



Wednesday 23rd September 2026

 AUTUMN TERM 1

Newsletter

Welcome to the New School Year!

We have had such a strong start to the new school year! It has been an absolute delight to watch the children settle into their new classes and enjoy lots of outdoor learning opportunities, alongside their new core texts and themes. A huge welcome to all of our new children and families! It is always a pleasure to have new children in our Nursery, Reception and across other classes in school. Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for our recent 'Welcome Meetings' and receive a snapshot of the year ahead!

This year promises to be a strong one, with a wealth of cultural experiences and opportunities planned, to enable the children to continue to become informed and active citizens.

We are delighted that four of our children in Year Five have been chosen to be Primary Ambassadors for Doncaster! These children will champion Doncaster children's voices, work on issues that matter to children and help campaign for change. Thank you to Mrs Skipper for her commitment to this project in the Summer Term!





A WONDERFUL START IN NURSERY

Our Nursery children have made a fantastic start to their learning journey at school. Over the first few weeks, they have been settling into their new environment, building positive relationships with both adults and their peers, and developing a strong sense of safety, wellbeing and belonging within our school community.

A key focus of the start of the year has been helping the children to become confident and secure in their new surroundings. They have spent time getting to know one another, learning daily routines and expectations, and becoming familiar with the different areas of our Nursery environment. Through consistent routines and nurturing relationships, the children are already growing in confidence and independence each day.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the different areas of provision both indoors and outdoors. Through their play, they have been discovering their interests, making choices about their learning and developing important skills such as communication, collaboration, problem-solving and creativity. We have loved seeing their natural curiosity shine through as they investigate, explore and learn alongside their friends!

Developing language and communication is at the heart of everything we do in Nursery. The children have been engaging in conversations, sharing their ideas and beginning to build new friendships through play. It has been wonderful to see them becoming increasingly confident in expressing themselves and interacting with others.

Thank you to our families for your support during this important transition. Working together helps to ensure that every child has the very best start to their educational journey, and we are excited for all the learning and achievements that lie ahead.

RECEPTION

The first few weeks in Reception have been a lovely, positive start to the year, and we are so proud of how well the children have settled in. They have begun their journey with great confidence, and it has been wonderful to see them exploring the provision, collaborating with others, creating friendships and trying new things.

The children started by finding out five things about each other through the sharing of their 'chatty bags' with the class. It has been such a lovely way for them to talk about what they brought, why they brought it and to talk about the five things they have found out about others. Our starting topic, Special me, Special you, is giving the children lots of opportunities to talk about themselves, their likes and dislikes, and their feelings and emotions.



RECEPTION

Across the provision, the children have been learning and talking about themselves. This has involved looking closely at themselves, particularly their faces and features to support their work on self-portraits. They have been looking at examples of different kinds of portraits and then having a go at creating their own in different media within our art studio area. The children have also been focusing on developing both our gross motor skills and fine motor skills across the provision. They have been working indoors and outdoors, exploring pattern and making their mark, especially through the application of Write Dance. It has been a rich and active start, with children learning through hands-on experiences that build confidence, control and creativity.

The children have also begun to read and talk about their core text, *On the Way Home*. They are making predictions about the story, talking about the characters and sharing familiar journeys they have made themselves. This is helping to build their early understanding of stories while also feeding into their work on their home and where they live. We have already seen such a lovely, positive start to the year, and we are looking forward to all that is yet to come!



RECEPTION BASELINE ASSESSMENT

Here is the link about the new baseline assessment for children in Reception.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/690c7eddd4c5f31272d3e66e/Reception_baseline_assessment_information_for_parents

The RBA is a short, interactive and practical assessment of your child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematics skills when they begin school, using materials that most children of your child's age will be familiar with. Mrs Belk will be carrying these assessments out with your child over the next couple of weeks.

KEY STAGE ONE NEWS



YEAR ONE

The start of September has been amazing in Year One! The year began with the children following a Line of Enquiry based on their core text, *Where the Wild Things Are*. The children received a special letter from Max, setting them some exciting missions to complete in the school woods! In their geography lessons, the children have learnt what a local area is and the name of their local area, Auckley. They enjoyed their Hook Day, taking a walk around Auckley and using their senses to explore what they could see, hear and smell!

We are excited about plans to extend the Year One outdoor area significantly in order to develop the children's outdoor provision. Watch this space!





YEAR TWO

Year Two have had a fantastic start to the term with lots of exciting learning opportunities. The children recently took part in an amazing Great Fire of London workshop with Alfresco Learning. They used sticks, stones and mud to create their own wattle and daub houses, carefully filling all the gaps just as people would have done in 1666. They also worked together to rebuild Thomas Farriner's bakery using a variety of materials and enjoyed playing lots of fun games to help them learn more about the events of the Great Fire of London.

The children are enjoying their Talk Through Stories sessions. Last week, they explored Winnie the Witch and this week are enjoying Rajiv's Starry Feelings, sharing their thoughts and ideas about the stories. They are also thoroughly enjoying our reading sessions and love choosing and changing our reading books in the school library. In art, the children have started learning about Andy Goldsworthy and enjoyed experimenting with making patterns with natural objects from our school woods.



YEAR THREE

The children have settled into the first year of Key Stage Two really well! The expectations of Key Stage Two are high and the children have really risen to the challenge! They have been building their knowledge of Skara Brae and exploring the three periods of the Stone Age, developing their understanding of how people lived during these fascinating periods of history. In English, they have written information texts, with a particular focus on developing and using a range of sentence structures. In Maths, the children have been working hard on their understanding of place value and applying this knowledge to a range of activities.

The children are very excited about and looking forward to their upcoming trip to the Lyceum Theatre in Sheffield on Thursday 1st October! They will be watching the Horrible Histories: Ancient Egypt!

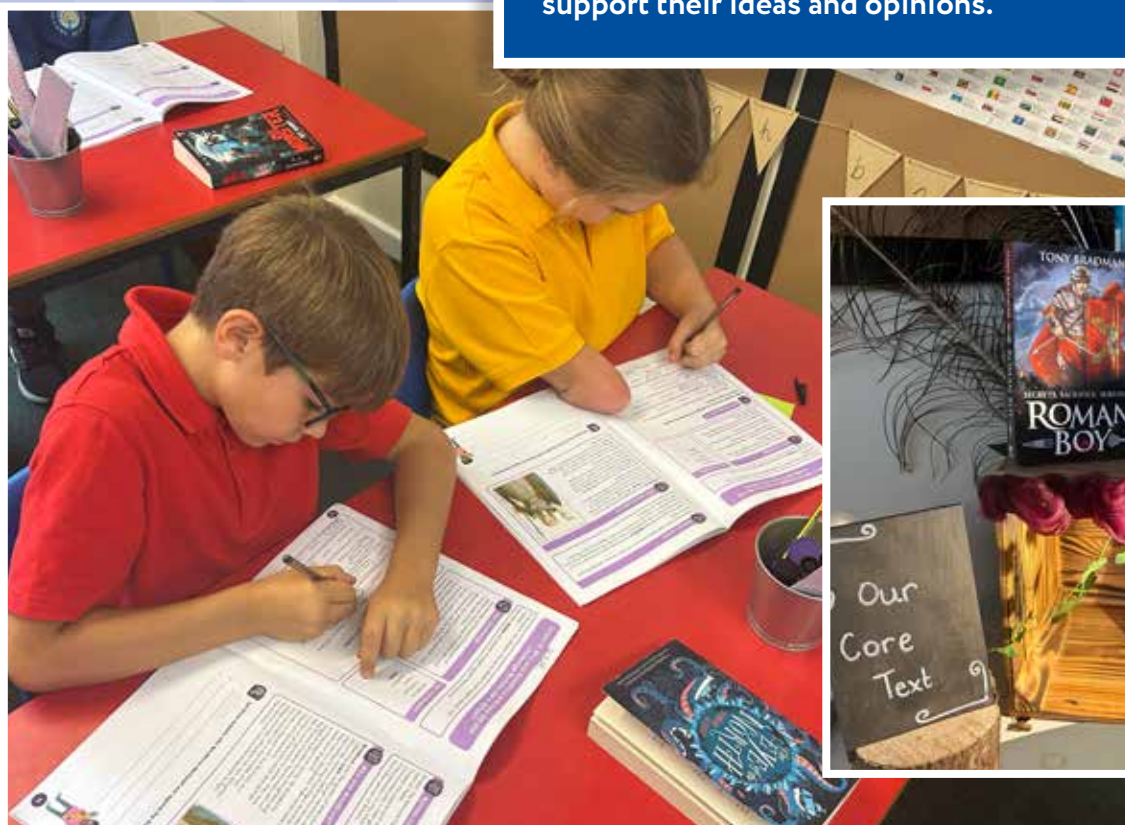
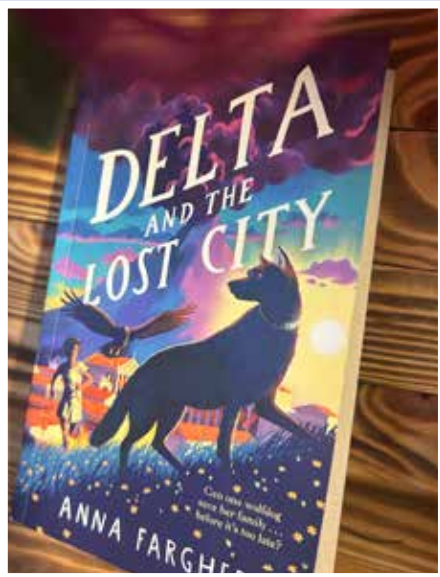


YEAR FOUR

Year Four have made a fantastic start to the new academic year and have quickly settled back into school life. The children are thoroughly enjoying reading their core text, *Delta and the Lost City* which is set in the ancient city of Pompeii in 79 AD!

In history, they have begun the exciting topic on the Romans. The children have been exploring who the Romans were and discovering how the Roman Empire grew to become one of the most powerful civilisations in history. They have learned about the Roman invasion of Britain and have begun to investigate the impact the Romans had on everyday life, including roads, towns, laws and engineering. We have been impressed by the thoughtful questions pupils have asked and the interest they have shown in finding out how Roman influence can still be seen in Britain today.

English lessons have provided opportunities for the children to develop their speaking, listening and writing skills through engaging discussions and historical texts linked to our Roman topic. Meanwhile, in reading, pupils have been building their fluency and comprehension skills, using evidence from texts to support their ideas and opinions.



YEAR FIVE

Year Five hit the ground running in Upper Key Stage Two and have produced some fantastic learning.

In Science, they have been learning all about Space. So far, they have looked at the Earth, Sun and the planets and whether data can be used to spot patterns in our Solar System.

In history, they have been studying the Anglo-Saxons and their way of life. Reading and writing lessons have really helped them bring this to life as they have been reading what life was like for an Anglo-Saxon peasant and writing diary entries from their perspectives.

The Year Five core text is perfect for this time of year - it is called 'The Haunting of Aveline Jones'. They have been gripped so far and are loving the suspense and thrill that the author creates!





YEAR SIX

Year Six have made a fantastic start to their final year at primary school. The children have settled quickly, showing maturity, enthusiasm and a real readiness for the challenges ahead. They have already thrown themselves into their new topic, Conflict and Resolution, exploring the events and experiences of World War One with curiosity and thoughtful discussion.

As part of their learning, Year Six are enjoying reading *War Horse* by Michael Morpurgo. The story has already sparked some excellent conversations about friendship, bravery and the realities of life during the war. The children are particularly excited for their upcoming trip to Eden Camp in October, where they will be able to deepen their understanding of the period through immersive, hands on exhibits.

In P.E. the children have been introduced to an unusual and energetic sport called Tchoukball, which has quickly become a favourite. They have embraced the fast pace and teamwork involved, showing great sportsmanship and plenty of enthusiasm.

Year 6 have also made a strong start in Science. Their new topic, Light, has led to some fascinating investigations, including exploring how shadows are formed and testing whether light really does travel in straight lines. Their curiosity and careful approach to practical work have been wonderful to see.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM X



Auckley Primary Academy @AuckleySchool · Sep 18

What an uplifting visit from Alfie our therapy dog this afternoon! The children are very excited to know that he will be visiting us every Friday from now on!



You reposted



Y1Auckley @Y1Auckley · Sep 17

Today, we enjoyed our hook day by exploring our local area! 🌿 We used our senses to see, smell and hear what was around us.



Tracy Swinburne OBE @tracyswinburne · Sep 19

Such a great investment & clear to see that this school is moving forward for the children & its community at pace #AccomplishingGreatThings

Accomplish MAT @accomplish_mat · Sep 19

Great to spend time at Auckley this week & see the impact of our summer building works. 🌟

An £800,000 investment ensuring our buildings are safe, strive for excellence & feel beautiful for our children & staff...



Auckley Primary Academy @AuckleySchool · Sep 11

Thank you so much to author, Rebecca Dubenskij for visiting @AuckleySchool today and sharing her story, Ouch!



Have you ever had a day when
everything seems to go wrong?
Maybe you know what it's like
when you're not looking the
best right before bedtime!
Sometimes, no amount of
brushing, or washing, or
flossing, or even a good
night's sleep, can make
you feel like a superhero.
But don't worry friends, he'll
be right up to you, you'll have to
let's hope you're a
superhero too!





Attendance Matters



EVERY DAY COUNTS...

Learning is a progressive activity. Each lesson and each day builds on another. If your child is absent for lessons that include demonstrations, discussions, experiments and other participation activities as part of the daily learning activities, they are missing learning that cannot be made up.

BENEFITS OF GOOD ATTENDANCE

- Pupils with good attendance generally achieve higher grades.
- Pupils with good attendance generally enjoy school more.
- Having a good education will help to give your child the best possible start in life.
- Good school attendance helps to develop other responsible patterns of behaviour.

SOME RISKS OF POOR ATTENDANCE

- Pupils are likely to miss learning activities that their classmates have taken part in, which could mean they fall behind.
- They miss out on social interaction with friends/classmates - this can have a negative effect on the wellbeing and self-esteem.
- Low attendance is associated with anti-social behaviour and poor learning behaviours

THE LAW AND YOU

The Law states (Education Act 1996, Section 7) that all children of compulsory school age must receive an appropriate full-time education. As a parent/carers, you are legally responsible for making sure your child receives an effective education. Failure to ensure your child attends school regularly could lead to intervention from the Missing Education & Child Employment Service which has the power to implement:

Fixed Penalty Notices • Prosecutions • An Education Supervision Order

TERM TIME HOLIDAYS

It is not a parental right to take their child on holiday during term time.

Holidays in term time will not be authorised, unless there are exceptional circumstances and you have completed a holiday request form in advance.

If you choose to take your child out of school for an unauthorised holiday you could receive a penalty notice of £80, per parent, per child.

CAN I GET SUPPORT?

Absolutely! We appreciate the unavoidable events that affect our pupils and their families.

We believe that the most effective way to ensure your child remains on track is to work together to maximise support in their/your time of need.

Our caring and dedicated staff are committed to making sure your child is happy and getting the best out of their time at school. Talk to us.



ATTENDANCE



We continue to take a meticulous approach to improving attendance so that all children attend school every day.

This year we are enjoying working in partnership with our new Education Welfare Officer in order to ensure that any barriers to good attendance are quickly addressed.

Whilst we are now above the National Average, there is still work to be done to address lateness and persistence absence across school.

GROUP	Period: 14/09/2026 to 18/09/2026	Period: 02/09/2026 to 18/09/2026
RECEPTION	95.30%	95.30%
YEAR 1	94.00%	95.10%
YEAR 2	98.90%	97.10%
YEAR 3	95.70%	97.50%
YEAR 4	98.50%	98.60%
YEAR 5	98.20%	97.20%
YEAR 6	97.90%	95.30%

96.00%	WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET
96.30%	ACTUAL

96% +
AT OR ABOVE SCHOOL TARGET

95-91%
CAUSING CONCERN & LESS CHANCE OF PROGRESS

90% & BELOW
PERSISTENT ABSENCE - SERIOUS ATTENDANCE CONCERN

DIARY DATES



INSET Teacher Training Days

Tuesday 1st September 2026
Wednesday 2nd September 2026
Monday 23rd November 2026
Friday 29th January 2027
Friday 28th May 2027

Parents Evenings

Monday 2nd November and Wednesday 4th November
Monday 22nd March and Wednesday 24th March

Parental Workshops

Thursday 12th November 2:30pm : **Nursery Stay and Play**
Monday 16th November 2pm: **Year Four Roman Helmet Workshop**
Friday 20th November 2pm: **Year Three Planting and Growing Workshop**
Wednesday 25th November 2:30pm: **Reception Stay and Play**

Autumn Term Themed Days/Weeks

Friday 25th September: **MacMillan Cake Sale**
Friday 16th October: **Wear Red for Anti-Racism**

School Photos: Monday 19th October

Halloween Discos: Wednesday 21st October

Harvest Festivals

Thursday 22nd October 9:15am: **Key Stage One Harvest Festival**
Friday 23rd October 9:15am: **Key Stage Two Harvest Festival**

Nursery intake
September 2027
and
January 2027



NURSERY OPEN EVENT

Thursday 22nd October 2026 4pm-5pm



Come and join us!

Let us share our wonderful early years environment with you.

Find out what it means to belong to Auckley Primary Academy for you and your child.

- **Gain an insight into our exciting curriculum.**
- **Explore our Nursery classroom**

We look forward to meeting you and your child

Contact: 01302 770701 Email: admin@auckleyprimary.co.uk @AuckleyNursery

Reception intake
September
2027



RECEPTION OPEN EVENT

Monday 16th November 2026 4pm-5pm

Come and join us!

Let us share our wonderful early years environment with you.

Find out what it means to belong to Auckley Primary Academy for you and your child.

Discover our exciting curriculum

Explore our Reception classroom

Meet our friendly EYFS team

Celebrate our children's exceptional outcomes

We look forward to meeting you and your child



Contact: 01302 770701 Email: admin@auckleyprimary.co.uk [@@fsauckley1](https://www.facebook.com/fsauckley1)



PUPIL PREMIUM

What is the Pupil Premium (PP)?

The Pupil Premium is extra government money which is paid to schools to support children's learning and development. We can support you in finding out if your child could receive the extra money. We can choose how to best spend the Pupil Premium money and will work with you to make sure your child benefits from the extra funding.

Who could benefit from this money?

Children from the reception year onwards may be eligible if they:

- are registered for Free School Meals (FSM)
- have been registered for FSM at any point in the last 6 years
- are or have been in care
- have parents in the armed forces

If your child could claim for FSM but takes a packed lunch to school, it's still important you tell us. This will let us know if your child is able to receive the Pupil Premium.

Your child could benefit from:

- exciting new learning activities and experiences
- one to one or small group sessions
- extra tools, materials and equipment to help with learning in school or at home
- before/after school clubs or activities

Why should I register my child for Free School Meals (FSM)?

Children who are registered for Free School Meals (FSM) are entitled to the Pupil Premium. Your child isn't automatically registered for FSM, even though all infant children are entitled to receive a free school meal.

How do I register my child for Free School Meals (FSM)?

Follow the link below to the City of Doncaster Council online portal for parents:

[Portal Home \(doncaster.gov.uk\)](https://doncaster.gov.uk)

If you need any support with this, please don't hesitate to ask the school office or Mrs Fox on the gate.

