

PICKNALLS PAGES



We are deeply saddened to be losing 4 members of staff, including 2 long serving Teaching Assistants.

Peter Fearon has ended his role as Lunchtime Supervisor for Year 4. We hope he enjoys some time to rest from his busy schedule.

Sarah Jeffrey has worked with many of our SEND pupils for the past 9 years as well as taking on the role of Librarian and supporting the mental health of children referred to the Hope Project. She recently ended her role as an Inclusion Support Assistant.

Ruth Cresswell has worked at Picknalls for 22 years, mostly based in Year 3 for the last decade. We are sure she will enjoy the extra time she will soon have to spend with her new grandson and wish her all the best.

Cheryl Lewis has been with Picknalls for the past 26 years and has supported every year group across the school. In recent years she has been based in Year 2 and, despite what Mr Cope says, she did not sail on the Titanic!

All of these ladies have been connected to Picknalls for many years both as parents and staff and they will all be sadly missed.



TITANIC

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Enrichment Opportunities

As usual, staff at Picknalls have gone above and beyond in offering a wide range of after school activities.

So far this year Staff have already committed to offering a range of clubs including:

KS1:

Year 1:

- Challenge Club
- Dance Club
- Reading Club



Children Reading a Book

Year 2:

- Dance Club
- Reading Club
- Multi skills Club
- Sewing Club



SEWING CLUB



MULTISKILLS

KS2:

Year 3:

- Reading Club
- Sewing Club
- Choir
- Recorder Club



Year 4:

- Choir
- Football
- Reading Club
- Sewing Club
- DT Club
- Art Club
- Multi Sports

EYFS children are offered clubs after February half term as the school day itself is long enough during this settling in period.

Please remember that staff do any clubs in their own time and for no additional salary. I can't thank staff enough who offer any additional opportunities for our children.



Remembrance

We were in awe of the drumming skills shown by 2 Army Cadets who kindly joined us for our Remembrance Assembly. They kept the children on beat during our rather moving service. The hall was beautifully decorated with poppies and wreaths made by our pupils and we were honoured to be joined by our new CEO, Kerry Rochester, who said it was a truly emotional assembly.

Thank you to everyone who sent in donations for the British Legion's Poppy Appeal, you raised an amazing £369.01 and we were even presented with an outstanding contribution certificate.

We were proud to place our wreath alongside those from other Uttoxeter schools and the ULT on the war memorial in the market place.



UTTOXETER LEARNING TRUST

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Thomas Alleyne's High School
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Company number: 10547353



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picknalls.com 01889 228700

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Ofsted, Jan 2020



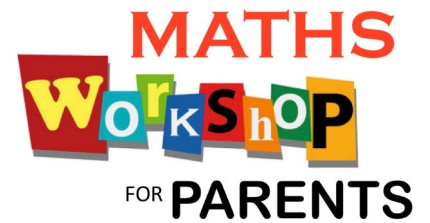
Safeguarding

We have noticed some parents who need to collect more than one child from different playgrounds at the end of school are using the paths and steps used by our pupils and staff instead of using the playground gate. Please remember to exit the playground from which you have picked up your first child via the gate and then access their sibling's collection area through the relevant entrance instead of adding to congestion and potentially causing safeguarding issues.



Maths Workshop

Thank you to everyone who came along to the workshop, we hope you found it a source of useful ideas to help support your child's number work at home.



Reception Bonfire Fun

Reception had fun in the woods celebrating bonfire night this half term. Edible sparklers and toasted marshmallows were a hit with the children.



Year 3 Wolseley Trip

Year 3 enjoyed the sun at the end of the half term on their trip to Wolseley Bridge. The Stone Age natural art lesson resulted in some serious mess and some seriously happy children!



Anti-Bullying

During Mrs Tapp's assembly at the beginning of Anti-Bullying Week our pupils demonstrated a very good understanding of what bullying is and what to do if it happened to them or their friends.

The School Council met with Mrs Tapp to discuss updating the Anti-Bullying Policy. They wrote a section about Beating Bullying including their strategies for their peers on how to deal with bullying if it was happening to them. You can see this and other policies on our website by [using this link](#).

CEO Visit

We were keen to show the new CEO how brilliant Picknalls is during her first full day visit with us. She looked at writing, EYFS, PE and SEND and wrote a glowing report after she left. Writing is a whole school focus at present as we strive to ensure we provide a broad and balanced curriculum demonstrating progression from these experiences for all our pupils.



Lettings



If you have an event or a regular activity for which you need to hire a venue why not choose Picknalls!

See the table below for our charges which comply with our most current [Charges and Remissions Policy](#).

All charges are PER HOUR unless an alternative price is agreed on application.

Area of Letting	Monday - Friday	Saturday - Sunday
Treetops	£20.00	£25.00
Field	£17.50	£22.50
ICT Suite	£20.00	£25.00
Hall	£20.00	£25.00
Classroom	£20.00	£25.00

Prices for group bookings/all year round will be available on request. Please contact the school office on 01889 228700 for more information.

Photocopying/Printing

We are pleased to be able to offer a new photocopying/printing service.

Rates are below (price includes paper)

Size and Colour	Price per page
A4—Black	5p
A4—Colour	10p
A3—Black	10p
A3— Colour	20p

Please contact the office if you would like to take advantage of this service.

Advertising

Do you have an event, club or service which you would like to advertise in this newsletter?

We are now offering advertising space at the following rates:

Number/Frequency of 1/2 Page Advert	Cost
One off advert	£20
3 per year (once a term)	£40
6 per year (once every half term)	£60

Please contact the office this is of interest to you.

Governors

Heidi Elsmore has been one of our Parent Governors since 2016 and currently holds the role as Vice Chair,

Her term of office is due to expire during this academic year and although she is very keen to continue being a member of our Governing Body we can offer the place to any other parent interested.

If you would like to be considered as a candidate please speak to Mrs Tapp by 22nd December 2023.

Christmas Fayre

Thank you so much to everyone who supported our Christmas Fayre last Friday. We were astonished to raise £2350 in about 90 minutes!



These funds will help to pay for our new KS1 and KS2 trim trails as well as visitors and activities during our Science, Technology, Engineering and

SCIENCE • TECHNOLOGY • ENGINEERING • MATHEMATICS

Booking School Meals

There were 30 children in school today who elected to have a school meal but have not had a meal choice booked for them. This resulted in the kitchen running out of main meals, therefore some children had no other choice than to have a jacket potato instead of sausages.



This is taking up too much time office to resolve and the kitchen to prep for every day, so, unfortunately, we have decided that in future any child without a booking will be served with a jacket potato in the hope that this will encourage regular booking.

It is imperative that you book your child's meals through [ParentPay](#) in advance to avoid disappointment.

Uttoxeter Rotary Club Photo Competition

Rotary



The Uttoxeter Rotary Club are inviting all budding young photographers to enter their competition.

If you would like to enter you will need to complete an entry form and email your photo to Picknalls.

[Download an entry form here](#)

Please send photo's to aderry@picknalls.co.uk

The Uttoxeter Competition - **Entry closes on 12th January 2024**

See below for more details:

Theme

Open Format

Aims

This competition aims to encourage young people to:

- Experiment with photography
- Use digital or traditional methods of photography
- Show interpretation of their chosen topic
- Express their ideas through the medium of photography



Who can take part?

The competition is open to children and young people including all schools and college communities, those who are home educated and any other young peoples' community organisations.

There are three age-groups in the Uttoxeter competition:

- Junior - up to 10 years old
- Intermediate - 11 to 13 years old
- Senior - 14 to 17 years old

(All ages correct on 31 August 2023)



Competition Task

Entrants are asked to produce one photograph and give it a title.

- Photos should be submitted in digital format.
- To accompany the submission, each entrant **MUST** provide a brief sentence describing the relationship of the photograph to their title.
- The photograph must be submitted via Digital Format and be at least 1500 pixel in size on the longest length. The entries and supporting information sent electronically **MUST NOT EXCEED 15Mb** per email sent.
- Photographs that are part of a current educational exam portfolio are not eligible for the competition, due to educational exam board regulations.
- District competition winners will be required to provide a digital copy in jpg format to be at least 1500 pixel in size on the longest length for the National Final submission.
- Cameras, mobile phones or other mobile devices and manipulations may be used.

Junior, Intermediate and Senior age-group winners will be entered into the East Staffordshire Rotary District competition and the winners of this will be entered into the National Final.

Good luck and get snapping!

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Class 3's Community Project

Class 3 have been very busy making jolly, mini paper craft trees to decorate their tree branch which will become part of a community Christmas tree display. 'The Croft on the Heath' is a community outdoor learning space to bring local groups and schools together. This is a project initiated by St Mary's First School to develop the grass area behind their school into a Forest School type area which can be used by their pupils and local community groups.

The assembled trees will represent all people and all ages coming together at a time when it is important to show unity and joy. The community will have achieved something together that will be on display at 'The Croft on the Heath' during the festive period.



Children in Need

We're a hardy bunch at Picknalls so there was no way we would be prevented from Rambling for Pudsey last Thursday! Despite the rather wet ground everyone donned their wellies and yomped around the bottom field for 2 miles! The school became awash with colour the following day with everyone dressed in all the colours of the rainbow and lots of Children in Need themed activities. We were blown away to learn that your donations and sponsor money raised

an incredible £3496.04!

This will be split between Picknalls PTA and Children in Need, with our half going towards the new minibus and top secret activity which we can't disclose at present as we don't want to ruin the surprise! We cannot thank you enough for your generosity, you truly make us all Proud to be Picknalls!



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Help Get Extra Funding For Our School

Did you know that we can receive extra funding to support eligible families? Some of the funding can be used to directly help those families **pay for school trips, uniform, and peripatetic music lessons**, please speak to the office to discuss the options. We also **use the funding to help accelerate progress and raise the attainment of all our pupils** throughout the school. Specifically, in the previous academic year, the money was used to purchase extra resources and training including an extra **class set of iPads, additional hours** for school staff to provide **small group interventions**, intervention resources and Little Wandle training for staff. You can see a breakdown of how we used the income on our [Pupil Premium page](#) on the school website.

How do we receive Pupil Premium funding?

Families who are eligible to receive funding include:

- [Service children](#) – use the link to check the criteria and notify us if you are eligible.
- [Looked after children](#) – including children who are (or have been) adopted, fostered or subject to a child arrangement order. You will need to complete a form and provide evidence of relevant documents to verify the child's status.
- [Families in receipt of certain benefits](#) – you can check if you are eligible and apply online. You don't need to provide paper evidence and you only need to apply once.
- [Early Years Pupil Premium \(EYPP\)](#) is extra funding that is available to support eligible 3 and 4 year olds who access the universal 15 funded hours per week – completing your Parent Declaration form will allow us to claim on your behalf if you are eligible.

Please use the links above for more information and please consider applying if you fit any of the criteria.

We understand that some parents may be put off from applying for many reasons but please be reassured that your claim will be treated **confidentially** and your child will not be singled out or treated any differently to their peers. Even if you don't want your children to have the meals, claiming them helps the school. **The more eligible parents who claim meals, before the January school census, the more money the school receives.**



Christmas Dinner

Thursday 14th December

[Click here to book](#)



PICKNALLS FIRST SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS LUNCH
THURSDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2023

PLEASE REMEMBER BOOK YOUR CHILD'S LUNCH THROUGH
PARENTPAY

Traditional Christmas Turkey,
Pig in a Blanket & Festive Stuffing

or

Christmas Quorn Fillet &
Festive Stuffing (Ve)

with

Roast Potatoes
Carrot Batons & Peas



Chocolate Brownie (V)



edwards and ward
a recipe for success



the national
sleep
helpline

Does your child suffer with sleep issues?

Do you struggle
with your child's
bedtime?

Will your child
not sleep in
their own bed?

WE CAN HELP

03303 530 541

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm
Monday & Wednesday 9am - 11am

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12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS FIRE SAFETY TIPS

1 On the 1st day of Christmas
 • Check your Christmas tree lights conform to the British Standard.



2 On the 2nd day of Christmas
 • Never place candles near your Christmas tree or furnishings. Don't leave them burning unattended.



3 On the 3rd day of Christmas
 • Make sure your family and visitors staying for the festive period know what to do in an emergency.



4 On the 4th day of Christmas
 • Decorations can burn easily. Don't attach them to lights or heaters.



5 On the 5th day of Christmas
 • Never overload electrical sockets. Always switch Christmas lights off and unplug them before you go to bed.



6 On the 6th day of Christmas
 • The risk of accidents, especially in the kitchen, is greater after alcohol is consumed.



7 On the 7th day of Christmas
 • Most fires start in the kitchen. Never leave cooking unattended.



8 On the 8th day of Christmas
 • If you are planning to celebrate with fireworks, store them in a metal box, read the instructions, never go back to a lit firework and keep a bucket of water nearby.



9 On the 9th day of Christmas
 • Make sure cigarettes are completely extinguished before you go to bed.



10 On the 10th day of Christmas
 • Check the battery in your smoke alarm every week and use Christmas as a reminder to clean it and remove dust.



11 On the 11th day of Christmas
 • Keep candles, lighters and matches out of reach of children. Never leave burning candles unattended.



12 On the 12th day of Christmas
 • Take the time to check on elderly relatives and neighbours this Christmas. Make sure they are fire safe.



www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk



www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk



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Community Safety Flash



E-Bike and E- Scooter Safety



Most E-bikes and e-scooters are powered by lithium-ion batteries which can be charged in the home. It is important to charge e-bikes and e-scooters safely to avoid a fire and outing your home and family at risk

- Follow the manufacturer's instructions when charging and always unplug the charger when it's finished charging
- Charge batteries whilst you are awake – do not charge while you are asleep or away from the home
- Always use the manufacturer approved charger and buy an official replacement charge if it becomes damaged
- Do not cover chargers or battery packs when charging as this could lead to a fire
- Do not charge batteries or store your e-bike or scooter near combustible or flammable materials.
- Do not overcharge your battery- check the manufacturer's instructions on charge times
- Do not overload sockets or use inappropriate extension leads
- If you charge your e-bike or scooter in a garage or kitchen, ensure you install detection – we recommend heat alarms rather than smoke alarms for these areas.
- Ensure you have working smoke alarms
- In the event of an e-bike, e-scooter, or lithium-ion battery fire do not attempt to extinguish the fire
- **GET OUT, STAY OUT and call 999**

- Avoid storing or charging e-bikes or e-scooters on escape routes or in communal areas of a multi occupied building. If there is a fire, it can affect people's ability to escape.
- Responsible Persons should consider the risks posed by e-bikes and e-scooters where they are charged or left in common areas such as means of escape, bike and mobility scooter charging rooms.
- Store e-bikes and e-scooters and their batteries in a cool place. Avoid excessively hot or cold places.
- Follow manufacturer's instructions for the storage and maintenance of lithium-ion batteries if they are not going to be used for some time.

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Community Safety Flash



- Buy e-bikes, e-scooters, chargers and batteries from reputable retailers
- Many fires involve counterfeit electrical goods.
- Items which don't meet British or European standards pose a huge fire risk.
- Genuine chargers may cost more but it is not worth putting your life at risk or destroying your home by buying a fake charger.
- If buying a conversion kit, purchase from a reputable seller and check it complies with British or European standards
- Register your product with the manufacturer to validate any warranties
- Check for any product recalls. You can do this by checking [Electrical Safety First website](#) or [Government website](#)

- Batteries can be damaged by dropping them or crashing e-bikes or e-scooters
- When the battery is damaged it can overheat and catch fire without warning. Check your battery regularly.
- Replace it if you suspect it is damaged
- Check with your manufacturer or local authority for suitable battery recycling arrangements in your area.

Further information can be found for [e-bike licensing, tax and insurance](#) and [government guidance on the use of powered transport](#)



www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk



www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk



Sport at Picknalls

Take a look at the sporting events we have been to since our last newsletter

Archery

Some super performances at the KS2 Archery this evening. Started off slowly, but by the end there were plenty of Robin Hood and Maid Marian archers!



KS2 Tag Rugby

Year 4 went to a TAG Rugby festival this evening and were taught the basics by Burton RFC in a series of fun activities. Muddy and very cold but we have the makings of a great team for the spring tournaments!



Hockey

Fantastic afternoon at the East Staffs Hockey Tournament at Shobnall. We took 5 teams with 42 Year 4 Picknalls pupils participating. Only 8 weeks of training and two of our teams met in the final! Absolutely awesome!



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Useful Links

Here are some links we think you might find useful and a brief description of each:

	<p>SIMS Parent helps keep your children safe. In an emergency, up-to-date information helps schools meet their safeguarding obligations. Manage what information the school holds right from your phone. You will need an invitation from us to access this.</p>
	<p>We use ParentPay for the vast majority of payments made to school. You can also view the current menu and book your child's lunch. Read their FAQ's here.</p>
	<p>Ofsted Parent View gives you the chance to tell Ofsted what you think of our school. The questionnaire can be completed at any time.</p>
	<p>We have several social media accounts to help keep you up-to-date with what's going on in school. We love to see your photo's from home too! Email us on instagram@picknalls.co.uk</p>

Contact Us

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www.picknalls.com
















Uttoxeter Learning Trust

Happy Hours—[book your before and after school care:](#)
07518 383775

Happy Hours Facebook page



Cost of Living Support

 <p>An online directory service and a one-stop-shop for all things health, care and events in Staffordshire</p>	 <p>Support and advice available in the East Staffs borough</p>	 <p>A scheme run by SCC to help residents to heat their homes for less using energy efficient solutions</p>	 <p>South Staffs Water</p> <p>If your household income is less than £19,050 per year, you may qualify for a discount on your water charge</p>	 <p>Get free water saving devices to help lower your energy bills</p>
 <p>Facebook group for people living in Uttoxeter. A local warm place, warm clothes bank, food bank and more</p>	 <p>Facebook group with info, events and tips for East Staffs families</p>	 <p>Uttoxeter Renew Church Facebook group. Food bank, support network for people living in Uttoxeter</p>	 <p>The Globe Foundation</p> <p>Free 'Repair Room' - last Friday every month 1.30pm-4.30pm. You pay for materials, costs discussed upfront</p>	 <p>Star Burton Charity store sells furniture from £5-£200, home starter packs from £100 and can deliver for a charge</p>
 <p>Uttoxeter Leisure Centre offers 50% off their facilities for low income families</p>	 <p>One FREE swimming voucher per child per session, but you can apply as many times as you want</p>	 <p>Social tariffs are cheaper broadband and phone packages for people claiming Universal Credit, Pension Credit and some other benefits</p>	 <p>Staffordshire Live for all the cost of living support cash you can access in Staffordshire</p>	 <p>Money Saving Expert sign up for weekly money tips emails</p>

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Picknalls First School Future Dates

Please note: all dates are subject to change. See our website's Calendar for the most up-to-date information

Dec-23

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
2:30pm - Year 1 Christmas Performance	2:00pm - Year 2 Christmas Performance	2:15pm - Year 3 Christmas Performance	2:00pm - Year 4 Christmas Performance	10:00am - Nursery Christmas Performance 2:00pm - Reception Christmas Performance		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
1:00- Nursery Christmas Party with Loopy Lou 1:00pm - Reception Christmas Party	Am - Reception and Year 1 - theatre trip Pm - Year 2 Christmas Party	Am - Yr 2, 3 and 4 to Regent Theatre Pm - Year 1 Christmas Party	Pm - Year 4 Christmas Party	Christmas Jumper Non-Uniform Day Pm - Year 3 Christmas Party Last day of term		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Christmas Holiday						

Jan-24

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
INSET Day - no children in school	Back to school STEM Activity Week		Fizz Pop Science - STEM activities with every year group			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	2:00pm - Reception parents writing workshop	2:30pm - Year 1 'Old Games' parent workshop				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Feb-24

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Children's Mental Health Week pm - Parents' Evening	Pm- Parents Evening			Last day of half term		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Half Term Holiday						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Jungle Activity Week						
26	27	28	29			