Pennington C of E Primary School

BeTheBestYouCanBe!

Parents' Half-Term Newsletter

Parent Governor Vacancy

We are looking for a parent governor to join our governing body. If you are interested in supporting our school and helping shape its future, please contact the school office for more information.

Every Day Counts

Every school day is a chance to learn, connect and grow. Regular attendance helps children build friendships, develop confidence and make good progress.

Please help your child arrive on time each day. If your child is absent, contact the school office by 8:30am and let us know why.

If attendance is becoming difficult for any reason, please speak to us. We're here to listen, understand barriers and help.

At Pennington, every day matters.



Walktober

We're encouraging families to enjoy more journeys on foot. Walking helps us stay active, enjoy fresh air and care for our environment. Every step counts!



Harvest

KS1 will be visiting St Mark's Church to celebrate Harvest and learn about our link church.

We would be grateful for donations of non perishable items for Lymington Basics Bank:
Tinned goods, pasta, tea, coffee, long life milk, baked beans, cereals, jam, marmalade, custard, toiletries and personal care and household essentials.

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Year R



A fantastic start

Our Reception children have had a fantastic start to the term, settling brilliantly into school life, making new friends, and getting used to daily routines. Through our 'All About Me' topic, the children have loved sharing their special boxes and talking about their homes, families, and interests. During our 'Let's Explore' sessions, they choose their own continuous provision areas to continue learning independently. Alonoside our play we are focusing closely on building strong relationships, sharing, cooperating, tidying up after ourselves, and following simple instructions.

Learning every day

Our daily phonics sessions are off to a great start, and sound cards will be sent home each week so you can practise reading together. Early writing and mark-making are brought to life through 'Drawing Club', where engaging stories spark imagination. To build the physical strength needed for writing, we pair these sessions with gross motor movements and fine motor 'Funky Fingers' activities. In the afternoons, maths comes alive through interactive songs and hands-on resources, while in science, we are discovering how amazing our bodies are through interactive activities and mirror portraits.

Looking ahead

Looking ahead, we are excited to dive into our Harvest celebrations! We will be reading ***The Little Red Hen***, learning harvest songs, and getting hands-on experience baking our very own harvest bread. Best of all, we will be welcoming a real tractor onto the school grounds for the children to sit in and explore!

At home

Practise the weekly phonics sounds, encourage independence with tidying away, and chat about the Autumn changes you spot outdoors.

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Years 1 & 2



Geography takes us into the local area as the children explore maps, symbols and directions while following familiar journeys.

Science focuses on the human body and how we can keep ourselves healthy, including the importance of healthy food, exercise, sleep and hygiene.

Our **PSHE** learning centres around friendships, exploring what makes a good friend, how to be kind and respectful, and ways to resolve disagreements positively.

Through **Art** children are developing their sketching skills by drawing a fox and experimenting with lines, shapes, shading and texture.

Computing allows us to develop confidence in using laptops safely and efficiently, including using the keyboard, mouse and different functions.

Our **RE** learning explores Christianity and the Creation story, helping the children understand Christian beliefs about the creation of the world and how the story is remembered and celebrated.

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Year 3



This half term, Year 3 have been busy exploring lots of exciting new technologies and getting to the curriculum!

History

We have travelled back in time to learn about life in the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. The children have investigated how people lived, the tools they used, how homes changed over time and why these periods are important in British history. We have enjoyed learning about monuments such as Stonehenge and discovering how prehistoric people survived and thrived.

Science

In Science, we have become geologists! We have explored different types of rocks and learned how to identify igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks.

French

Year 3 have enjoyed beginning their journey learning French. We have praetised greetings and simple conversational phrases. The children have shown great enthusiasm and confidence when speaking French.

PSHE

In PSHE, we have been discussing the qualities of a good friend and how positive friendships help us feel happy, safe and valued. We have explored ways to show kindness, resolve disagreements respectfully and support one another both inside and outside the classroom.

Religious Education

In Religious Education, we have been learning about God's love and forgiveness through the parable of the Forgiving Father. We have reflected on the importance of saying sorry, making good choices and showing forgiveness to others in our everyday lives.

We have been incredibly impressed with the children's curiosity, teamwork and enthusiasm this term. They have approached all of their learning with a positive attitude and have worked hard to develop their knowledge and skills across all subjects.

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Year 4

It is a busy and exciting time in Year 4 as we explore lots of new and fascinating topics across the curriculum.

Geography: We are travelling across the Atlantic to Guyana, learning about its physical features, climate and incredible tropical rainforest biome. We are discovering what makes rainforests so unique and comparing Guyana with the UK. Our overarching question is 'Should Guyana be an eco-warrior country?' We are exploring the debate between protecting Guyana's precious rainforest and the economic opportunities provided by its growing oil industry, considering the different impacts and perspectives involved.

Science: We are investigating Light and Sight, exploring how light travels, how we see objects and how shadows are formed. We are also learning about reflectors of light and investigating how different materials reflect light.

DT: We are putting our engineering skills to work by designing and making our very own Iron Man models, using pneumatics to make parts of our designs move. We are busy designing, testing and improving our creations.

RE: We are exploring the Creation story, thinking about different beliefs and what the story teaches us about the world and our place within it.

PSHE: Our current topic is Mental Health and Wellbeing. We are learning how to recognise and regulate our emotions through The Hidden Chimp Model. We are thinking about what happens when our emotions take over and exploring strategies that can help us manage our feelings, look after our mental wellbeing and make positive choices.

We are incredibly proud of the curiosity, creativity and enthusiasm Year 4 are showing in their learning!

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Year 5

English

Year 5 have had a busy and exciting start to the term. In English, we explored the impact of plastic pollution, researching the issue before writing and performing persuasive speeches. We are proud and ready to share our speeches with Year 4 before presenting an assembly to the whole school, encouraging everyone to think about how they can help protect our environment. We will soon enjoy writing imaginative narratives inspired by Flotsam and are currently reading The Giant's Necklace.

Maths

In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of place value up to 1 million whilst continuing to strengthen our times table fluency.

Geography

Our Geography learning has focused on coasts, and we are looking forward to bringing this topic to life during our upcoming visit to Milford-on-Sea on 13th October.



Science

In Science, we have begun learning about fossils and will soon be creating our own fossils before opening a class museum to showcase our discoveries.

Computing

We have also enjoyed supporting Year 1 pupils in computing, demonstrating patience and leadership skills.

DT

In DT, we are designing and making bags before testing whether they are fit for purpose.

PE

In PE we have been developing our teamwork and tactical skills through invasion games and hockey.

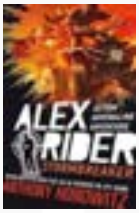
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Year 6

Spies, rivers, World War Two and moving models...

English

Year 6 have certainly hit the ground running!
We have been captivated by Stormbreaker and the exciting world of espionageage, using the text as inspiration for our writing. Alongside this, we are reading Letters from the Lighthouse to deepen our understanding of life on the Home Front during World War Two.





Geography

This term, we will be investigating rivers through fieldwork, collecting data and exploring river features first-hand. The opportunity to learn beyond the classroom will help bring our Geography studies to life.



History

Our History learning has focused on the fascinating role of the New Forest during World War Two. We are particularly looking forward to our visit to Beaulieu, where we will discover more about wartime intelligence and hear all about the famous Spy School.



DT & Computing

We have combined our Design and Technology and Computing learning to create moving models using Crumble controllers. It has been fantastic to see the creativity, problem-solving and programming skills on display.



Trips & Fieldwork

With visits to Beaulieu and our rivers field study still to come, there is plenty of exciting learning beyond the classroom ahead.

It has been a fantastic start to the year, and we are excited to see what comes next!

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Dates for Your Diary

DATE	EVENT
30th September	Year 6 Visit to Priestlands
1st October	Height & Weight Year 6
9th October	Year 6 Trip to Beaulieu
12th October	Flu Vaccination
13th October	Year 5 Coasts Trip Year R Tractor Visit in School
14th October	Year 3 Trip to Butser Hill
15th October	Year 6 Rivers Trip
16th October	EYFS/KS1 Parents invited in to share a book with their children 2.45pm
23rd October	Wear Pink for Breast Cancer
23rd October	Last Day of Term
31st October	Deadline for year 7 Applications
6th November	Inset Day