



Wednesday 10th February 2026

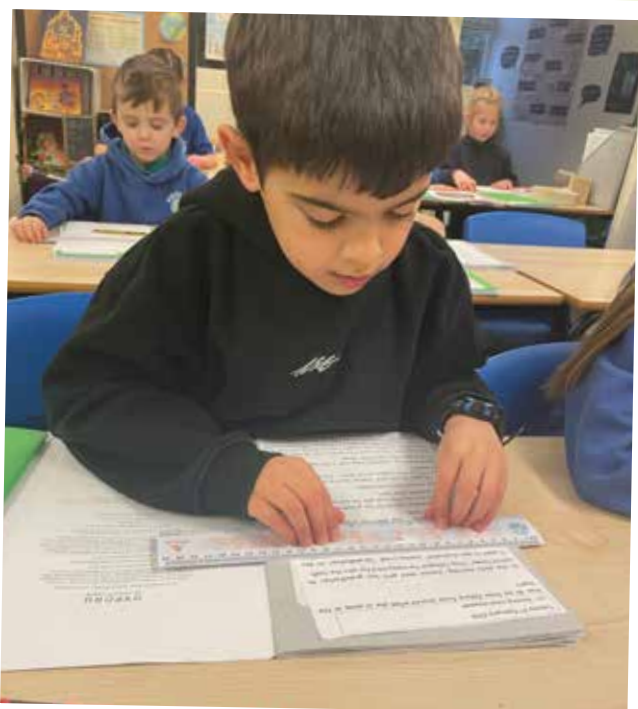
SPRING TERM 1

Newsletter

Get Writing!

The first half of the Spring Term has flown by! We began the new term with a rich assortment of hooks to entice the children into their new topics. In the Spring Term, most topics last for a term and the children study themes in real depth.

Our focus on *Doing The Basics Brilliantly* continues, as we focus on reading, writing and mathematics! All children in Year Two upwards have received their own Accomplish ruler and have been using this to track the text in reading lessons in order to focus on one line at a time. This practice is now creeping into other lessons as the children close read in science, history and geography.



We are excited about new curriculum developments in Early Years and Key Stage One as the children settle into the Read Write Inc 'Get Writing' part of the phonics programme. Your children may have spoken to you about their writing in these sessions. We have moved to a new handwriting programme, Letter Village, and all children from Reception upwards, are working on perfecting their letter formation and joining.

As a school, we are focussing heavily on writing and the children crafting high-quality sentences which will then feed into a final piece. We're excited to be in the process of publishing displays of writing which we will share with you via Class Dojo, X and Instagram!.

Emma Fox
Head Teacher

In **EARLY YEARS** the children began their Dinosaurs theme with a workshop delivered by Teach Rex. The children met a range of dinosaurs including a huge Tyrannosaurus!

In provision, the children waited for large eggs to hatch and were amazed when they eventually did and a tiny Triceratops hatched from the Reception egg!

In Nursery, the children discovered a Tyrannosaurus hatchling!

The children have been enjoying reading 'Harry and his Bucketful of Dinosaurs'.

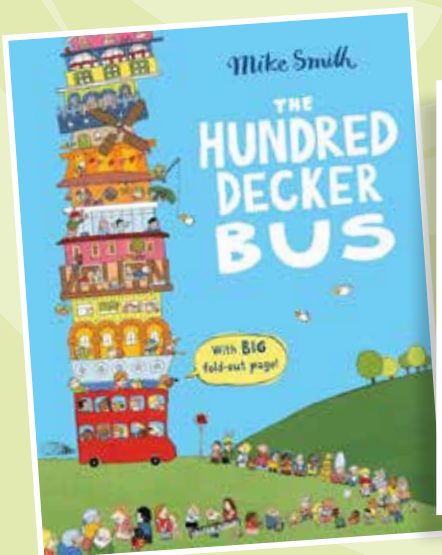
In Reception, the children are focussing on developing their concept of simple sentences and writing these. It has been incredibly rewarding to see the children working so hard on writing and many children are now able to write a simple sentence!



KEY STAGE ONE NEWS



In **YEAR ONE** the children began their historical theme, Transport and Travel, with a visit to Doncaster Gallery, Library and Museum. The children explored the trains within the museum and created their own paper rockets and Lego snow mobiles which they moved using programming. They are now in the process of exploring the enquiry question: *How has transport changed over time?*

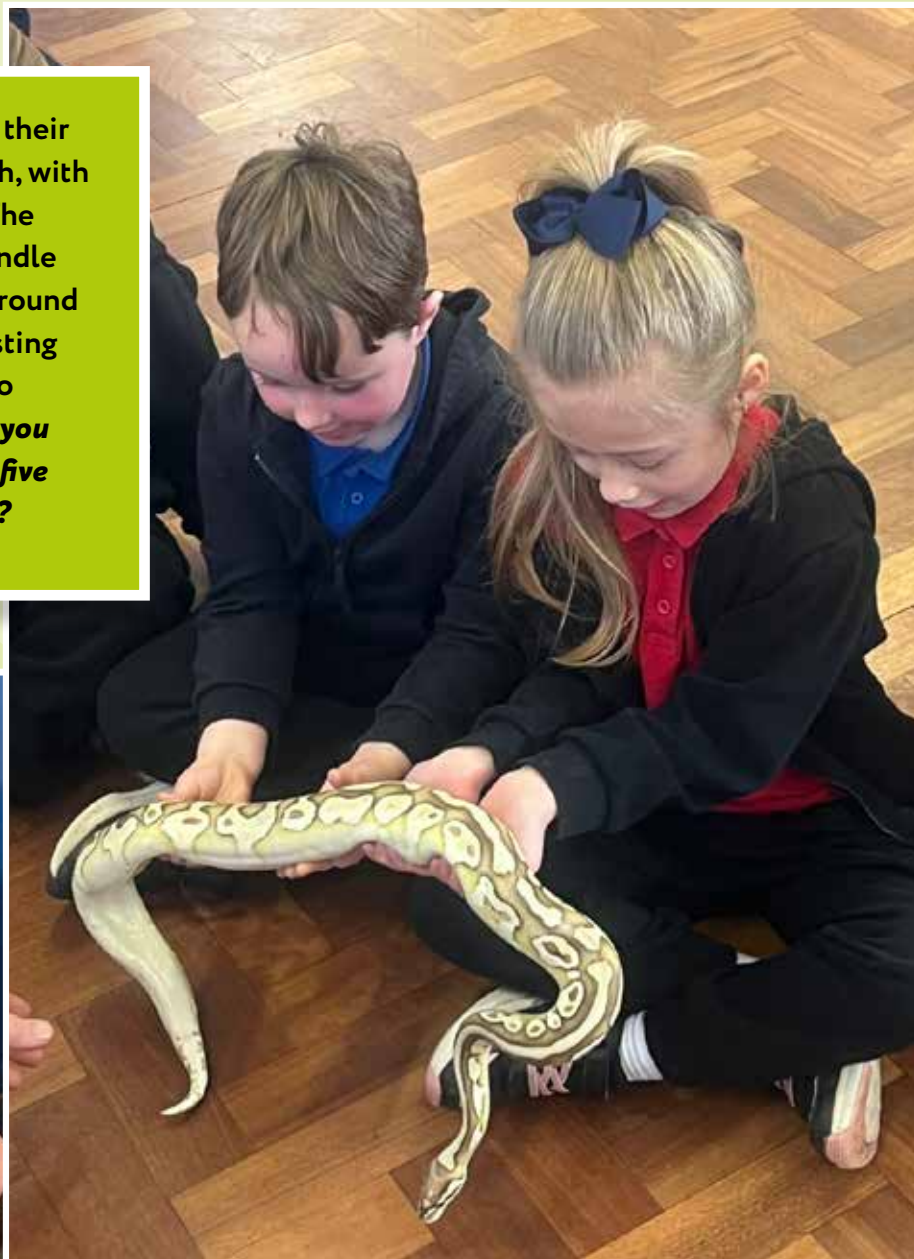


The children's core text is 'The Hundred Decker Bus'. In their writing, having mastered simple sentences, most children are now learning to write compound sentences using 'and' and but. As the children repeat the process of writing sentences again and again, they are securing a deep understanding of the process. Their writing has involved recounting the visit to the museum and retelling the story of The Hundred Decker Bus.

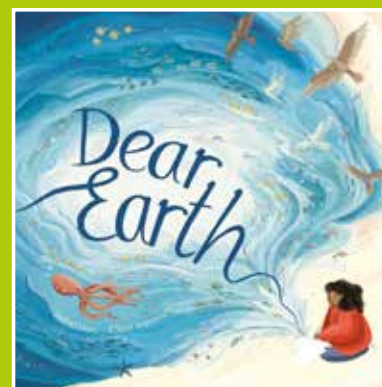
KEY STAGE ONE NEWS



In **YEAR TWO** the children began their new geography theme, Planet Earth, with a Reptile Rendezvous workshop. The children got the opportunity to handle creatures from different habitats around the world and learnt lots of interesting facts. They are now working hard to answer the enquiry question: ***Can you describe the seven continents and five oceans that make up planet Earth?***



The children's core text is 'Dear Earth' and the children are mastering the ability to write compound sentences using and, but and or. They have written a letter in which they retell the story of Dear Earth.





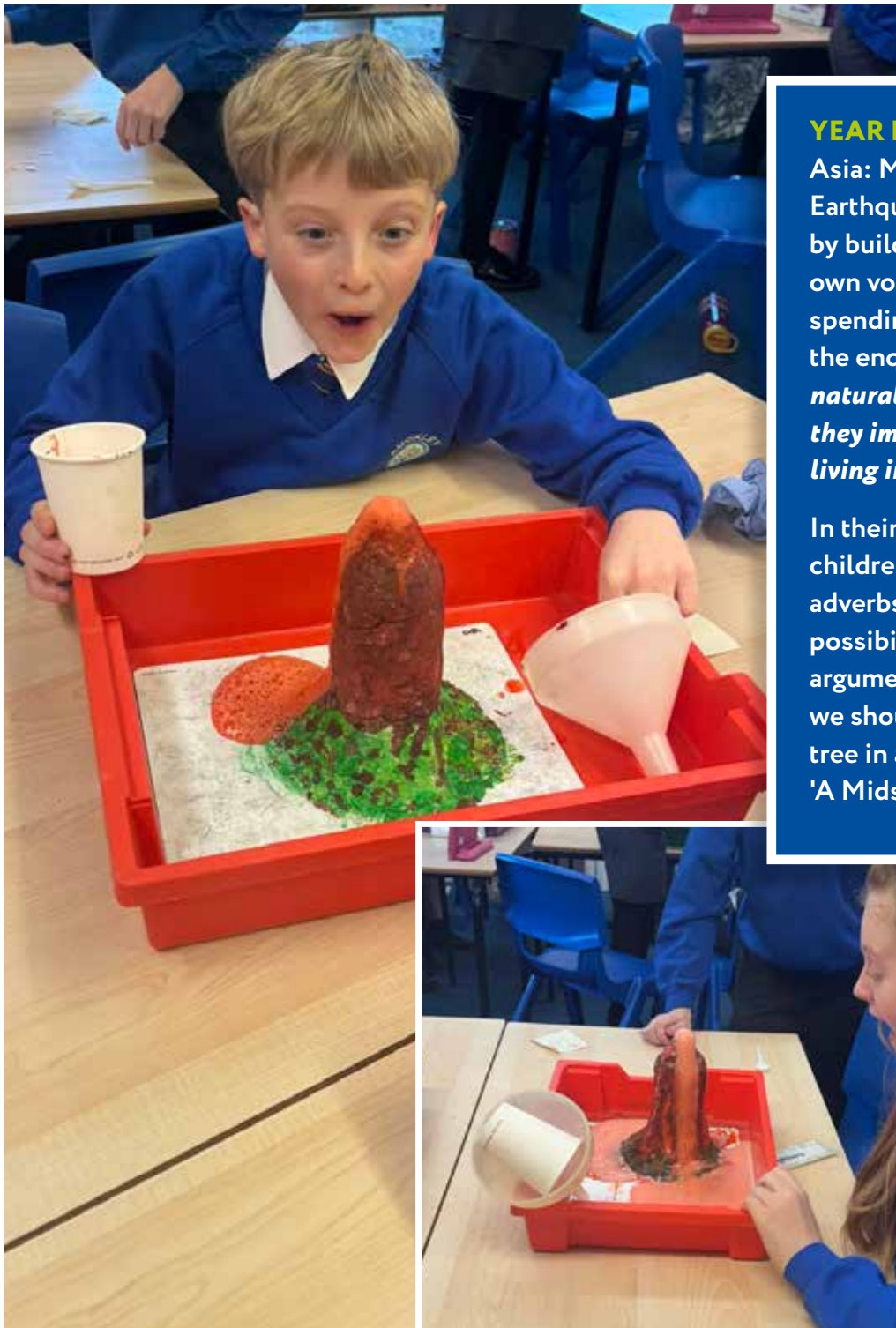
In **YEAR THREE** the children began the exciting topic of Ancient Egypt. The children took part in a Historic Workshop for the day which immersed them in theme of Ancient Egypt. The children are busy exploring the enquiry question: *What does evidence tell us about Ancient Egyptian society?* In their writing, the children have learnt how to write and produce sentences using the conjunction although. They have crafted beautiful sentences and paragraphs to produce an information text about Ancient Egypt.

In **YEAR FOUR** the children are learning about the Amazon: Rivers and Rainforests. The children began the theme with a Bugs n' Stuff workshop in which they held a range of different rainforest creatures and they had an immersive experience visiting virtual rainforests across the world. The children have then gone on to answer the enquiry question: *What is the Amazon, why is it significant and should it be protected?* They will continue to answer this question after the holiday.

In writing, the children are focussing on writing fronted adverbials and have written persuasive letters to the MP Lee Pitcher about rewilding Doncaster.



In **UPPER KEY STAGE TWO** the children have embraced the theme of Shakespeare in their reading and writing lessons. Year Five read and studied the comedy play, 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' and Year Six read and studied the tragedy, 'Macbeth'. We are looking forward to both classes taking part in workshops to deepen their understanding of the plays after half-term with the Shakespeare Schools Foundation.



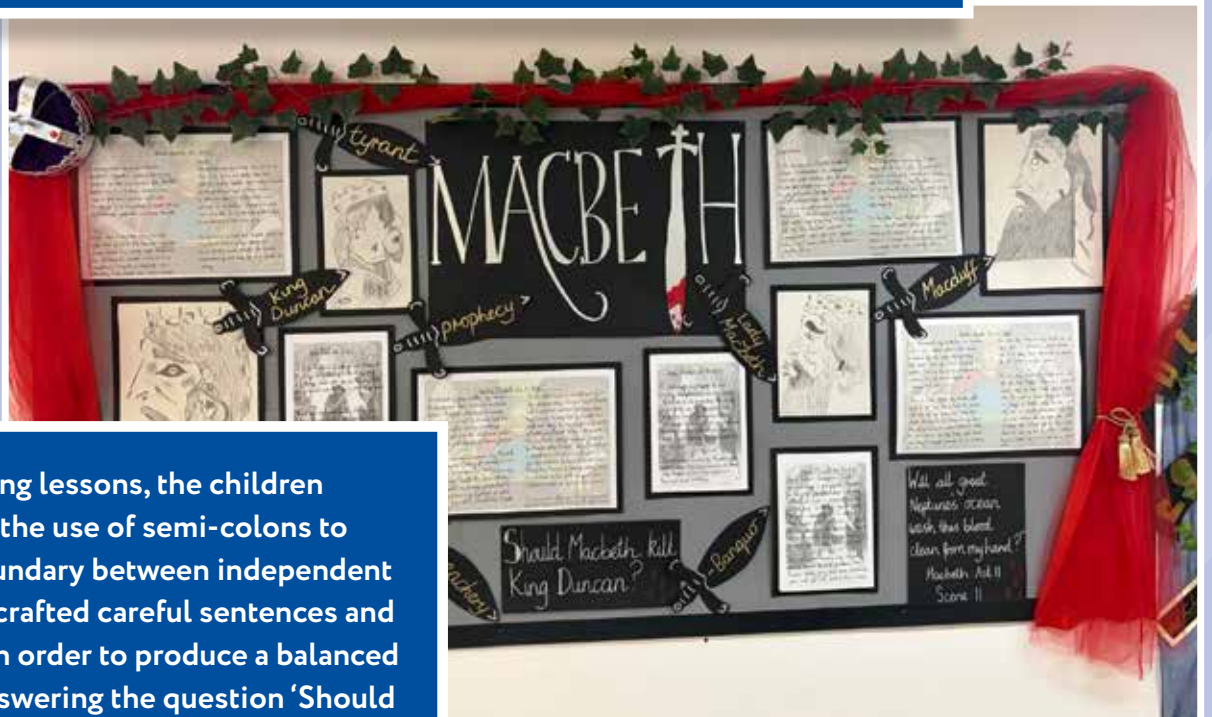
YEAR FIVE are learning about Asia: Mountains, Volcanoes and Earthquakes and began the topic by building and erupting their own volcanoes! The children are spending the term answering the enquiry question: *What are natural disasters and how do they impact the lives of people living in Asia?*

In their writing lessons, the children have focussed on using adverbs to indicate degrees of possibility and written balanced arguments about whether or not we should chop down an ancient tree in an enchanted forest from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'.





YEAR SIX are learning about Mapping the World and began the topic with a mapping hook day in which Mr White shared his passion for maps and geography. The children learnt about the history of the world map and how this has changed over time and studied different types of maps including ordnance survey maps, digital maps (Google maps and What3Words). Following this, the children answered the enquiry question: *How can maps and fieldwork help us to understand a place? Is there anything they cannot tell us?*



In their writing lessons, the children focussed on the use of semi-colons to mark the boundary between independent clauses and crafted careful sentences and paragraphs in order to produce a balanced argument answering the question 'Should Macbeth Kill King Duncan?'

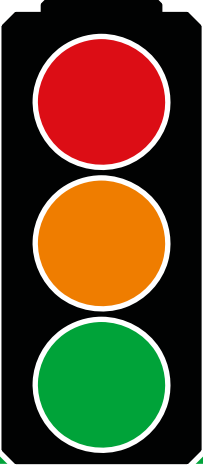


Attendance Matters



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.



BELOW 90%
Serious concern
Persistent absence

90% - 95%
Cause for concern
Low attendance

AT LEAST 96%
Expected attendance

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/carer, 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 have a new attendance strategy in place which shows our unwavering commitment to improving attendance at Auckley Primary Academy. Attendance is beginning to improve and we will continue to work in partnership with families in order to address attendance challenges.

GROUP	Period: 02/02/2026 to 06/02/2026	Period: 02/09/2025 to 06/02/2026
RECEPTION	95.20%	91.90%
YEAR 1	98.00%	95.40%
YEAR 2	96.80%	95.50%
YEAR 3	96.50%	92.80%
YEAR 4	97.40%	94.90%
YEAR 5	97.90%	94.70%
YEAR 6	93.20%	96.10%

96.00%	WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET
96.50%	ACTUAL

96% + AT OR ABOVE SCHOOL TARGET
95-91% CAUSING CONCERN & LESS CHANCE OF PROGRESS
90% & BELOW PERSISTENT ABSENCE - SERIOUS ATTENDANCE CONCERN

DIARY DATES



Date	Event
Monday 23rd February	Talegate Theatre Company Pantomime (Rapunzel)
Tuesday 24th February	Year One Past Production workshop; Year Two visit Yorkshire Wildlife Park
Wednesday 26th February	Pancake Day in school
Friday 27th February	Lee Pitcher MP visits school and Scholastic Book Fair
Monday 2nd March	Prime VR Workshops for Key Stage Two
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day
Monday 9th March	Parliament Visit for The Junior Leadership Team