



# Newsletter

**Pilton Infants' Academy**

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## **Learning for Life**

Friday 11th July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

A sizzling end to the week. We've been working hard to keep everybody cool and hydrated.

Our assembly focus on Monday was on changes and growing up. We talked about what we might look forward to about getting older and how we might feel worried and excited about changes to do with getting older such as moving classes or schools. The children had lots of great ideas of things they are looking forward to as they get older.

The Reception classes had a fantastic trip to the beach on Wednesday. The weather was perfect, lots of sunshine but not too hot. They came back very sandy but very happy. A big thank you to the staff team for organising and leading the trip and big thank you to the parents and carers who helped on the day.

We still have two more trips before the end of term. Year 1 are looking forward to their visit to RHS Rosemoor next week and Year 2 are getting excited about bowling on the final Monday of term.

Keeping children safe is our number one priority in school and this week I refreshed my safeguarding Level 3 qualification. There was some very hard hitting and eye opening content but also some very positive messages about what schools and families can do to keep our young people safe. As might be expected, much of the training focused on the risks that children face online. The online world has many benefits but there are also dangers. Some good videos were shared, which show some of the challenges that children and their parents face. Two which I would invite you to watch are below:

- If your children are playing or chatting online, do you know who they're talking to? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ye4Lapl1YAA>
- This advert from Dove highlights the pressure young people, especially girls, can feel to look a certain way - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z2T-Rh838GA>

Although aimed towards issues for children slightly older than ours, the messages are still valid.

Your child will bring home their report today. I've had the pleasure of reading them all. We're proud of each and every child for the progress they've made this year. Next Tuesday we have a parent open evening. Please pop along to the classrooms to have a look at your child's books and see the progress they've made this year. Also if you have any questions about the reports it's a great time to ask.

Finally, we're really looking forward to Piltonbury next Friday afternoon. We hope to see you all there.

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

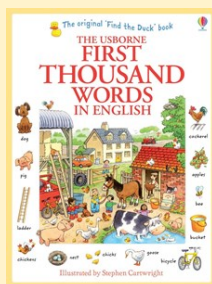
We've been busy this week drawing ourselves for our final self portrait of the year. We've been thinking really carefully about the overall shape of our heads. We looked carefully at the shape of our eyes and details like eye-lashes and eyebrows. We looked carefully at our hair styles and other features. We compared our latest portraits to the portraits we drew in September and we were amazed by how much progress we have made with our drawing skills.

We went on our beach trip to Saunton Sands on Wednesday. The children had a lot of fun and we celebrated all of them as Timmy Team Workers for all of the excellent team work throughout the day. Several members of the public commented on how well behaved the children were. We had a lot of fun building sandcastles, digging holes and exploring the rockpools. We found crabs and shrimps. It was a brilliant day and we were really proud of the children, they represented the school brilliantly.

Next week we will be keeping the children's bookbags in school so that we can hand them to their new teachers in Year One.

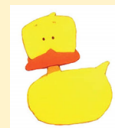


## First Thousand Words



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 2.

Following on from last week, this is a describing game. Choose a page and then ask a question. Your child has to find the thing that you are describing. E.g, Can you find the thing that is brown, soft and cuddly?" (A teddy). Take it in turns to ask questions and find the object. This is a good game to play when you are waiting e.g. in the dentist waiting room.

## What have we been learning this week?

### Year 1 - Squirrel & Owl classes

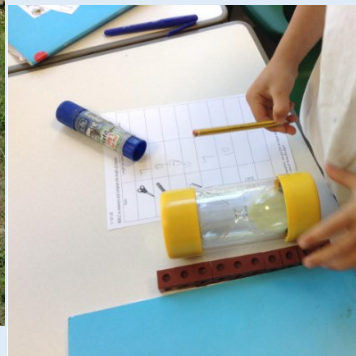
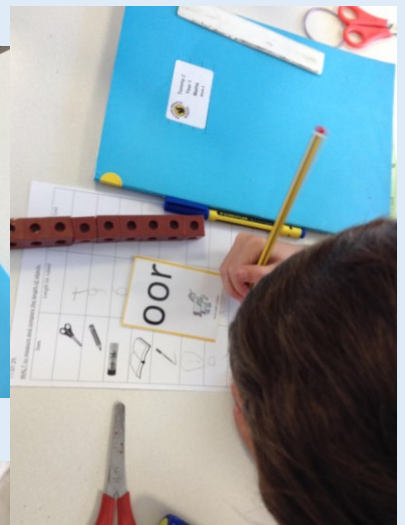
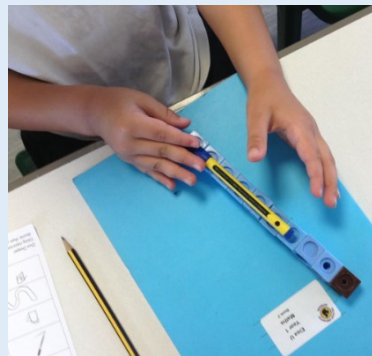
This week in Year 1 we have been looking at quarters. Using the analogy of 4 wheels on a quad bike the children could identify that a quarter has 4 equal parts. We then worked on finding one quarter of a shape and of different amounts. We then began to explore measuring length. We need to measure in a standard unit so we learned to measure the length of classroom objects using a cube ruler and in centimetres.

In English we began to create our own perfect pet. We decided which pet would be perfect for us. We had lots of interesting ideas, including: lion, tiger, axolotl and snake. The children then generated adjectives to describe them. We also looked at exclamation marks! We discussed how our voices change to show big emotions and we practice retelling a story with lots of expression. If you see an exclamation mark while reading, remind your child to change their voice to show a big emotion.

In History we looked closer at changes to the equipment used by the RNLI. Their life jackets used to be made from cork! We discussed why we thought they might have made these changes to make saving lives easier and more comfortable for all the life guards.

The children are really excited about their Rosemoor trips next week. Owl class will go on Tuesday and Squirrel class will go on Friday.

Please do not forget hats, sun cream and water bottles in the sunny weather. Children need these on and with them every day to keep them safe in the sun.



## **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.

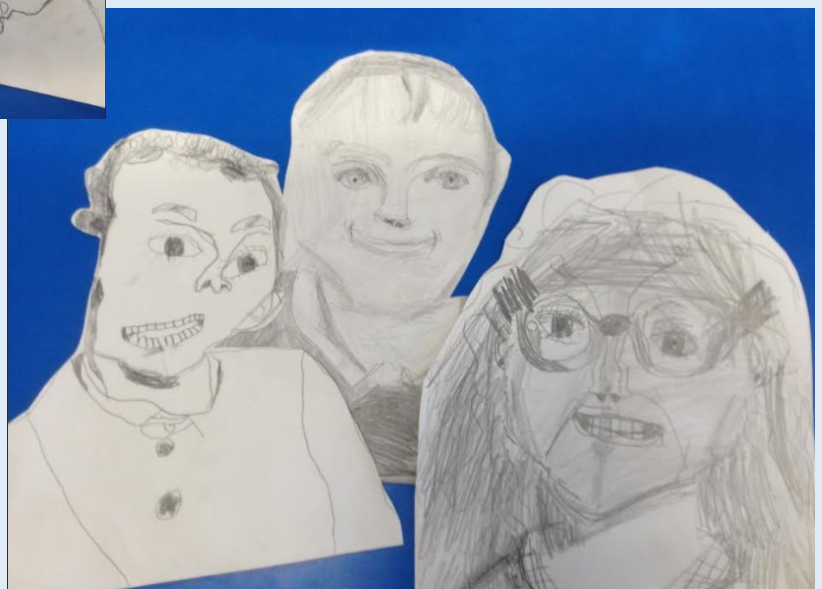
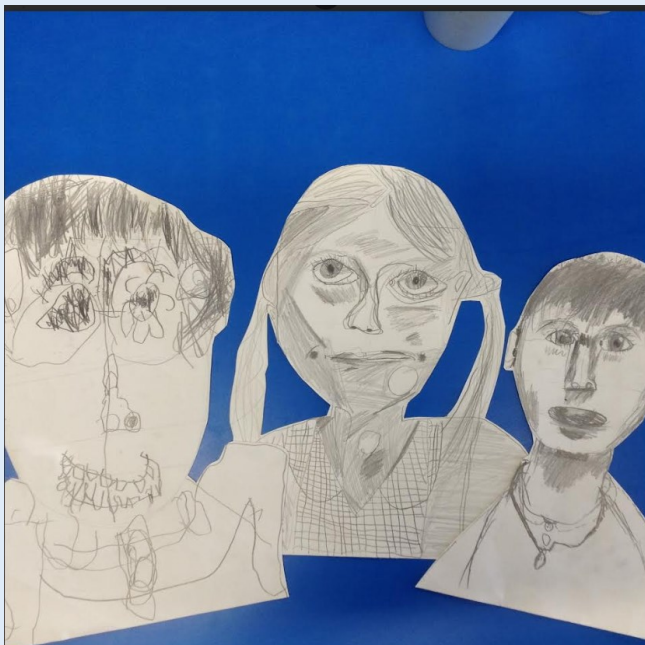
## What have we been learning this week?

### Year 2 - Fox & Hedgehog classes

This week, the children have worked really hard (and really carefully) on self-portraits. They've thought carefully about shape, proportion and tone. Next week we'll work on colourful backgrounds and then they will all bring home their fabulous work!

In English we've been writing stories about a bad day when everything goes wrong. The children loved watching this clip of Harold Lloyd in his film in 1923! We had lots of conversations about special effects/ stunts and green screens. They might like to talk it through with you...[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QEcTjhUN\\_7U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QEcTjhUN_7U) (Always supervise children when accessing Youtube)

Just a reminder to make sure children have a drink and sun hat/cap in school every day please.



## **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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## 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)

# Puppy multiplication fun

**Some puppies are playing on the beach. Each puppy has 1 waggy tail; 1 wet nose; 2 floppy ears; 2 bright eyes; 4 long legs and 5 clipped claws on each foot.**

There are 10 puppies on the beach – how many long legs? How many wet noses? How many floppy ears?

There are 5 puppies playing ball – how many waggy tails?

How many long legs? How many bright eyes?

2 puppies are digging a hole! How many clipped claws?

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

**Helpful hint:** Drawing the puppies helps to see the repeated addition or multiplication.

## Sporting & creative achievements

Quinn played in his first football tournament at the weekend and did awesome with his team!

He especially liked going in goal...very proud moment!



## Attendance - Every Day Counts!

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

Our attendance this week is 92.8%. Our attendance this school year is 94.1%

This week 141 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.**

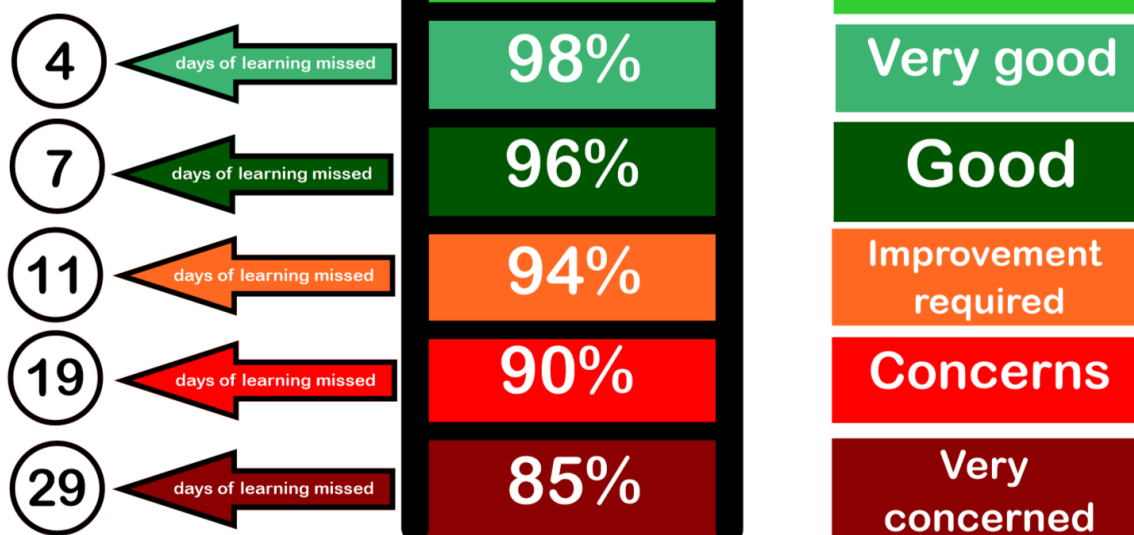
**Higher attendance rates lead to improved academic performance, as pupils have more opportunities to learn, join discussions and receive feedback from teachers.**

**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

Tuesday 15th July—Owl Class Rosemoor Trip

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

Friday 18th July—Squirrel Class Rosemoor Trip

Friday 18th July—PILTONBURY 3.30-5.30pm

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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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:

PLAYWORKER: AFTER SCHOOL CLUB  
at Horwood and Newton Tracey  
Community Primary School

Early Years Playworker: After School  
Club at Witheridge Church of England  
Primary Academy



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