman S-L Mohammed B / Kokob M Sonny D / Nicholas E
Year 5	Laura O / Joseph B Miguel D-L / Joseph B Sarah T / Brooke G.I	Isabella A / Phoebe H-P Kia G / Joyce L Oreofa O / Hollie G
Year 6	Jessica L / Tugce K Miarose W / Serena A Alfie T	Bobby N / Caiden C Melissa J / Arshad S-H Asma I / Olivia G

A Special Commendation for Conduct



A very special mention to these children who have been recognised in school for going above and beyond expectations for exceptional conduct in classrooms and around school:

Julia A. in Year 1
Ollie M. in Year 1
Jubal J. in Year 1
Oliver W. in Year 2
Arsema M. in Year 5



Children who receive a special commendation will enjoy a 'Hot Chocolate Party' with Mr Goodwin. Yum!

Attendance

Overall, our school attendance is slowly improving after taking a dip just before Christmas.

Congratulations to Year 6 Falcon class who are the best attending class over the last 2 weeks. Well done! Dolphins in Year 5 remain the best attending class of the year to date though.

Pilgrim Primary Attendance (400 pupils)	Attendance School (target 95%+)	Attendance National (Primary schools)	Lateness (pupils arriving after 9.00 am)
Up to w/e 10.02.23	91.9%	93.4%	1.3%
Best class (year to date) 95.2%	Year 5 Dolphins 	Best class (last fortnight) 95.3%	Year 6 Falcons 
 There are 48 pupils in school with 100% attendance to date! 			

And finally....



Happy Retirement, Mrs Rolfe!

Today, we said a sad goodbye to Mrs Gill Rolfe as she enters her retirement. Mrs Rolfe has been employed at Pilgrim as a Teaching Assistant for over 22 years and has a long association with the school as her daughter came here as a pupil. We wish Mrs Rolfe a very happy retirement and, in assembly today, we thanked her for her years of dedicated service to the school. You will be missed, Mrs Rolfe!

Have a great half term week everyone and see you back at school on Tuesday 21st February

**Mrs L Meek
Headteacher**