



# Pennington Schools Newsletter



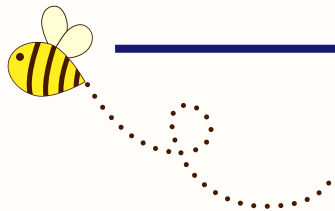
## Headteacher's Comment

I hope you all had a good half term break. We are looking forward to the next two months with Remembrance Day commemorations next week and the usual wealth of Christmas celebrations in December.

It has been a busy term so far. The children have settled in exceptionally well and in many ways, it feels as though the infants have always been in the school. It has certainly enriched the school experience for staff and children alike.



We are excited to be holding discos on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November and all the money raised will go to our chosen charity, Oakhaven. We look forward to seeing the infant children at 4.30pm to 5.30pm and the juniors from 5.40 to 6.45pm.



## Autumn 2 Clubs

Monday	Basketball/Handball	Gardening
Tuesday	Football & Netball	Art
Wednesday	Multi skills	Drama
Thursday	Gymnastics	



# Reception



This term in Reception the children have been settling into school life. They have been getting use to the expectations and learning new routines. The children have been making new friends and exploring their new learning environment. They have participated in lots of funky fingers exercises to strengthen their fingers and get them used to writing. They have enjoyed tummy time, dough disco and write dance.



The children have all been practising to recognise and write their own name and encouraged to carry out lots of different mark making both inside and outside.

Our topic has been 'Marvellous Me' and the children have shared their special boxes and talked about favourite things and families.



We have learnt about Autumn and Harvest and the children particularly

enjoyed the visit of the tractor and being able to climb into the cab. We made a Harvest loaf and learnt some Harvest songs.



In class we have been reading stories such as Little Red Hen and explored lots of role play and storytelling using puppets to develop language skills. We have started our phonics programme and are learning the Phase 2 sounds. The children have collected Autumn things such as conkers, acorns, chestnuts and have been examining the different colours of leaves. They have been learning to count to 10 and recognise numbers to 5.



The children have also explored the mud kitchen getting used to putting on their wellies and overalls. They have loved mixing the mud to create a range of drinks and using natural resources they have made pizzas and soups.



Through the large-scale construction, the children have collaborated and thoroughly enjoyed creating obstacle courses and slides to challenge themselves. They have also been cycling using the balance bikes!



# Years 1 & 2



In Year 1 and Year 2 we've been incredibly busy settling into a new school and our new classes!



We've spent some time writing all about ourselves! We looked at the book *What Makes Me a Me* and explored how that relates to us and what special things make us who we are. Many of us have brown and blue eyes but some had green. Some of us love football whereas others love our beds. We really looked at adjectives to make our writing more interesting!



Our geography consisted of exploring maps. We looked at the book *Martha Maps it Out* where Martha draws lots of different maps. We used this text to explore various maps such as train to tube to our school map. It was super fun looking at different maps and finding where we live on them – like a globe! We now have lots of experiences of drawing maps even ones from an aerial point of view with a key explaining the parts of the map.



This term in our science our focus was animals. We looked at their different senses by conducting an experiment where we had to smell some smelly cheese, touch some objects around the room, look around the room, listen to some different sounds as well as tasting mango and cucumber.



We spent time looking into animal's diets and where this would place them on a food chain. With all the information we learnt about animals we were able to make sets of top trump cards comparing them against one another!



# Year 3



It was a busy half term of learning in year 3. As part of our learning in history, we visited Stonehenge and took part in a workshop based on life in the Stone Age; this was followed by a visit to the Stones themselves.

Alongside this, we studied cave paintings in our art lessons and created our own versions using our knowledge from our history lessons as well as our English Lessons where we read and based our writing on the novel Stone Age Boy.

In Science, we have looked at rocks and soils, comparing differences in types of rocks which led into deciding which type of rock would be most suitable for a Stone Age home. We also investigated which soil would provide the best drainage. All the children have worked hard across the curriculum, and we are looking forward to another fun-packed half term.



# Year 4



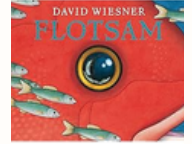
The children in year 4 began the half term learning about the continents of our world and locating Guyana. This has formed the initial part of their learning about the human and physical geography of this small country on the north-eastern coast of South America. Guyana has a beautiful rainforest and learning about this formed big part in our visit to Marwell Zoo at the end of the half term.



The children have worked hard on learning their times tables and have completed a place value unit in maths. We have used The Iron Man as a hook into our writing and The Wild Robot as a study unit for our reading in class. DT was also linked to The Iron Man where the children learned about pneumatic levers and added this to their Iron Man heads where the lever was used as his jaw.

The children have settled really well in Year 4 have had have had a very busy half term with their learning. They have lot more interesting learning in the weeks to come as we head to Christmas and the New Year.

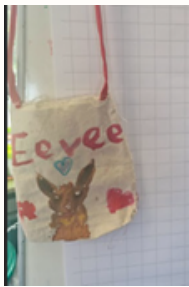
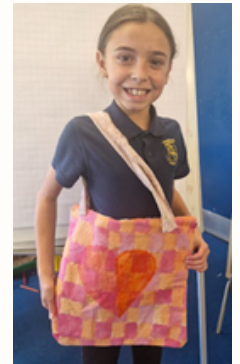
# Year 5



This half term in Year 5, we have been exploring our environment and discovering how we can make a difference by tackling plastic pollution. In our writing lessons, we created powerful persuasive speeches to encourage others to stop littering and reduce the impact of plastic waste on our planet.

We also wrote our own descriptive stories inspired by the captivating images from the book *Flotsam*.

In Design and Technology, we put our creativity and sewing skills to the test by designing and making our own bags. We used techniques such as the running stitch—some of us even added zips or drawstrings to make our designs unique!

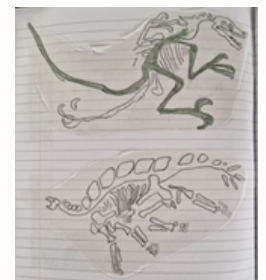


In Maths, we have been working hard on place value and addition, becoming especially confident in rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100, and 1,000.



In Science, we explored fascinating facts about fossils, while in Geography we learned all about coastal erosion.

One of the highlights was using chocolate biscuits to model how the coastline changes over time—it was messy, fun, and helped us really understand the process!

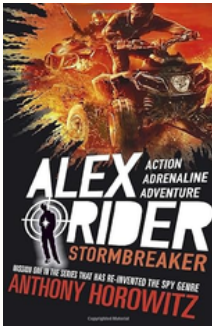


At the end of this half term, we can all be proud of how much we've learned and achieved. The children have shown wonderful curiosity, creativity, and teamwork in every subject. We're looking forward to even more exciting learning adventures!



# Year 6

Barn Owls have made a brilliant start to Year 6 and have been working incredibly hard across all subjects!



In English, we've been writing our own narratives inspired by Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz, using dialogue to bring our characters to life. In Reading, we've explored Letters From the Lighthouse by Emma Carroll and have been developing our fluency and comprehension skills with a range of unfamiliar texts.

In Maths, we've tackled place value with some impressively large numbers! We've also revisited and strengthened our addition and subtraction methods, applying them to reasoning challenges and problems involving decimals.

Our History lessons have focused on the New Forest's vital role in World War II, especially in the preparations for D-Day. A highlight was our exciting trip to Beaulieu just before half term, where we completed our spy training!



In Science, we've been investigating electrical circuits and exploring how changing variables affects their performance. In RE, we've been reflecting on the theme of creation, while in PSHE, we've focused on online safety and media literacy.

Our Design and Technology project has been a fantastic blend of creativity and computing. The children designed and built their own buggies, then programmed them using Crumble software to make them move!

It's been a busy and exciting half term, and we're looking forward to continuing some of our projects as well as diving into new learning adventures.



# Upcoming Dates

Dates	Events
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Inset Day
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Back to School
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 4.30-5.30pm	KS1 Disco
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 5.40-6.45pm	KS2 Disco
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Orienteering Day
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents' Evenings
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Nasal Flu Vaccinations
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Reindeer Visit
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Pennington Village Christmas Event
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 9am	Infant Nativity
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2.15pm	Infant Nativity
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 3.30pm	Pennington's Got Talent
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm	Junior School Carols
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Christmas Holidays
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Inset Day
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Back to School
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> January	Year R and Year 6 Height and Weight Checks



# DISCO NIGHT

Fancy Dress  
Come in your scary outfit

»»» DANCING, GAMES, FUN «««

**INFANTS 4:30-5:30**  
**JUNIORS 5:40-6:45**

£2

ENTRANCE WITH A HOTDOG  
AND DRINK INCLUDED  
TUCK ON SALE



**NHS**



## School Age Immunisation Service



Get protected against flu



### FLU: 5 REASONS TO GET PROTECTED AGAINST FLU

1. Protect your child - The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia.
2. Protect you, your family and friends - Having the vaccine will help protect more vulnerable friends and family.
3. No injection needed - The nasal spray is painless and easy to have.
4. It's better than having flu - The nasal spray helps protect against flu and has been given to millions worldwide
5. Avoid costs - If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare



**COMING SOON**



The Immunisation team will be coming to

Pennington CofE Junior School

to administer the flu nasal spray to the students on:

11th Dec 2025



Scan the QR code to complete a flu consent form (even if you wish to opt out)

**School Code**

SH116307

For more information, visit our website:

[www.healthforkids.co.uk/hampshire/annual-nasal-flu-vaccination-programme/](http://www.healthforkids.co.uk/hampshire/annual-nasal-flu-vaccination-programme/)

# IGNITE THEIR PASSION About Swimming

This November, Let Their Confidence Sparkle at Freedom Leisure New Forest.

From young beginners taking their very first splash to experienced swimmers perfecting their strokes, our Swim School offers engaging, supportive lessons for every age and ability.

Our friendly, dedicated teachers are here to help them ignite a spark and discover a love of the water that will last a lifetime.

**BOOK YOUR FREE TASTER SWIM LESSON  
TODAY AT SWIM ACADEMY**



[www.freedom-leisure.co.uk](http://www.freedom-leisure.co.uk)

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# CHRISTMAS CRACKER

## HOLIDAY COURSES

FOOTBALL, MULTI-SPORTS, PERFORMING ARTS, GYMNASTICS,  
INFLATABLES, CRAFTS AND MUCH MORE!

YOU WILL NEED TO BRING A PACKED LUNCH, WATER BOTTLE &  
COAT

<b>VENUE</b>	OUR LADY & ST JOSEPH	
<b>DATES</b>	22 <sup>ND</sup> , 23 <sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER & 2 <sup>ND</sup> JANUARY	
<b>AGES</b>	4 - 12 YEAR OLDS	
<b>PRICE</b>	£20 PER DAY	FREE HAF FUNDING AVAILABLE
<b>TIME</b>	9 AM - 3 PM	
<b>OUT OF HOURS</b>	8-9 AM £6 (BREAKFAST INCLUDED) 3-4.30 PM £6	

10%  
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