



Dear Parents and Carers

Just in case it's passed you by, parents' evenings are happening next week, Monday 3rd February and Wednesday 5th February. If you haven't made an appointment to meet your child/ren's class teacher, please contact them to do so. Please remember to find and look through your child/ren's learning before meeting with their teacher - thank you. The usual Pirbucks Café will be running in the hall but has strict opening times so if you have been lucky to book an alternative parents' evening appointment outside of the set times, this doesn't mean Pirbucks will be necessarily be open to you - sorry! Can we also remind you that the hall will not be set up as childcare and you need to ensure your children are looked after by someone when you have your appointment with the class teacher.

This week has really brought home one of the biggest safeguarding concerns we have at Pirbright. I've been really disappointed to read a number of reports from staff about children telling them of the inappropriate films, TV shows and computer games they've been watching or playing. It is of course not my place to tell any parent what to do; however, when we deal with the behaviours that present themselves due to the explicit material being viewed, it is so obvious to us the clear link. The age guides are there for a reason and our children's brains are not developed enough to cope with mature material. They may be having fun at the time, but the fear they show in school, the behaviours they enact and the inappropriate interactions they have with their peers tell a different story.

We are so fortunate to have a Chair of Governors who is almost a permanent member of staff here! The children and staff love her and she really is part of the furniture. This week she ~~dragged~~ encouraged her lovely husband to come with her to wow Year 2 with their knowledge of fossils; although, Year 2 gave them a run for their money with all of their learning! Thank you Julia & Phil!

Year 1 are gearing up (pun intended!) for their trip to Brooklands Museum on Thursday. This is a personal favourite of mine and one I remember going to as a Year 1 teacher some years ago. Please remember to ask your Year 1 child what they saw, liked or learnt from the day!

Kind regards
Pete

Pete Wright
Headteacher

Coming Up –

- 3rd – 7th** – Bikeability Year 6 Week 3
- 3rd** - 4.30pm – 7.00pm Parents' Evening
- 5th** - 4:00 – 6:00pm Parents' Evening
- 6th** – Year 1 Visit to Brooklands Museum
- 7th** – FOPS Uniform Collection – KS1 Gate – AM
- 7th** - Visitor - Year 1 Talk on Judaism
- 10th** - Visitor - Year 3 Talk on Judaism
- 11th** - Safer Internet Day
- 11th** - Short Story Competition Launch - KS2

PLEASE CHECK THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER FOR ALL 2025/2026 DATES & INSETS.

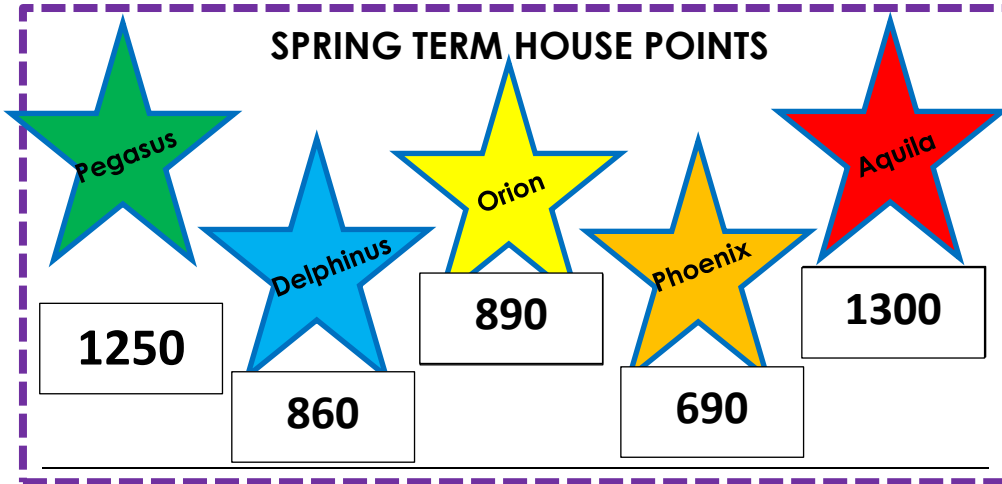
Add our calendar to your electronic calendar!
Head [here](#) and click on the +Google link at the bottom of the calendar.



SCHOOL WEBSITE PHOTOS!



SPRING TERM HOUSE POINTS



Weekly Attendance Update

Reception & KS1 Winners	KS2 Winners
2HJ – 99.4%	3DG – 100%
Whole School Year to Date	
95.4%	



The Daily Mile!
 Congratulations to Sebastian (6DS) who completed his Half-Marathon this week. Well done!

HEAD TEACHER AWARDS



Wednesday 29th – INSET DAY
 The staff had a very busy INSET day on Wednesday where we spent the morning all doing our refresher First Aid Training. The afternoon was filled for the teachers and LSAs with Positive Touch training which is all about managing behaviour and deescalating situations positively. It was a jam-packed day with a vey short break sandwiched in the middle and we all left with a slight case of information overload!

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!

PIRBRIGHT TWINNING ASSOCIATION—membership drive

Pirbright Twinning is a long-established community group with over 30 years of friendship with the people of Cagny, France. Our organisation exists to promote exchange visits for families, couples, and individuals. We charge a nominal annual membership per family of £10.00. We are self-funding through our fundraising events which are renowned for good, home cooked food, sourced locally. Members of Pirbright Twinning Association for three days every other year have the enjoyment of staying with French families. During this time, we are wined, dined, and entertained as well as experiencing different culture and lifestyle perspective that Normandie can offer. In the intervening years our guests are able to experience our culture and lifestyle whilst we host and entertain them in our houses, and show them the sights of the Southern England.

We welcome new members especially young families and people new to Pirbright. Let us know if you would like to find more about Pirbright Twinning Association please get in touch by email or on the number below to find out more.

Pirbright.twinning.association@gmail.com
 Jonathan Lopez 07780066142



Pirbright X-Country –Friday 14th February – Parents Welcome

2025's Sporting Calendar kicks off in a few weeks with the school's inter-house X-Country events. All children run and all children score points for their house teams. The captains will be on hand to support the littlest legs running around the field – we are always amazed at the bar Reception set in perseverance and resilience! All children can come to school in their PE kit, including their all-important house t-shirt ready for the event. Reception children (and all children new to the school) will receive their t-shirt on the day so please don't worry, we have that covered. Parents are welcome to come and spectate; entrance is at the KS2 gate and KS2 children run first from 1:40pm with Reception & KS1 to follow at 2:20pm. Please note, as we have done for the past few years, parents will be asked to stand in an allocated viewing area for the safety of the children! We will be watching the weather closely and advise if the field is too wet for a safe event at the earliest opportunity.

What Do My Children Learn?

As we look towards Parents' Evenings, it is a good time to remind you of all the things we do at Pirbright to support your children. Whilst we don't often get the question, "What on Earth are they teaching you?" we thought it was worth the reminder of how you can find out more about your child's learning journey.

We start with a long term plan → which is published on the school website so you can have an overview of the whole year. Each term, we send you a Topic Web which goes into much more detail about what is taught in each subject in your year group. Each week we send you a synopsis of the week that was on the homework sheet and collated together in Pirbright's Learning Week. Alongside Learning Looks and Parents' Evenings, we think we have all bases covered but, as always, if you feel like we have missed something then please let us know!

CLICK HERE 

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 celebrate@pirbright.surrey.sch.uk and she will pop it up on the display board in the hall for all to admire.

Y3 Long Term Plan 2024-25

Topic	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
	Clubs and Caverns We learn about the Stone Age and daily life back then including homes, tools and diets. We then cover the Iron Age and how life changed from the Stone Age to then. Visit to Bulver Farm to learn first-hand about the Stone Age and Iron Age		Exhilarating Egyptians We follow on the Stone Age and Iron Age to learn about Ancient Egypt. Children about the civilization and how it compared to the Stone Age/Iron Age. We learn about different aspects of life in the era to help us complete our Pop-Up Museum. Creative Day, Experience Day and Pop Museum. Virtual visit to British Museum to learn more about Egyptians.		Engaging Environments We learn about the environment and biodiversity in different areas of the world. We focus on Pirbright as our local environment and make comparisons across the world using on habitats, animals and plant adaptation. Visit to Gilbert White's House Field Studies Centre to learn about animal adaptations and orienteering. Walk to Pirbright Village Green. Art Gallery of our eco message inspired art.	
Learning Challenge	How can we create an interactive learning centre to teach KS1 about the earliest settlers in Britain? Children to create their own version of Bulver Farm where they can teach Year 2 all about our topic		How can we bring the Egyptians back to life? Children to create their own pop up museum for parents where they present the achievements of the Egyptians. Children to create QR codes so it can be accessed remotely.		How can we encourage people to consider the Human Variable Impact on the natural world? Children create artworks to identify and share the biodiversity of our local and wider surroundings while also demonstrating the human impact upon it	
English	Texts: How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth – Michelle Robinson Stone Age Boy – Sarah's Khamura Genres: Narrative, Instructional Writing	Texts: Sig of the Dump – Olive King Genres: Narrative	Texts: Pyramids – Literacy Shed Ancient Egyptian non-fiction texts. Genres: Narrative, Non-Chronological Reports	Texts: The Window – Jeanne Baker The Promise – Nicola Davies Genres: Narrative, Persuasive Writing	Texts: Beowulf – Rob Lloyd-Jones Fact files	Texts: Fraction (2) Shape Statistics
Guided Reading	Texts: The Legend of Spud Murphy – Ian Collier /		Texts: Day of a Killer Cat – Anne Fine			
Maths	Place Value Addition & Subtraction					
Science	Working Scientifically Roads Forces Friction Animals including humans					
Geography	Skara Brae					
History	The Stone Age					
Computing	Word Processing					
Art	Cave Painting, The					

Pirbright's Learning Week
Friday 24th January 2025

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
Reception have had a busy week learning all about penguins! We discussed where they live on the planet and how they are suited to the cold! We read the story Blue Penguin and whilst telling a story! In maths, we have been learning about the ways of making 5, used paper plates and counters to show the composition of 5 on a five frame the correct number of cubes by listening to the French number. In phonics, we explored different penguins, made penguins with potting printing, used tweezers to separate pom poms and buttons, read and chose a new book to share with an adult at home. We finished the week with a trip to the library where we enjoyed some quiet reading.

Year 1
It has been a busy week in Year One. We began to explore aviation as part started the week by looking at the history of aviation and how aeroplanes have changed over time. We then learnt about the Wright brothers and Samuel Cody (who lived in Ash Vale). As

Year 2
This week in Year 2, we've been working hard on our multiplication and division skills. We've been practising the 2, 3, 5, and 10 times tables and getting quicker at answering them! In division, we've been learning about difference between

Computing	PE	RE	Music
Throughout the term we will be using the laptops and iPads for research and reference points. As well as this, we will be learning how to use Digimap. We will be exploring a range of maps and will be learning how to use the tools provided to create our own island after taking inspiration from landscape of 'Kensuke's Kingdom'. In the spring term we will continue our coding work on Purple Mash.	Our topics this term will be rugby, gym, basketball and tennis. We will continue to work on our skills and techniques alongside developing sportsmanship and tactics.	As part of our topic, we will be exploring differences in people, including religious beliefs. This term, we are going to be looking the Five Pillars of Islam and what they represent and mean to Muslims today. We will also compare them to our own experiences and other religions. Later in the term, with Easter in mind, we will be exploring why the idea of rescue is so important to Christians.	In the first half term we will begin with a recap on percussion. We will identify and explore instruments, considering the interrelated dimensions of music. We will be using Charanga to work through activities linked to different instruments.
English For the 1 st half term, our main focus will be the text Kensuke's Kingdom. We will fully immerse ourselves in this book, linking other areas of the curriculum where possible and using the story to inspire some excellent creative writing. During the second half of the term, we will be exploring a range of texts which address the ways in which we can be different. We will begin with our 'Film Narrative' topic, where we will watch the short films: 'For the Birds' and 'Little Freak'. Using these, we will be looking at developing descriptive writing and our use of the Year 5 Wishlist. Later, we will explore the picture book 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan and discuss complex topics such as immigration, and the difficulties immigrants have to overcome. In reading, we will be studying 'The Railway Children' by E Nesbit and will develop our VIPERS skills. Throughout the term we will write in a range of genres, including diaries, descriptions, letters, poems and newspaper reports. History & Geography In the first half term, we will be identifying and naming locations on world maps based on the places Michael visits in Kensuke's Kingdom. We will also research the impact of WWII for Japanese people through our exploration of the text in English. During Spring 2, we will be exploring our local area, its features and history. A big part will involve a study of the development of Woking, particularly around the railway, Brookwood Cemetery and The Shah Jahan Mosque which we will, of course, go and visit. French In French this term, we will be continuing to use our language teaching scheme, with our focus being 'My Home' and 'The Date'. We will be revising vocabulary around these topics, to help us to structure simple sentences and have conversations.	Year 5 Journey Around the World Spring 1 2025 Science In the first half of the term, we will be working scientifically and concluding our learning about animals and plants by exploring some of the animals visited in the book 'Kensuke's Kingdom' and completing some scientific studies of them. We will be applying some of our understanding of forces when learning about how boats sail and creating our own boats which consider upthrust and water resistance ready for a class race. We will be asking scientific enquiry questions about ways in which we are different. We will collect information and present our results. Later in the term, we will move onto to developing our understanding of living things & their habitats as well as delving into the changes in our bodies as we grow. Our science will be linking to the statutory RSE sessions we will be delivering in Spring 2. As always, the children will be writing DEAL conclusions about their scientific observations and using a range of enquiry skills when working scientifically.	The Diversity of Life Spring 2 2025 As the term begins, we will be developing our formal written methods for multiplication and division. Our understanding of place value is key to ensuring we are confident and consistent in our calculating. We will also begin to look at fractions, decimals and percentages and their relationship before moving onto perimeter and area. Throughout our Maths lessons, we will continue to work on basic number skills and arithmetic for the 4 operations. We end the term with statistics where we will work on interpreting a wide variety of charts and graphs. We will explore scales as well as deepening our understanding of representations shown using a key. We will work on being able to accurately draw our own line graphs and use our knowledge to represent data from our Science enquiries. Magicians Guild and Times Tables Rockstars are used regularly on our Fluency Friday lessons to continue building on our quick-fire recall. PSHE As part of our topics this term, there are many areas of PSHE which we will be exploring. We will mainly focus on celebrating differences in ourselves and others, keeping safe, families & friendships, health, taking responsibility and economic wellbeing. In Spring 2, we will be completing our RSE lessons, learning about the changes in ourselves during puberty. Art & DT In DT, we will be researching, designing and creating our own dreamcatchers after thinking about our hopes and aspirations for the future. In Art we will be working on our sketching skills when drawing dramatic seascapes and waves and will then move onto recreating some work in the style of Hokusai. In Spring 2, we will continue to develop our pencil drawing and painting skills as well as creating origami linked to the text 'The Arrival'.	



**IN CASE
YOU
MISSED IT**

I know (believe me I KNOW) it's too early, far too early, to be discussing romantic Valentine's plans for 14th February. I know this. But when you're an old romantic, like me, you'll be thinking already about the romantic activities one might plan for such a day. And then my lovely friend Kate Valentine messaged me and asked me to write this week's newsletter (as I always do) and I knew immediately it was a sign. Not only because her name is Kate VALENTINE but also because she told me of her plans for the most romantic day of the year and do you know what those romantic plans were? (her partner, Luke, is delighted to be reading this) ... UNIFORM SALE. PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SALE. Indeed. We are hosting our first FOPS PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SALE of 2025 on **February 14th**. I cannot fathom that a more romantic way to start the day exists. My fellow volunteers and I will be flogging uniform bargains in the KS1 playground from 8.10am and speaking the universal love language of 'everyone enjoys grabbing themselves a good deal'.

Of course, in order to facilitate such a romantic day for our gorgeous parents and carers, we require uniform donations which we will be accepting on the **7th February** – dropped off by the entrance to KS1 playground, next to the love shack (or the shed, if you prefer.)

Kate and Nerys, our lovely, stunning, beautiful chairwomen (who run the world? Girls.) are stepping down from their positions after two years of fundraising fabulousness! From April, the vacancies are open for a new chairperson or two to take the reins. We require no previous experience; just someone with a YES I CAN DO THIS attitude (yes, you can!) You won't be steering the ship alone; you'll have me, and a host of other lovely volunteers to help you run the show. And honestly, it's a wonderful feeling to know that you have played a huge part in helping the school raise many, many thousands of pounds to fund the parts of the school that set Pirbright apart from the rest; the interactive classroom screens, the science lab, all the additional resources that our fundraising covers. We just need one or two key people to tie it all together and drive us forward.

Lastly, any takers to organise the SUMMER FAIR? We have had some absolutely BLINDING summer fairs in years gone by and the colour run last year is still something I think of regularly (mostly when I put on my waterproof that got covered in paint powder, had to go in the washing machine and is now no longer waterproof. Rainy days are now a total nightmare but it was totally worth it for the fun I experienced on that day. I regret nothing.)

17th - 21st Feb 2025

Potential Kids

Feb Half Term Camp

At Pirbright Village School
9am - 4pm

BOOK NOW

Potentialkids.co.uk

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 17th February 2025	Friday 21st 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

Dates for the Diary 2024/2025

January 2025		February 2025	<p>3rd - 4.30pm – 7.00pm Parents' Evening 5th - 4:00 – 6:00pm Parents' Evening 6th – Year 1 Visit to Brooklands Museum 7th – FOPS Uniform Collection – KS1 Gate – AM 7th - Visitor - Year 1 Talk on Judaism 10th - Visitor - Year 3 Talk on Judaism 11th - Safer Internet Day 11th - Short Story Competition Launch - KS2 12th - Year 1 Sportshall Athletics @ Guildford Spectrum (PM) 14th - FOPS Pre-Loved Uniform Sale – KS1 Playground AM 14th - 1.30pm Pirbright Cross-Country Events (parents welcome) 17th – 21st HALF TERM 24th – World Thinking Day 26th - Year 4 Greek Day 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) 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 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 19th – Pirbright Has Talent Auditions (Y1 – Y6) 21st - Year 3 Visit to Gilbert White's House 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) 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) TBC 17th – Year 6 Fun Day 18th – 10.00am Year 6 Leavers' Assembly (Parents Welcome) 18th – 1.30pm – End of Term 21st - INSET Day (School will be closed to pupils) 22nd – INSET Day (School will be closed to pupils)</p>		

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

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