



Pennington Schools Newsletter



Headteacher's Comment

What a remarkable year it's been across both Pennington Infants and Pennington C of E Junior School! From inspiring trips that brought learning to life, to unforgettable events like the Year 6 play last week and Friday night's junior school camp, our children have embraced every opportunity with curiosity, enthusiasm and joy.

The final Year 2 leavers' party on Thursday was a shining example of how we celebrate each child's journey—full of laughter, pride and fond memories.

Throughout the year, the children have shown tremendous effort and growth in their learning. I want to especially commend Year 6, who worked incredibly hard to achieve well in their SATs—your dedication truly shone through.

As we look ahead to September, there's a real sense of excitement in the air. The merger of our two wonderful schools marks a new chapter, bringing us all together on the junior school site. It's a change filled with opportunity, unity and fresh beginnings—and I am confident it will enrich our school community even further.

Thank you to our staff, families and children for a year filled with achievement, imagination and togetherness. Let's carry that spirit into the future as we build something even more special, side by side.



We're thrilled to share that following an interview process last week, Mrs Forrest has been appointed as the Deputy Headteacher for our new primary school. We are delighted she will be stepping into this role from September, and we know she will be a tremendous asset to our leadership team as we begin this exciting new chapter.

At the same time, we're sadly saying goodbye to Luissa Souter, who has been supporting a small group of Year 2 children since January. Her hard work, enthusiasm and positive presence have made a real difference, and we send her our warmest wishes for success in her new role.

Thank you also to Mrs Bird, who once again has worked so hard for us and taught year 1 alongside Mrs Borrough. We will no doubt see her again in the Autumn term!

We also want to express our sincere gratitude to Mrs Russell and Mrs Svobodova, who will be leaving us on Tuesday. As key members of our school office team, their tireless work and steadfast support over the past few years have been truly invaluable. I honestly don't know how I would have managed without them this year! They will be greatly missed, and we wish them every success in the future.



Pennington Schools Merger



In September, the children will all be on the Junior school site. EYFS and KS1 will be situated in the classrooms at the far end of the school. Year 3 will be moving into the current year 6 classroom and year 6 will be moving upstairs. The Years 4 and 5 classrooms will be the same as this year.

Each child will have their own box with their name on for their bag and PE kit. Infants will need a book bag but this is not needed in KS2. PMG are selling navy book bags with the primary school logo if parents wish to buy these but a non-branded book bag is fine (and probably a bit cheaper). School will provide pencils, pens, rubbers etc so no pencil cases are needed. All children need a water bottle, preferably with a sports top so they cannot leak!

To support this transition, furniture and equipment will be moved from the Infant School site on July 23rd and 24th. Building contractors will then begin a programme of limited works on Monday 28th July. We've been informed that the internal improvements and most of the external work will be completed by Friday 29th August. Teachers will have a few days to set up and personalise classrooms before welcoming the children into their new learning spaces. We'll continue to keep you updated throughout the summer as everything comes together.



Uniform Update for Autumn Term

As we begin our journey as a merged school this autumn, we'll technically remain two schools—Pennington Infants and Pennington C of E Junior—so our existing logos will continue to be used. However, to foster a sense of unity, all children will be wearing navy jumpers or cardigans, paired with white or navy polo shirts.

The PMG uniform shop is now stocking hoodies featuring the new primary school logo, which families are welcome to purchase. For a small additional cost of £3, children's initials can be added to the front—something that has proven effective in preventing lost jumpers! If children from the Infant School are still wearing red jumpers and yellow t-shirts, please don't worry—these will continue to be accepted without issue throughout the term. As part of our commitment to supporting families during the transition, the school will be providing one new item of uniform—a jumper, cardigan or hoodie—to every child in January. We understand that uniform changes can be an additional cost, and we want to help where we can.

Children may continue wearing their current Infant or Junior School uniform for the remainder of the academic year if needed. Your flexibility and understanding are greatly appreciated as we move into this exciting new chapter together.



Oakhaven Fundraiser



Earlier this month, the Junior school children had a sponsored Daily Mile to raise money for Oakhaven Hospice. Hannah from Oakhaven came to our collective worship today with a large cheque to show the children how much they had raised. Thank you to everyone who supported this event because we raised £160. Well done to everyone!!





Spirited Arts Competition

Children from Eagles class and some from Falcons have created art work on the theme of 'Living in a Diverse World' to enter the Spirited Arts Competition.

In Art the year 4 children at Pennington Junior School have been studying the techniques of Frank Bowling. These include, abstract art, texture and colour. When we were told about the Diversity Project, we decided to incorporate this learning into our design ideas.

We started by thinking about the meaning of diversity. Although we are all different, we know it doesn't matter because everyone is also the same. Everyone should be treated equally. We put hands in our picture to show difference and how we can all be living together. Then we added rainbow colours to show gender and the colours of Pride. Finally, we added the world and a heart. Because we love our world and everyone in it. They symbols represent diversity in religion.

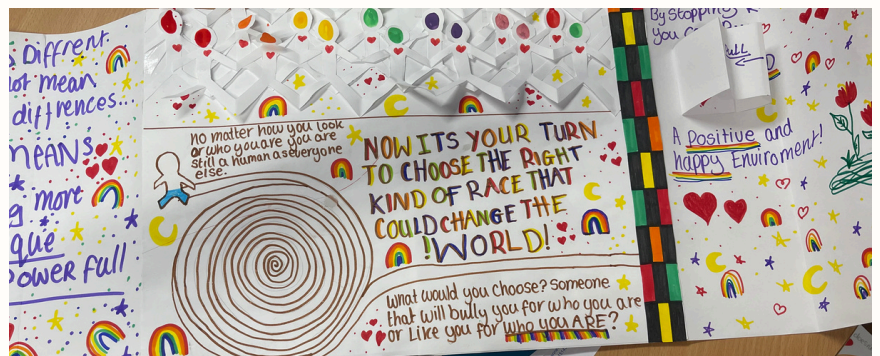
We hope that our project inspires people to think about how we can make a difference in accepting diversity.



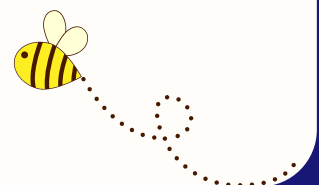
Daisy is wearing a crown of all the world religions showing that they can co-exist in harmony.



Caydence and Erin



Connie



Summer 2 Learning - Red Kites



Year 3 have had a busy half term. We visited Hurst Castle as part of our Geography and History focus on smuggling and why our area was popular with smugglers. We enjoyed looking in all the dark cellars where the smugglers would have hidden their contraband and climbed to the top of the watch tower which is where the smugglers would have looked out for boats or the Excise Men!



In Science and DT we merged our learning about electricity and lighthouses and created our own electrical circuit, including a switch to make a night-light based on a lighthouse design.



Well done Red Kites on a wonderful year 3; you have been truly amazing and have worked your socks off!

Summer 2 Learning - Eagles

What a jammed packed year we have had in year 4! The children in Eagles have taken each learning step in their stride and have made really pleasing progress. They should be immensely proud of what they have achieved – I know I am!

The children have been really busy these last few weeks too. Year 5 introduced the concept of angles in the school hall using pipe cleaners. It was lovely to see children teaching each other. Year 5 were able to show year 4 what they had learned by teaching year 4. This means that when they meet this area of maths again, they will be able to recall this prior learning. As a way of using their Frank Bowling learning in art the children have created a whole class project based on the techniques, they have been learning about. This is part of a diversity project that was introduced to them in assembly earlier in the term.



As we come to the end of the year I would like to personally thank you for all your support. I wish the children in year 4 every success for year 5 and look forward to seeing them progressing through the school. Have a wonderful summer.

Summer 2 Learning - Falcons

What a Fantastic Year We've Had in Falcons!

What a year it's been—filled with laughter, memorable trips, and a great deal of learning! The Falcons have been an absolute joy to teach, and I couldn't be prouder of everything they've achieved.

Our classroom has been buzzing with creativity and curiosity. The children became expert detectives while exploring the classic tale Treasure Island, using clues and evidence to uncover the story's secrets. They also designed their own coordinate-based games, complete with translations, for their classmates to enjoy—bringing maths to life in a fun and interactive way.



We've crafted treasure chests and detailed maps, transforming into fearless explorers, and brought our writing to new heights with incredible diary entries and vivid descriptions.

In History, the class brought ancient Greek myths to life through drama, while in Art, they designed and created their very own Greek-style pottery—showcasing both skill and imagination.



Summer 2 Learning - Barn Owls



A Fond Farewell to Our Year 6s

One of the bittersweet joys of being a Year 6 teacher is knowing that, come July, our pupils don't just move on to a new classroom—they move on to a whole new school. This moment marks the end of their journey at PJS and the beginning of a new adventure in secondary school.

This time of year always brings a mix of emotions. For the children, it's a blend of excitement for what's ahead and nostalgia for the memories they've created here. They've grown so much—not just academically but in character, friendship, and spirit. This year's Year 6 cohort has been exceptional: hardworking, determined and motivated to succeed. We have no doubt they'll take that drive with them into their next chapter, and continue to thrive. We'll miss the daily laughter, the fun energy they brought to school life, and yes... the wonderful sound of their singing echoing through our weekly singing assemblies!

To all our Year 6s: We are so proud of you. Go forward with confidence, kindness and curiosity. And to the families who have supported them—and us—along the way: thank you for being such an important part of our school community.

Have a fantastic and well-deserved summer break, and please do keep in touch. Once a part of PJS, always a part of PJS. Keep being the best you can be!

Summer 2 Learning - Foxes

This term in Foxes we learnt about different countries. We read some stories from Africa and looked at different African animals. We sang a song about Handa's Surprise and enjoyed performing it to the Pre-school. We also learnt the names of some African fruits from the story and tasted them. The children created a list of some great describing words because of our observations and tasting sessions.



We retold the story 'We're going on a lion hunt' and then created our own stories about going on a hunt. There were some great alternatives created... 'We're going on a turtle hunt, We're going on a whale hunt'.. etc.



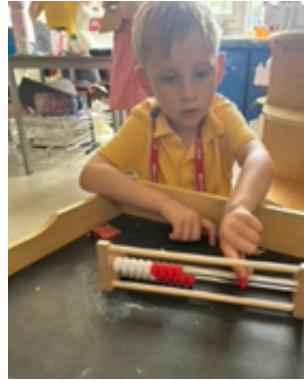
We collected and gathered things that remind us of summer and looked at how our environment had changed. The wildflowers had grown, and the pumpkins have germinated well.



Also, this term, the children started their woodwork skills and they learnt how to use the Japanese saw, hammers and nails and screwdrivers and screws using our new woodwork bench.

Summer 2 Learning - Foxes

In Maths the children used the Rekenrecs (wooden beads) to subitise amounts up to 10 and make doubles up to 10.



We also enjoyed some pirate adventures.....



In Forest Schools, we used the tools, made a fire and cooked some vegetable patties.



And finished the year off with our Forest Schools Tea Party...



It has been a great term!

Summer 2 Learning - Rabbits

What an incredible journey it has been in Rabbits Class this year! As we come to the end of Year 1, we want to take a moment to reflect on just how much your wonderful children have achieved – and to celebrate the fun and learning we've shared along the way.



From our first day together, the Rabbits have grown into confident, curious, and kind learners. Whether it was exploring the world of numbers, diving into exciting stories, or investigating the natural world during our science walks, every child has shown resilience, creativity, and a genuine love for learning.

Some of our standout moments this year include:

Our class trip to the farm, where the Rabbits asked thoughtful questions and showed brilliant care and respect for the animals.

Writing our own fairy tales, full of imagination and sparkle!

And Sports Day, where children showed the true meaning of teamwork— a true highlight!



Summer 2 Learning - Rabbits

Most importantly, we've built a classroom community where everyone feels safe, valued, and ready to take on new challenges. The friendships formed and the kindness shown daily have made this year truly special.



Thank you for your ongoing support, encouragement, and partnership throughout the year. It's been a privilege to teach your children and watch them grow.

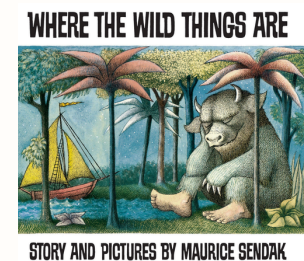
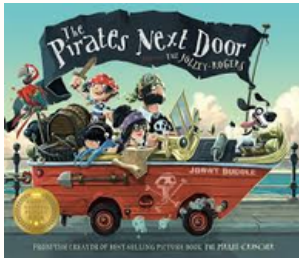


We're so proud of each and every Rabbit and can't wait to see all the amazing things they'll do in Year 2.

Summer 2 Learning - Hedgehogs

Wow - what a busy term it has been in
Hedgehogs' class

We've spent a lot of our time focusing on oracy to support our writing. We've been telling stories all about pirates using mysterious clues that landed in Hedgehogs Class! We learnt all about The Pirates Next Door and what naughty things they got up too, annoying their neighbours! We had to gather all the information from the neighbours and present a News Report followed by our very own Newspaper Report.



After our pirate adventure was over we visited the imaginary land of Where The Wild Things Are which we loved! We got to create our very own Wild Thing and tea stain some paper creating a WANTED poster. Our Wild Things were so mischievous – some even ate children!



In our Maths we've really enjoyed learning the time. We have liked wearing our own watches or using the clocks in school or even making our own to remind Miss Gates what time break and lunchtime are! We've made all the grown ups so proud as we are beginning to recognise the to o'clock more and more with practise!

Summer 2 Learning - Hedgehogs



We have enjoyed learning all about plants and the way bulbs and seeds grow differently. We absolutely loved planting our very own sunflowers! We had to make sure they were exposed to enough sunlight per day as well as being watered JUST the right amount and not too much (our watering cans helped us with that)!



We've also been keen at sewing this term. We started by threading some material round a CD and from then we were flying! We gradually built up our knowledge of different stitches from a running stitch to a backwards running stitch. With all of this sewing knowledge we were able to design and create our very own bookmarks and wow did they look amazing!



Well done Hedgehogs for all your hard work this year!



Upcoming Dates

Last Day of Term - Tuesday 22 nd July		
Tuesday 22 nd July	Year 2 Leavers' Assembly	10.15am
Tuesday 22 nd July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly	11.15am
Tuesday 22 nd July	Joint School Picnic	12.30pm - 1pm

Summer Holidays - 23 rd July - Friday 5 th September	
3 rd & 4 th September	Inset Days
Friday 26 th September	Inset Day
Half Term - Monday 27 th October Inset Day - Monday 3 rd November Back to school Tuesday 4 th November	
Friday 19 th December	Last Day of Autumn Term
Christmas Holidays Monday 22 nd December Inset Day - Monday 5 th January First Day of Spring term - Tuesday 6 th January	
Monday 16 th February - Friday 20 th February - Half Term	
Monday 23 rd February	1 st day of Spring 2

School Terms And Holidays 2025 – 2026

Determined programme of school term and holiday dates for county and controlled schools for the
academic year 2025/26

SEPTEMBER 2025						OCTOBER 2025						NOVEMBER 2025							
M	1	8	15	22	29	M	6	13	20	27	M	3*	10	17	24				
T	2	9	16	23	30	T	7	14	21	28	T	4	11	18	25				
W	3*	10	17	24		W	1	8	15	22	29	W	5	12	19	26			
T	4	11	18	25		T	2	9	16	23	30	T	6	13	20	27			
F	5	12	19	26		F	3	10	17	24#	31	F	7	14	21	28			
S	6	13	20	27		S	4	11	18	25		S	1	8	15	22	29		
S	7	14	21	28		S	5	12	19	26		S	2	9	16	23	30		
DECEMBER 2025						JANUARY 2026						FEBRUARY 2026							
M	1	8	15	22	29	M	5*	12	19	26	M	2	9	16	23*				
T	2	9	16	23	30	T	6	13	20	27	T	3	10	17	24				
W	3	10	17	24	31	W	7	14	21	28	W	4	11	18	25				
T	4	11	18	25		T	1	8	15	22	29	T	5	12	19	26			
F	5	12	19#	26		F	2	9	16	23	30	F	6	13#	20	27			
S	6	13	20	27		S	3	10	17	24	31	S	7	14	21	28			
S	7	14	21	28		S	4	11	18	25		S	1	8	15	22			
MARCH 2026						APRIL 2026						MAY 2026							
M		2	9	16	23	30	M		6	13*	20	27	M			4	11	18	25
T		3	10	17	24	31	T		7	14	21	28	T			5	12	19	26
W		4	11	18	25		W	1	8	15	22	29	W			6	13	20	27
T		5	12	19	26		T	2	9	16	23	30	T			7	14	21	28
F		6	13	20	27#		F	3	10	17	24		F	1	8	15	22#	29	
S		7	14	21	28		S	4	11	18	25		S	2	9	16	23	30	
S	1	8	15	22	29		S	5	12	19	26		S	3	10	17	24	31	
JUNE 2026						JULY 2026						AUGUST 2026							
M	1*	8	15	22	29	M		6	13	20	27	M		3	10	17	24	31	
T	2	9	16	23	30	T		7	14	21	28	T		4	11	18	25		
W	3	10	17	24		W	1	8	15	22#	29	W		5	12	19	26		
T	4	11	18	25		T	2	9	16	23	30	T		6	13	20	27		
F	5	12	19	26		F	3	10	17	24	31	F		7	14	21	28		
S	6	13	20	27		S	4	11	18	25		S	1	8	15	22	29		
S	7	14	21	28		S	5	12	19	26		S	2	9	16	23	30		