

Pilgrim Primary Academy

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Friday 18th November, 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,



Children in Need

Today, our children have recognised Children in Need by wearing something bright to school - thank you for supporting this initiative. In assembly first thing this morning, we found out about the good work of the charity and the positive impact that it has on many children's lives. We looked at each other's bright and bold clothes and sang 'We Will Rock You' (really loud at the tops of our voices!) just to kick start the day.



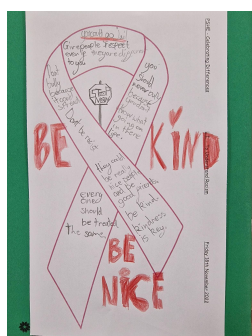
Thank you to our cook, Mrs Haydon, and to our school meals company CaterEd, for providing the fabulous Pudsey Bear biscuits which some children bought at break time to enjoy - yum!

I am pleased to tell you that the total raised so far from Parent Pay donations and biscuit sales is...

£316

Well done, Team Pilgrim!

National Anti-bullying week



We have also celebrated our final day of **National anti-bullying week**. Today, we mixed the children into different year groups and they enjoyed a session playing games and connecting with children they would not usually spend learning time with. The week has really raised the children's awareness of bullying; how to spot it, the impact bullying can have and where to go for support. All classes finished the day today with a PSHE lesson to promote the overall well-being of our children. Thank you to Miss Redmond for planning the anti-bullying awareness activities this week.

National Grid Road Works in the local area

This week there have been road works in many of the roads around school which I know have caused lots of congestion at drop off and pick up points. School was NOT made aware of these works in advance but we have made enquiries and have been told that they will continue until at least **28th November**. I know that this is frustrating but for those of you who travel to school by car, I would ask that you build in an extra few minutes to your schedule to accommodate the disruption over the next couple of weeks. Thanks.

Year 6 Residential Meeting

Reminder for parents/carers of Year 6 children - there is an information meeting on Tuesday next week in the main hall at 2.30 pm. This is a chance to learn all about the summer Year 6 residential which is offered to all Y6 children. Please come to our main reception to be escorted to the hall.

Attendance

With your child's Autumn school report, you should all have received a leaflet from school explaining the importance of your child having good school attendance and the negative impact on learning for those children who miss school regularly.

I am going to start to share our school attendance figures with you in each Newsletter and **these are the figures for the year to date:**

Number of pupils:	Attendance (target 95%+)	Unauthorised Absence	Persistent Absence (less than 90% attendance)	Lateness (pupils arriving after 9.00 am)
400				
w/e 18.11.22	93.9%	1.2%	19.6%	1.2%

Many, many parents and carers work hard to ensure that their children are in school every day and only take time away from school when they absolutely have to - many children have 100% attendance to date which is wonderful. However, the overall percentage of attendance at the moment is less than our 95% target. The most concerning figure is the Persistent Absence figure with almost one fifth of our pupils attending school less than 90% of the time (equivalent to 4 weeks of lost learning in every school year).

I am always monitoring attendance and lateness so I would ask that all parents and carers ensure that children are in school unless they are ill. If your child is ill or has another genuine reason for absence, it is important that you let the office know the reason as soon as possible (on the day is best) as **any absence that is unexplained is recorded as unauthorised.**

Thank you for your ongoing understanding of the importance of good attendance on your child's learning and development.

Parent Code of Conduct Policy

Pilgrim is a wonderful community in which every adult wants the very best for the children of the school. As a caring and fully inclusive school, we recognised the importance of the positive relationships that exist between our staff and our parent community. We also know the importance of children seeing our positive relationships and behaviours as good models for their own actions - it helps them learn how to build good relationships themselves.

Accompanying this Newsletter is our updated school **Parent Code of Conduct Policy** which provides clarity about the expectations for conduct and communication by parents and carers as we work together to support the education and welfare of all our children.

Please spend a few minutes reading this important policy so you are fully informed of our expectations. Many thanks.

Term Dates for your Diary

These are some of the remaining dates for this term:

22/11/2022	Yr 6 Parents Meeting - Residential (2.45pm)
25/11/2022	Yr 1 visit to Central Library (pm)
05/12/2022	Yr 5 Dolphin class to Aquarium
06/12/2022	Yr 5 Orca class to Aquarium
08/12/2022	Christmas Fair
09/12/2022	Christmas Jumper Day
13/12/2022	Yr 1 Polar Express Day
15/12/2022	Christmas Dinner
16/12/2022	Last day of Term
04/01/2023	Return to school

(Dates of Christmas performances to follow)

Pupils to Celebrate!

Well done to these children who have received a Celebration Certificate recently:

	STAR LEARNER	PAT ON THE BACK
	w/e 11th November 2022	
Year 1		Samuel C / Chichi C
Year 2		Darcie B / Casey B
Year 3	Ethan L / Katie W	
Year 4	Zoe C / Victor O	
Year 5	Oore B / Yaser A	
Year 6	Iyad A / Adea C	

Enjoy your weekend and see you back in school on Monday,



**Mrs L Meek
Headteacher**