



# Newsletter

**Pilton Infants' Academy**

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## Learning for Life

Friday 16th May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Apart from one very heavy thunderstorm at home time on Tuesday, it has been another glorious week of sunny weather which the children have enjoyed. Thank you to all those parents sending children in with hats to protect them from the sun. Please ensure all children have a named sunhat or cap with them next week as the sunshine looks to be continuing. Children without hats will be sat in the shade.



On Thursday morning we, and the local area, had an unexpected powercut for around forty-five minutes before school opened. This meant a quick change of plan for lunches to a school packed lunch of sandwiches for both ourselves and Pilton Bluecoat which the children enjoyed. A big thank you to Lauren and the kitchen team for the hard work to change plans at short notice.



The School Rules:



Our Monday assembly this week was lead by Mr Daunton and revisited our school rules.

**Be Ready**  
**Be Respectful**  
**Be Safe**  
**Work Hard**

The children know the rules very well and can explain what they mean.

At present, we're focusing particularly on 'Be Respectful' in terms of looking after each other, the school and the equipment we have.

Some lunchtime and classroom equipment has been broken through inappropriate use or has gone missing. We're reinforcing that being respectful means treating people and things with kindness and fairness - looking after our things so that everyone can enjoy them.

Reception are really excited about their trip to Quince Honey Farm next Tuesday and Year 1 are limbering up for their PE multiskills event at Pilton Community College on the same day.

Have a great 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?

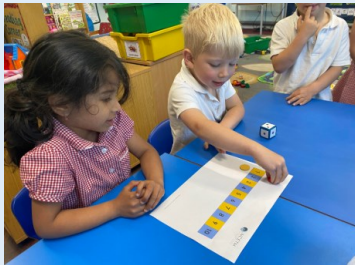
### Reception—Kingfisher and Otter Classes

We have continued to read "The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch" this week. We have been making lighthouses in our crafting project this week. We used card and tissue paper to make our lighthouse models. We learnt how to turn a flat piece of card into a cylinder shape by rolling it. Then added rocks and water to our models.

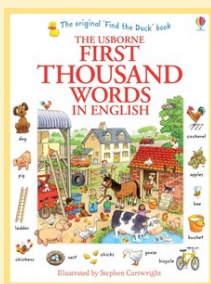
In Maths we have been ordering numbers to 10 and using number tracks to play a game. We played the game in pairs with a dice that had the dot patterns for 1 and 2 on it. The winner was the first person to reach the number 10.

In Writing Club we wrote sentences using the tricky words "they" and "are". All of our caterpillars are now chrysalises and they should emerge as butterflies soon.

We are looking forward to our trip to the Honey Farm next Tuesday. The weather is due to be hot and sunny so please remember to bring a sunhat to school and drink bottle for our trip.



## 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

#### Prepositions 1.

This week, practice the prepositions **on** and **under**. Go through the book and ask the following types of questions. What is on the table? What is under the bed?

Then ask your child to find specific things. E.g. Ask "where is the duck?" and they have to answer correctly using our on or under. Encourage them to answer in full sentences. E.g, The cup is on the table.

## What have we been learning this week?

### Year 1 - Squirrel & Owl classes

This week in Year 1 we had a very exciting Shabbat dinner. We learned that Shabbat is celebrated by Jewish people. It is the day of rest celebrated from sunset on Friday to sunset on Saturday. We designed the meals we would eat on Shabbat and shared some challah bread with butter and honey.

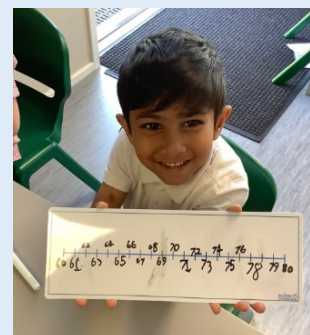
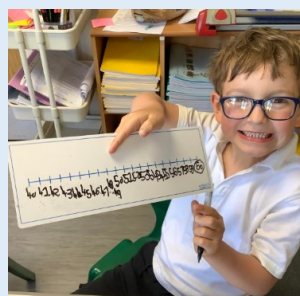
During Maths we used our understanding of the value of numbers to 50 to find one more and one less than any number and to place numbers on a number line. We also looked at how we can listen to a number to partition it into tens and ones. For example, forty seven is forty and seven.

In English we have been focussing on spelling our tricky words correctly and checking our sentences to ensure they make sense. The children have done really well and we would appreciate your support in practicing these in the children's reading diaries.

In Geography, we recapped what a climate is and discussed how our climate changes with the seasons. We created our own season wheel using split pins to clearly show the differences. As you are out and about please ask your child how they know it is spring by spotting the signs around them (baby animals, flowers blossoming, wind, rain and sun).

We have noticed a decline in the number of children recording their reading in their reading diaries. Please continue to write in their reading diaries or ask your child to copy the book's title.

Don't forget! On Tuesday 20th May we have our multiskills trip. Please ensure children come to school in uniform. They will need to be in footwear suitable for PE, a full water bottle and sun cream applied before school.



## **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.

## What have we been learning this week?

### Year 2 - Fox & Hedgehog classes

This week, we've had some really interesting discussions in class, during our Jigsaw lessons about keeping secrets. The children sorted examples between 'secrets to keep' and 'secrets to share with another person.' We talked about how it's important to talk to a trusted adult if you feel worried about anything. We've also been enjoying lots of conversations about things that are coming up from the books we read in class. Fox class have talked about unusual food 'delicacies' and poo amongst other things! The children are getting really good at listening to one another and responding with questions.

We also started to make our own monoprinting plates in the shape of leaves (see attached). We will use these in a print making session on Monday as part of our Rainforest Day. If you have time over the weekend, see what your child can find out about rainforests.



## **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.

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## 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>



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## Attendance - Every Day Counts!

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

Our attendance this week is 92.75%. Our attendance this school year is 94.12%

This week 140 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.**

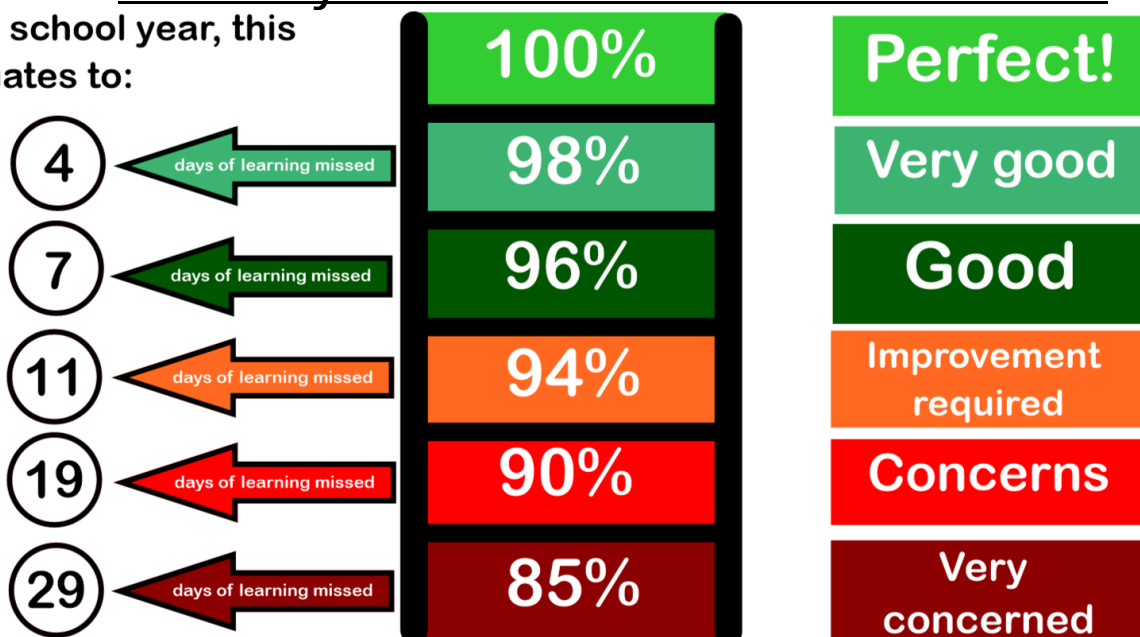
**Higher attendance rates lead to improved academic performance, as pupils have more opportunities to learn, join discussions and receive feedback from teachers.**

**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:



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## 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 23May & 6th June. Squirrel Class 13th, 20th, 27th June, 4th & 11th July.

Monday 19th May—Year 2 Rainforest Day

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

Tuesday 24th June—Year 2 Exmoor Zoo 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.

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# TEAM Multi-Academy Trust Vacancies



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

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

Meal Time Assistant at Pilton  
Infants' Academy  
Closing date: 16/05



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