



NEWSLETTER

JULY '24

HEADTEACHER'S ADDRESS...

Dear Parent / Carer,

Welcome to this summer newsletter which highlights some of the wide range of activities and opportunities on offer at The Pilgrim school.

As the long break approaches, we have much to celebrate and reflect on....

Hopefully you have had opportunity to read our latest Ofsted report which recognises the hard work, kindness and hope that run through all that we do.

We are of course proud of the outcome, but mostly we are proud of our community. Especially overwhelming was the positive feedback received from you as parents, staff, the governing body and, last but by no means least, our pupils. We do not underestimate the anxiety that talking to strangers and having additional adults in school can present and yet all those who participated in the inspection showed our school at its very best.

The feedback from all visitors to the school mirrors that from Ofsted; together we create a welcoming, inclusive and hopeful space. This is further highlighted in surveys throughout the year from all stakeholders. Thank you for taking the time to share your views.

This term we held our first ever residential trip, completed our first Silver D of E expedition practice and offered our first on site holiday club. This is all alongside running examination season in all three bases, planning end of year trips and supporting our leavers with their next steps in education or training.



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Celebration Day and Prom were wonderful opportunities to wish them well and remind them we will still be here if needed in September and beyond.

In school, we will continue to strive for the very best for our pupils and the leadership team and staff have been busy planning for the next academic year.

One slight change for base pupils will be that we will rotate tutor times throughout the week so that all pupils have access to the wide-ranging offer regardless of their timetable. Visual calendars and resources will be added to the website to support sharing of experiences at home. We are also introducing a second DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) session within English lessons as, this year, we have seen the impact across the curriculum of prioritising reading for pleasure.

Within these newsletters, we always share some of our work relating to Hope which is the golden thread running through our school. We are busy recruiting past pupils who are 3 to 4 years on from their Pilgrim journey to share their stories and provide aspiration to our current cohort. Any year 11 leavers who are interested in this for the future please let us know at awards evening.

Thank you to all who have contributed to our school journey this year in any way. Remember to check the website for various links for support and resources over the summer.

All that remains is to wish you all a peaceful summer break and we look forward to continuing the hard work after summer.

Steve Barnes

GOVERNORS' UPDATE...

Governors of The Pilgrim School have had a busy year fulfilling our 3-fold role to the best of our ability. We meet as a Full Governing Body at least 6 times a year and visit all aspects of the school as much as we can in between meetings. Our meeting minutes reflect the depth of work we cover. These are available on the school website once they have been agreed by the Full Governing Body and become public documents. Paper copies are also available.

To be strong, effective Governors we do the following: -

Role 1 - Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction

Governors can clearly see that the vision of 'Hope-Filled Opportunities Provided for Everyone' is at the heart of the school and our strategic role is to make sure the operational school leadership maintains this direction. The positive impact of Hope on all members of the school community cannot be underestimated. We are passionate about this and will do all we can to make sure our essential policies and reports reflect our commitment to this vision.

Role 2 - Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the effective and efficient performance management of staff.

Governors receive outstanding detailed written reports from the school senior leadership team at every meeting and these look at 3 areas – successes; challenges; next steps. Individual Governors are given specific focus points such as SEND, Safeguarding, Finance, Careers, and visit the school to meet with individual staff members to gain evidence to confirm the reports. The Chair and Head of School meet fortnightly to maintain a general overview of the school's progress and performance.

Role 3 - Overseeing financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.

Governors receive a thorough resources report at every meeting which keeps us all up to date with an overview of the school's financial performance. The Finance Governor meets regularly with the School Business Manager to look at the finer details. In this way we can ensure that the budget we are given by the Local Authority is well planned and the money is well spent.

As you can see being a Governor is a responsible job and not one to be taken lightly. BUT it is also a great privilege and joy to see the life changing impact these strategic plans are having on the whole school community.

I started as a Parent Governor when my son was 6 years old; - he is 36 years old this year! In those 30 years I have held a variety of Governor roles around the country wherever we have been living and I can genuinely say I have never tired of being involved. If you feel this is something you would like to get involved with, I would be delighted to hear from you, Barbara.temple@pilgrim.lincs.sch.uk.

Barbara Temple
Chair of Governors

SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION...

What an amazing academic year we have had with lots of highlights and achievements across the school. Safeguarding our pupils continues to be our highest priority and we always manage to do our utmost to support our pupils in feeling safe while working alongside our families to ensure our positive relationships enhance the sense of a safe and secure base in school, at home, and when out in the community.



Our school website has lots of beneficial links and activities that both parents and students can access to enhance their knowledge and skills or simply reaffirm what they are doing is correct. Why not spend some time over the summer to check this out?

<https://www.pilgrim.lincs.sch.uk/page/?title=Together+at+Home&pid=176>

This year has seen the continuation of our base pupil forums alongside the successful implementation of our home pupil forum. Next year as part of our school development plan we would like to introduce a parent's forum where we will be able to gain better insight on what further steps Pilgrim can take to support our pupils and families. An expression of interest form will be coming your way early next academic year so please consider joining!



The summer holidays are upon us and, although this brings with it family fun, quality family time, and a time to de-stress, rest and recuperate; it can also bring on additional pressures, additional financial strains, and family disputes. The biggest tips to remember are:

- Love and family time does not always have to be expensive. You could go for family walks, have family movie nights, games or quiz nights, or just spend time chatting and chilling.
- 6 weeks can be a long time to try and fill which can often cause family disputes and arguments. Spending too much time together can be as stressful as spending no time together. Try and find the healthy balance and know that it is ok to have some space.
- Feeding young people can be expensive especially during a school holiday, cooking for everyone all the time can also bring on stresses and exhaustion. Why not spend some time enhancing your young person's life skills, get them involved in meal times. Don't be afraid to reach out for financial support if it is needed, there is no shame in saying you need help. Here is a link to finding out what local support is available regarding community groceries and foodbanks. <https://lincolnshirefoodpartnership.org/foodbanks/>

If you have concerns about being able to keep your child safe and feel you need further support then please contact Children's social care on 01522 782111.

If you feel your child requires mental health support, you can self-refer to 'Here for you' which is the hub for Healthy Minds, MHST, CAMHS, and Crisis support. <https://www.lpft.nhs.uk/young-people/lincolnshire/young-people/self-referral>

You could also reach out to the following services for support:

You don't need to be at rock bottom to ask for help

Samaritans:	116 123
Childline:	0800 111
Mind:	0300 123 3393
Young Minds:	Txt YM to 85258 (youth)
Shout:	Txt 85258 (any age)
Domestic abuse hotline:	0808 2000 247
SANEline:	0300 304 7000
Drink line:	0300 123 1110
Cruse Bereavement Care:	0808 808 1677
Age UK:	0800 169 6565

It's good to talk!
@youthwhispering

HOPELINE247
0800 068 41 41

A final tip for ensuring the transition back to school runs smoothly: although the summer break is a great time to rest and recuperate, try not to allow yourselves to get completely out of routine. Try to keep sleep routines similar to what they are now, showers and other self-care routines help to aid a positive mindset, alongside a balanced diet and exercise. We all hope you all have an amazing summer break and we look forward to having you back in September.



E-SAFETY...

While 44% of primary school children have their own mobile phones, the same is true for 97% of children in secondary school. However, not all children understand the dangers of the online space or believe they are mature enough to handle them. That's why it's important to give them the skills they need to make safe choices with quality secondary school resources.

From managing their screen time to navigating cyberbullying or inappropriate content, we use a variety of resources in PSHE to help teach our students about staying safe online use.

First, it's important to remember that there are plenty of benefits for children who go online. Research from online safety organization, Internet Matters, found that the majority of children believe going online positively impacts their wellbeing. This is based on a survey given to children aged 9-17 who self-reported these feelings.

Overall, children enjoy going online, so our role as educators and yours as parents is to give them the tools to keep enjoying their time by staying safe and becoming resilient.

Despite many positives, there are also potentially negative impacts from being online. For example, research shows that blue light from screens can impact sleep cycles, and using screens while sitting or lying down can have impacts on physical health.

Platforms also use what's called persuasive design to keep people engaged. Children are often more susceptible to this, which can lead to feelings of too much screen time. And the more time a child spends online, the more likely they are to come across potential harm. However, if they have the right skill, they can often identify these risks.

When it comes to risks, there are 4 C's that are commonly referred to – they are contact, content, conduct and commerce.

- Contact risks are those that come from talking with other users online – including friends and strangers.
- Content risks refer to potentially inappropriate videos, images, comments, TV shows, video games, etc.
- Conduct risks are the actions children take online. Some vulnerable groups are more likely to face this risk. For example, research shows that children with physical disabilities are more likely to visit sites with adult content. In fact, vulnerable children such as those with special education needs, communication limits, care experience, physical disabilities and mental health difficulties all are more likely to face all of these types of risks online.
- Finally, commerce risks tend to refer to scams but can also refer to general spending and overspending, particularly in video games that have optional purchases. If a child engages with scam advertising or phishing messages, they are likely to face some sort of harm.

There is a lot to remember about online safety, but when it comes to teaching your child, these are the top things to remember:

1. Encourage open communication. You can do this by having those regular conversations and making chats about digital a normal part of conversations. The more they talk, the more confident they will feel voicing their concerns or asking for help.
2. Teach them to think critically about things they see online. This means questioning what they see and the intent behind it, checking for sources, asking your opinion and generally taking the time to think about the consequences of an action before they take that action.
3. Teach them how to use safety tools like reporting and blocking as well as customization tools so their social media feeds and YouTube algorithms only show what they want to see. This also means knowing how to use their apps' privacy and security settings.

HOPE CURRICULUM...

Alongside learning about our school and subject hopeful heroes, we aim for pupils to gain an understanding of hopeful vocabulary. Here are a few more of our Hope words that you may come across in school...

Kintsuigi:

the Japanese art of putting broken pottery pieces back together with gold – embracing the idea that in embracing flaws and imperfections you can create even stronger, more beautiful piece of art. Every break is unique and instead of repairing an item like new, the 400-year old technique highlights the "scars" as part of the design. Using this as a metaphor for healing ourselves teaches us an important lesson; sometimes in the process of repairing things that have broken, we actually create something more unique, beautiful and resilient.

Eunoia:

Greek: Beautiful thinking from a beautiful mind. Goodwill to others. A pure and well-balanced mind, a good spirit. "Beautiful thinking".

Ikigai:

a Japanese concept referring to something that gives a person a sense of purpose, a reason for living. Something that makes you get out of bed in the morning.

Storge:

A Greek word for love, but the love that is instinctive and deeply caring and nurturing. Familial love; natural, unforced, stable and committed.



SCHOOL TERMS & HOLIDAYS 2024/2025

Term 1

Inset Days Monday 2nd & Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Wednesday 04 September 2024 to Friday 18 October 2024

Term 2

Inset Day Monday 28th October 2024

Tuesday 29 October 2024 to Friday 20 December 2024

Bank Holidays:-

Wednesday 25 & Thursday 26 December 2024

Wednesday 1 January 2025

Term 3

Inset Day Monday 6 January 2025

Tuesday 7 January 2025 to Friday 14 February 2025

Term 4

Monday 24 February 2025 to Friday 4 April 2025

Bank Holidays:-

Friday 18 April & Monday 21 April 2025

Term 5

Inset Day Tuesday 22 April 2025

Wednesday 23 April 2025 to Friday 23 May 2025

Bank Holidays:-

Monday 5 & Monday 26 May 2025

Term 6

Monday 2 June 2025 to Tuesday 22 July 2025

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN OUR BASES THIS TERM

AMBER HILL NEWS....

As the summer begins, we want to celebrate the accomplishments and community spirit that have defined this term.

We are incredibly proud of our Year 11 students for their dedication and hard work during the exam season. Your perseverance and commitment have truly paid off! A heartfelt thank you to all the students who supported Year 11 throughout their exams. Your encouragement and camaraderie made a significant difference and highlighted the strength of our community. Not forgetting a big thank you to all the parents and carers for your unwavering support during this time for Year 11. Your guidance and encouragement have been invaluable. It was wonderful to see everyone at our Celebration Day. Recognizing your achievements and enjoying fun activities together was a perfect way to mark the end of the term.

In WOW this term students created their own galaxies in jars, sparking meaningful conversations about important relationships and support networks in their lives.



We welcomed Boston Bees, who gave an engaging talk about bees. Students enjoyed observing the hive and making candles from beeswax sheets.



We have returned to see the Lambs we fed in April, to see how they have grown and them to watch them roaming in the fields. While we were there we saw some chicken which we helped to move enclosures and we received a talk about the life cycle of a chicken.

Enjoy your summer break, recharge, and create beautiful memories. We look forward to seeing you all refreshed and ready for new adventures in the next term!



Open Morning

On Friday the 5th of July, we had an open morning for parents/carers to come into base. We had tours of the base given by the students, parents had a chance to have a chat with the lovely staff in the base and look at some of their amazing work, followed by a nice cup of tea/coffee, biscuits and cake! As well as all that, they really enjoyed looking at the art student's art work in a mini art exhibition. Thank you to all the parents/carers that came to visit it was lovely to see you.

BAUMBER NEWS...

The end of another year is on the horizon!

It's very easy to forget just how much has happened over the last nine months or so, or the new, unique and/or ground-breaking events that blend in with the established milestones.

PGL was a whole new experience and a memorable one for a variety of reasons. We were lucky enough to have the opportunity to take part in archery and knife-throwing, the zip-wire, open water canoeing and then, later, all pile into the teachers' "private lounge". Fortunately we were the only school there!

We've had ice cream at The Big Chair Company, the annual pumpkin picking at Waddingworth (post flooding!), crafts in WOW such as Diwali designs, gingerbread making, a candle workshop and an attempt at string snowmen. Record Breakers afternoon showed some people's more competitive edge, wall climbing in Lincoln, numerous walks, tie-dye T-shirts and bowling in Lincoln (with bumpers down for staff).

Christmas was marked with our traditional visit to the Kinema at Woodhall Spa to see "Wonka", just a few days after a well-attended inaugural Carol Service at St Swithin's Church, Baumber.

World Book Day was also a fantastic turnout, based on Alice In Wonderland this year. It's become a big annual event on the Baumber calendar.

The Wild Pines trip for the low ropes activity was a huge success challenging both students and staff! Many students started out quite apprehensive but overcame a number of obstacles (funnily enough!) and were soon dashing through the trees. Within half an hour the low ropes course was complete and the staff kindly let us then move onto the high ropes course. A thoroughly enjoyable day which we will definitely be trying again.

Pride month ran throughout June, but events and participation were heavily influenced by the GCSE exams. We continue to run the LGBTQ+ club, which celebrates diversity and unity, and importantly helps our students not only with their own identity but also allows everybody to openly discuss issues which affect all members of our whole school community.

Exams were an interesting challenge this year. We have encouraged as many staff as possible to qualify as invigilators, mainly to lighten the load. However, at some points in the calendar we had six students but in five different rooms. I honestly don't know how we'd have coped, so a huge thank you to everyone who invigilated, roved, or just kept the other students reasonably quiet around base.

We've said goodbye to another group of year 11s. It's certainly quieter around base, but the KS3 and Year 10 groups are already starting to grow, with all the challenges and laughter that creates. We've also said goodbye to Abi, who's moving on to train to be a History teacher – in case you've not met her, this is our favourite photo!



We'd like to wish everybody a good summer, and look forward to seeing you all in September.



LINCOLN NEWS...

Exams are over and the Yr. 11's have finished their journey with us. We wish them all the best and share our hope with them for the future. We also know that we will stay connected (ubuntu), look forward to Prom and seeing them again at our Awards evening. Thank you to all the support parents and carers have given us as a school to enable the pupils to do their best. Thank you to the pupils for making everyday interesting, fun and varied.

Throughout the year the pupils have had access to not only an academic education but experiences that we hope and wish have supported their progress academically and pastorally. From the Norfolk trip, through to extracurricular experiences, spirituality day, gardening, cooking, Duke of Edinburgh, socialising, reading and forming relationships with the peers and adults in the School. I have really enjoyed spending time with the pupils throughout these varied events and activities.

The Lincoln staff wish you well over the holidays and look forward to seeing you all in September.

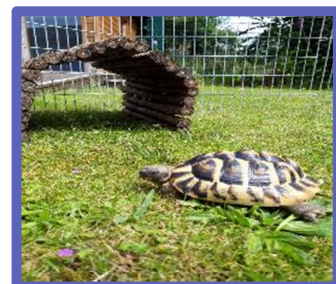
WOW

This year in Lincoln WOW we have covered a vast variety of topics and completed a mix of activities. We have spent a large amount of our time outside, trying to improve the garden, we have planted different vegetables such as; potatoes, sweetcorn, tomatoes and raspberries. We go on regular walks in the local area and have made a variety of different cakes and foods from all over the world.



Welcome Gibb!

Gibb (the tortoise) has been a welcome addition to the team and he makes a regular appearance in the WOW sessions and around the Lincoln base. The pupils and staff are doing a good Job at looking after him and he really likes a bath and exploring and eating the dandelion's in the garden.



HOME TAUGHT...

As the summer sun shines brightly, we reflect on an incredible term filled with achievements and growth. Here's a snapshot of our recent highlights:

Congratulations to our Year 11 students who have completed their exams! Your hard work and dedication are truly commendable. We're proud of your resilience and can't wait to see where your paths lead.

A special shout out to all who stepped out of their comfort zones to attend the Norfolk residential trip. Your courage and willingness to embrace new experiences made it an unforgettable journey. Well done!

Whether you're attending a base for lessons, studying at your mainstream school, balancing lessons with independent work, or working with your tutor in your home, each of you is on a unique journey with Pilgrim. Your progress is inspiring, and we are incredibly proud of your commitment and growth.

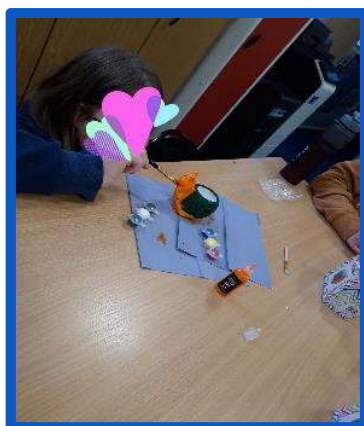
As we wrap up the term, we want to wish you all a joyful and relaxing summer holiday. Take time to recharge, explore, and enjoy new adventures.

We look forward to seeing you back, refreshed and ready for the next chapter!

KIT DAYS...

This Easter we trialled our first ever Keeping In Touch (KIT) days and the feedback for these sessions were very positive. We had 6 pupils join us at our Amber Hill base who were a combination of Amber Hill, Lincoln and home taught pupils. The sessions consisted of Easter related activities such as Easter Egg Hunts, Easter Escape rooms, plant pot painting and planting, alongside picnic menu planning, shopping and cooking. These activities provided an opportunity for pupils to build on social skills, enhance their community engagement and develop their life skills.

We have also had a positive uptake on the KIT Days that are planned for the summer break. These dates will be held on Wednesday 31st July, Wednesday 7th August, Wednesday 14th August, and Wednesday 21st August at both our Lincoln and Amber Hill bases. More information will be coming out shortly to those who have signed up to attend these sessions but I am hopeful that they too will be as successful as the Easter KIT days.



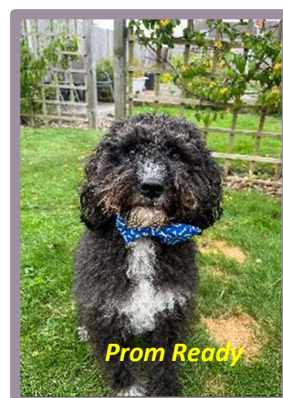
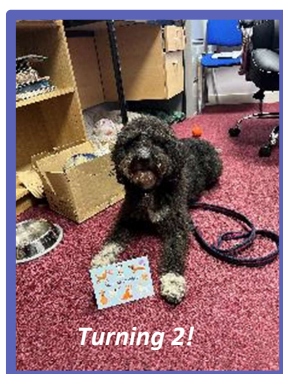
OTTO...

Otto has had a busy term and really does seem to love his job, interacting with pupils and staff and engaging with all aspects of school life.

His personal highlights since Easter have possibly been meeting Luna, the fellow labradoodle, on our residential trip (and launching himself of the boat for a swim) and getting a mention in our latest Ofsted report!

With D of E and a beach trip still to come before the end of term, I'm sure he will enjoy the long summer break with swimming and snoozing aplenty.

Here are a few of his adventures this term:



BRIEFINGS & TRIPS...

As this academic year draws to a close and having the opportunity to reflect on briefings, trips and events this year, the pupils have been able to access a vast amount of information and enjoy some fantastic trips. I am very proud of the commitment shown by the pupils who have attended the trips and especially the drive and resilience demonstrated by pupils who attended our trip to Norfolk Lakes.

The school has had visits from external agencies who have provided some excellent workshops covering subjects such as road safety, gambling harm, vaping, domestic abuse, online safety, anti-social behaviour, knife crime, county lines, exam stress, fire safety, computer misuse act and substance awareness.

We have had trips to PGL Caythorpe, Kinema in the Woods, Norfolk Lakes and currently organising a trip to the beach before the end of term. The school's first ever overnight trip to Norfolk Lakes adventure centre was a great success and it was a real pleasure witnessing the pupils enjoying themselves. The pupils experienced various different activities over the 2 days and these included archery, axe throwing, canoeing and aeroball.

We are currently looking at organising a trip to the beach during the last week of term and more information relating to this will follow.

I want to thank all the pupils and parents for supporting the trips and we look forward to organising more of the same for next year.

On a personal note, my role is changing to encompass careers and I am currently undertaking a Level 6 Apprenticeship in Careers Development. This will enable me to provide pupils in Years 10 and 11 with Level 6 Careers, Advice, Information and Guidance (CAIG) on a 1:1 basis. I have already provided CAIG to several of our current Year 11 pupils and these have been very successful. During the next academic year 24/25, I will be in touch relating to offering CAIG to all pupils in Years 10 and 11 and will work with all pupils in the various aspects of careers development.

Neil Blackwell
Careers and Community Liaison Manager



TRIP TO MANOR LAKES

On Tuesday 16th April staff and students set off to Norfolk. On the way they made a stop at the beach as they were not expected until 2pm. At the beach they went for a dog walk to stretch their legs and Otto, our school dog, went for a good run. Some students went off ahead and Otto ran to them and back several times wagging his tail.

Everyone went to the toilet and then we set back off to the journey that awaits us. When we arrived at Manor Adventure we got put into groups and put all our luggage in our accommodation. After we received a tour of the premises there was a huge lake for kayaking and a massive indoor rock-climbing wall. Next, we adventured back to our dorms to get ready for our first activity. We got sorted into two groups, one group contained Amber Hill pupils and the other contained Baumber and Lincoln pupils, then we met our instructor and proceeded to our activities. Amber Hill did Archery for their first activity and the other group did Axe Throwing.

After the first activity we had dinner. There was a variety of options, pasta, bolognese and macaroni cheese. Soon after tea we did a quiz. The quiz was quite interesting as it showed how competitive some of Pilgrim can be, but it also showed how we can work together in teams. After the quiz we went to bed in our flats ready to wake at 8am for breakfast.

We woke up, got packed and dressed and headed to the breakfast hall. For breakfast we had a nice delicious English breakfast and toast for some. The breakfast was praised by several members of staff and students. Next, we all headed outside to meet up with our instructors for our first activity. Amber Hill group's first activity was Aero ball and Lincoln and Baumber had Kayaking. Otto went with the Lincoln group, during this time Otto decide to go for a swim as he jumped into the river. An instructor fished him out luckily. Whilst this chaos was happening, Amber hill was playing Football and some of the students got distracted by the Football, so Aero ball turned into football which then turned to Dodgeball!

After this we had a break before the next activity, Axe Throwing for Amber Hill and Archery for Lincoln and Baumber, both activities were enjoyed by both groups – Paige, Pilgrim Student



PAST PUPIL NEWS...

My name is Amelie and I was a student at Pilgrim from 2019-2023. I spent almost all of my secondary school years there and I couldn't have been more grateful.

Originally I was going to stay throughout lockdown and work toward going back to my mainstream for my GCSEs but I happened to decide against it as I became comfortable with my surroundings and my confidence grew when attending. Not only did I meet some of my best friends and grew strong connections with people my own age, but also with the staff members who I will always be so grateful to.

Without the staff supporting me throughout all my hardships, such as lockdown and my own personal mental/physical hardships, I wouldn't have seen the point in exams and going onto mainstream college. However, I ended up doing better in my GCSEs than I ever thought I would and continued Year 12 at Stamford College.

I can't express how thankful I am to Pilgrim and what they have done for me. They motivated me to continue with exams, through times like lockdown and helped to grow my confidence within my writing journey which I started out when I attended and am now hopefully publishing my debut novel at the end of this year.

Even to this day, although I may no longer attend, they still make an effort to keep up to date on what I'm doing in life and still make me smile throughout my returning visits.

SPIRITUALITY DAY...



This year we held our second annual 'Spirituality Day' by celebrating a wealth of things spiritual and linking these to our Hope curriculum.

Around the bases we timetabled 5 different sessions with activities that linked to the following: 1) Spirituality and what it means to different people, 2) Art and spirituality, 3) Movement and mindfulness, 4) Music and spirituality, 5)



Spirituality and hopefulness. Pupils had access to a range of activities within these sessions and participated within these well.

The photos show some of the pupil's creativity and how they linked some of these activities to Hope. Massive thanks to Jackie G, Debbie M, Jen and Chelsey who all updated the resources to support these sessions.

Big thanks to all staff who supported these sessions, I enjoyed the day and hope you did too.

FOOTBALL GAME:

Baumber & Lincoln win the annual Inter-Base Game 7-1



In a thrilling inter-base football match between Amber Hill and Baumber & Lincoln, it was Baumber & Lincoln who emerged victorious with a stunning 7-1 win. The game, which took place at the Heckington Pavilion and Playing Fields, showcased the exceptional skills and teamwork of the Baumber & Lincoln team as they outplayed their opponents throughout the match.



From the opening whistle, the game showcased great skill and sportsmanship from both teams, with Baumber & Lincoln displaying exceptional teamwork and precision on the field. Despite the clear lead in the final score, it was evident that both teams put up a strong fight throughout the game. Amber Hill showed determination and resilience, never backing down in the face of their opponents. Baumber & Lincoln capitalized on their opportunities and executed their game plan effectively, resulting in a convincing win.

While the scoreline may have favoured Baumber & Lincoln, it is important to acknowledge the efforts and performance of both teams. The match was a testament to the competitive spirit and talent present in Pilgrim, providing an entertaining spectacle for teachers, students and fans alike, setting the stage for more thrilling encounters to be had in future inter base football games.

CELEBRATION DAY...

We recently held our Celebration Day at our Amber Hill base. Staff and students from across Pilgrim School were invited to attend and celebrate all their achievements from the past academic year, particularly the Year 11s who recently sat their GCSEs.

There were several activities on offer, including badminton, rounders, movies, an inflatable slide, ball games, and a scavenger hunt. We were lucky enough to have nice weather, so most students enjoyed the sun while spending time with friends. A student-run coffee shop made a triumphant return for the occasion and BBQ burgers and hotdogs for lunch were enjoyed by many. Two former students, part of our Year 11 cohort last year, returned to present the current Year 11s with their certificates/awards and some words of wisdom about Pilgrim and post-Pilgrim life. In the afternoon, the ever-popular Party Delights ice cream van arrived, which was certainly needed on such a warm day. Many Year 11 students wore shirts or brought in leavers books for other students or staff to write their well wishes; those wearing shirts frequently ran out of space to write on as there were so many messages or drawings on them.

We thank our students for attending Celebration Day and we wish good luck to our outgoing group of Year 11s.

PROM...

On Thursday 4th July 2024 we held the Pilgrim Prom at RAF Conningsby. We had a photobooth, a buffet, dancing, singing, games, and the main event: DJ Chelsey. Prom was held to celebrate the successes of our lovely year 11 cohort, and their last day with us at The Pilgrim School. We have had great feedback from both staff and pupils, and we look forward to next year's prom.

A huge thank you to everyone who made this day possible, and to year 11s for being fabulous- we wish you all the best!

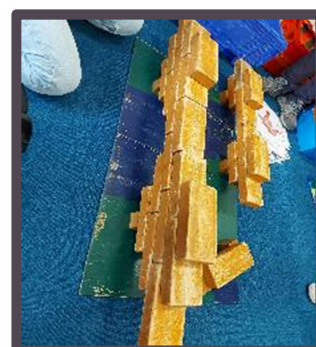
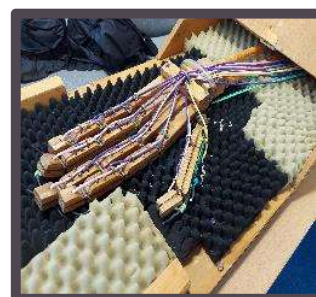
SCIENCE DAY...

We are thrilled to share news of the recent Science Workshop delivered by the students of Cambridge University's Cambridge Chaos. This engaging event took place at Amber Hill and Lincoln Base.

The workshop featured a range of 14 activities. Participants had the opportunity to explore the wonders of geology by examining a fascinating collection of rocks and fossils. The hands-on experience didn't stop there – a moving model demonstrated the intricate mechanics of how muscles in the hand operate, providing a deeper understanding of human anatomy. Other highlights included a gyroscope activity, which offered insight into the principles of angular momentum and physics in motion.

Students enjoyed constructing and testing a cantilever bridge, learning about the principles of structural engineering and balance.

The enthusiasm and dedication of the Cambridge University students were evident and their passion for science inspired everyone present. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the Cambridge University students for their hard work and for making this event a memorable experience.



ELECTION...

The Pilgrim School undertook its very first Election. We didn't run any candidates, so no speeches were made and no manifestos were written. But we provided three options: Labour, Lib Dems and The Conservatives. We threw together posters highlighting each party's election promises from National Service for teenagers, through providing grown-ups in charge to cleaning up waterways in the UK. We had ad-hoc debates across lessons on political history and political philosophy. We touched on ideologies and heard some extremely insightful viewpoints from a multitude of students. The staff had some enlightening verbal encounters too. The home students joined in with materials that are still readily available on Teams. We had postal votes and proxy votes, and ballot boxes in all bases. The turnout was excellent. A lot of teenagers saw the Liberal Democrats as the party they liked the most after we had gone through what everyone thought important. The idea of lowering the age of voting to sixteen was a contentious issue, however. There was a fifty-fifty split on whether this was a good idea or not. Some adults thought it a good move but there were an equal number of students who thought it too young. Everyone was in agreement that National Service for teenagers was not a vote winner.

The votes were counted, the maths teachers made students do magical things with numbers turning results into percentages. Calculators were involved. The Pilgrim School, for the next five years, is officially a Labour School with 51.3% of the vote. Lib Dems were a very close second with 45.3% of the vote and The Conservative party were a distant third with 3.3% of the vote. I suspect this was Otto.

As an introduction to what Politics means for people and how it affects lives the whole experience was positive. Students have a deeper insight into what each party represents and the ideas that drive their policies.

MEET THE MATHEMATICS TEAM...

Jon Stevenson, Head of Maths, Assistant Head and Baumber Base Lead

After 22 years in the RAF, initially as a Data Analyst but mostly as a Linguist I finished my BSc (Open) with The Open University and joined the teaching profession, training at The Priory LSST before moving to The Priory Witham, where I became Curriculum Leader for Maths. I then moved to Lincoln Christ's Hospital School for a few years before joining The Pilgrim School in January 2018, becoming Head of Maths that summer and Assistant Head in summer 2021. There is no place like Pilgrim, where every day is definitely a new day!

Jacky Denton, Teacher of Maths

Joined Pilgrim school in 2015 and completed my teacher training with Pilgrim school, where I was appointed a Maths teacher at Pilgrim. Previously I worked in a number of roles in Retail, sales and food services and lived in Wales, England and Scotland. I have worked across a number of bases over the years and now my teaching focus is at Lincoln and Baumber. I love working with the range of pupils we have at Pilgrim, every day is different and always enjoyable.

Elena Wilson, Teacher of Maths and SENDCo.

After completing my degree in Psychology at The University of York I took the role as a Teaching Assistant at The Pilgrim School and haven't looked back since. I started in September 2018 and then completed my teacher training in Mathematics, before taking up the role as Mathematics and Psychology Teacher. I love working with the fantastic pupils that come to The Pilgrim School and strongly believe all pupils deserve to be given opportunities to strive and succeed and to help this I have recently taken on the Assistant SENDCO role alongside teaching Maths and Psychology!

Scott Archibald, Teacher of Maths

I went to Coventry University to study Motorcycle and Motorsport engineering during which I volunteered in a school as part of one of the modules. It was then that I realised I wanted to be a teacher, so when I left university, I joined an agency and ended up working at The Pilgrim School and soon knew that this was the kind of school I wanted to work in. The end of that year I left and went to study my PGCE at Bishop Grosseteste and got my first teaching job at Robert Pattinson where I worked for two years.

I then came back here as a learning mentor for two years before finally getting my role as a teacher of Maths, which then developed into a teacher of Technology too.

ART EXHIBITION...

I am pleased to confirm that year 11 GCSE Art pupils will be exhibiting their artwork in the Tea Room at Fydell House, South St, Boston PE21 6HT. The exhibition will run until 27 September 2023. You can view the exhibition on the days and times listed below:-

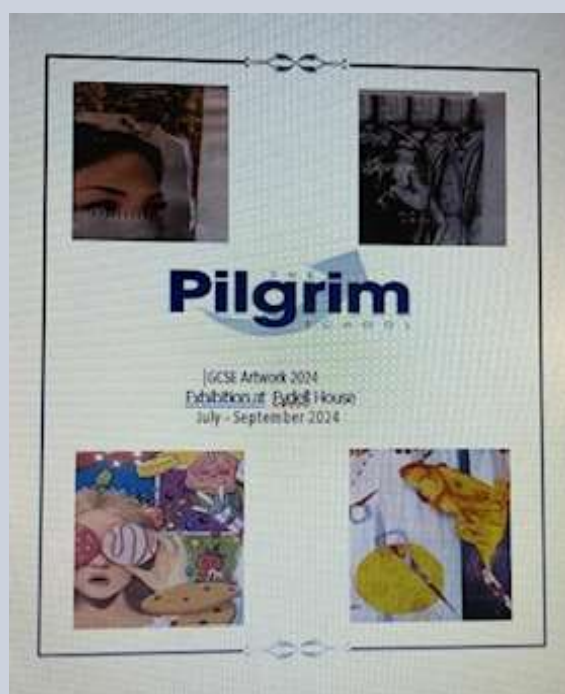
Mon, Tues + Thurs 10:30am-4:00pm
Wednesday + Friday 10:00am-3:00pm

There will be light refreshments served on the Wednesday.

No prior booking required, just turn up on the above days and times.

Thank you for your support,

Jackie Gourley
 Art teacher



THE PILGRIM SCHOOL – WHERE EVERYONE READS...

SUMMER CHALLENGE!!

‘Two Reads and a Dream’

This Summer we have asked all our pupils to engage in a slightly different Reading Challenge.

- Instead of the costly practice of buying books to read, we have asked pupils to recommend two ‘Reads’ they have loved and possibly exchange these with fellow readers, teachers, carers or friends.
- For the second part of the challenge, we are asking pupils to talk about a *dream* book that they have never found.
- This might be a fantasy about an alternative reality, a story which is hopeful and uplifting, a fairy tale about a world with no weapons, a diary from the future, or a nonfiction book that explains something they are dying
- to know more about. Their *dream* book can be anything they would love to read but have not yet seen or found.
- Finally, can someone recommend a book that matches their *dream* and *challenge them* to read it? Maybe they can. Maybe they cannot. Maybe they can recommend something else, or something close, or something even better?

After the Summer, English teachers will be delighted to learn about their ‘Two Reads and a Dream’ holiday reading and Book Token Prizes will be awarded accordingly.

It is hoped that this will generate some discussion about reading and encourage pupils to consider some new titles and genres in their ‘Reading Journey’ here at The Pilgrim School.

Have a Lovely Summer of Reading,

The English Department

SENDCO...

The summer holiday is a time that children often look forward to because it means a rest from school for a few weeks. However, for some children this change in routine can be difficult. Here are some tips to help the summer holidays be as stress-free as possible:

1. Plan ahead - This can often help children adjust to changes easier, and it helps to know what is going to happen next. Some parents provide a visual or written schedule and then try to stick with it as much as possible.
2. Use timers/alarms - Using timers that have a visual cue can be useful. For example, if you are leaving the house in 15 minutes, a countdown timer can help regulate the time left until the change in routine.
3. Routine - maintaining a structured routine throughout the holidays to ensure a smooth transition back into the school environment.
4. Use social stories - These are a great way to introduce and explain concepts and situations in a visual form. Social stories may increase the child's understanding of a social concept and can help the child understand what is going to happen. By letting your child know what will happen in advance, the potential anxiety and stress associated with the activity may decrease. For more information on social stories visit: [Social stories and comic strip conversations \(autism.org.uk\)](https://www.autism.org.uk/social-stories-and-comic-strip-conversations)
5. Allow extra time - When creating a schedule, it is important to remember that each activity/event may not start at the exact time, so it is useful to allow extra. If timing is problematic then times can be left out, with just a list of tasks/activities in order.
6. Introduce your child to new places or activities - If you are going somewhere new, it may be useful to introduce your child to these beforehand. For example, you could visit the place before, or if that's not possible, then look at the website and pictures together.



Illustration by: [unreadable]



Illustration by: [unreadable]



Coming back to school after a length of time off can also be tricky for lots of pupils. There are some top tips below to support your child with this transition.

1. Write down their worries and hopes - Write down everything they are looking forward to at school, and everything they're worried about. They could share this with you so you can help them cope with their worries.
2. Ask questions – Encourage them to ask about anything they are not sure about. Before finishing for summer, they could ask about things they'll need at school, who will be in your lessons or anything else that's on your mind.
3. Prepare themselves before going back - Make sure you pack your bag before going back, and that you've got your uniform if you wear one. If you're not used to getting up early, it can help to start setting an alarm and going to bed earlier before you start back.
4. Use the mood journal - The mood journal can help you to let your feelings and worries out. Why not use it to write about how you're feeling before going to school, and how it's gone after.
5. Take your time - It can take time to adjust to being back at school, and it's okay if it doesn't feel comfortable at first. Even when you're back at school, make time every day to do something you enjoy.



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Illustration by: [unreadable]

STAFFING CHANGES...

This term we have had the following changes to our staff:

NEW STARTERS:

- Louise Durber - Home PSWS
- Julie Barker - Admin Assistant at Lincoln Base
- Sophia Carpenter - Base PSWS at Lincoln
- Leisa Wheaton - Home PSWS
- Michael Aicken - Home Teacher
- Gemma Fenwick - Admin Assistant at Baumber Base
- Maisy Lobley - New TA in Baumber - due to start in September
- Chelsea Garner - New TA in Lincoln - due to start in September

STAFF LEAVING:

- Susan Williamson - ES Teacher
- Abigail Baldock - Learning Support at Baumber

APPOINTMENTS (Internal):

- Lynda Martin has moved from her Admin role to Base PSWS at Amber Hill

OTHER:

- Hope Smith has completed her teaching apprenticeship and has a part-time teaching contract in base

Have a
wonderful

