

Pinchmill Primary School Update

Excite, Inspire, Engage, Achieve

Upcoming dates

20th October – Foxes Sport Festival
PE Kit for the day
Packed Lunch needed

22nd October – Foxes Greek themed day
Dress up optional

23rd October – Break the Rules Day
Halloween Doughnut sale

Half Term – Monday 26th Oct – Friday 30st October

Back to school
Monday 2nd November

Week beginning 2nd November Year 6
Practice SATs

4th December – Christmas Fayre

End of Autumn Term – Friday 18th December
No after school club

Start of Spring Term Wednesday 6th January 2027

Head Teacher message

This is the last bi-weekly update before half term, the time has gone quickly but I think the children are ready for a break. The nights are definitely drawing in and we have had some colder starts in the morning. Please may I ask that all children bring a named coat to school and if needed hats, scarfs and gloves. Even when the weather is cold, we still all go outside to play.

I would like to say a big thank you to all for the support that you have already given this year; it is very much appreciated. I would also like to thank you for your thoughtful and kind comments on the parent survey. It was positive and helpful in ensuring that we provide your children with the learning and extra curriculum experiences that you feel are important. You will be receiving a summary of the results soon. We consider ourselves very lucky to have such supportive parents and community.



House Captains

On Wednesday, the House Captains had their first meeting with Miss Dowd. The focus of the meeting was how we could organise some school events to support local charities. The children had some fantastic ideas; I especially like the idea of a colour run. Please keep a look out for further information.



Librarians:

After half term, **the library will be open** on a Wednesday and Thursday lunchtime for the children to change their library books.



Eco Council



Water Testing:

The Year Six children accompanied Sue and Malcolm down at the river on Monday to test the quality and clarity of the water and assess the flora and fauna that surrounds it. It was good to see that the phosphates levels were low but unfortunately, the nitrate levels were very high. The children also observed that the riverbed did not have much plantation growing from it and we discussed the fact that the river needed these plants to remain a healthy environment and to provide oxygen for its inhabitants. When the children felt some of the stones from the bottom of the river, they were very

slimy and covered in residue, and they then considered what might have caused this. The children also commented on the low level of the water and the fact that the water was not running very fast. From their findings, there was a thoughtful discussion as to why we thought we had received this set of results and how we could try to ensure that we look after the river, as it was an important part of our local environment. As we progress through the year, the children are going to compare their result with the results for last year and have the opportunity to present their findings to the rest of the school.



Forestry School

After half term, the children again have the opportunity to take part in Forestry School activities. These opportunities have become an important part of our school curriculum. There is evidence-based research to show that Forestry School supports the children's well-being, physical development, effective communication and provides many opportunities to solve problems, work as a team and to think outside of the box. These skills are so important for the children's future experiences. As some people say, the jobs that the children will be doing in the future may not even exist yet but the skills they will need are many of those listed above.

Mrs Wren has recently qualified as a Forestry School Lead as this means that she will be leading the KS1 and Early Years Forestry School activities. She has asked if she could please have any donations of Pine Cones, Conkers, Bird Seed and see-through containers.

Half term Forestry Club

Mrs Meehan and I will be running a Forestry school club on Monday 26th of October from 9am to 2:30pm places are limited and the cost of the club will be £25. A letter will be coming home today with this newsletter.



Pinchmill Music

Last week the children were able to join in with a musical performance from Bedfordshire Music peripatetic teachers, who showcased a number of instruments. We would very much like to encourage children at school to explore the musical opportunities that are available to them. If your child is interested in learning how to play the piano, guitar, violin or recorder, please contact enquiries@pinchmillprimary.co.uk for further information.



Pinchmill Sport

On Tuesday 20th October, the Foxes Class will be attending a Sports Festival. They will be leaving at 11:30 so will need a **PACKED LUNCH and water bottle**. Please ensure that all children come to school in their **PE kits**. Thank you.



Owls

This week, the Owls have experienced another hook day based around an escape room and concept of freedom.



Foxes

Foxes have been very busy making their Greek buildings. When I popped in last Friday, it was very industrious and there was a lot of trial and error involved for the children to understand how to best connect materials and how to create strong structures. I am very much looking forward to seeing the finished products.

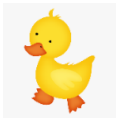


Squirrels

This week Squirrels have been poets writing acrostic poems. I hope that they will have brought home some of their work for you to enjoy! In art, the children have been exploring colour. They have created colour wheels and learnt how to mix the primary colours to make secondary colours.



Hedgehogs and Ducklings



Hedgehogs and Ducklings have been creating their own pictures in the style of Andy Goldsworthy.



They very much enjoyed collecting, sorting and exploring natural materials to create their own masterpieces. Their pictures were very effective.



Information regarding food in school.

As some of you may be aware, the guidance and rules for schools regarding **anaphylaxis** has changed. As of September 2026 all adults working within schools have to complete anaphylaxis training and we have to hold spare auto immune injector pens in school. I

am pleased to tell you that we have all completed our training and the auto immune injector pens have arrived. As a result of new guidelines I will soon be posting our allergies policy on the website. Until then please may I ask that you refrain from providing your child with

Packaged nuts

Cereal, granola or chocolate bars containing nuts

Peanut butter or chocolate spreads containing nuts

Peanut-based sauces, such as satay

Sesame seeds and foods containing sesame seeds

(including

hummus)

If a pupil brings these foods into school, they will be removed and given back to parents directly at the end of the school day. Thank you with your cooperation with this.



Hopefully, you can all access Class Dojo and have enjoyed the posts that have been shared. Can I please remind all parents that as a school we do not use Dojo as a communication tool, this is to safeguard both the children and staff. Therefore, I would please ask parents to not use Class Dojo to message teachers. If you would like to talk to your child's teacher please email enquiries@pinchmillprimary.co.uk or ring the school on 01234 781371. Or even better, if possible, pop in to see us. Thank you in advance for your co-operation with this.



Day is Friday 23rd October – Just 50p a rule or £2.50 for 5 or more rules.



School Photographs

Your child/children should have brought home their school photographs yesterday please look out for these.