

Pinchmill Primary School Update

Excite, Inspire, Engage, Achieve

Upcoming dates

19/1/26 – Tennis Club Starts back

4/2/26 – Book Fair arrives

10/2/26 – Bedford Blues Rugby Day – Further information to follow

11/2/26 – Book Fair finishes

9/3/26 – Yr 6 Mock SATs week

13/3/26 – Mothers Day Breakfast

27/3/26 – Easter Service at St Mays Church

27/3/26 – Last day of Spring Term
NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

14/4/26 – Start of Summer Term

4/5/26 – Bank Holiday – May Day

25/5/26 – HALF TERM WEEK

1/6/26 – TRAINING DAY

17/7/26 – END OF SUMMER TERM
NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Head Teacher message

Although a little cold, it was great to welcome you all back after the Christmas break. In teaching it is a well-known fact that the Spring Term is when children make the most progress and all the pennies start to drop. This is a very exciting time for both the teachers and the children. I have already seen some very exciting and engaging learning across the school. In Years 1 & 2 I joined them for a campfire sing song and story. In Years 3 and 4 the children told me many interesting facts that had learn about their Egyptian death masks, they especially delighted in telling me that the Pharos eyes were replaced with quartz stones! In Years 5 and 6 they children have enjoyed develop their oracy skills debating whether children should be put to work in cotton mills or as chimney sweeps. I have to say the engagement the children have shown in all their new learning is a delight to behold.

The **book fair arrives on the 4th of February** and I will certainly be adding to my collection of books in my office, I can already feel my bank card quacking, I love a book! I would also like to share with you that our last reading tracking data has shown a significant increase in progress across the school. This not only reflects the impact of the changes we have made and commitment of the teachers but also I would like to recognise the hard work of the parents who consistently hear their children read three times a week. I would like to thank you, as I know at times it can be a challenge to get your child to read after a day of learning at school. However, the impact really does show and reading being the key to learning in nearly all subjects is vital. I can't wait to see the activities that Mr Phelan has up his sleeve for reading treat this term, his creativity to ensure that the children have fun, never ceases to amaze.

I would also like to say a belated thank you to all the PSA members and parents that helped with refreshments and activities running up to Christmas. This was quite a challenging time due to the level of sickness across the school and your support did not go unnoticed. Thank you!

I would like to draw all **KS2 parents attention to the writing meeting** that will be held on Monday 9th of February 3:30-4:00pm. This will be an opportunity for you to see how we teach writing and provide you with clarification of the writing expectation for the end of KS2. I look forward to seeing you all there.

We have a spare violin available if any of the children are interested in playing. The uptake to play an instrument had been very encouraging and the children seem to have lots of fun. Lesson are definitely much more interactive than when I was their age and I have been really impressed at how quickly the children have

progressed. Maybe soon I will be returning to the Fiddle Fiesta with some budding string players. Fingers crossed. Miss Wren's choir (on a Monday after school) also goes from strength to strength and will again be joining the 'Big Sing. I thought their singing at the Christmas Fair was beautiful and they all need to be congratulated, as singing in front of a large audience take courage. Sheridan our singing teacher from Bedford Borough came to work with Years 3 and 4 preparing them for the 'Sing On 'concert, she was very excited at the level of singing skills that the children showed and commented on how it was so lovely to work with children that valued singing. Well done Years 3 and 4. Good job!

Yesterday we had Emily the artist, come into school to work with Reception, Years 1 and 2 children, to create collage pictures to enter into the Harpur Trust Art Competition. The theme was 'Aspire' and the pictures that I saw being created were bright and vibrant and it will be wonderful to see the finished products.

I hope that you have a great weekend and I look forward updating you on all the exciting events and activities that are planned in for the Spring term.

Mrs Bailey