



# Newsletter

**Pilton Infants' Academy**

Abbey Road, Pilton, Barnstaple, North Devon, EX31 1JU T: 01271 342579  
[admin@piltoninfants.school](mailto:admin@piltoninfants.school) [www.teamacademytrust.com](http://www.teamacademytrust.com)



## **Learning for Life**

Friday 18th July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have two more days of school next week. However, this will be our final newsletter of the year.

We've had lots going on, as ever, in our final week of term. The Year 1 classes have enjoyed two fabulous trips to RHS Rosemoor. The children learned lots and enjoyed the amazing environment.

It was lovely to see lots of you at our parents open evening on Tuesday. The staff enjoyed having a chance to catch-up and discuss the progress that all the children have made over the year. We hope you were impressed by the learning in their books.

Mrs Buckley and all of her music students loved performing for you on Thursday afternoon. They sounded fantastic.

This afternoon we'll be enjoying Piltonbury thanks to the incredible hard work of the PTFA. We hope you all come along and have some fun. There's loads to see and do.

The school year has flown by and we're nearly at the end. There have been some ups and downs along the way but as we head towards the end of the year there is so much to look back on and be proud of. Lots of amazing learning, some fabulous trips and, of course, a successful Ofsted inspection.

Sixty of our children are finishing their first year of school. They've made lots of friends, become part of the school community and developed into little learners. We can't wait to see them in Year 1.

Another sixty of our pupils are moving on. Leaving Pilton Infants' to move on to Key Stage 2. They've developed hugely over their three years at Pilton Infants' but now they're ready for new challenges. We wish them all the best and can't wait to hear about their adventures.

Then there's the Year 1 children. They've worked really hard this year, matured a lot and we know they're ready for the bigger challenges of Year 2.

For some of you, this might be your last few days of being Pilton Infants' parents. Good luck, thank you for your support and for sending your wonderful children to our school. For the rest of you, we look forward to seeing you again on Thursday 4th September.

Have a fantastic summer holiday!

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

Our last full week in our Reception classes! It's been a fantastic year full of learning in all the areas of the Foundation Stage Curriculum. There has been a lot of progress from every single member of Otter and Kingfisher Class. Whether it has been in Reading, Writing, Maths or in other areas such as Personal, Social and Emotional Development we are extremely proud of the children and they are ready to continue their learning journeys in Year One.

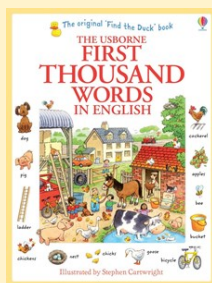
We would like to thank you for all of your support over the year. Some of the highlights from the year have been the following:-

Our superhero party when we wore our capes. Our fruit tasting day, when we made fruit kebabs on skewers. Our trip to the Honey Farm was amazing, the children had a fantastic day there. The day out at the beach at Saunton Sands was excellent. The children's team working skills were amazing. We have had a lot of fun exploring the Secret Garden. We enjoyed it when our caterpillars transformed into butterflies. We had a Sports Festival this week which was organised by Mrs James from the Primary Sports team, so our thanks to them and the helpers from Pilton Bluecoat Academy. Our classes had a lot of fun at this event. We hope you all have a great Summer with your children and we are looking forward to hearing about how they settle into their new classes in September.

This week we are celebrating all of the children in both classes for being; Carly Can Do for their positive attitudes to learning, Billy Bright Idea for their thoughtful comments, Timmy Team Worker for their sharing and team working skills, Carrie Caring for the way they help each other and look after our school equipment and finally Bobby Bounce Back for their resilience when tasks were challenging.

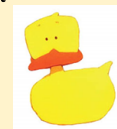


## **First Thousand Words**



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

#### Who?

Practise using the word who in questions. E.g. Who is washing up? Encourage your child to answer in a complete sentence e.g. Dad is washing up. Can they ask you questions using who?

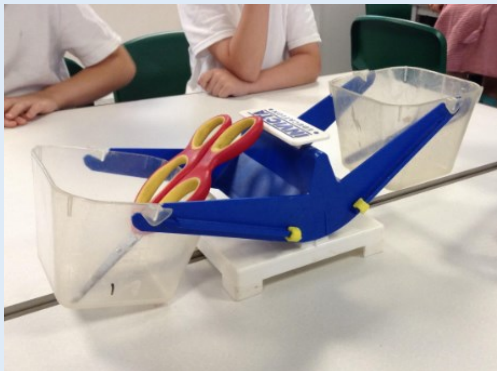
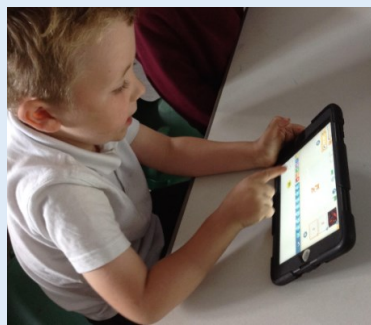
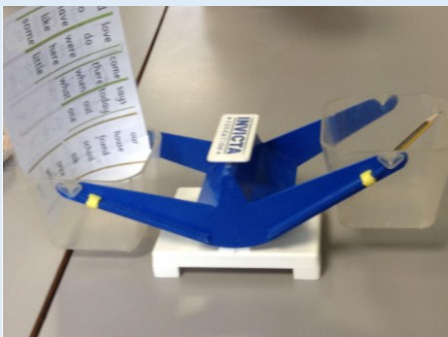
## What have we been learning this week?

### Year 1 - Squirrel & Owl classes

We've had such a lovely final week in Year 1, full of learning and special memories. Owls had a fantastic trip to Rosemoor on Tuesday and the children were all amazing! The Rosemoor staff commented on how brilliantly they all behaved and listened. At Rosemoor we enjoyed collecting petals in the Rose garden to decorate a flower, planting a radish and there were lots of giggles when Nell had to pretend to be a seed and be watered and covered in soil! We hope that Squirrels enjoy their trip on Friday.

This week, we've been getting hands-on in maths, learning all about weight and capacity. The children had great fun estimating, measuring, and comparing using the balance scales.

We also put the finishing touches on our Perfect Pet stories. It has been wonderful to see how much progress the children have shown in their writing! Well done Year 1 for a brilliant week!



## **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 have had a wonderful 'Arty' week. We have been working on our portraits. We hope you like them! We worked incredibly hard to practise composition and how to make each part of our faces. We then worked on using a range of media to create the background of our portraits.

We created our own maps of the school and put treasure in different places in the school. We then worked on positional language with our partners asking them to go left or right or to take a turn.

Next week we will be going to Let's Go Superbowl for an end of term treat, paid for by the PTFA - thank you so much for your support. We will be going on Monday - no need to wear any fancy shoes! We have sent home a parentmail asking for a named plastic bag and to let us know if you do not want your child's t shirt signed on Tuesday.

Thank you again for your ongoing support and we wish you all the best for the future and have a wonderful Summer!



## **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.*

## 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)

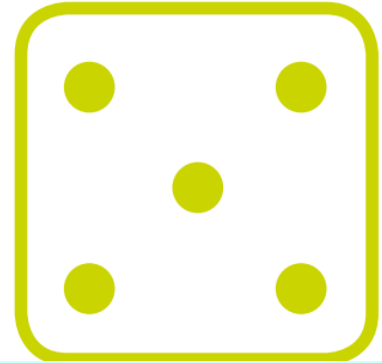
### **How many ways can you show five or find the number 5?**

Here are a few ideas:

- the number 5 on a clock
- the number 5 on the washing machine dial
- the number of letters in the word **MUMMY**
- dots on a die

How many more ways can you find?

**Helpful hint:** Think about when you are in the house and when you are out and about. You could 'high five' when you find a 5.



## Sporting & creative achievements

On Thursday afternoon, the children who've been having private music lessons on the keyboard or ukulele in school this year, got the opportunity to perform to their family members in the hall. They all performed brilliantly and showed off their musical talents. It was a wonderful celebration at the end of the year for the children. They should feel very proud of themselves.

If you are interested in your child having music lessons from September please contact Mrs Buckley on the recent music flyer that was sent out.



We are Celebrating Mrs Ruddick for completing her Masters in fine art degree. She has worked really hard whilst also working with the children on their art in school!

Well done Mrs Ruddick!!!

## Attendance - Every Day Counts!

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

Our attendance this week is 93.78%. Our attendance this school year is 94.08%

This week 142 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.**

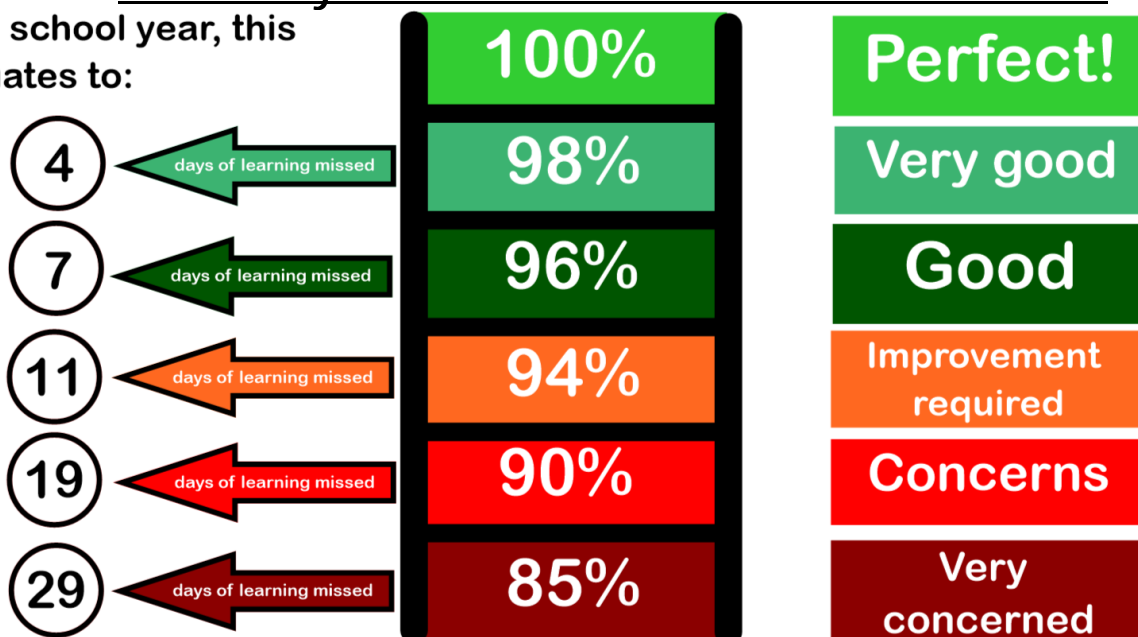
**Higher attendance rates lead to improved academic performance, as pupils have more opportunities to learn, join discussions and receive feedback from teachers.**

**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 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

Monday 21st July—Year 2 Bowling

Tuesday 22nd July \_ Last day of School

#### 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:

[North Devon Primary Sports](#)

#### After school clubs for next 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.

*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.*