



"...and the main thing is learning."  
www.thepioneeracademy.co.uk

March 2024

Dear parents,

The spring term has flown by. We are enjoying watching spring emerge, with chicks hatching from eggs in Year 2, and frogs developing from frogspawn in reception. The eco team have been busy planting vegetables and Coach Mickey is developing our forest school too.

The football, basketball and netballs teams have played competitively this term with much success - many thanks to the staff who run these extra curricular activities.

The summer term is going to be very busy with National assessments for Year 1 - phonic screen check in June, Year R - with an end of year benchmark in June, Year 4 - multiplication test in June and Year 6 - reading, maths and grammar tests in May. Every second counts so we ask all parents to support children at home with their home learning. Once Year 6 tests are finished the children can enjoy end of Year 6 activities such as school journey to the Isle of Wight, Graduoke, a day trip to Chessington World of Adventures and a summer theatre production.

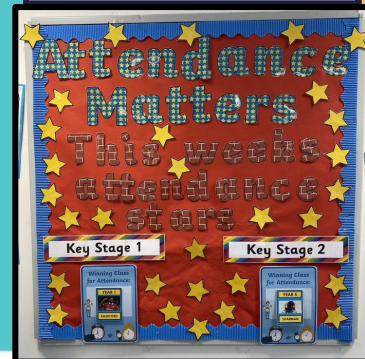
We say farewell to Miss Hope Anderson, Year 5 teacher, at Easter who is leaving us to teach in Hampstead Heath. We wish her the best in her new role. We welcome Miss Kaleh Ali to the Year 5 team, who joins us from Harris Primary Kent House.

Mrs Berthoud

### Spring term attendance

**RN - 97.6%**  
**RS - 98.1%**  
 1K - 92.6%  
 1R - 94.7%  
 2W - 94.5%  
 2K - 92.7%  
 3M - 92.8%  
**3W - 95.9%**  
 4S - 94.5%  
 4Y - 94.8%  
 5E - 92%  
 5S - 91.6%  
 6S - 95.2%  
 6B - 92.1%

Well done to **RN, RS and 6S**



### Maths evening

We held a Maths meeting on Monday 25th March 2024 for all parents. The Maths team spoke about different mathematical methods we use now, this followed on to a workshop with their child's class teacher. We had a great turnout of parents with some great feedback of how much the workshops have helped them.

We will be re-running this in the Summer term, please keep an eye out!



## Congratulations to all the children with 96%+ attendance

Abdurahman 100.00%	Isabella 100.00%	Kevin 98.75%	Peya 97.50%
Axlaam 100.00%	Angela 100.00%	Maslah 98.75%	Reeyot 97.50%
Bushra 100.00%	Larisa-Eloise 100.00%	Aubri 98.75%	Bilal 97.39%
Jamal 100.00%	Scarlet 100.00%	Danny 98.75%	Nicolle 97.39%
Ruqaya 100.00%	Amani 99.58%	Jayden 98.33%	Huzaiifa 97.17%
Omega 100.00%	Fadumo 99.58%	Bilal 98.33%	Manahal 97.08%
Estella 100.00%	Zhalia 99.58%	Lordina 98.33%	Meerab 97.08%
Kameel 100.00%	Ethelias 99.58%	Edwina 98.33%	Mehreen 97.08%
Aishat 100.00%	Samson 99.58%	Yabrill 98.33%	Ayoub 97.08%
Hollie 100.00%	Joseph 99.58%	Ebenezer 98.33%	Nabil 97.08%
Jamari 100.00%	Luis 99.58%	Heba 98.33%	Zeniyah 97.08%
Neymar 100.00%	Mahamed 99.57%	Aaron 98.33%	Aqsa 97.08%
Enoch 100.00%	Akorede 99.55%	Emma 98.33%	Mercy 96.67%
Gabriella-Amy 100.00%	Ahmed 99.18%	Chinonye 98.33%	Ebenezer 96.67%
Liam 100.00%	Moses 99.17%	Jeffery 98.33%	Yasmin 96.67%
Ivy 100.00%	Aaron 99.17%	Eghosaosere 98.33%	Maria 96.67%
Zoe 100.00%	Zaya 99.17%	Tasmin 98.33%	Jaden 96.67%
Suad 100.00%	Gabriella 99.17%	Maryam 98.33%	Charlie 96.67%
Khadijah 100.00%	Deandre 99.17%	Hanifah 98.33%	Kiara 96.67%
Maya 100.00%	Aminata 99.17%	Olatoni 98.33%	Bethany 96.67%
Naeem 100.00%	Ellie 99.17%	Alex 98.33%	Karen 96.67%
Alan 100.00%	Aisha 99.17%	Anthony 98.33%	Leyner 96.67%
Ashley 100.00%	Khalid 99.17%	Joshua 98.33%	Samantha 96.67%
Axum 100.00%	Jesse 99.17%	Gideon 98.33%	Robert 96.67%
Amirah 100.00%	Nabil 99.17%	Kiara 98.21%	Eloah 96.67%
Faheem 100.00%	Dylan 99.17%	Haleemah 98.15%	Ikram 96.67%
Rahish 100.00%	Rayan 99.17%	Saheeran 97.92%	Jedidah 96.67%
Jade-Alexis 100.00%	Isabella 99.17%	Bryan 97.92%	Adaugo 96.43%
Heily 100.00%	Malik 99.17%	Imane 97.92%	Yara 96.25%
Timothy 100.00%	Dennis 99.17%	Yasmine 97.92%	Shayma 96.25%
Arya 100.00%	Olasubomi 99.17%	Sonaya 97.92%	Ayman 96.25%
Tony 100.00%	Hridaan 99.17%	Tobalase 97.90%	Iolanda 96.25%
Troy 100.00%	Alyssa 99.17%	Reyshell 97.57%	Mishae 96.25%
Louisa 100.00%	Logan 99.17%	Goodnews 97.50%	Dominiks 96.25%
Nathan 100.00%	Emma 99.17%	Maryam 97.50%	Babacar 96.25%
Chukwudalu 100.00%	Jayda-Ariela 99.17%	Aleksandar 97.50%	Amaly 96.25%
Aarif 100.00%	Luke 99.17%	Melissa 97.50%	Isla-Reese 96.25%
Darwin 100.00%	Fatima 99.15%	Ashley 97.50%	Nathan 96.25%
Rhayana 100.00%	Marwa 99.07%	Jamie 97.50%	
George 100.00%	Rajon 98.75%	Mamadou 97.50%	
Idris 100.00%	Darcy 98.75%	Isam 97.50%	

## Year 2 and 3 trip to the cinema

Year 2 and 3 had great fun attending the VUE in Piccadilly to see "Trollz: Band Together".

For many students it was their first time going to the cinema.

All the children engaged in singing and had a lovely experience in the cinema.

## Eco Council update

This half term, the Eco Council have planted seeds to create a bee corridor.

The whole school took part in the big plastic count which gave us information on how much plastic is being used everyday. The eco council will be writing to the government about the need to reduce plastic waste.

As a school, we took part in earth hour where we turned off all lights and devices for an hour. Some children made posters about the earth, some made songs about how we could help our world and others took part in yoga sessions amongst other things.

## Year 5 trip to Whitgift

Year 5 attended the Whitgift primary project and participated in lots of unique activities including fencing, mandarin, stop motion films and using the bunsen burner in science for experiments.

They had a fantastic time and enjoyed every part of the experience



## Year 6 trip to Copper Box

Year 6 had a fantastic time at the Copper Box Arena watching the Women's EuroCup Quarter-Final: London Lions Women v Melikgazi Kayseri.

A Year 6 pupil said, "This is my first ever time watching an official basketball game and I feel so inspired as I love playing the sport."



## London Air Ambulance

The London Air Ambulance charity spoke to the whole school in assembly about the charity and service they provide.

Children asked great questions such as "Is it difficult to fly?" "Can you fly in lightning?" "How many helicopters do you have?" "Where are the helipads?"

## RE assemblies

### Spinnaker - Easter

Emily from Spinnaker spoke to the whole school in assembly about why Easter is celebrated.

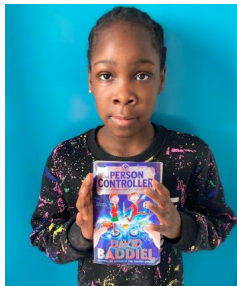
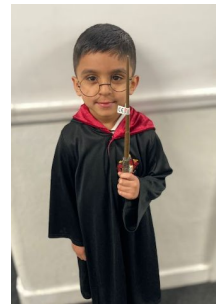
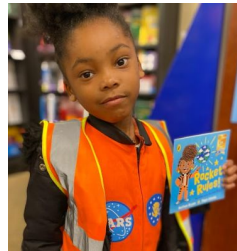
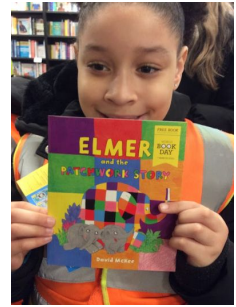
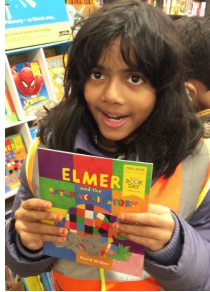
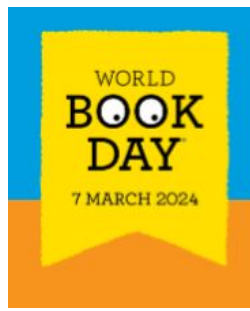
### Y5 Children - Ramadan

Year 5 children joined Miss Aden to speak to the school about Ramadan and the importance of being grateful for what we have! 'Thank you for your ramadan assembly!' - Yasmin Year 3.

**Football update:** It's been another eventful month with lots of games being played as the league season came to a close. Our girls team finished 2nd and qualify for finals next month. They also have the schools cup semi final next term. Our boys fought hard this season and narrowly missed out by 1 point. There has been a lot more competitive football for our younger players with our u9 girls getting to the final of their first tournament and our u7 boys continued their winning ways with a 7-3 victory.



# World Book Day 2024





## Managing Screen time from Internet Matters

Are you worried your child has too much screentime or would like more advice on how to support your child in managing their screen time? Internet Matters have a wealth of information on their website to help support you.

This first link discusses how to get the most out of screen time and how to talk to your child about screen time based on their age:

- <https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/screen-time/protect-your-child>

This second link provides advice on how to tackle too much screen time and what the signs of too much screen time might be:

- <https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/screen-time/deal-with-it/>

This final link provides a guide on how to balance screen time:

- <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/creating-a-balanced-digital-diet-with-screen-time-tips/>



## Fortnite Battle Royale

Fortnite Battle Royale is rated PEGI 12 because it features moderate violence which means it is not suitable for persons under 12 years of age.

It is important to remember that when rating games, PEGI do not take into consideration the communication features of a game. Fortnite does include a chat facility, which adds further risks.



### What is Fortnite?

There are different versions of Fortnite, including Battle Royale, which is free to play (although in-app purchases are available). In Battle Royale up to one hundred players compete against each other.

### What do I need to be aware of?

- **Chatting to strangers and inappropriate language:** Fortnite contains voice and text chat. Due to the nature of the game, your child may be chatting to strangers and may hear inappropriate language. Ensure your child knows how to report players for any inappropriate behaviour.
- **In app purchases:** All users can purchase V-Bucks directly through the game so make sure you don't store your card details within the game/device and restrict purchases.

### Parental Controls

Fortnite includes several parental controls to help you make it a safer environment for your child including disabling voice chat, filtering language and setting privacy settings. **Also, remember to set up age-appropriate parental controls on the device your child is playing on.**

### Further information

Virgin Media outline how to set up the different parental controls available: <https://www.virginmedia.com/blog/parental-controls/gaming-fortnite>

## Does your child need a mobile phone?

If you are thinking about giving your child their own phone, then you might find this article from Family Lives useful as it discusses things you need to consider:

<https://www.familylives.org.uk/advice/primary/health-and-development/does-your-child-need-a-mobile-phone>

# Instagram

You will probably know that Instagram is used to post photos and videos, but did you know that it can also be used to message, voice/video call and send disappearing messages? Users can also upload to 'Stories' (which disappear after 24 hours), broadcast live and upload reels (short videos).

**You must be over 13 years of age to set up an account.** To create an account, you must enter a date of birth (but it is not verified). *When you set up an account for users under 16 years old, the account is set to Private. This is the recommended setting so that your child approves who follows them and sees their content.* Even if your child's profile is private, their bio (at the top of their profile) can still be seen by **everyone**. Check they have not included personal information here e.g. they should not be wearing their school uniform in their photo.

Instagram includes several privacy settings, so go through these with your child and ensure they are set appropriately. Settings include:

- Messages/Group chats – set who can message you/add you to groups.
- Story replies – you can turn this off or choose who can message you.
- Hidden words – turn this option on to hide comments/messages that may be offensive. You can also add your own custom words or emojis.

Make sure your child understands that there is a risk that content they upload can be shared with others without their permission as other users can screenshot it.

## Supervision

You can set up supervision on your child's (aged 13-17) Instagram account. This gives you access to a set of tools including the ability to see who they follow/who follows them, how much time they are spending on Instagram, set a time limit and view accounts your child has blocked. Your child can also share when they have reported anything to Instagram with you. Learn more here: <https://help.instagram.com/658522825492278>

## Safety Features

Ensure your child knows how to report posts and people, how to unfollow and block people, delete and turn off comments. View here: <https://help.instagram.com/269765046710559>

## Quiet mode

Your child can activate quiet mode, so they do not receive notifications (to provide less distraction whilst studying and at night time).

## How can I keep my child safe on Instagram?

The NSPCC have published a blog with everything that you need to know: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/keeping-children-safe-on-instagram/>

## More information

- Visit the family centre to learn more about the features available: <https://familycenter.instagram.com/>
- Download a parent's guide to Instagram: <https://help.instagram.com/299484113584685>

## Do you need help managing your child's device?

You can use Google Family Link or Apple Family Sharing to help you depending on your child's device.

### Google Family Link

This is a parental control app from Google that lets you:

- See activity reports showing how long they spend on each app.
- Approve or block new app downloads.
- Set screen time limits.
- Find their location (using their device).

You will need to download an app and then decide appropriate settings.

<https://families.google.com/familylink>

### Apple Family Sharing

You can set up Family Sharing in the settings of your device. Family Sharing allows you to:

- Share Apple subscriptions.
- Share purchases from the App Store.
- Approve what children purchase/download.
- Limit screen time.
- Share locations and find devices.

<https://www.apple.com/uk/family-sharing/>

### Monitoring Apps (paid for)

In addition, there are apps that you can pay for that you may find provides a better solution for you. Whilst we cannot recommend a specific product, these are some examples that you could review and test using a free trial:

- Norton Family: <https://uk.norton.com/products/norton-family>
- Qustodio: <https://www.qustodio.com/en/>
- Family Time: <https://familytime.io/>

## Have a lovely Easter break!

Children, remember to follow the **digital 5 a day** for a balanced digital diet and better wellbeing!

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/digital/5-a-day/>

[Mrs Bashir :\)](#)