



PCJS NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN TERM - 18TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Thought for the Week: "Diversity is being invited to the party, inclusion is being asked to dance" – Verna Myers

Music for the Week: "Shana Tova" - composed and performed by Six13

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have continued to settle in well this week (their first *full* week of school!) and are starting to get to grips with the new routines and expectations. Thank you to those of you who were able to attend the Open Evening on Wednesday. It was lovely to meet some of you in person and to see the children showing you around school with such confidence. In October, there will be the opportunity to formally meet with your child's class teacher but in the meantime, if you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant member of staff via the school office.

Swimming

On **Wednesday 23rd September**, Mrs Devine's class start their swimming lessons. Children need their swimming kit (swimming costume/trunks, towel and goggles, in a bag). Earrings must be removed. The goggles permission letter needs to be completed for your child to wear goggles. Please ask for a form if you haven't completed the goggle form and now want your child to wear them.

After-school clubs

On Wednesday, children brought home a letter about our after-school clubs for the Autumn term. All clubs are charged at £2.60 per session. Please return the preference form as soon as possible, and no later than **Wednesday 23rd September** as clubs are allocated on a first come, first served basis. You will be notified via an Arbor in-app message if your child has secured a place at a club.

Jeans for Genes

Today, we invited all the children and staff to take part in a non-uniform day and to come to school wearing jeans or any form of denim. Please visit [Jeans for Genes Week](#) for more information. If your child wore non-uniform today, please donate to this charity via our Just Giving page: [Someone wonderful is fundraising for CGD Society](#)

Year 3 and 4 Request

Year 3 and 4 will be looking at food packaging and the nutritional value of foods. Please can you send in any empty food packaging which shows the colour-coded values by **Monday 21st September**. Thank you.

FoS Meeting

We have rearranged our FoS meeting that was due to take place on Tuesday 22nd September due to a clash with a parent's meeting at Lady Lumley's School and this will now take place on **Tuesday 6th October at 5pm**. It would be lovely to see some new members so please do come along if you are able to.



Curriculum Newsletters

Please find attached our curriculum newsletter for the Autumn term. If you have any books or resources that you are willing and able to share with school to support our subject areas, please let us know. Similarly, if you are (or know somebody!) who is a specialist in a particular field and would be willing to come in to talk to the children, we would love to hear from you.

Online Safety

Our parents of children in years 4, 5 and 6 will already be well aware of the challenges that we face in terms of keeping children safe online. In order to support you as parents, we will be sending you a monthly newsletter with the most up to date information on how to support your child's online use. Please find attached the September edition which will also be made available via our school website. We have also attached a *Parental Controls* booklet which we hope you will find useful. As always, if you have any queries or concerns about your child's online use, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Keeping children safe online is very much a team effort and we are keen to work proactively with you on this important aspect of safeguarding.

School Planners

Your child has been issued with a planner. This should be brought to school and then home again every day. Part of the home learning is to read at least three times a week and where this has been achieved, children will receive a raffle ticket which will be placed in a half-termly draw for a reading prize. Planners will be checked by class teachers on a Wednesday each week. Children who complete three reads weekly and hand their planners in each Wednesday will be included in the weekly class reading percentage where the highest percentage class will receive the reading Treat Trolley for the following week. This has been re-stocked for this term and is full of amazing books. Children who are finding it tricky to achieve their reading target will read with the Year 6 reading buddies. Please contact your child's class teacher or Mrs Mintoft if there are any questions regarding this.

School Crossing Patrol

North Yorkshire Council Road Safety have contacted us to give us an update regarding School Crossing patrol recruitment. We are delighted that they have successfully appointed two new School Crossing Patrols. One will be starting on Teal Lane/Westgate shortly and another will be starting in November and will be covering Middleton Road on an afternoon and Potter Hill/Westgate on a temporary basis.

Pedestrian Safety

In the interest of pedestrian safety and maintaining positive relationships with our Middleton Road neighbours, please can we ask that your child does not arrive at school before 8.30am? We are not insured for children to be on our premises until 8.30am at which point, we then have a member of staff on duty. If your child could arrive between 8.30am and 8.45am, that would be ideal. Thank you for your help with this.

School Uniform

Thank you for ensuring that your child is dressed in full school uniform each day and that they bring to school everything that they need. We understand that, occasionally, items of uniform get lost or mislaid. If your child is not dressed in full school uniform for a particular reason, please contact us to explain why. We will be far more sympathetic and tolerant if there is a valid reason for not adhering to our policy.

Healthy Snacks

Please can we ask for your support by sending your child in with a healthy snack to eat at break time? Please do not send in sweets, crisps or chocolate. We are trying to encourage more healthy options such as a piece of fruit, popcorn, vegetables or a yoghurt. We also need to remind you that glass bottles, fizzy drinks and nuts (or items containing nuts) are not permitted.

A History of our School

Many of you will have seen our new history display in the main corridor on Open Evening. If you have any historical photographs of the school, we'd love to see them! If you're happy for us to scan the images, we can then add them to our display. Please email any photographs through to admin2@pickering-jun.n-yorks.sch.uk Thank you.

Speech and Language

Please see the attached flyer for the Autumn parent and carer sessions. These are by appointment only and you will need to book.

Ampleforth College

Please see the attached flyers from Ampleforth College. Details of how to register for these events are available on their website in the '[News & Events](#)' section.

Have a great weekend!



Mrs M De Barr
Headteacher

"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 DSL** is: **Mrs Devine**

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

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.

Autumn Diary Dates

28 th September	Clubs and Boosters start
6 th October	Individual and Sibling photographs
13 th and 15 th Oct	Parents' Evenings
16th October	Democracy Day
19th October (2pm)	Harvest Festival
22nd October	Break up for half term
10th November	Friends of School Autumn Disco
4th December	Friends of School Christmas Fair
7th December (6pm)	Carol Service
10th December	Christmas Jumper Day
16th December	Riding Lights Performance
18th December	Enrichment afternoon

	Menu
Monday 	Chicken Nuggets Vg Quorn Nuggets Egg Mayo Sandwich Cheese or Baked Bean Jacket Potato V Apple Crumble & Custard
Tuesday 	V Tangy Tomato Pasta V Pizza Tuna Mayo Sandwich Cheese or Baked Bean Jacket Potato V Rice Pudding & Jam
Wednesday 	Roast Pork & Yorkshire Pudding Vg Veggie Sausage Cheese Sandwich Cheese or Baked Bean Jacket Potato Vg Custard Cookie
Thursday 	Pasta Bolognese Hot Cheese Panini Ham Sandwich Tuna Mayo Jacket Potato V Fruit Jelly & Ice-cream
Friday 	Battered Fish & Chips Vg Sausage Roll Cheese Sandwich Cheese or Baked Bean Jacket Potato V Victoria Sponge Muffin
	Available Every Day Jacket Potato Fillings – Cheese and Beans Seasonal Vegetables & Sides Bread Fresh Fruit or Fruit Yoghurt

The cost of a pupil meal is £3.78 per day / £18.90 per week payable at the beginning of each week. Please keep your child's account in credit or with a zero balance.

For parents/carers who would like to pay per term the cost for the Autumn term is £257.04. Please note that if your child goes home unwell after 10.30am, the school meal will still be charged for as it will have been ordered and prepared by the kitchen.