

## 58,961 VOTERS HAVE THEIR SAY

Should lessons start later in the day? The majority of young people say Yes.

Visit [www.votesforschools.com](http://www.votesforschools.com) for the full story.

## UP FOR DISCUSSION: MONEY MANAGEMENT

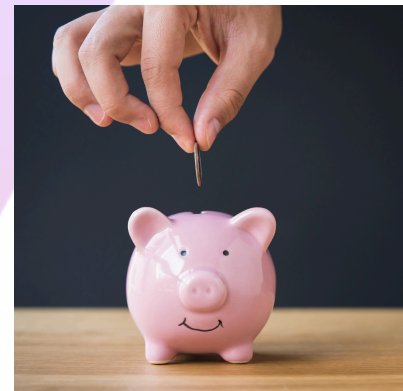
This week, VotesforSchools voters will be answering the question: "Is it easy to save your pennies?"

Why not discuss what you think about this question at home? Do you find it easy to put money to one side?

## THIS WEEK'S BIG READ: PIGGY BANKS

Piggy banks are a well-known tool for helping children save their coins up, but have you ever wondered who decided that they should be pig-shaped? The truth is, they didn't actually start out that way. In the Middle Ages, there were no banks, so people used special clay jars called "pyggs" to save their money at home.

Over time, people started making these money jars look like pigs as a joke, but no one knows exactly who started this off. The first pig-shaped money containers were found on an island in Indonesia, in the 12th century. People are still using this design today all over the world.



## GUIDED READING CHALLENGE

- Where did people keep money in the Middle Ages?
- What was a "pygg" made from?
- Why did they make the money containers pig-shaped?
- Where were the first pig-shaped money containers?
- Find and copy a phrase that means "globally".

## ISRAEL & HAMAS REACH DEAL

Representatives from Israel and Hamas have drawn up a ceasefire deal during meetings in Doha. Once the Israeli government agrees, there will be a six-week pause in fighting to begin with, and hostages and prisoners will be released.



## LA WILDFIRES STILL A RISK

After a weeklong blaze in Los Angeles, wildfires look set to continue in the area due to forecasted high winds. So far, 25 people have died as a result of the fires and others are still missing. Many thousands of homes have also been destroyed.



## BAFTA NOMINEES NAMED

A film about the election of a new Pope and a Spanish-language musical lead this year's BAFTA nominations. The winners will be announced at the ceremony on 16th February, and the first-ever winner of Best Children's & Family Film will be awarded then too!



## MAHAKUMBH MELA BEGINS

The 45-day Mahakumbh Mela festival has begun in the city of Prayagraj, India. The event only happens every 12 years, and involves 400 million Hindus visiting the city's river and taking a holy bath there. It is thought to be humanity's biggest gathering.

