



# Newsletter

**Pilton Infants' Academy**

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## Learning for Life

Friday 4th July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another incredibly busy week again this week with lots of wonderful events and learning taking place.

We had our second and final transition afternoon on Tuesday. Like last week, this was a really positive afternoon with new combinations of children and staff getting to know one another and building new relationships. Every classroom I visited was really calm and positive and the children seemed very at home in their new surroundings. It can be a slightly confusing time now for the children as we finish the year in their current year group but are thinking about the next.

Kate, from OPAL, visited us this week. We had a meeting to discuss our progress with our OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) lunchtimes and then she spent some time observing lunchtime. She was very complimentary about our lunchtime play offer and how this is continuing to develop. She also gave us some great ideas for how to keep developing it next year.

We really enjoyed Sportsday on Wednesday afternoon and we hope you did too. The children tried their best and enjoyed some friendly competition. There were some incredibly close running races and lots of skill and talent on show in each event. A reminder of the final results:

	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
1st Place	Yellows - 244	Blues - 285	Yellows - 330
2nd Place	Greens - 233	Reds - 255	Greens - 290
3rd Place	Blues - 225	Greens- 246	Reds - 278
4th Place	Reds - 189	Yellows - 216	Blues - 256

On Thursday we had a visit from the fire service. They led a short assembly for the whole school and then carried out workshops with Year 2 helping the children understand how to keep themselves safe.

Mrs Haynes recently met with the school council to discuss some Eco-school projects. The children have decided that they would like to start two projects over the next few months. Firstly a **Litter** project where the children will work to ensure there is no litter on our school site. Secondly a **Global Citizenship** project, looking at raising money for a charity. We look forward to hearing more about these fantastic ideas.

Hope you all have a super 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

It's been another busy week in our Reception classes. We've been reading *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark*. We have been writing about owls. Our writing used a mixture of phonics and tricky words. We thought of owl sentences; for example, owls are high, owls are fast, owls are soft. We made an owl picture that had 2 parts to it. 1 part was an owl surrounded by trees and the other part was a tree trunk that the children cut a hole into so the owl was peeping through.

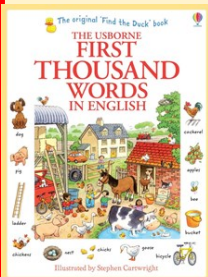
Sports Day was an exciting afternoon, lots of Timmy Team Workers. Thank you for attending it was great to see you there.

Next week is our trip to Saunton Sands beach on Wednesday.



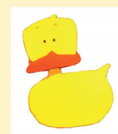
## **First Thousand Words**

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

#### Describing Things 1.

Choose a page and think of different words to describe the objects. E.g. on pages 32 and 33, you might say "The crisps are yellow and crunchy." On pages 28 and 29 you might say, "The glue is white and sticky."

*where all children reach their potential and create the building blocks for future success.*

## What have we been learning this week?

### Year 1 - Squirrel & Owl classes

We started the week with a lovely afternoon visiting Year 2, where we got a sneak peek at what next year might be like – the Year 2 teachers were very impressed with the children's independence! We also had an exciting time at Sports Day, where we showed off our amazing teamwork and speed!

In Maths, we've started learning about fractions, focusing on what a half is. We now know that a half means splitting something into 2 equal parts – and we've been practising this with shapes and objects. Next week, we will be learning about finding half of an amount and quarters.

In Jigsaw, we've been celebrating all the wonderful things we've learnt to do as we've grown older – from tying shoelaces to learning how to be kind friends.

Finally, we began our new class text, "Wanted: The Perfect Pet", which is about a boy named Henry who really wants a pet – but not just any pet... he wants a dog! When a duck, who longs for a friend, sees Henry's advertisement, he hatches a clever plan to become the perfect pet.



## **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.

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## What have we been learning this week?

### Year 2 - Fox & Hedgehog classes

This week has been another busy one with an afternoon at Bluecoat and Sports Day. In between this we've also had a visit from the Fire Service to talk about fire safety in the home. Some of the children got to try out different parts of a fire fighter's uniform! (see photo).

We've also spent some time in the garden making Andy Goldsworthy style outdoor art using natural resources. You can see that the children worked well in a team to create symmetrical patterns.

Mrs Ruddick is looking for donations of small toys such as cars or happy meal toys (the ones which end up in drawers or down the back of the sofa!) If you have any small, clean, unbroken toys which your child no longer uses she would be very grateful for donations. Please send these in, marked for her attention or hand into Fox Class. Thank you!



## **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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## OPAL

Please can we ask for donations of: -

- Sand tools
- Wooden Pallets
- Digging/mud tools
- Toy cars big or small
- Tarpaulin
- Frizbees



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## Fun with Maths

Have fun with maths at home with your children. Each week we will send home an activity to do at home with your family. We would love to hear how you get on!

Mrs Haynes (Maths lead)

**Some monkeys are playing in the park.**

**Each monkey has 1 curled tail; 1 wet nose;  
2 little ears; 2 bright eyes and 4 legs.**

1. There are 5 monkeys in the park  
- how many wet noses?
2. How many little ears? How many legs?
3. There are 5 monkeys playing ball  
- how many curled tails?
4. How many legs? How many bright eyes?
5. 2 monkeys go down the slide! How many legs?

Can you make up some more questions (and answers!) about the monkeys in the park? You can change how many monkeys there are if you like.

**Helpful hint:** Drawing the monkeys can help see the repeated addition.



**Family comments:**

## Sporting & creative achievements



Two weeks ago, Bea spontaneously swam 25m and her teacher was so proud that she had to write her a certificate there and then. Bea has been working on her perseverance and we're so pleased for her!

This week at Rainbows it was Promise Week and Bea was awarded four badges - Stage 1 Innovate, Stage 1 Feel Good, Stage 1 Communicate and Stage 2 Lead.



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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 95.2%. Our attendance this school year is 94.14%

This week 150 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.**

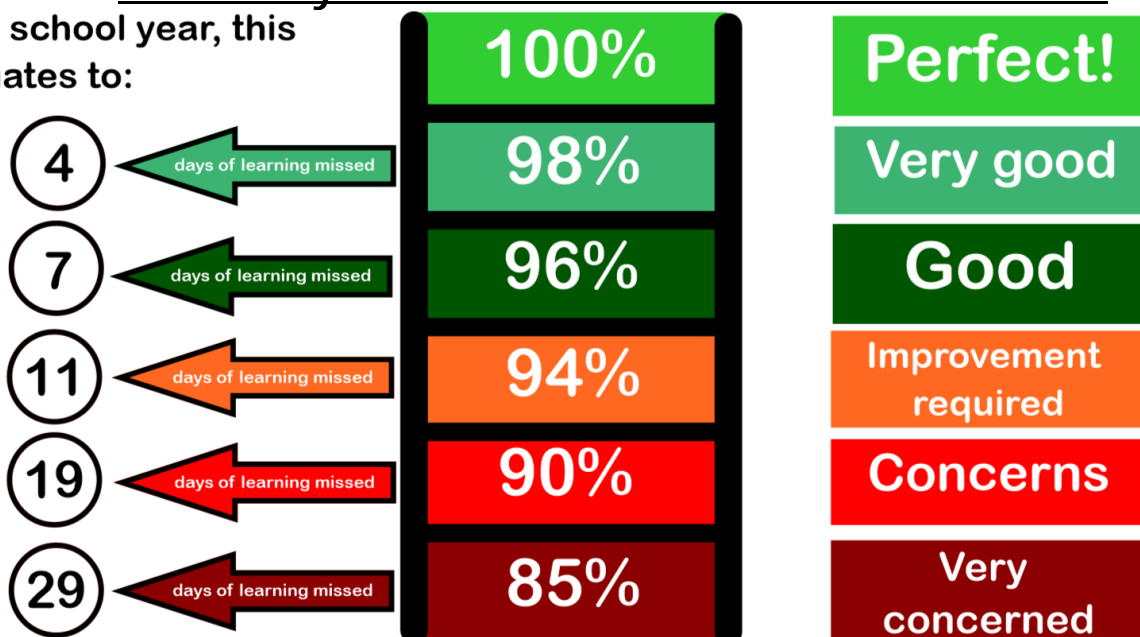
**Higher attendance rates lead to improved academic performance, as pupils have more opportunities to learn, join discussions and receive feedback from teachers.**

**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 Summer– Tuesday 22nd July 2025

Children return to school - Thursday 4th September 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 —Squirrel Class last swim 11th July.

Wednesday 9th July— Reception—Beach Trip to Saunton Sands.

Tuesday 15th July—Parents Open Evening. Whole school.

Monday 21st July—Year 2 Bowling

##### 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](#)

##### After school clubs for this half-term

Club	Provider	Day	Time	Year group
Football	The Goal Getters	Tuesday	3.30pm-4.30pm	Y1 & Y2
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.

# TEAM Multi-Academy Trust Vacancies



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 SWIMBRIDGE  
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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 2 vacancies available at Team Multi-Academy Trust:

0.58 FTE Classroom Teacher  
(Music) at Team Multi-Academy  
Trust

Meal Time Assistant at Pilton  
Bluecoat Church of England  
Academy



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