

# Pilgrim Primary Academy

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Monday 23rd January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Apologies for the Newsletter not coming out on Friday - it was another busy week here at Pilgrim!

## Trust Review of Education

On Tuesday and Wednesday last week, we had a team from our Academy Trust in school to audit our educational provision in many areas. They watched lessons, looked in books, observed lunch and play times, observed some of our younger children reading with an adult and spoke to the children about their experiences at school. I am really pleased to say that the team agreed with the school judgement that we offer a good standard of education in all aspects with many elements of excellent pastoral support for pupils' personal development. The team saw that we know our children and our community very well and that we provide a range of experiences and support that are well matched to all children's individual needs, especially our children who have a particular special need. The children were really polite and well mannered to the team and they were able to explain their thoughts with confidence - they did us proud!

## Planned Teacher Union Strike Action - February 1st

Alongside this Newsletter is some initial information about the planned strikes that are taking place over the next 2 months, carried out by the NEU Teachers Union. No doubt you will have heard in the media that **the NEU have voted to undertake industrial action to strike with the first date for this being February 1st (next Wednesday).**

Please take time to read the letter carefully. I will be sending more information at the end of the week to outline how this strike action will affect our school particularly and the arrangements for that day.

## Learning Round Up!

What have some of our teams been learning over the last few weeks?

### Foundation

Children in EYFS have been learning about Chinese New Year. They made hand drums and Chinese dragons to help them celebrate!





### Year 2

In Year 2 we have been working in a group to achieve a shared goal. Some of us have chosen to learn to count to 10 in Mandarin or French; some of us are learning to tie our shoelaces; while others are learning the tricky steps to follow the Macarena dance. In PSHE we have been talking about what steps we can take to work on a goal and to achieve success.

### Year 3

Last week we became archaeologists, uncovering hidden treasures of the Stone Age by carefully excavating and examining artefacts! We learnt that in prehistoric times, people didn't write like we do today, so there is no written evidence of how those people lived. The only way to find out is by discovering things that they may have left behind.



I did say we had been busy!

### Dates for your Diary

27.01.23 Sea Stars Class Assembly  
26.01.23 National Child Weights and Measure Programme  
01.02.23 Year 5RH Widening Horizons trip to Plymouth University  
03.02.23 Dolphins Class Assembly  
10.02.23 Seahorses Class Assembly

13.02.23 **Half Term**  
20.02.23 **Non Pupil Day (staff training)**  
21.02.23 **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  
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
	w/e 20/01/2023	
Year 1	Sebastian G / Jaxon E	Isla M-G / Oscar S
Year 2	Jax B / Rui L	Travis F / Jax B
Year 3	Alani H / Harmony K-J	Georgie E / Aliya B
Year 4	Charlie R / Ioanna N	Lexi W / Elsie B
Year 5	Sophia H / Sarah T	Rose W / Marika W
Year 6	Jessica L / Adea C	Jenson W / Harrison P

## 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 (399 pupils)	Attendance School (target 95%+)	Attendance National (Primary schools)	Lateness (pupils arriving after 9.00 am)
Up to w/e 20.01.23	<b>92.0%</b>	<b>93.4%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
<b>Best class (year to date) 95.7%</b>	<b>Year 5 Dolphins</b> 	<b>Best class (last fortnight) 97.1%</b>	<b>Year 6 Falcons</b> 
 <b>There are 53 pupils in school with 100% attendance to date!</b> 			

## Reporting your child's absence

If your child is ill or unable to attend school please ensure that you either ring or email the school office on the day of their absence by 9.30am at the latest. We would hate your child to be marked as an unauthorised absence because we hadn't been notified or been unable to get hold of you. Thank you very much.

Please look out for the communications about the planned strike action day - I will be in touch later this week. Thanks.



**Mrs L Meek**  
Headteacher