



Tuesday 19th May 2026



SUMMER TERM 1

Newsletter

Well done Year Six!



We are so proud of our Year Six children who truly shone in SATS Week! The children displayed such determination and positivity as they turned up early every morning for the SATS Breakfast Club and tucked into sausage sandwiches! I cannot speak more highly of how prepared they were and how positive the atmosphere was in school. The whole school community rallied around and ensured that school was completely silent so that our children had the best possible conditions to sit their tests. We're looking forward to receiving the results on Tuesday 7th July and know that they will be testimony to hard work and dedication on the part of the children and all of the Year Six staff team.

It's been incredibly rewarding to see the basics becoming more embedded in school! You may have heard your child talk about Team Stop, 3,2,1 Whiteboards, No Hands Up, The Three Evers (Every sentence begins with a capital letter, every sentence ends with a full stop, every sentence is a point)...and other such things!

These are all strategies designed to ensure that teaching is high-quality and consistent in every classroom. If you ask your child to demonstrate some of these strategies, you will get a real flavour!



This week is Creative Arts Week and the children will be exploring the theme: **Reading: Opening A Window to the World**. The children have been provided with beautiful stimuli and will work through the stages of observational drawing, shading, finding out about the artist and historical links, exploring the medium and finally the creation of a final piece.

We are so excited to be sharing the children's outcomes in our **Art Gallery** event on **Wednesday 1st July at 3:35pm-5:00pm**. Please join us for this.

Emma Fox, Head Teacher

EARLY YEARS NEWS



It was an absolute pleasure for Mrs Belk, Miss Wood and myself to work on developing the Nursery and Early Years indoor environment to the next level recently with our CEO Tracy Swinburne OBE.

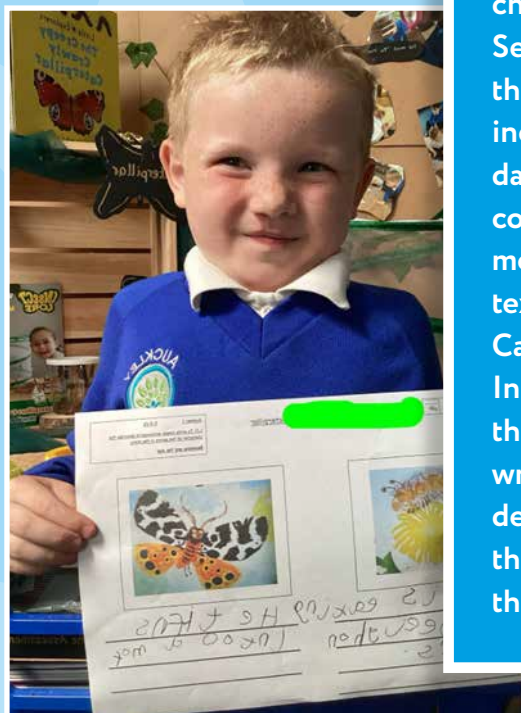
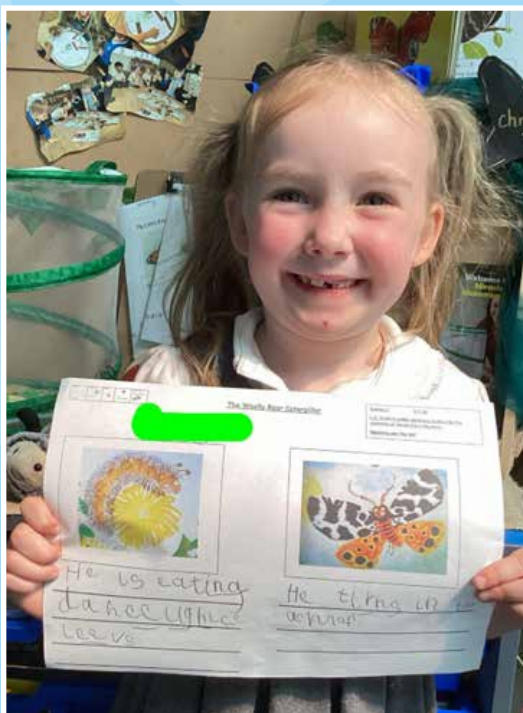
We are passionate that our very youngest children in school will make the strongest starts and it's been incredibly rewarding to see the children access the stunning provision!



In **NURSERY** the children's topic has been the Circle of Life. They have explored the lifecycles of flowers, butterflies and caterpillars and bees. The children have loved hatching caterpillars which have now formed chrysalises. The children began their Read Write Inc (phonics) sessions at the start of the term and are making good progress with the set one sounds d,a,s,m,t and p. The children are continuing to follow the Write Dance programme every day to develop their fine and gross motor skills.



In **RECEPTION** the children read *The Tiny Seed* and learnt about the lifecycles of plants including sunflowers and daffodils. The children compared caterpillars and moths using their core text, *The Woolly Bear Caterpillar*, as a stimulus. In their writing sessions, the children have been writing simple sentences describing characters in the core texts and retelling the stories.



KEY STAGE ONE NEWS



In **YEAR ONE** the children have been learning about The United Kingdom and began their topic with a delicious Afternoon Tea at The Earl of Doncaster Hotel. The children's geography enquiry question has been: **What are the countries that make up the United Kingdom like?**

Alongside this, the children have enjoyed reading the story of Paddington and retelling it in carefully written sentences. The children are very much looking forward to their Paddington Picnic at the end of the week, to sharing all of their learning with their parents and to making marmalade sandwiches!



In **YEAR TWO** the children have been learning about life in Kenya and began their topic with an African Day. They enjoyed making African necklaces, exploring African music and receiving a video message from a class in Kenya!

Following this, the children have worked hard to explore the enquiry questions: **How is living in Kenya similar and different to living in the UK?** The children have explored some ambitious vocabulary such as: savannah, grasslands, nomads and climate in their geography lessons. In their English lessons, the children have written recounts and retold stories.

In **YEAR THREE** the children have loved reading the classical novel, *Alice in Wonderland* and learning about Climate and Climate Zones in their geography lessons.

The children launched their new topic with a visit to Austerfield Study Centre. They found out about the different Climate Zones and were able to hold a variety of different animals, all of which come from different countries around the world. They learnt how different animals adapt to different climate zones.

The children have studied polar climate zones, temperate climate zones and tropical climate zones. In their writing lessons, the children have rewritten a chapter from *Alice in Wonderland* and written a setting description.



LOWER KEY STAGE TWO NEWS



In **YEAR FOUR** the children have been learning about the Maya civilisation with the enquiry question: **What was life like in the Maya civilisation and how do we know?**

The children began the topic with a hook day with Past Productions. They learned to count to 10 in Maya before an exciting boys verses girls competition – well done to the boys for the win! The children also explored Maya sacrifices and brought history to life through powerful drama.

The children have learnt some ambitious vocabulary: city state, hierarchy, agriculture and decline. In their writing lessons, the children have written a character description of Vesper from their core text, Oh Maya Gods.



UPPER KEY STAGE TWO NEWS



In **YEAR FIVE** the children have been learning about Bagdad and the Middle East, answering the enquiry question: **What was the Golden Age of Islam and how did Bagdad compare to London in 900CE?**

The children began their topic with a visit to Doncaster Jamia Sultania Mosque where the Imman was really impressed with the children's inquisition and challenging, thought-provoking questions.

Following the visit, the children have learnt some ambitious vocabulary such as caliph, scholar, advancement and decline.

They have developed a strong understanding of the causes and consequences of the golden age of Islam. In their English lessons, the children have written dual narratives comparing life in Aleppo, Syria to Manchester before the war.



In **YEAR SIX** the children have been exceptionally busy preparing for their SATS tests.

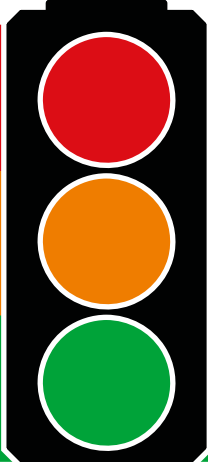
Alongside this, the children have studied the geography unit, Global Challenges: Trade. The children followed the enquiry question: **What are natural resources and why do we use them?** Key terms were overconsumption, distribution, renewable energy and sustainability. This is a pivotal unit as our whole curriculum is crafted to prepare the children to be responsible global citizens, ready to take their place in society.

The children have written essay questions: **What are natural resources and why do we use them** and we are looking forward to these being shared in assembly with the whole school community.



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 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: 11/05/2026 to 15/05/2026	Period: 01/09/2025 to 15/05/2026
RECEPTION	96.00%	91.70%
YEAR 1	98.00%	95.60%
YEAR 2	100.00%	96.00%
YEAR 3	97.60%	94.10%
YEAR 4	90.30%	95.30%
YEAR 5	97.10%	95.40%
YEAR 6	100.00%	96.50%

96.00%	WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET
94.90%	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
Tuesday 2nd June	Year Two to The National Justice Museum
Wednesday 3rd June	Nursery Zoolab Workshop
Wednesday 3rd June to Friday 5th June	Year Six PGL Residential
Thursday 4th June	Year One Seaside Workshop
Tuesday 9th June	Reception visit to The Tropical Butterfly House
Thursday 11th June	Accomplish Games at English Institute of Sport
Friday 19th June	Doncaster Storytelling Festival
Monday 22nd June	Wakefield Cathedral event
Monday 22nd June to Friday 26th June	Sports Week
Wednesday 24th June	Sports Day
Thursday 25th June	Accomplish Geography Bee for Key Stage Two
Wednesday 1st July 3:35pm-5pm	Art Gallery Event
Thursday 2nd July	Accomplish Geography Bee for Key Stage One
Friday 3rd July 1:30pm-3:30pm	Summer Fayre