

22nd September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week Monday's assembly was based on 'wisdom,' which is one of our Christian values. We examined how gaining knowledge and experiences within life allow us to make sensible decisions for ourselves and others. This was then followed by our OPAL assembly. Here, we looked at a charter designed to ensure positive play experiences for the children. I am very proud of how the children are shaping their thinking around play experiences for themselves and others and engaging with their peers in all areas of school life.

Building on these key experiences, it has been wonderful to see Years 3 and 4 enjoy their Victorian day, giving them a clearer picture of school life from that era.

We met with children and parents on Thursday to discuss the logistics for the Spain trip. It is most certainly coming together, and we are set to have an enriching experience.

OPAL - We ask that you send in with your child a pair of wellington boots or waterproof trainers that they can keep in school. As the weather is beginning to close in, we really want to enable the children to play on the field over the winter. Having the boots or trainers means that they can do so without getting their feet wet. If you have any old boots, please could you donate them to the school for others to wear. We are planning to invest in outdoor boot racks so children are able to store their boots and access all areas of play even when it's wet.

We are going to send out information about homework to support you and your child. We will follow up with meetings for each year group to give you the opportunity to understand our approaches to homework while having the opportunity to get a tea/coffee and speak to other parents, your class teacher, myself, and the pastoral team. I will send out further information shortly.

Finally, our school attendance is currently just above 96%, which is good. However, please speak to a member of the office team if you have concerns about your child's attendance. We will be meeting weekly to review this and will support you and your children where needed.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mathew Harts  
Head of School

| General Letters issued this week |                           |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Year                             | Topic                     |
| Various                          | Club Allocations          |
| 3 & 4                            | WWI Dress Up Day Reminder |
| 5 & 6                            | Last seat for Spain!      |
| All                              | Attendance Reminder       |
| 6                                | Anderson Shelters         |
| Choir                            | Exeter Cathedral Trip     |

| PE Days  |
|--|
| Year 3 – Thursday  |
| Year 4 – Monday  |
| Year 5 – Wednesday   |
| Year 6 – Tuesday   |
| Please ensure your child comes to school wearing their PE kit – they will stay in this all day |

## What's on week commencing 25th September 2023?

### Monday

Private Piano & Violin lessons  
Private Guitar Lessons  
Go Beyond departs

### Tuesday

Appletree farm small group

### Wednesday

Private Piano & Violin lessons  
CEET project small group—catch up

### Thursday

Rocksteady Bands Private Lessons  
Private Drum Lessons

### Friday

Lower School Sports  
Private Woodwind Lessons  
Go Beyond Returns

Find us on;

Website: [www.piltonbluecoat.devon.sch.uk](http://www.piltonbluecoat.devon.sch.uk)

Facebook: [@Pilton Bluecoat Academy](https://www.facebook.com/PiltonBluecoatAcademy)

Twitter: [@teammatceo](https://twitter.com/teammatceo)

Email: [office@piltonbluecoat.devon.sch.uk](mailto:office@piltonbluecoat.devon.sch.uk)

## Pilton Bluecoat Fundraising Group

<https://www.facebook.com/>

## Breakfast Club & Afterschool club

Please contact Tia or Jemma on

[north.devon@primary-sports.co.uk](mailto:north.devon@primary-sports.co.uk)

# Attendance - Every day counts



|   |      |                |
|---|------|----------------|
| 0 days of school                        | 100% | Perfection     |
| Equates to 2 days off school each year  | 99%  | Excellent      |
| Equates to 5 days off school each year  | 97%  | Good           |
| Equates to 10 days off school each year | 95%  | Slight Concern |
| Equates to 20 days off school each year | 90%  | Concerned      |
| Equates to 30 days off school each year | 85%  | Very Concerned |



That's two school weeks

## Lost Minutes = Lost Learning

# Autumn Harvest



Following the planting of seeds by the children in the Spring term and the subsequent planting out of young plants in June, the children returned to school in September and harvested their crops. The "Harvest Festival" type display will now be pass through to the school kitchen along with apples & pears.

## Harvest Festival

As part of our celebrations this year we wish to support The Freedom Centre and are therefore asking for donations of non-perishable food items, such as;

Meals in a tin, tinned fruit, tinned custard, coffee, biscuits, chocolate bars, orange juice – large or small cartons, blackcurrant squash, UHT whole milk, white flour – self raising and plain, granulated white sugar, jelly, gravy granules – beef, chicken and vegetable, tomato puree, brown sauce, vegetable oil, or washing up liquid.



They have a large amount of the following, so can we please ask you NOT TO SEND:

Baked beans, Tinned tomatoes, Tinned soup, Pasta and spaghetti, Tea

We will be collecting for all of next week only.


Thank you for your support, this enables the Freedom Centre to keep their kitchen running as well as providing food parcels for their clients.



# Pilton Bluecoat Parentgroup

## Christmas Card Project

We will soon be sending your child home with a template with the following header.

|  |                                   |                              |  |                     |
|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| ↑<br>THIS<br>WAY UP  | Organisation Ref<br><b>BDCF04</b> | Design Code<br><b>C5253C</b> |  | ↑<br>THIS<br>WAY UP |
| First Name   |                                   |                              |  |                     |
| Last Name  |                                   |                              |  |                     |
| Class  |                                   |                              |  |                     |
| <b>DO NOT PHOTOCOPY THIS TEMPLATE</b><br>Need more templates? Please contact your project organiser. |                                   |                              |  |                     |
| <b>class fundraising</b>   |                                   |                              |  |                     |

If they wish to design their own Christmas Cards, they can do so using this template.

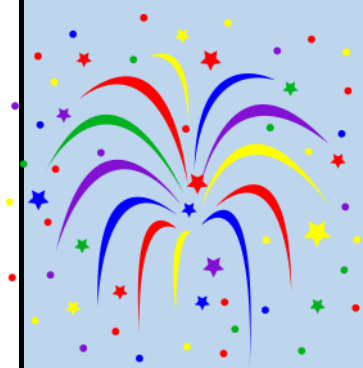
Please do not photocopy as each one has a unique reference number.

Completed templates need to be returned to school by Fri 29th September.

These will then be turned into designs and returned to us for ordering.

Once returned if you wish you can then buy a range of personalised by your child Christmas items, including cards, mugs and keyrings.





# Celebration Assembly

Friday 22nd September

## Handwriting Heroes

Year 3 - Emily, Year 4 - Ava,

Year 5 - Miley, Year 6 - Olivia

## Book Tokens

Year 3 - Lila-Grace, Year 4 - Alice,

Year 5 - Ruby, Year 6 - Rose

## Work

Jessi & Kinga for their amazing effort in everything

Piper for always putting in 100% effort and "diving deeper"

Laken for his enthusiasm for learning and kindness to others

Jack for his fantastic contributions in shared writing

Charlie for his great thinking and answering questions

Holly for her fantastic art

Noa for her amazing writing

## Housepoints

Saturn = 446 Jupiter = 348

Neptune = 333 Mercury = 309



- If your child is poorly please report their absence to the school office on 01271 345452 by 9.30am.
- All medical appointments are to be advised in advance please to the school office.
- Any other absences must be applied for via an absence request form.
- Please supply your child with a refillable drinks bottle every day.
- Warm coats for outdoor play if it's wet or cold!
- Parking Permits for use in Fairview carpark are available from the school office. Two per family.

## Autumn Term Dinner Menu

Meal price is £2.53 per day,  
payable on Arbor please

Tomato & Basil Pasta and Jacket  
Potatoes with a choice  
of toppings are available every  
day.

Fresh fruit and salad are  
available daily.

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
|              | <b>Week 1:</b><br><b>4/9, 25/9, 16/10, 13/11, 4/12</b>  |
| <b>Mon</b>   | <b>Cheese &amp; tomato pizza</b><br>V – Vegetarian sausage roll<br>Hash browns & seasonal veg<br>Fruit & yogurt     |
| <b>Tues</b>  | <b>Meatballs with pasta</b><br>V – Vegetarian meatballs with pasta<br>Seasonal veg<br>Pancakes with fruit coulis    |
| <b>Weds</b>  | <b>Roast of the day – Beef</b><br>V – Quorn fillet<br>Roast potatoes & seasonal veg<br>Fruit and ice cream          |
| <b>Thurs</b> | <b>Chicken in a wrap</b><br>V – Cheese salad wrap<br>Crispy potatoes & seasonal vegetables<br>Sticky toffee pudding |
| <b>Fri</b>   | <b>Oven baked fish</b><br>V – Vegetable slice<br>Golden fries & seasonal vegetables<br>Homemade cookie              |

# FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND PUPIL PREMIUM

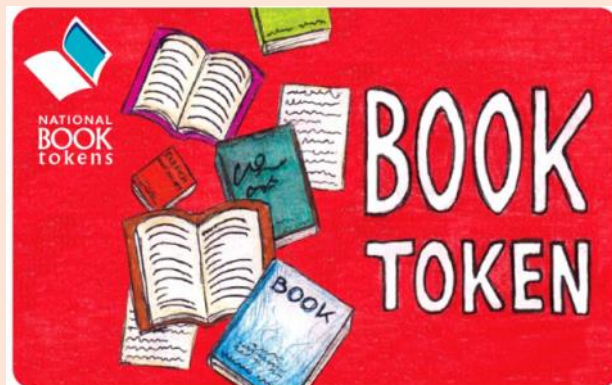
If you think that your child could be entitled to free school meals but haven't made an application then the Free School Meal Team have a platform that enables you to make a quick application online where your eligibility can be assessed and an outcome can be given instantaneously.

**To apply for free school meals please visit the <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>**

*It's a quick and easy way to check your availability online*

*If you have any other queries relating to free school meal entitlement you can email the team at [freeschoolmeals@devon.gov.uk](mailto:freeschoolmeals@devon.gov.uk).*

**WE ARE GIVING ANY SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS (BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER 2023) A £10 BOOK TOKEN FOR THEIR CHILD**



Afterschool club—if it arises that you need to book your child into afterschool club during the school day please can you let the school office know after you have booked in with Primary sports automated system as Primary sports are unable to pass this information on to us during the school day as they teach at other schools.

## Reminder

**There will no Afterschool Football Club next Tuesday or Goalgetters on Wednesday.**



# FRIDAY SPORTS

| Autumn 2023   |             |      |       |                   |          |
|---------------|-------------|------|-------|-------------------|----------|
| Friday's Date | Planning    | Swim | Dance | American Football | Football |
| 15-Sep        | LOWER       | 4BC  | 4AB   | 3KD               | 3LB      |
| 22-Sep        | UPPER       | 5EC  | 6MT   | 5MR               | 6SE      |
| 29-Sep        | LOWER       | 4BC  | 4AB   | 3KD               | 3LB      |
| 06-Oct        | UPPER       | 5EC  | 6MT   | 5MR               | 6SE      |
| 13-Oct        | LOWER       | 4BC  | 4AB   | 3KD               | 3LB      |
| 20-Oct        | UPPER       | 5EC  | 6MT   | 5MR               | 6SE      |
| 27-Oct        | HALF - TERM |      |       |                   |          |

Please ensure your child comes to school wearing their PE kit on their relevant Friday.

Swimmers; please ensure that your child brings in a swimming costume or shorts/trunks and a towel. Swimming hats are useful for long hair or it needs to be tied up. Goggles are optional, please no talcum powders.

To cover the cost of the swimming we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £3 per child per lesson please, this can be paid via Arbor under school shop.

## School Term Dates Autumn 2023

| Autumn Term                        |
|------------------------------------|
| Half-term 23rd - 27th October 2023 |
| Last Day 15th December 2023        |

## Dates for your diary, 2023 .....

| Date          | Event                               |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| 7th November  | Tempest Photos Individuals/Siblings |
| 20th November | Flu Vaccinations                    |



## Vacancy for a Catering Assistant

### Pilton Bluecoat C of E Academy

**Job Title:** Catering Assistant

**Required:** 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023

**Hours per week:** 18.75 (3.75 per day Monday to Friday worked 9:45am – 1:30pm)

**Working weeks:** 38 weeks

**Status:** permanent / part time

**Starting Salary:** £10.60 (Pending Pay Award increase £11.60)

**Grade:** A

**Closing Date:** 12 noon on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**Interviews:** Week commencing 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Would you like to join our school team as a Catering Assistant and help to create nutritious and appealing meals for our pupils? The post will be under the direction of the Kitchen Manager.

Full training will be given including a Basic Food Hygiene Certification course.

The appointed person will work as part of a team of 4 to help prepare meals. This role requires the ability to fulfil all spoken aspects of the role with confidence and fluency in English.

This is a fantastic opportunity to join a team where you will be valued, welcomed, and supported within a friendly staff environment. Additional benefits include: Membership of a generous pension scheme (TP/ LGPS). Access to Medigold Occupational Health who provide our employees with a range of free health and wellbeing benefits including access to Thrive; a mental wellbeing app. Free Eye tests and Seasonal Flu Vaccinations, Cycle to work and IT schemes, a Competitive Salary, Wellbeing and Long Service days.

TEAM Multi-Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and expects all its staff and volunteers to share this commitment. A DBS check will be undertaken and references taken up before interview. All shortlisted candidates are subject to a pre-employment online search prior to interview.

An application form should be fully completed; we do not accept CV's.

Full details and application form can be found on our website [www.teamacademytrust.com](http://www.teamacademytrust.com)

Applications should be hand delivered, posted or emailed to Sam Stobbs, via [vacancies@team-mat.org.uk](mailto:vacancies@team-mat.org.uk)

Any articles which appear in the school newsletter, that have not been organised by or on behalf of the school, have not been verified by TEAM Multi-Academy Trust as to the suitability for children. The news items are for parent information only.

# U10'S

#GOBARUM

## JUNIOR RUGBY

BARNSTAPLE RUGBY IS LOOKING FOR BOYS AND GIRLS FROM YEAR 5 TO JOIN IT'S U10's TEAM INTERESTED EMAIL [juniors@barnstaplerugby.com](mailto:juniors@barnstaplerugby.com)



Are you interested in a career supporting children and young people in a school environment?

Our Supporting Teaching and Learning qualifications will put you on the right track!

Our one-year teaching assistant programmes have been designed to support your learning and help you discover and evaluate your natural abilities and skills within the classroom.

Each week, you will undertake between one and three days of school-based placement\*, alongside one day of knowledge-based learning at our North Devon campus in Barnstaple.

This blend of theoretical learning and practical placement will allow you to put your new-found knowledge into practice and develop your skills as a future Teaching Assistant.

Whether you're already employed within the sector and are looking to upskill, or would like a change of career - if you have a passion for supporting children's learning, we'll support you every step of the way!

- Level 2 Certificate in Supporting Teaching and Learning
- Level 3 Diploma in Supporting Teaching and Learning

\*If you need any support with securing a placement, our assessors will be happy to help.

"This course allows me to gain the knowledge needed to become an enthusiastic and encouraging teaching assistant, through work experience and knowledge-based coursework assignments. It has given me the ambition to progress onto university and pursue my goal of becoming a primary school teacher".

Holly, Level 3 Diploma in Supporting Teaching and Learning

For more information, please visit our website, [petroc.ac.uk](http://petroc.ac.uk) or contact our Advice & Guidance Centre, 01271 852422.





## Barnstaple SC Water Polo

From Sept. '23' Thursdays - main Tarka Pool:

7.30 - 8.30 pm (Juniors/Development 1.4m/1.8m)

7.30 - 9.30 pm (Performance/Seniors 1.8m)

*A fun team game that has excellent fitness benefits such as endurance and explosive power!*

- All swimmers welcome from 8 years upwards.  
(Open to anyone who can tread water for 3 minutes or longer)
- Many of our best players have achieved National Swimming Qualifying Times.
- Successful Surf Life Savers enjoy playing too and are natural players.

If you would like to play, please come along on a Thursday for a FREE taster or contact:

**BarnstapleWaterpolo@gmail.com**

**Back to (old-school)**

**80s Disco!!**

**With DJ Tommy**

**Saturday**

**23rd September**

**In Pilton Church Hall**

**7-11pm**

**With licensed bar**

**£5 per person**

Limited numbers—tickets via Eventbrite  
[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/back-to-the-80s-disco-](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/back-to-the-80s-disco-)  
 or contact Julie on 07855 660362

**Dress Code: 80s of course!**

Proceeds to Joe Wells Edinburgh Uni Journey





Come and join us for a big day of drawing at The Barnstaple Pannier Market. Working with the Barnstaple Town Centre Management Team, North Devon Arts is organising the second of our Summer Big Draw events as part of the international Big Draw, the world's largest drawing festival (<https://thebigdraw.org/>).

The first event, which saw members of the public filling The Square in Barnstaple with huge chalk drawings attracted people of all ages and backgrounds and was a great success so we are excited about this second event which will have a floral theme to reflect the wonderful planting and floral displays visible throughout the town.

No previous experience is necessary; all you need is a willingness to take part and have some fun. You will also be able to have your face painted. Everything is free and materials will be provided. Whether you are six or sixty, we look forward to seeing you in the newly refurbished Barnstaple Pannier Market on Saturday 23 September between 10am and 4pm.



## There's never been a better time to join a music County Group!

Devon & Torbay Music Education Hubs support a wide range of local ensembles, music centres and progression activities for children and young people. More advanced young musicians should consider joining a County Group and September is a great time to get involved, allowing you to benefit from all of the exciting performance opportunities on offer over the year ahead:

Devon Youth Orchestras: Devon Youth Concert Orchestra and Symphony Orchestra are particularly keen to welcome new cello, double bass, oboe, bassoon, trumpet, trombone and percussion players (kit drummers welcome).

Devon County Youth Brass Band: Thanks to private funding, to celebrate the 20th anniversary, Devon County Youth Brass Band are offering membership for the 2023-24 season for only £20!

Devon Youth Choir: Are you a young singer aged 11-18? Join Devon Youth Choir for their first gathering day of the school year on Saturday 23 September at Exeter School and take your singing to the next level!

Devon Youth Chamber Brass: Brass and percussion players can look forward to collaborating with young musicians from Wells Cathedral School later in the year, as well lots of other great opportunities to perform.

Devon Youth Wind Orchestra: With a tour to France planned for Summer 2024, it's an exciting time for young woodwind, brass and percussion players to join DYWO!