



Dear Parents and Carers,

I usually feel the need to remind parents that half term holidays are approaching, but it's felt like such a short time since Christmas, that I'm going to have to set a reminder for myself too!

It was lovely to spend a longer amount of time than usual in classrooms this week, getting involved in the lessons. I was particularly impressed with the money-based learning in Year 2 - counting coins (remember those?) and adding up different amounts. Year 6 also wowed me with their writing prowess to compose a variety of sentences that included techniques such as personification and semi colons. Keep up the great work!

Keeping it short and sweet this week, please can everyone avoid parking on the white zigzag lines outside of the school? Doing so makes crossing the road even riskier than it already is. Thanks!

I hope that many of you can make it to this afternoon's cross-country event on the school field. Wrap up warm and come with your cheering voices! Mark, the coffee guy, will be serving hot drinks from about 1.00pm from the pedestrian gates that lead to the car park. He'll be hanging around for a short while, once the event has started, should you want to get another?!

Wishing you all as peaceful half term breaks as possible!

Kind regards
Pete

Pete Wright
Headteacher



Coming Up –

17th – 21st HALF TERM

24th – World Thinking Day

26th - Year 4 Greek Day

27th - Year 6 Visit to St Michael & All Angel's Church - Pirbright

28th - Fire Brigade Visit - Reception

28th - 2.45pm – 3.10pm Whole School Learning Look

4th - Year 3/4 Sportshall Athletics @ Guildford Spectrum (AM)

5th - Year 2 Sportshall Athletics @ Guildford Spectrum (AM)

7th – World Book Day – DRESS UP

7th – The BIG Read 2:45pm (Parents Welcome)

Add our calendar to your electronic calendar!

Head [here](#) and click on the +Google link at the bottom of the calendar.



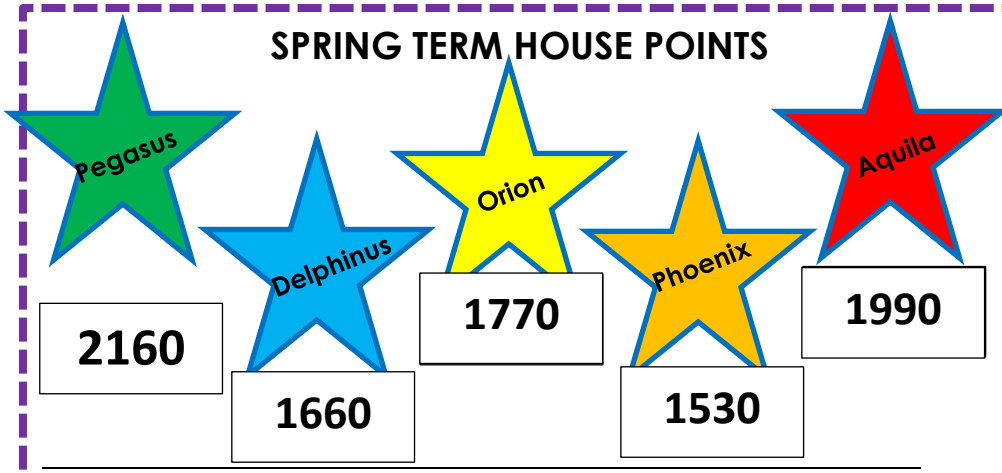
SCHOOL WEBSITE PHOTOS!
4SC Class Assembly



Registration Timings & Studybugs

Just a reminder on timings, we would love for the children to come into class when the doors open (8:30am for KS2 and 8:45am for KS1 & Reception). The doors are open for 15 minutes and children are officially late after that point when the register is taken but more importantly they have missed the start to the day, some learning activities and for some of them – the top priority of catching up with their friends and saying hello to everyone. This makes for a much nicer start to the day when the formal learning kicks off as they have had a moment to settle and process everything. If your child is going to be absent, please log onto the StudyBugs app before 8.30am. This will prevent the office staff from needing to contact you - many thanks.

SPRING TERM HOUSE POINTS



Weekly Attendance Update

Reception & KS1 Winners	KS2 Winners
2HJ – 100%	5LB – 98.3%
Whole School Year to Date	
95.9%	

The Daily Mile!

Congratulations to Arlo (5SF) who completed his Marathon this week and to Leo (£DG) who has completed his half-marathon. Well done!



HEAD TEACHER AWARDS



HEAD TEACHER AWARDS are given out on a Thursday during assembly where we have the opportunity to hear about the children's successes of the previous week and celebrate how they embodied the Pirbright Values.

Position Vacant

FOPS are looking for a new chair/s. If you are interested in leading the PTA, please have a chat with either Kate, Nerys, Mrs Dow or Mr Wright. No question is too daft (apparently!) so come and chat!

Miss Jackson (2HJ) = Mrs King

We will have a new (sort of!) teacher on the staff after half term when Miss Jackson returns as Mrs King. Fear not, she is not leaving us but getting married! Congratulations to Mr & Mrs King on their upcoming nuptials and we all promise to try and remember the name change!

The Travelling Book Fair at Pirbright: Parent Volunteers Needed Please!

We're very excited to announce that the Travelling Book Fair will be visiting us from **11th-18th March!** This event is always a highlight for the children, and to make it as successful as in previous years, we would be incredibly grateful for volunteers.

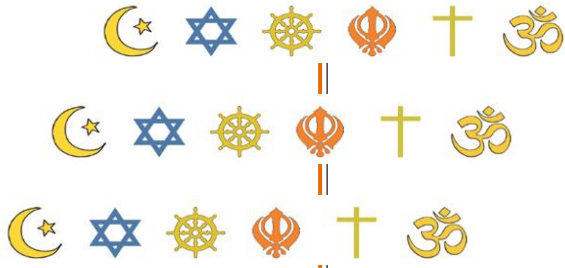
We are looking for volunteers for both early morning (8:15-9:00 am) and afternoon (3:15-4 pm) shifts, or even both! If you're available and willing to kindly lend a hand, we would greatly appreciate your support. If you'd like to help, please reach out to btodd@pirbright.surrey.sch.uk. There will be full training provided so you just need time and enthusiasm and you will be all set! Thank you so much for your support!

13 Feb-14 Feb 2025

Shab e-Barat

Shab e-Barat, also known as the Night of Forgiveness, is an important religious observance for Muslims, typically occurring on the 15th night of the Islamic month of Sha'ban. In 2025, Shab e-Barat will fall on the 14th of February, though this date is subject to change depending on the sighting of the moon. This night is a time for prayer, reflection, and seeking Allah's mercy and forgiveness. It is believed that on Shab e-Barat, Allah grants forgiveness for sins and decides the fate of individuals for the coming year. Families and communities gather to pray, read the Qur'an, and engage in acts of charity. Many also remember and pray for loved ones who have passed away. This sacred night offers a chance for spiritual renewal and preparation for the upcoming month of Ramadan.

At Pirbright, we learn about the six major religions as part of our study, in line with the Surrey Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (2023-2028). For more details, you can refer to the Surrey Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (2023-2028) here: <https://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/surrey-agreed-syllabus/>



World Thinking Day – 24th February

Monday 24th February is World Thinking Day when Girl Guides and Girl Scouts & Rainbows everywhere remember each other and reaffirm their commitment to international friendship and understanding. On World Thinking Day, Girl Guides and Girl Scouts all over the world do something special to celebrate - watching the sunrise, holding an act of worship, having an international party or undertaking an extra service project. On World Thinking Day, we would like to invite the girls to wear their uniforms into school to remind us all of their commitment to their respective organisations. In order to promote gender equality, we would also like to invite the boys who attend Beavers, Cubs or Scouts to wear their uniforms into school as an act of solidarity and so we can celebrate all of the contributions made by Pirbright children to the wider community.



Just a little reminder that our next Learning Look will take place on **Friday 28th February 2025**. This time, it will be at the end of the school day so please head to your child's classroom from **2.45pm to 3.10pm**. This will give you the opportunity to look at books, displays and other pieces of work to celebrate your child's learning with them. During the session, we would love you to chat to your child about what they are proud of and write a positive comment on a Proud Scroll about what has made you feel proud. Learning Looks are spread out across the school year and the dates and times for all of the sessions are on the school calendar. These sessions are entirely optional but if you are unable to attend it is really useful if we know in advance. Please let your child's class teacher know so your child can be paired up with another family, a friend or school adult. Also, please note that the session **finishes at 3.10pm** so the children have a few minutes to gather their home time things and say goodbye before meeting you outside the classroom (or meeting spot if they are in KS2).

Dress-Up Day

Every year we celebrate World Book Day and every other year we celebrate Comic Relief – this year is just World Book Day for us! Whilst we wouldn't say we are low-key when it comes to dressing up here (Mr Fuller once dressed up as a full shower system, including the curtain!) – we certainly are low pressure for parents and will take absolutely anything that works for you! We don't have "best dressed" prizes as we know the pressure this can add.

World Book Day – Celebrated at Pirbright on **FRIDAY 7th March** (celebrated nationally on Thursday 6th but no one needs a Thursday dress up day in their life!). Please come to school dressed as a book character or anything inspired by a book. We'll take (almost) anything!

There is no Comic Relief celebration at Pirbright this year; see you next year for that one!

Social, Moral, Spiritual & Cultural Education (SMSC)

"Children must be taught how to think, not what to think" – Margaret Mead

CLICK HERE 

As a school we are always looking at ways to capture everything that we do to give children an amazing experience of learning. We know that assessments of English and maths are important but as our Pirbright Pyramid tells us, they are not the most important thing we do and cannot alone help us ensure we are supporting our children to be ready for all the world has on offer for them. One of our golden threads which links all elements of our curriculum and school life, is SMSC which stands for Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural Education. Our vision for our children is to have a fully rounded school experience where academic potential is met (and exceeded) through the opportunities which are provided at school all around SMSC. We value SMSC as a way to not only enrich our children's experiences and their outcomes, but see it as integral to our learning experiences and everything we do here. On the website you will find a wealth of ways in which we meet the requirements of the SMSC guidance but something new the children might come home and talk about is the "5 Minute Wonders" we have just begun exploring. They are questions which the whole school, in classes, in a circle time style activity get to ponder something SMSC based and share their ideas. We really should rename it a "20 Minute Wonder", as that's how much time the teachers spent debating what to do with a "found" £50 note when we practised at the staff meeting!

Key Stage 2 Short Story Competition

We are back in business for another round with our returning authors, Elspeth Leadbetter, Louise Fein and Jacqueline Sutherland! All details of how to enter can be found in the poster → Thank you to our authors for a fantastic workshop on Tuesday afternoon which gave the children some great inspiration and advice on how to get going. Good luck! All details and inspiration from last year can be found on the website [here](#).

ENTRIES ARE OPEN FOR THE PVPS 2025 SHORT STORY PRIZE!

Prizes for best overall story and best story per year group

HOW TO ENTER

Electronic submissions to be emailed to pirbrightshortstorycomp@gmail.com

Handwritten entries can be handed in at Mrs Dow's office



Entry rules: KS2 Year Groups Only. Stories must be your own work, either handwritten or typed and 500 words MAX

ENTRIES CLOSE AT 3.15PM FRIDAY 7TH MARCH

On your marks...get set...WRITE!

Thank you so much to everyone who donated to or purchased from the FOPS uniform sale this morning – you are all heroes and the world of pre-loved clothes appreciates you! Chocolate Bingo is on the horizon with all details coming soon; please see the attached poster to save the date and think about sponsoring us. Thank you!



CHOCOLATE BINGO

Save The Date

FOPS are holding a family bingo night at
Pirbright School!

Friday 28th March 2025

Tickets on sale from Friday 28th February
www.pta-events.co.uk/fops

CHOCOLATE BINGO

BE A SPONSOR!!!!

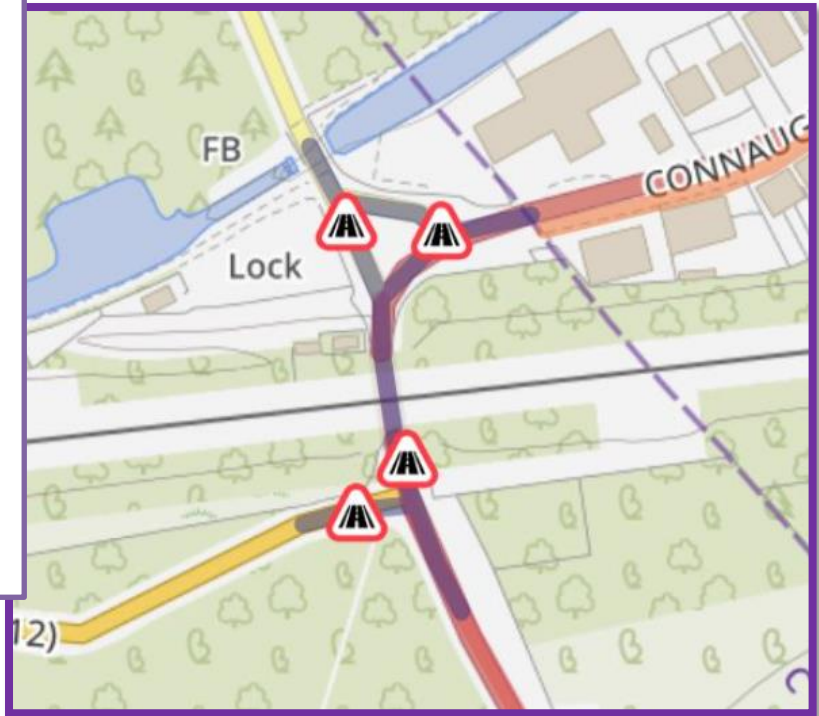
Contact us at
pirbrightfops@yahoo.co.uk

Half Term Road Works

As part of Surrey County Council's commitment to improving roads and pavements, Bisley Camp Road, Connaught Road, Dawney Hill and Gole Road, Pirbright have been selected for pedestrian crossing improvements and drainage works.

The work will take place **Monday 17 February until Friday 21 March** – Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm and Saturdays 8am to 1pm.

The work will take place in two stages. From 17 February to 22 February, there will be a 24/7 road closure in place from the bridge to 30m south of the junction with Gole Road. Traffic between Dawney Hill and Gole Road, and between Bisley Camp Road and Connaught Road will be maintained using temporary lights. From 23 February to 21 March, a four-way temporary light system will be in place for 24 hours.



Let's Celebrate Pirbright

If your child "achieves" or takes part in something special outside of school (local football team, village show, scouts award, sporting event and the like) then please send a photo and a short description to Mrs Dow either at her email address or at celebrate@pirbright.surrey.sch.uk and she will pop it up on the display board in the hall for all to admire.



WOKING
FAMILY CENTRE

SEND Online Support Group for Parents/Carers

Free support group for parents/carers with children aged 0-16 with pre or diagnosed SEND.

The course will cover topics like:

- Back to school and discussions around EHCP's
- Boundaries and useful parenting tools
- Accessing useful websites and other support networks
- Support on applying for DLA and other funding options.

For more information scan the QR code or call 01483 310419



Woking Family Centre, The Bungalow
Sythwood, Woking GU21 3AX



Changing childhoods.
Changing lives.

17th - 21st Feb 2025

Potential Kids

Feb Half Term Camp

At Pirbright Village School
9am - 4pm

BOOK NOW

Potentialkids.co.uk

Dates for the Diary 2024/2025

January 2025		February 2025	<p>17th – 21st HALF TERM 24th – World Thinking Day 26th - Year 4 Greek Day 27th - Year 6 Visit to St Michael & All Angel's Church - Pirbright 28th - Fire Brigade Visit - Reception 28th - 2.45pm – 3.10pm Whole School Learning Look</p>
March 2025	<p>4th - Year 3/4 Sportshall Athletics @ Guildford Spectrum (AM) 5th - Year 2 Sportshall Athletics @ Guildford Spectrum (AM) 7th – World Book Day – DRESS UP 7th – The BIG Read 2:45pm (Parents Welcome) 7th - Cake Sale (Year 4 to Lead) 11th – 18th – The Travelling Book Fair 12th Year 2 My First Steps Leadership Training 14th - Science Day (Celebrating Science Week) 19th - WASPs Touch Rugby Tournament 25th - Year 2 Visit to Nower Wood 27th - Family Lunch (11:30 Onwards) 28th – FOPS Chocolate Bingo</p>	April 2025	<p>2nd - Year 3 Pop-Up Museum 4th – Easter Assembly (Year 5) AM (No Parents – Sorry!) 4th – Term finishes at 1:30pm 4th - Cake Sale (Year 5 to Lead) 25th - 8.30am – 9.00am KS2 Learning Look 25th - 8.45am – 9.15am Reception & KS1 Learning Look</p>
May 2025	<p>7th - Tempest Class Photos 12th – 16th – KS2 SATS Week 13th - YR Visit to Wellington Country Park 16th - Cake Sale (Year 3 to Lead) 19th – Pirbright Has Talent Auditions (Y1 – Y6) 21st - Year 3 Visit to Gilbert White's House 22nd - Year 5 Dynamo Cricket 1pm-5pm @ Old Woking CC 26th – 30th May HALF TERM</p>	June 2025	<p>4th - Year 1 Visit to the British Wildlife Centre 5th – Pirbright Has Talent Show! (No Parents, sorry!) 6th - 2.45pm – 3.10pm Whole School Learning Look 9th – 12th - Year 6 Residential Visit to Somerset 12th - Reception Zoo Lab Visit 13th – Year 6 Late Registration (10am) 13th – The BIG Read 2:45pm (Parents Welcome) 16th – 17th – Year 4 Residential to Ufton Court 20th - Sports Day & Family Lunch 30th – INSET DAY – School will be closed to children</p>
July 2025	<p>1st – Year 6 into 7 Induction Day (Surrey Schools) 2nd - Year 6 into 7 Induction Day (Surrey Schools) 4th - Year 6 Performance PM (Y6 parents invited PM) 4th - Cake Sale (Year 2 to Lead) 10th – Summer Concert EVE (Parents Welcome) 11th – 10am Late Registration 14th – New Entrants Morning Session (10:30-11:30) 14th – 3.15pm-4.30pm Celebration Afternoon (Parents Welcome) 16th – Leavers' Party (Eve) 5:30pm 17th – Year 6 Fun Day 18th – 10.00am Year 6 Leavers' Assembly (Parents Welcome) 18th – 1.30pm – End of Term 18th - Cake Sale (Year 1 to Lead) 21st - INSET Day (School will be closed to pupils) 22nd – INSET Day (School will be closed to pupils)</p>		

Term Dates 2024/2025

Term	Start	End
AUTUMN 2024	Monday 2 nd September 2024	Friday 20 th December 2024
<i>Half term</i>	Monday 28 th October 2024	Fri 1 st November 2024
<i>Christmas</i>	Monday 23 rd December 2024	Friday 3 rd January 2025
SPRING 2025	Monday 6 th January 2025	Friday 4 th April 2025
<i>Half term</i>	Monday 17 th February 2025	Friday 21 st February 2025
<i>Easter</i>	Monday 7 th April 2025	Monday 21 st April 2025
SUMMER 2025	Tuesday 22 nd April 2025	Tuesday 22 nd July 2025
<i>Half term</i>	Monday 26 th May 2025	Friday 30 th May 2025

INSET DAYS 2024/2025

Monday 2nd September 2024
 Tuesday 3rd September 2024
 Friday 25th October 2024
 Wednesday 29th January 2025
Monday 30th June 2025
Monday 21st July 2025
Tuesday 22nd July 2025

Term Dates 2025/2026

Term	Start	End
AUTUMN 2024	Tuesday 2 nd September 2025	Friday 19 th December 2025
<i>Half term</i>	Monday 27 th October 2025	Fri 31 st October 2025
<i>Christmas</i>	Monday 22 nd December 2025	Friday 2 nd January 2026
SPRING 2025	Monday 5 th January 2026	Friday 27 th March 2026
<i>Half term</i>	Monday 16 th February 2026	Friday 20 th February 2026
<i>Easter</i>	Monday 30 th March 2026	Friday 10 th April 2026
SUMMER 2025	Monday 13 th April 2026	Tuesday 21 st July 2026
<i>Half term</i>	Monday 25 th May 2026	Friday 29 th May 2026

INSET DAYS 2025/2026

Tuesday 2nd September 2025
 Wednesday 3rd September 2025
 Friday 24th October 2025
 Wednesday 28th January 2026
Monday 29th June 2026
Monday 20th July 2026
Tuesday 21st July 2026