



PCJS NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN TERM - 5TH DECEMBER 2025

Thought for the Week: "Gratitude turns what we have into enough." Aesop

Music for the Week: "What a Wonderful World" - Louis Armstrong

Dear Parents and Carers,
We've had another busy and exciting week and with the Reindeer Rush, our Carol Service rehearsals and our Friends of School Christmas Fair taking place this week, we are all starting to feel very Christmassy!

Online Safety

We are conscious that Father Christmas may be delivering new devices to our pupils on the big day. With all the issues that we are having with online safety at the moment, please ensure that any new (and existing) devices have suitable parental controls set up and that your child is only using apps that are suitable for their age. Please find attached the December issue of our online safety newsletter.

Reindeer Rush

This week our school was filled with festive cheer as we gathered for our Reindeer Rush assembly. The children sang joyful performance of York Mix's Christmas tune "*Sleeps Till Santa*", which had everyone smiling along. After the assembly, every child took part in the Reindeer Rush, dashing around the course with excitement and festive spirit. It was fantastic to see everyone involved. Thank you to everyone who has donated so far. Please continue to support us with your generous contributions—every donation truly makes a difference.

Please donate through the link below and share it with friends and family to help us reach our fundraising goal. Every contribution, big or small, will help support an incredible cause. <https://www.justgiving.com/page/pickeringreindeerrush>



Claire Mulderrig

We were devastated to learn that our lovely Claire Mulderrig, our former cook at PCJS, passed away on Sunday following a long and fiercely fought battle with cancer. Claire was a loved and well-respected member of the PCJS team who worked tirelessly to provide delicious food for our children and staff. Nothing was ever too much trouble and she always showed such kindness and care towards the whole school community, never failing to greet everyone with a warm smile. We will miss her. Our thoughts are with Claire's family and friends at this sad time. [Tribute to Claire Mulderrig, 1967 - 2025](#)

Christmas Jumper Day

A reminder that this will take place on the same day as our Christmas lunch—**Thursday 11th December**. Your child is welcome to come to school wearing a festive sweater (instead of their usual red jumper or cardigan) in exchange for making a donation to Save the Children using the following link.

[Pickering Community Junior School - Christmas Jumper Day is raising money for Save The Children!](#)

Murton Park

A letter will be coming home today regarding the Year 3 and 4 trip to Murton in January.

PCJS Carol Concert

We are really looking forward to our Carol Concert which will take place at St Peter and St Paul's Church on **Tuesday 16th December at 6pm**. For those children who are taking part, lyrics will be coming home next week. Please encourage your child to practise at home.

PCJS Christmas Postal Service

Our PCJS postal service continues and our School Council members are looking forward to sorting the mail. If your child would like to send Christmas cards to others in school, please ensure that they write the recipient's first name, surname and class clearly on the envelope.

Cookery and Forest School

On Wednesday, it is the turn of **Mrs Devine's** class for cookery and forest school. Year 4 Children will have received a cookery letter and are taking part in a indoor art objective linked to the outdoors so do not need a forest school kit. Year 3 children will require appropriate warm forest school clothing that can get dirty, including a coat and wellies but do not require any ingredients for their introductory lesson to the cookery cabin. There is no swimming due to the Cookery and Forest School day.

After-School Clubs

Most of our after-school clubs have now finished, except Dodgeball which has the last session next week. After-school clubs must be paid for, and your child will not be able to take part in any future clubs if you do not pay. This term's clubs need to be paid for by **today** at the latest. After-school tutoring with Mrs Esse continues until the end of the term.

Swimming

No Swimming next week due to Cookery and Forest School for **Mrs Devine's** class, but swimming returns on **Wednesday 17th December**.

Christmas Dinner

The school Christmas dinner is on **Thursday 11th December**. Unfortunately, sandwiches and jacket potatoes will **not** be available on this day.

Togetherness

North Yorkshire Council fund sponsorship of togetherness.co.uk (previously inourplace.co.uk) to make invaluable NHS learning and content *free* for local parents. Please see the attached wellbeing news update from the Togetherness team (formerly known as the Solihull Approach). Togetherness is an online learning environment developed by psychologists and health practitioners providing accessible learning about emotional health and wellbeing, proven to positively impact mental health, behaviour and relationships.

Year 3 Music

On **Monday 8th December**, it will be the turn of **Mrs Stanilands's** maths group to have their music lesson. Please remind your child to bring their instrument to school.

Please encourage your child to bring home their instrument so that they can practise at home in order to make progress in their music lessons.

Special Mentions

George Simpson won man of the match for the second week in a row for his team Old Malton U9s. Well done, George!



Vesper Holliday, Catherine Howe and Olivia-Rose Higgins recently took part in a Dance Expression Gymnastics show 'A Night at the Musicals'. They performed to 'Greased Lightning'. Well done, Vesper, Catherine and Olivia-Rose!



House Point Awards

Congratulations to the following children who have received their bronze award: Poppy Antoni, Florence Gent, Florence Beveridge, Bella Cunningham, Artem Yefremov, Emily Bell, Amaia Stevens, Francesca Wood, Maisie Allardice, Vesper Holliday, Rose Newton, Lilly Fisher, Lola Lyth, George Simpson and Olivia-Rose Higgins.

Privacy Notices

Our privacy notices have recently been updated and can be found on our website under About Us: Policies.

Have a great weekend!



Mrs De Barr
Headteacher

Your support for your child's education is crucial to their progress in school. Please let us know if there are any adjustments we need to make to help you to support your child, for example: letters in different languages; wheelchair access; explaining things over the phone

"Safeguarding is Everybody's Responsibility"

*Are you worried about your own or
another child's safety?*

Speak to one of these members of staff.

The **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)** is:

Mrs De Barr






The **Deputy DSLs** are: **Mrs Hall** and **Mrs Mintoft**

The **Safeguarding Governor** is: **Mrs Smeaton**

***Anyone can make a referral. If you believe a child
to be at immediate risk, please call 999. If you
believe the situation to be urgent, please call:***

0300 131 2 131

After-School Clubs	
Dodgeball	Wednesday 3.20 - 4.20pm

	Menu
Monday 	Chicken Burger (VG) Veg Burger (VG) Diced Potatoes Ham Sandwich (V) Cheese Jacket Potato (V) Oat Cookie & Cheese
Tuesday 	(V) Crunchy Topped Mac & Cheese (VG) Sweet Potato & Lentil Curry & 50/50 Rice Tuna Sandwich (VG) Baked Bean Jacket Potato (V) Sticky Toffee Pudding & Custard
Wednesday 	Roast Gammon (V) Leek & Potato Bake (VG) Mashed Potatoes (V) Egg Mayo Sandwich (V) Cheesy Bean Jacket Potato (VG) Chocolate Cake
Thursday 	 Turkey & Sausage or (VG) Quorn Fillet & Veggie Sausage (VG) Stuffing and Gravy (VG) Mashed and Roast Potatoes (VG) Sprouts, Carrots and Peas (VG) Christmas Cookie <i>No Sandwiches or Jacket Potatoes today</i>
Friday 	Fish Star (V) Cheesy Bean Pasty (VG) Chips (V) Cheese Sandwich (VG) Baked Bean Jacket Potato (V) Lemon Drizzle Shortbread
	Available Every Day Seasonal Vegetables & Sides Bread Fresh Fruit or Fruit Yoghurt