



PHOENIX INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

16 October 2026

www.phoenixinfant.co.uk

What a half term it has been - we have fitted so much in! We have really enjoyed welcoming our new children and families to Phoenix, while also welcoming back our returning children and seeing them settle happily into their new classes and routines. We have also been busy with curriculum meetings, coffee mornings and parents' evenings. Thank you to everyone who has joined us and supported these events. It has been a wonderful start to the school year, and we feel very privileged to be part of such a warm and supportive school community.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2026

This month, the children have been learning about important people and events in Black history. We encourage you to ask your child about their learning. They may share what they have discovered about inspiring figures, including Rosa Parks and her courageous stand against racial segregation.

At Phoenix, celebrating diversity and promoting anti-racist education are not limited to one month. We are proud to take part in the Anti-Racist Education Programme and teach this curriculum to our children throughout the year. These principles are woven throughout our curriculum and school life so that every child feels valued, represented and proud of their identity.

Families can continue the learning at home by exploring the CBBC Black History Month collection. It brings together child-friendly programmes, videos and stories that celebrate Black history, culture and achievements and help children learn about inspiring people and important events. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/curations/black-history-month>



OUR VALUE THIS MONTH: KINDNESS

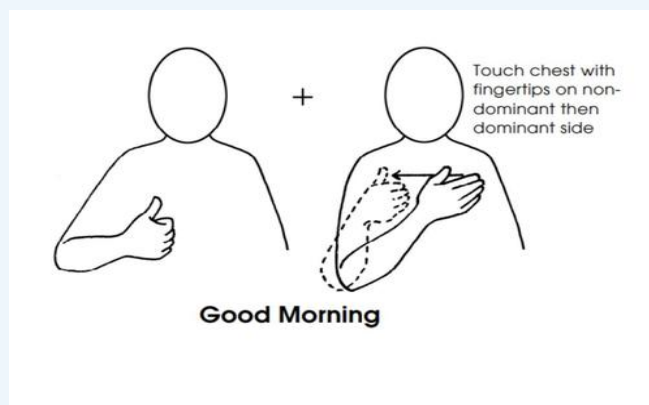
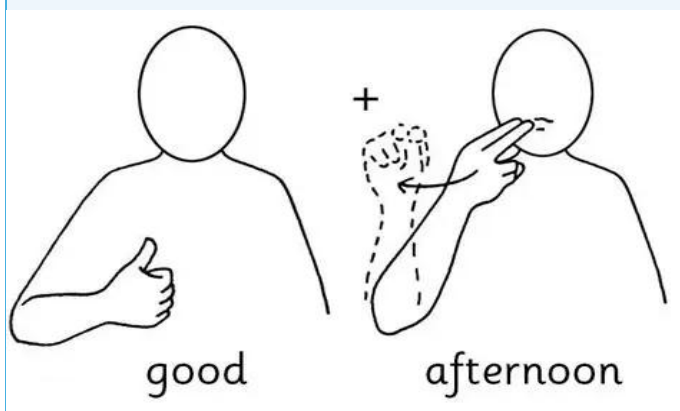
Each month, we build on a different value, helping children understand what it means and how they can show it in their everyday lives. Our value this month is kindness. The children have been thinking about kind words, kind actions and how even a small act of kindness can make a big difference to someone else.

Families can continue the conversation at home by asking: "Who were you kind to today?" and "Who was kind to you?" You can also [watch this short film about random acts of kindness together](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hI8Yz4gaV6U&feature=youtu.be).

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We have also continued to develop our use of Makaton across school. This month, the children have learned the signs for "good morning" and "good afternoon", helping everyone to communicate warmly and inclusively.



We are excited to be taking part in Run Pudsey to raise money for BBC Children in Need and support children and young people across the UK. It's a fantastic opportunity to get active, have fun and raise money for a wonderful cause.

The Phoenix Run Pudsey Challenge!

On Friday 13th November, we will be setting the children a special running/obstacle challenge! Children will be encouraged to run, jog or walk around our course for 15 minutes, completing as many laps as they can.

Every child can take part at their own pace, and we will celebrate everyone's effort and enthusiasm. We will also add up the laps completed by our children to see what an amazing whole-school total we can achieve!

What should children wear?

Children can come to school in non-uniform or Pudsey-inspired clothing to get into the spirit of the event. Think spots, bright colours, Pudsey ears and fun Children in Need outfits!



However, as everyone will be taking part in our running challenge, trainers are essential! Please make sure your child wears suitable clothing and footwear that they can comfortably run in.

🏆 Every fundraiser receives a medal!

Every child who raises funds will receive a medal after the event to celebrate their efforts and contribution to this fantastic cause.

💛 How can you support us?

Please visit our dedicated Run Pudsey school page to find out more and support your child's fundraising: <https://www.runpudsey.co.uk/school/phoenix-infant-and-nursery-school>

Our school code is: 96A6

We would ideally encourage families to make donations online through our school's Run Pudsey page. However, if you would prefer a paper sponsorship form, please let us know and we will be happy to provide one. We will keep you posted on how our Run Pudsey event is going throughout the day via our school Facebook page, so keep an eye out for updates and photos of our fantastic Phoenix runners!

Every donation, no matter how big or small, will help support Children in Need and the important work they do. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and generosity. Let's get behind Run Pudsey, have lots of fun and show what a difference our Phoenix family can make!

SPOTLIGHT

WOW!

Thank you so much for your generous OPAL donations this week! We are continuing to replenish our resources to make OPAL brilliant and provide even more exciting play experiences for the children. The bingo cards are filling up fast!

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Monday, 2 November is an INSET day - school will be closed to children.

Tuesday, 3 November is School Photo Day - best smiles ready!

HAVE A WONDERFUL HALF TERM!

We hope all our families have a happy and restful half term. We look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday, 3 November.

Mrs Harper and the Phoenix Team

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Autumn Term

Half Term - Monday, 19 October 2026 to Friday, 30 October 2026

INSET Day - Monday, 2 November 2026 - School closed for children

School Photographer in - Tuesday 3rd November 2026

Run Pudsey - Friday 13th November 2026

F2 Christmas Performance (Puffins and Finches) - Tuesday, 8 December 2026 at 2.00pm

Nursery Christmas Performance - Thursday, 10 December 2026 at 10.00am and 2.00pm

Santa's Grotto - Saturday, 12 December 2026

KS1 Christmas Performance (Woodpeckers, Hummingbirds and Kingfishers) -

Wednesday, 16 December 2026 at 2.00pm and Thursday, 17 December 2026 at 9.30am

Pantomime/Party Day, including Christmas dinner - Friday, 18 December 2026 (pantomime in the afternoon)

Last Day of Autumn Term - Friday, 18 December 2026

Spring Term

Back to School - Monday, 4 January 2027

Safer Internet Day - Tuesday, 9 February 2027

INSET Day - Friday, 12 February 2027 - School closed for children

Half Term - Monday, 15 February 2027 to Friday, 19 February 2027

First Day of Term - Monday, 22 February 2027

World Book Day - Thursday, 4 March 2027

Easter Disco - Friday, 19 March 2027

F2 Parents' Evenings (Puffins and Finches) - Monday, 22 March and Wednesday, 24 March 2027

KS1 Parents' Evenings (Hummingbirds, Kingfishers and Woodpeckers) - Tuesday, 23 March and Thursday, 25 March 2027

Last Day of Spring Term - Thursday, 25 March 2027

Summer Term

INSET Day - Monday, 12 April 2027 - School closed for children

First Day of Summer Term - Monday, 12 April 2027

Half Term - Monday, 31 May 2027 to Friday, 4 June 2027

Year 1 Phonics Screening - Week commencing 14 June 2027

Year 2 Residential Trip to Gulliver's Valley - Thursday, 17 June 2027 - details to follow

F1/F2 Sports Day (Nursery, Finches and Puffins) - Wednesday, 23 June 2027 at 10.00am

KS1 Sports Day (Hummingbirds, Kingfishers and Woodpeckers) - Thursday, 24 June 2027 at 9.30am

Carnival - Friday, 9 July 2027 - after-school fundraiser for children

Year 2 Leavers' Assembly - Tuesday, 27 July 2027 at 2.00pm

Last Day of Term - Wednesday, 28 July 2027 - End of academic year