



Newsletter

Pilton Infants' Academy

Abbey Road, Pilton, Barnstaple, North Devon, EX31 1JU T: 01271 342579

admin@piltoninfants.school www.teamacademytrust.com



Learning for Life

Friday 9th May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another short but busy week this week in a short and busy half-term. We hope you all enjoyed the bank holiday weekend.

Our assembly on Tuesday focused on keeping safe. Topics covered included our lanyard system, staying safe online, bullying and our learning from Pantosaurus about our private parts being private. The children were very impressive in what they knew and remembered about these topics from earlier in the year.

On Wednesday morning I took part in a review at another TEAM school, High Bickington. We focused on reading and science and it was a great opportunity to look at how these subjects are taught elsewhere. Although a very different setting being a small school in a small village spread over two sites, it's very clear to see that High Bickington and Pilton Infants' have a lot of similarities through being in the same trust. Learning is ambitious, interesting and child centred and the children enjoy their time at school.

The new PTFA committee are working incredibly hard on plans for the Summer Fayre—Piltonbury. The date of the Fayre will be Friday 18th July and it will start at 3.30pm. We're working with the PTFA on plans and fundraising for a playground shelter to continue developing the playground area.

Our overall attendance for the year continues to sit slightly below the national average although it remains stable. We know that as an infant school, our children are more susceptible to becoming ill than those children in older years. However, being in school everyday is vital for children's personal, social and academic development. As is arriving on time. Punctuality is a great habit to get into for life. Well done to all those children and families who arrive on time everyday - it's helping the children become even greater learners!

We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Best Wishes,

John Mortimer
Head of School

Pilton Infants' Vision: A school community of calmness, fun and positive relationships where all children reach their potential and create the building blocks for future success.

What have we been learning this week?

Reception—Kingfisher and Otter Classes

We've enjoyed learning about Lighthouses this week. We learnt about the history of the lighthouse and why they were built. We read the story; "The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch". We talked about what type of foods we would have in our picnic baskets.

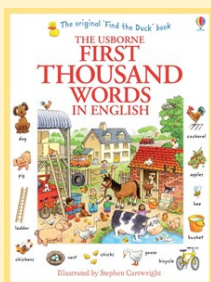
In Maths we have been learning about numbers that fit together to make 10. We used 10s frames and coloured counters to show all the different ways to make ten by making some of the counters red and some of the counters yellow.

Nearly all of our caterpillars have started to turn into cocoons. After around 2 weeks we hope they will emerge as butterflies.

Our sunflowers have been growing well and the stems have started to change colour as they get thicker and thicker.

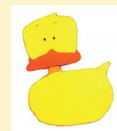


First Thousand Words



The First Thousand Words in English – guidance for parents.

Please make 10 minutes to spend on these each week. The focus of all these challenges is on speaking and listening skills. Try to model good speaking and listening skills to your child, for example, making eye contact when you are talking and answering questions in full sentences rather than just with one word. Help your child learn and pronounce new words. Searching through the pictures to find things is an important early reading skill so all of these activities will help develop your child's literacy.



Thank you in advance for your support. The Reception team.

This weeks' challenge

Numbers

Go to page 53. This week practice counting objects carefully, making sure you count one at a time.

Can you do some counting challenges? E.g. Can you find 3 teddies? 4 forks?

Count things around the house. How many chairs do you have in the house? How many rooms? How many stairs? Doors? Windows?

What have we been learning this week?

Year 1 - Squirrel & Owl classes

This week we have consolidated our learning of The Storm whale by creating compound sentences using the conjunction 'and'. For example, 'I walked along the beach and saw a whale'. We have used these to retell the story of The Storm Whale.

During Maths we looked at the value of 2 digit numbers. Using arrow cards and dienes to show the value of the tens digit and the ones digit. We then wrote these number sentences in their expanded form. For example, $43=40+3$.

In RE, we introduced the mezuzah to the children. It is a small container affixed to the doorposts of Jewish homes, containing a scroll inscribed with specific verses from the Torah (the Jewish bible). We then thought about what is important to use and wrote a message on a scroll to go inside of our mezuzahs.

In Jigsaw, we learnt about acceptable and unacceptable touch and how we have to ask before we hug someone. We played a feely bag game thinking about what items feel like, such as, soft, hard, prickly, cold, rough, smooth. We enjoyed coming up with greetings with our friends and sharing them with our class.



MONDAY afternoon parent drop-ins with Mrs Smale from 3pm

Mrs Smale is our pastoral TA. Pop in for a chat if you would like to discuss any issues or challenges you are having at home.

Pilton Infants' Vision: A school community of calmness, fun and positive relationships where all children reach their potential and create the building blocks for future success.

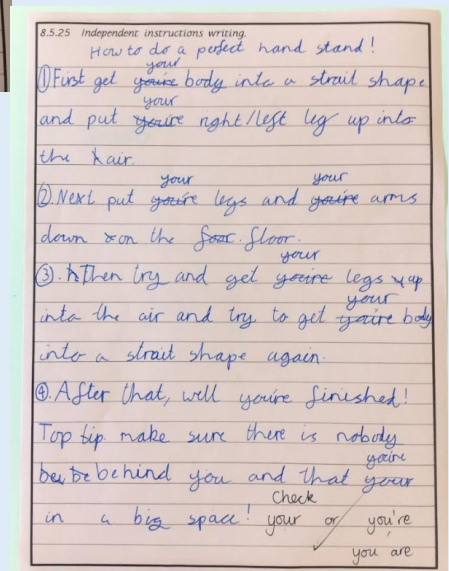
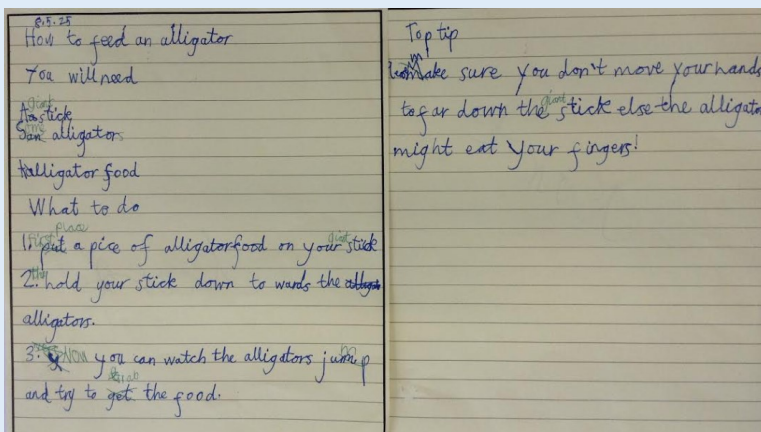
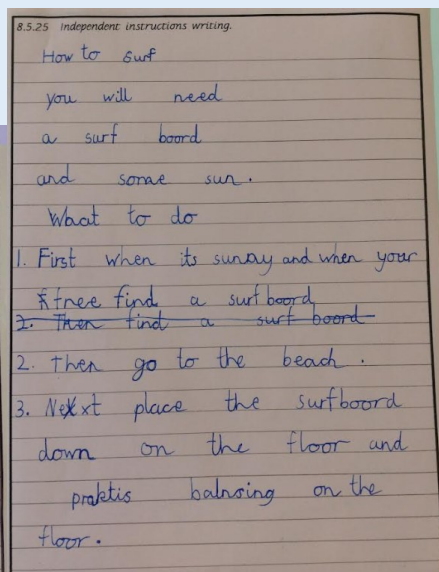
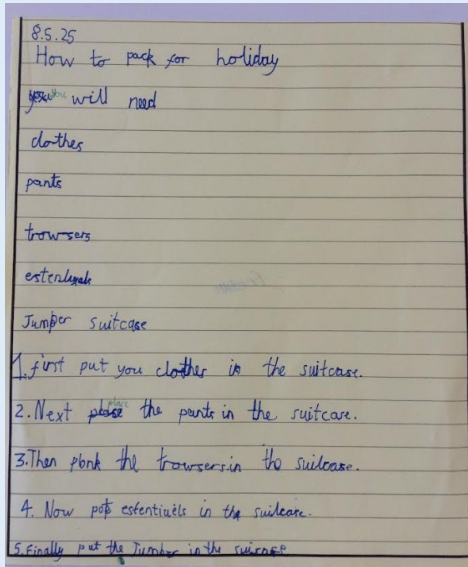
What have we been learning this week?

Year 2 - Fox & Hedgehog classes

This week, we've been using what we learned about instructions to write our own. The children chose the instructions they wrote and we had some really interesting texts such as how to drive a Mini, how to look after a wolf and how to be polite. It was great to see the progress that the children have made. See some examples attached.

We also learned about VE day. The children were very sensible and asked lots of interesting questions about it.

A quick reminder to read regularly at home. We find that this time of year, the children can make amazing progress if they have plenty of practise at home. Thanks to all those families who read regularly already!



We are a nut free school

Please don't send your child to school with any products containing nuts.

We have children and staff with severe nut allergies.

Pilton Infants' Vision: A school community of calmness, fun and positive relationships where all children reach their potential and create the building blocks for future success.

Be Tick Aware

Enjoy the great outdoors but #betickaware As more outdoor activities take place during the spring and summer it is important to be aware of the risk of ticks to both children and adults. Ticks are more common from spring to autumn and can spread infections like Lyme disease.

Infection rates are three times higher in Devon than the England average. Please take a look at the attached information and advice to help reduce the risk of tick bites, understand the importance of checking for ticks after activities, and what to do if you find a tick bite or

experience symptoms. [#betickaware \(UKHSA poster\)](#)



SEND

Below is a link to a SEND Family Beach and Nature Day. It is on Saturday 7th June at 10.00 in Croyde. To book a free place please follow the link

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/send-family-beach-and-nature-day-tickets-1285810025399>



Pilton Infants' Vision: A school community of calmness, fun and positive relationships where all children reach their potential and create the building blocks for future success.

Attendance - Every Day Counts!

Our aim is for all children to have attendance of at least 96%.

Our attendance this week is 93.68%. Our attendance this school year is 94.17%

This week 148 children have 100% attendance.

Reporting Absence

If your child is unwell, please phone or email the school before 9.30am to report your child's absence:
T: 01271 342579 E: admin@piltoninfants.school

Why is attendance so important?

According to the Department for Education's data:

Pupils who attend school regularly are more likely to develop positive relationships with peers and teachers, enhancing their overall emotional resilience and mental health.

Regular school attendance fosters a sense of belonging and connection within the school community.

Pupils who consistently attend school are more likely to pursue higher education and ultimately secure better employment opportunities.

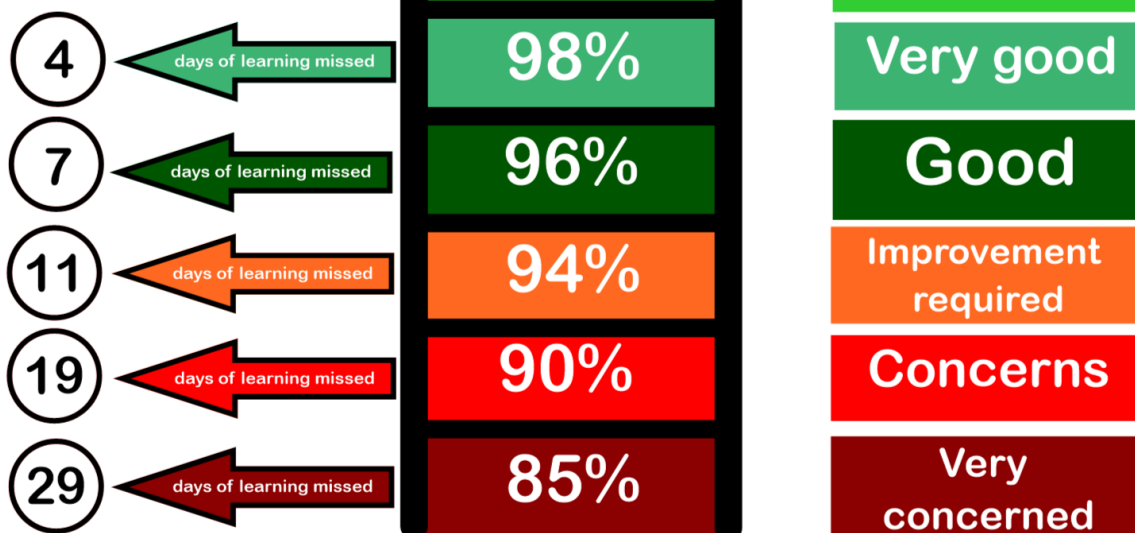
Higher attendance rates lead to improved academic performance, as pupils have more opportunities to learn, join discussions and receive feedback from teachers.

Pupils with good attendance records are more likely to achieve better grades.

Pupils who are chronically absent are more likely to feel isolated and disengaged as well as being at higher risk of not continuing their education after secondary school.

Pilton Infant's School - Attendance Ladder

In a school year, this equates to:



Pilton Infants' Vision: A school community of calmness, fun and positive relationships where all children reach their potential and create the building blocks for future success.

PARKING PERMITS FOR FAIRVIEW CARPARK

DO NOT PARK ON ABBEY ROAD OR PRIORY CLOSE FOR DROP-OFF OR PICK-UP

Let's keep the road safer for everybody travelling to school.

Contact the school office (admin@piltoninfants.school) for a free parking permit for Fairview car park.

Thank you

Dates

Term dates

Children finish for Half-term - Friday 23rd May 2025

Children return to school - Tuesday 3rd June 2025

A full calendar of term dates for this year and next year can be found here

<https://www.pilton-inf.devon.sch.uk/page/?title=Term+Dates&pid=63>

Trips, visits and events

Year 1 Swimming lessons —Owl Class 16th & 23May & 6th June. Squirrel Class 13th, 20th, 27th June, 4th & 11th July.

Tuesday 20th May—Reception Quince Honey Farm Trip.

Wednesday 4th June—Sports Day

Thursday 12th June—Class photos with Tempest.

Tuesday 17th June—Year 1 RNLI/aquarium Trip

Wednesday 2nd July—Sports day Back-up 1

Wednesday 16th July—Sports day Back-up 2

Wraparound care

Our Breakfast and After School Clubs are run by staff from North Devon Primary Sports every day from 7.45am before school and until 5.30pm after school.

For more information and to book, please use this link:

[Breakfast club](#)

[Afterschool Club](#)

Club	Provider	Day	Time	Year group
Football	The Goal Getters	Tuesday	3.30pm-4.30pm	Reception + Y1
Tennis	Devonshire Tennis Academy	Wednesday	7.55am-8.40am	All
Gymnastics	Devonshire Tennis Academy	Friday	3.30pm-4.30pm	All

Jumpers/Cardigans Coats, Hats & Water bottle

Please ensure your child has a named jumper/cardigan, coat, hat & refillable water bottle in school everyday.



Life, Love and Learning to the Full

Working in partnership with
 SWIMBRIDGE
LIFE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Part of **TEAM MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST**

APPLY NOW DIRECT WITH 

For more information and how to apply directly with My New Term please visit our website

<https://www.teamacademytrust.com/vacancies> or <https://mynewterm.com>

We currently have 1 vacancy available at Team Multi-Academy Trust:

1FTE Classroom Teacher at Pilton
Bluecoat Church of England
Academy.



Pilton Infants' Vision: A school community of calmness, fun and positive relationships where all children reach their potential and create the building blocks for future success.