



PVPA NEWSLETTER

Edition 1

Integrity, **Community**, Excellence

26 September 2025

MESSAGE FROM KIMBERLY

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a fantastic start to the new term and all of our new pupils, across the academy have settled in really well, as have our new staff.

I would like to say a big 'Thank you' to Ben for organising the 'Fitness Frenzy' - it was a great day and reminded everybody about the importance of fitness and a healthy lifestyle.

We are looking for Academy Council members - please think about becoming one - if you have any questions, please just ask.

I hope that you all have a great weekend!

Kimberly Morton

Principal

GENERAL NOTICES

Parent/Carer Mental Health Workshops

The Psychology in Schools Team provides workshops to parents/carers on a range of mental health topics. These include topics such as supporting your child to manage their big feelings, anxiety, OCD, eating difficulties, trauma and more! You can access the pre-recorded workshops by clicking [here](#).

School Photographs - Individual and Sibling Photos

IMPORTANT – REGISTER TO VIEW SCHOOL PHOTOS

Exciting news! Carmel Jane Photography will be visiting our School on the 2nd of October 2025, to take Individual & Sibling Photos.

All parents are requested to pre-register for instant access to your child's photographs once they are ready, pre-registration is required for every photo shoot.

Register in 3 easy steps in less than a minute:

1. Head to www.carmeljaneshop.co.uk
2. Enter your unique code : JREDKEMF5T
3. Include your child's full school register name.

Don't miss out - pre-register today!

Lost Property

We already have a large amount of lost property! Most of which is **NOT** named, please ensure **all** of your child's clothing (including footwear, hats, gloves and scarves) are named to avoid losing them! *If they are named they can make their way back to their owner if lost!* Lost property can be found at the Year 1/2 dismissal doors. Any lost property left here at the end of each half term will go to Charity.

Nut Free School

Please remember that we are a nut free school. We do have children that have nut allergies and would ask that you be extra vigilant in not sending any nut products in either snacks or pack lunches. This includes peanut butter sandwiches, Nutella and Kinder Buenos.

Drinks at School

Please may we remind you that any bottles in class must be named and can only contain water. Squash can be drunk at lunchtime as part of a packed lunch. No glass/metal bottles are permitted and neither are energy or fizzy drinks.

YEAR GROUP UPDATES / NOTICES

NURSERY

The children are all settling in well into Nursery. They are very busy exploring all the learning areas indoors and outdoors. The children are learning to be independent, develop friendships and learn the daily routine. To promote children's confidence and self esteem, we encourage them to access the activities independently. Therefore, occasionally children may come home with little paint or glue on their clothing from the creative area.

Please send a coat and bag with spare clothes and a **water bottle**. Remember to label children's belongings.

RECEPTION

What a fantastic start to the year! The children have settled in beautifully and are already showing great enthusiasm for learning. We've been exploring the topic of *Marvellous Me* - discovering what makes us unique and learning to celebrate our differences.

As part of our learning about the five senses, the children have been engaging in a range of hands-on activities. They've especially enjoyed building houses with LEGO, sharing family dinners in the role play area and making the most of our outdoor learning space.

We're so proud of how well the children are adapting to school life and look forward to all the exciting learning ahead!

YEAR 1

It's been a busy and exciting start to the year in Year 1!

In **Maths**, we've been focusing on numbers within 10, developing our understanding of number bonds to 10, and using practical resources to support our learning.

In **English**, we've enjoyed reading *Peace at Last* and *The Rainbow Fish*. These lovely stories inspired some fantastic writing, where the children worked on sequencing events, using descriptive language, and forming simple sentences.

Our **History** topic has taken us back in time as we explored how life has changed from the Victorian era to today. The children have enjoyed comparing homes, schools, and toys from the past with those we know now.

In **Science**, we've been learning all about the **seasons** and **weather**, and we've started exploring the **parts of a plant**. The children have enjoyed observing seasonal changes and making links to the world around them.

We're so proud of the children's enthusiasm and curiosity — it's been a great start to Year 1!

YEAR 2

It has been a fabulous start to the half term in Year 2. The children have been working incredibly hard across all areas of the curriculum.

In **Maths**, we have been exploring numbers within 100. The children have shown great progress in understanding place value and are becoming confident in partitioning numbers into tens and ones.

During **Shared Reading**, we have been enjoying *The Proudest Blue* and *Hansel and Gretel*. The children have done a brilliant job describing the different characters and settings, using rich vocabulary and thoughtful ideas.

In **Science**, our focus has been on the **parts of a plant**. The children have taken part in hands-on experiments and observations to deepen their understanding of how plants grow and what they need to survive - they even planted some seeds!

Our **History** topic has taken us on a journey through time as we've explored how **international trade** has changed what we eat in Britain. The children have been fascinated to learn how different foods arrived here and how our diets have evolved over time.

Well done to all the children for their enthusiasm and hard work this half term — we're looking forward to even more exciting learning ahead!

YEAR 3

Here's a quick look at what we've been learning in maths in Year 3. We've been focusing on number sense, which is all about understanding what numbers mean and how they work.

Also we have an exciting science topic that we've been exploring in Year 3: States of Matter. We started by understanding that matter is the "stuff" that makes up everything in the world. We've been looking at it in three different forms, or states: solid, liquid and gas.

We will be doing lots of hands-on activities to help us with this, like guessing the state of objects hidden in mystery bags and jars. We also learned that some things can be tricky to categorize, like toothpaste or slime, which has helped us to focus on their properties.

YEAR 4

In Shared Reading this half term we are reading Emil and the Detectives which the children are really enjoying. In Science we are looking at States of Matter, the children are learning how different everyday things can change from a solid, to a liquid and then to a gas.

Year 4 is learning all about the Romans in History, and how they changed Britain during their rule. In Literacy the focus is on Poetry and the different types of poems.

YEAR 5

In maths this half term, we have been learning about the place value within a 6-digit number. They have been focusing on what a digit is within a number and the value of the digits.

In shared reading, we have been reading Cirque Du Freak and the children have been enjoying the reading so far. In science, we have been exploring human organs and their key functions.

In history, we have been exploring the tudors, focusing on King Henry VIII. They have been enjoying learning about his six wives and why King Henry VIII was significant in history.

YEAR 6

Year 6 have settled in brilliantly and are setting a good example as the oldest pupils in the school. Pupils have been engaging well with their maths, focussing on place value so far this term as well as enjoying learning more about poetry during literacy lessons.

6K have really enjoyed their swimming lessons so far and 6G are looking forward to starting their after half term.

SEU1

The children are settling well into the new school year, getting to know one another. In Reception, the children are learning about 'Marvellous Me'. Please send some photos of your family so that we can talk about them during our lessons. In History, the Year ones are learning about 'Childhood' and the Year twos are learning about 'Food and Trade'. Please remember to check Tapestry daily, as regular updates and photos are posted there. If you are not able to access Tapestry then please let me know. Please ensure all of your child's belongings are labelled.

SEU2

We've been having a fantastic and very busy time in SEU2! Our students have been exploring a variety of messy play activities and developing their fine motor skills through fun and engaging tasks.

We've also had lots of intensive interactions, which are a wonderful way to support the development of early communication and social skills. It's been amazing to see the children's progress!

Our class has dived into the new season, with a new autumn theme. We've been using lots of natural objects to explore our senses and even created our own scented rice infused bags. We've also made some incredible art, including self-portraits using a range of different foods.

The children have been thoroughly enjoying Attention Autism, especially Bucket Time, which is now leading into Stage 2 activities. We are so proud of how well everyone is settling into their routines and classroom.

SEU3

Science: Our young scientists will be diving into the world of seasons and weather. We'll talk about what to expect in different times of the year and how weather changes. We'll also be getting our hands dirty by exploring plants, learning about their different parts and what they do.

History: We're traveling back in time to the Victorian era! Through engaging role-play, the children will discover what school was like in the past and how it was different from today.

Art: Get ready for some creativity! The children will be working with clay to make their very own clay pots. They'll have a great time shaping and then decorating their unique works of art.

Physical Development: Our SEU3 group will be focusing on fine motor skills. We have some fun activities planned to help them improve, including messy play, pencil control exercises, and cutting practice to strengthen their hand muscles.

MUSIC

We've had a great start to the year in our new music room!

We've looked at lots of different styles of music from blues to pop to film music! Some classes have sung their hearts out, some have played the ukuleles and others have played percussion instruments.

We have also started to learn our **charity christmas song** (we know it's early!) in our Friday singing assemblies. We will be recording this soon so that it is ready to share with you all in December to raise funds for the amazing charity 'Save the children'.

Thank you to those who have signed your children up to instrument lessons. You will see a payment for lessons on MCAS if your child has a place. If you do not see this yet, your child will be on the waiting list and you will be notified when there is a space available.

We currently only have spaces left for **Cornet (trumpet) and Violin**. This will be on a first come first served basis so please sign up as soon as you can if you would like your child to have a place. It is a fantastic opportunity for any child in **Year 3 - 6**. If you would like to sign up please use this google form: <https://forms.gle/f3hedvz2sWZqZcVx5>

UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

Please find all of the upcoming dates or events which are happening at Piper's Vale;

Date/Time	Event	Year Group(s)
Monday 29th September	Units closed for staff training	SEU 2 & 3
Wednesday 1st October	No Choir, Music lessons or Band Club	Whole School
Thursday 2nd October	Special menu - Out of This World	Rec - Y6
Thursday 2nd October	Individual and Sibling Photos	Whole School
Monday 13th - Wednesday 15th October	Y6 Residential Trip to Phasels Wood	Year 6
Tuesday 21st October	Disco KS1 3:15 - 4:14pm	Rec, Y1, Y2, SEU1
Tuesday 21st October	Disco KS2 4:30 - 5.30pm	Yrs 3 - 6
Friday 24th October	Newsletter 2 due	Whole School
Monday 27th - Friday 31st October	Half Term Holiday	Whole School

QUICK LINKS



[School Lunches](#)



[Term Dates](#)



[MCAS \(Parent App\)](#)