

Foundation Stage

Autumn Term 2026



Welcome!

Welcome back Team Pinxton! We hope you all had a lovely summer with lots of family time. We have been so impressed with how the children have settled back into school. What a bunch of super stars we have! We would just like to remind you that if you ever need a chat our doors are always open. We kindly ask that if you want to chat at the end of the day you wait until all the children have been dismissed.



Miss Evans and Miss Denton



Important Dates

Further details of any events will be sent out in separate letters to ensure you have all the relevant details.

4th September – Inset Day

7th September – Back to school

17th September – Family morning

6th October – Parents Evening

7th October – Parents Evening

10th October – World Mental Healthy Day

12th October – Family morning

19th October – Individual and sibling photos

20th October – Halloween Disco

23rd October – Break up for October half term

2nd November – Back to school

7th November – World Science Day

14th November – Children in Need

3rd December – Christmas Fair

19th December – Inset Day

P.E kits

Please return the form regarding the P.E kits if you haven't already.

It is important that throughout the year all uniform and P.E kits are named please.

John King P.E Day is Friday.

Longwood P.E Day is Friday.

The children are expected to come to school dressed in their P.E kits.

Class Dojo

Just a polite reminder that we post information and photos on Dojo. Please ensure that you check Dojo throughout the week so you don't miss out on important information. You can also send us messages through the App. However, we may not see messages through the day so if you need to let us know anything before the end of the day please phone the office.

Scan the QR code to follow us on Social Media.



Deepening Knowledge Task

Reading Diaries and Books

Your child will regularly read their book in class, and we will use their reading diaries to write when they have read with us.

PLEASE make sure your child brings their books and diary to school every day as every spare moment we have in school we will try and read with your child.

Please try and read with your child every day (and record in the diary if possible) as

Homework

Each week the children be given a piece of homework to complete. For the first term this will be as simple as a 'Talk about picture' that we encourage you to talk about with your child, linked to interesting things we are learning at school.

Homework will be handed out on a Friday and is expected to

PSHE

Our PSHE curriculum is supported by the PSHE association. This term we will be learning about health and wellbeing. The children will learn about healthy food choices and how to make these, the importance of looking after their teeth and how to manage their own needs, such as toileting and dressing themselves. If you would like to talk through any of the curriculum planning and resources for this term, please contact your child's teacher. You may also wish to support your child's learning at home using:

becoming a reader is the most important part of your child's education. We have reading breakfasts every term and hope to see you in school!	be in the following Friday. This will be starting from Friday 19th September. The children will have access to phonics videos on class dojo, modelling the week's sounds, so that the children can practice these at home.	Early years foundation stage lesson resources Oak National Academy
Reading You play a vital role in helping your child develop early reading skills. In the EYFS, children are beginning to learn phonics, recognise common words, and understand how stories work. Here are some simple and fun ways you can support your child's reading at home: <u>Play games that help your child build phonics and word recognition skills:</u> <u>I Spy with Sounds:</u> Say, "I spy with my little eye something beginning with 's'." This helps children identify initial sounds in words. <u>Word Hunt:</u> Hide word cards around the room (e.g., "cat," "dog," "mum"). Ask your child to find and read them. <u>Rhyming Pairs:</u> Say a word (e.g., "hat") and take turns thinking of rhyming words ("cat," "mat," "bat"). <u>Word Building</u> Use magnetic letters or letter cards to build simple words together. Start with short CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words like "dog," "sun," or "bed." You can also make it a game by mixing up the letters and having your child rearrange them to form the correct word. Most importantly, keep it fun and praise all efforts. A positive reading experience builds confidence and a love of books that will last a lifetime.	Writing This half term the children will be learning to write their name. Any opportunity to write their name will be great practice. Could they write their name on birthday cards or Christmas cards. Some other ideas... <u>Playdough Letters</u> Encourage your child to form the letters of their name using playdough. This helps develop fine motor skills while reinforcing letter shapes. <u>Magnetic Letters</u> Use fridge magnets or foam bath letters for your child to arrange their name in the correct order. You can mix them up first to make it a matching game. <u>Rainbow Writing</u> Have your child write their name several times, each time using a different colored crayon or pencil. This repetition helps with muscle memory while keeping it colorful and fun. <u>Name Puzzles</u> Write your child's name on a strip of card, then cut it into individual letters. Mix them up and let your child piece them back together like a puzzle.	Maths This term we are learning about numbers up to 5, 2d shapes, positional language (such as next to, on top of) and ordering events in the day. Here are some simple ways you can support your child's with Maths at home. <u>Numbers to 5</u> - Count everyday objects together – apples, buttons, socks, etc. - Ask questions like "How many do we have?" and "Can you show me 3 fingers?" - Play games like hide and seek using numbers ("Count to 5 before we go!") - Sing number rhymes like "Five Little Ducks" or "1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Once I Caught a Fish Alive." <u>2D Shapes</u> - Go on a shape hunt around the house or outdoors – look for circles, squares, triangles and rectangles. - Use everyday objects (plates = circles, books = rectangles) to name and talk about shapes. <u>Positional Language</u> - Use words like on, under, next to, behind, in front of, between in everyday play. - Hide a toy and give clues: "It's under the table!" or "It's behind the cushion!" - Ask your child to place toys in different positions: "Put the teddy on the chair." <u>Spotting Shapes and Numbers in the Environment</u> - Look for house numbers, prices in shops, or numbers on buses. - Notice shapes in signs, packaging, and buildings – "That sign is a triangle!" <u>Counting and Talking About More/Fewer</u> - Ask your child to help set the table – "We need 4 spoons, can you count them?" - Talk about quantities – "Who has more grapes?" "Do we have fewer apples or bananas?" - Play simple comparison games – "Let's see who has more blocks!"
<u>Physical Development - Gross motor skills</u> Keeping fit and healthy is a really important part of growing up. It would be great to go on walk, do some Joe Wicks together or try some Yoga together. You can watch some child	<u>Physical Development - Fine Motor skills</u> We want our children to have strong muscles in their hands and fingers to help them to write and use scissors. Playing with	

friendly Yoga if you go onto Goggle and type in Cosmic Kids Yoga.

Understanding the World - People, culture and communities

We follow the Derbyshire Syllabus. This term, we will be learning about stories and times that are special and exploring why they are special. Can you talk to your child about different cultures and communities.

Lego and other small toys are a great way at home to support their fine motor skills.

Understanding the World - The Natural World

We are going to be finding out about woodland animals and their habitats. Whilst out and about see if you can spot any animals and talk about where they live and what it is like where they live. Is it dark or light? Damp or dry?

What Makes a Place Special?

This term, our enquiry question is, 'What makes a place special?'. This is a geography-based enquiry, we want our children to have an understanding of the school, it's staff and different locations around school. We will also be looking at places that are special to the children. For example, their home. Because our school is based in an ex-mining village, we want them to have an understanding of our community's heritage whilst expanding our children's geographical knowledge of Pinxton, including its features as a village. The enquiry also looks at the people who make a community special.

This is our knowledge organiser. It helps us to remember some key facts (we call it our sticky knowledge) linked to our Enquiry.



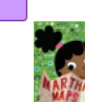
EYFS – Geography: What makes a place special?



Subject Specific Vocabulary	
city	A city is a busy place which has lots of people and buildings.
community	A group of people who all live in the same area.
compare	Talking about how things are the same and different.
environment	The world around us.
feature	A feature is something that is a part of a place, which cannot be moved.
recycle	Recycling means turning rubbish into a new material so it can be used again.
village	A community made up of a small number of people.
woodland animal	Animals that live in a woodland area.



Exciting texts!



Sticky knowledge	
	A – Pinxton has lots of features . It has the mining wheel, The Wharf, the library, the butchers, and the co-op.
	B – Pinxton has a mining heritage . John King was a famous person because he invented the mining hook .
	C – Everything we do has an impact on the environment . We can all take steps to make a difference.
	D – Nottingham and Derby are the closest cities to Pinxton. They are much bigger than Pinxton and have a huge church called a cathedral . The buildings are much closer together and they don't have fields like Pinxton.
	E – We live in England , this is part of the United Kingdom . The United Kingdom is found on the top half of the map and is surrounded by water.
	F – Maps give us information and can be used to locate things.
	G – A habitat is where something lives. Woodland is a type of habitat that offers damp conditions, protection, and food for woodland animals.

Sticky Knowledge

- A pencil is held between two **fingers**, a **tripod grip** supports correct letter formation.
- An **observational** drawing is a realistic drawing of something you can. A good way to do an observational drawing is to look and then draw.
- Patterns** can be made using lines, shapes or colours. You will find lots of different patterns in our **environment**, such as on wallpapers or clothes.

