



Pirbright's Learning Week

29th January 2026

Every week is a busy one at Pirbright Village Primary School, so we thought we'd take the opportunity to share with you some of the exciting things which have been going on inside and outside of the classroom in each year group.

Reception

This week we have been learning all about polar bears! We started the week by learning about polar bear facts and made split pin polar bears. We learnt what a split pin is and how to use them to create a moving part. We then did some polar bear writing and challenged ourselves by writing as many words as we could! In maths, we have started learning about numbers 6, 7 and 8. We learnt how to find 1 more and 1 less than numbers to 8 and the composition of 6, 7 and 8. In phonics, we have been reading longer words this week by chunking them up if we needed to. This means breaking the word into two parts to make it easier for us to read. In French, we continued with our cowboy song and in PE, we practised different balancing positions on the mats as part of gymnastics. We worked with a partner to develop our teamwork skills and supported one another! In Online Safety, we learnt about what kind and unkind means and discussed times we were kind or unkind towards someone and how that made us and them feel. In our provision this week, we enjoyed a fun phonics activity where we chose a picture, drew it and then wrote the word. We also sorted representations of 6, 7 and 8 and found different ways to make 5. For our fine motor area, we made pattern with colourful loops and developed our finger strength with elastic band boards. We made Play Doh polar bears in our malleable area and loved writing tricky words with chalk and washing them off with a paintbrush outside. We also did a word hunt in the woods and completed some Arctic animal movement card challenges!



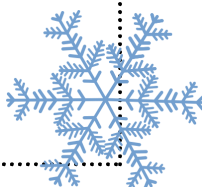
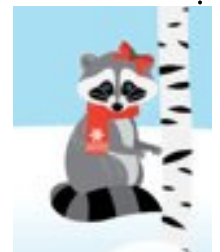
Year 1

It has been another busy but brilliant week in Year One! We began the week with an independent writing challenge, using everything we know about adjectives and settings to write our very own setting descriptions.

Later in the week, we learned what it means to edit our work, so we could carefully improve the writing we completed on Monday. In maths, we have been working hard with numbers to 20, using number lines to estimate and compare different numbers. In phonics, we have been revising all of our new sounds in preparation for our phonics assessments next week – we are feeling confident and can't wait to show off how much we've learned! As part of our Far Far Away topic, we learned about an incredible explorer, Matthew Henson, who was almost forgotten in history despite being the first person to step foot on the North Pole. This led us to think about just how cold it is there, and we carried out our own insulation investigation. In the science lab, we wrapped beakers of hot water in different materials and then used thermometers to test which material kept the water the warmest. To top it all off, we even learned how to use laptops this week and wrote our very own sentences. What a remarkable week, Year 1!

Year 2

We are now in full swing with our English and Maths units and have been working really hard across the curriculum. In English, we have revised time conjunctions, commas in a list and subordinating conjunctions and have enjoyed applying these skills while learning about Mary Anning in preparation for writing a third-person recount of her fascinating life. In Maths, we have been making good progress in our money unit, focusing on pounds and pence. We have practised reading amounts, choosing the correct notes and coins and finding different ways to make the same amount. Please ask your child at home how many different ways they can make 20p or £1 with a variety of coins. We have also compared amounts of money by having two different amounts, adding different coins together and using the symbols $<$, $>$ and $=$. In PE we had another great session using all of the gymnastics equipment, focusing on balance, jumping and safe landing. In Computing, we put our spreadsheet skills to the test by creating magic squares, using a totalling tool to add up numbers in rows and columns. Finally, in Topic, we have continued learning about Mary Anning and her discoveries, discussing how her findings helped people learn about the past and working with talk partners to explain why her discoveries were important.



Year 3

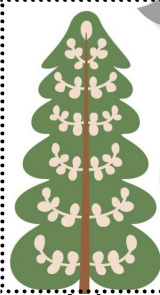
Wow! What a fabulous class assembly from 3ND! They have been working incredibly hard over the past few weeks and it certainly paid off today – well done 3ND! Amongst rehearsals and Parents Evening, Year 3 have still been working hard this week. In Maths, we have continued our unit on length and measurement, consolidating our knowledge of equivalent lengths such as ms, cms and mms whilst also moving on to compare lengths and begin solving length problems with our addition skills. This week in English, we have continued with our new text 'Flat Stanley' and his great Egyptian adventure. We have had a big focus on dialogue between characters this week and how we use speech punctuation to show this in a text. It is a tricky concept but we have been

working extra hard to try and get the hang of it. Why don't you ask us what we need? Flat Stanley's adventure to Egypt has also kicked started our own Egyptian journey. We started with the chronology of Ancient Egypt. Did you know it coincided with some events from Stone Age Britain? We then moved on to look at the location of Egypt and how as a country it compares to England. Phew, what a busy



Year 4

Another busy week in Year 4- we especially enjoyed being Greek food taste testers as we tried lots of different Greek foods and scoring them out of ten- We think there may be a few future Restaurant Critics in the year group! Many of us tried lots of new food for the first time- some more successfully than others. We then used this knowledge to design the toppings for our flatbreads which we will be cooking next week. There are certainly some interesting combinations planned- please ask us about our design and choices. In Maths we have moved on to division, using the bus stop method and have realised just how useful it is to know our times tables really well. We are very excited about the new Writing competition that was launched on Thursday and we are very keen to get our creative writing ideas on to paper. We are so impressed by the amazing mythical beasts which have been created across the year group and can't wait to read the 13th and final Labour for Heracles next week. Don't forget we have our epic Cross-Country event on Friday – please come and cheer us all on!



Year 5

Firstly, thanks to those of you that were able to attend the Spring term parents' consultations this week; it is such a valuable opportunity to share the children's many successes as well as the areas that we are continuing to focus on with them. We were excited to start a new Maths topic this week, beginning to look at decimal and fraction equivalence by understanding tenths and hundredths as decimal places. Later in this topic, we will be making similar links to percentages too. 'Kensuke's Kingdom' has once again provided a rich impetus for our writing activities; this week, the children have been showing off their brilliant vocabularies and use of imagery to compose vivid descriptions of the island that Michael has found himself marooned on. We also used ICT to have a go at creating digital maps of Kensuke's island home, using clues from the text and the *DigiMap* application. During this half term, our RE lessons have been focused on the five pillars on Islam; this week, we have thought about the fifth pillar, Hajj, and heard all about the experiences of a young English girl called Sara as she was preparing to make the pilgrimage to Makkah with her family.



Year 6 This week we started our new English unit based on the book 'Holes' by Louis Sachar.

We have enjoyed the first few chapters and the children have written descriptions of Camp Green Lake using a variety of sentence structures, such as relative clauses and expanded noun phrases. In maths, our focus has been on decimals and using the four operations to complete calculations. We have been exploring shadows in science, and learning about the human eye. We enjoyed the introduction to the Pirbright Short Story Competition on Thursday and hope that many of the children will take part—to show off their super writing skills! In RE we were comparing the writings in the Gospels, and in Music we have been improvising to jazz.

