



NEWSLETTER

16.01.26



Aim high, work hard, be happy and successful

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to warmly welcome everyone back to school for the start of this new term. It has been a pleasure to see the children return so positively, settling quickly back into routines and showing a great attitude to learning. We are very proud of how well they have returned.

We have lots planned for the term ahead, with a range of exciting learning opportunities and events that we are looking forward to sharing with the children. Thank you, as always, for your continued support—it really does make a difference.

I am also delighted to welcome two new members of staff to our school community. **Mrs Ward** has joined us in the role of Attendance and Administration, and **Mrs Todd** has joined our Year 1 team as a Teaching Assistant. We are very pleased to have them both with us and know they will be great additions to the team.

This week, we will also be launching a **new school website**. Please do look out for this, as it will be a key place to find up-to-date information, news, and important documents.

When using the new website for the first time, it may be advisable to carry out a hard refresh (CTRL + F5 / CMD, SHIFT + R) when first visiting the URL so that you get the best first impression of the new design. If you have any issues or feedback, please get in touch.

Please note that we will be holding an **INSET day on Friday 30th January**, when the school will be closed to pupils.

Finally, a reminder that **important diary dates** are included at the end of this newsletter, so please take a moment to check these and add them to your calendars.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support. We are looking forward to a busy, positive, and successful term ahead.

Attendance and Punctuality

Good attendance and punctuality are essential for children to achieve their best and to feel confident and secure in school.

Every day in school matters, as lessons build on previous learning and missing time can make it harder for children to keep up.

We ask for your support in ensuring children arrive on time each day and attend school regularly.

Wherever possible, please try to arrange medical and other appointments outside of school hours to minimise disruption to learning.

Thank you for working with us to give every child the best possible start to their day and their education.

NURSERY

We have been delighted to welcome three new starters to Nursery this term.

The children have been focusing on establishing routines and confidently exploring our provision, both indoors and outdoors.

All children have shown enthusiasm for learning through play, developing their communication skills as they play alongside and with others.



RECEPTION

We would like to warmly welcome all our **Reception** children and families back to school after the Christmas and New Year break. We hope you all had a happy and restful holiday.

The children worked incredibly hard last term and made excellent progress across all areas of learning. They thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a wide range of activities linked to celebrations and Christmas, showing great enthusiasm, creativity, and independence.

We are especially proud of the children's efforts in their Read Write Inc. phonics sessions, where they have been developing their early reading and sound recognition skills with confidence.



RECEPTION

This half term, our theme is "Our Wonderful World".

The children will be exploring the world around them and learning about different places, people, and environments through stories, play, and hands-on experiences. We are looking forward to another exciting half term full of curiosity, exploration, and fun.



KEY STAGE 1 NEWS



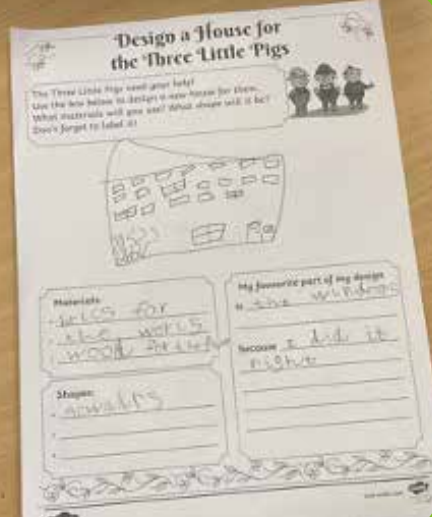
YEAR 1

In **Year 1**'s provision, they have been experimenting with different materials to build one of the Three Little Pigs' houses. They then tried to blow it down to see how successful their choices were.



Year 1 have been using a story map to retell the story of The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch

Also in provision, **Year 1** have been designing houses for the Three Little Pigs.

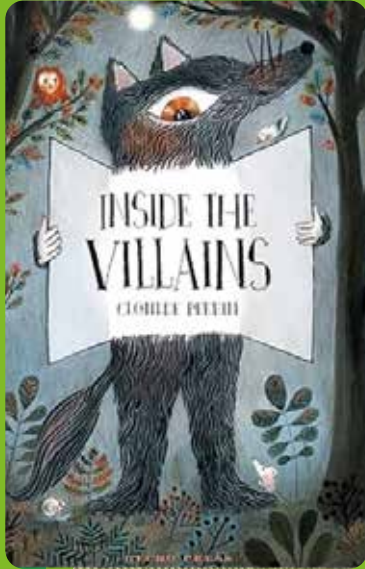


Year 1 have been exploring numbers from 11-20.

KEY STAGE 1 NEWS



YEAR 2



Year 2 received some breaking news, including a letter and CCTV footage, reporting that wolves had been spotted in the woods! The children became detectives, heading outdoors to investigate and search for clues. Have you seen the Big Bad Wolf? This fun outdoor learning session was the hook lesson for our new English unit, where our core text is Inside the Villains.



KEY STAGE 1 NEWS



YEAR 2

Year 2 have been using their throwing, rolling and kicking skills in both PE and play time.

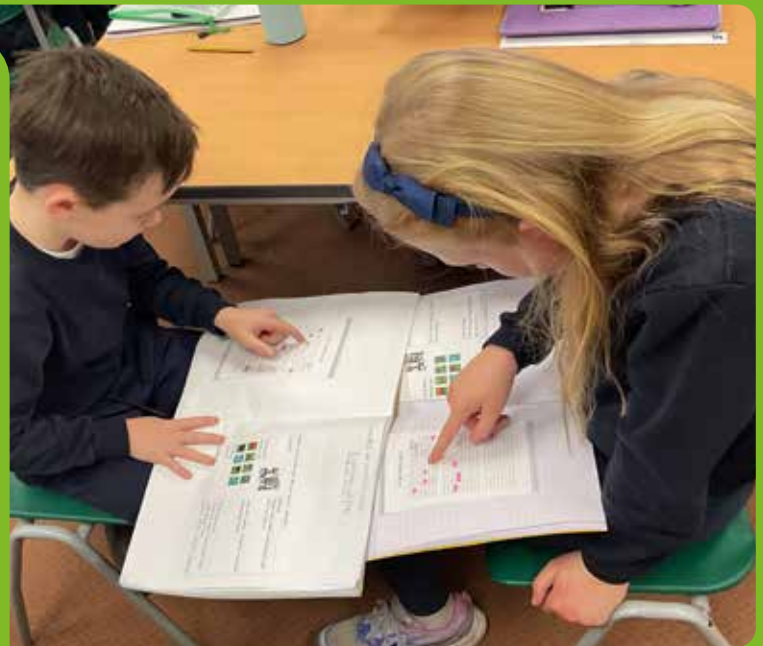


KEY STAGE 2 NEWS



YEAR 3

Year 3 have been reading to their partners and discussing the Mythical Beasts during Fluency Lessons. The book they are reading is "Beasts of the Ancient World" by Marchella Ward.



Year 3 have been introduced to the Micro:Bit hardware. They have been shown how to create simple code to make a digital name badge.

YEAR 4

Reading

A great start to the new year with super reading in **Year 4**. Fluency skills are improving in reading partners and children are enjoying reading for pleasure.



Quentin Blake Mono-prints

Year 4 children made mono-prints of our Quentin Blake inspired characters.

Story writing

Children have written their own 'Inventing Room' chapters based on 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'



Rivers and the water cycle

In geography, we have been learning about rivers in Yorkshire and the water cycle. We have also linked this with map and grid reference work.

KEY STAGE 2 NEWS



YEAR 5

WW2 Artefacts

Last half term, **Year 5** had the opportunity to explore and handle genuine WW2 objects as part of their focus on World War 2. This provided a fantastic forum for discussion and deepening understanding of these objects; and what they can tell us about life back then.



Year 5 have built on skills taught in previous year groups by focusing on using their body to create symmetrical patterns with their body – both individually and in pairs – and extend this further to using both balance and counterbalance effectively within their pieces.



Jaqueline Hurley Inspired WW2 Remembrance Art

Year 5 worked hard and produced super high-quality outcomes with their Jaqueline Hurley inspired WW2 Remembrance Art. They focused on their tonal skills in Art and mastering the Monochrome effect.



KEY STAGE 2 NEWS



YEAR 6

During ICT, **Year 6** have explored using software for coding to create their own games.



In Science lessons, **Year 6** have been investigating electrical circuits, investigating their own questions.

During 'Drop Everything and Read' time, **Year 6** and Year 1 loved sharing a session to explore books together.



Using recycled materials, **Year 6** used 'upcycling' to create a product in D.T.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

INSET DAYS FOR 2025-2026

1st September 2025

24th November 2025

30th January 2026

22nd May 2026

20th July 2026

JANUARY 2026

22nd January First aid training Y5 Y6. Children to wear PE kits

28th January Young Voices Trip.

28th January Boys football event @Wakefield football centre.

29th January First aid training Y3 Y2 Y4. Children to wear PE kits

30th January **INSET DAY (closed to children).**



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY 2026

2nd - 6th February Children's mental health week.

2nd - 6th February National story telling week.

2nd February Girl's football event @Wakefield football centre.

6th February Wakefield music services workshop Y3 Y4 Y6.

10th February Safer internet day.

11th February Parents and Carers are invited into school to work with their children in their house groups.
The event is following or recent week of mental health focus and national story telling so will include a mindful activity and reading.
Please come for 2:15.

13th February House point prize event in school

13th February Celebrating Chinese New Year (17.02.2025).

13th February **School Closes @15.00. Re-opens Monday 23.02.2026**

24th February Tempest Photography (Portraits).

MARCH 2026

3rd March WY Cross Country finals @ Temple Newsam.
Parents of children involved will be contacted.

9th - 11th March Bike-ability Y5.

17th March TEM Ambassador Philip Purkis Y4 Y6.

27th March **School Closes @15.00. Re-opens Monday 13.04.2026**



SCHOOL INFORMATION

Teaching Staff for 2025 - 2026

Nursery - Mrs Johnson

Reception - Miss Price

Year 1 - Mrs Brown

**Year 2 - Mrs Franks and
Mrs Marsden**

**Year 3 - Ms Gibbings and
Mrs Hughes**

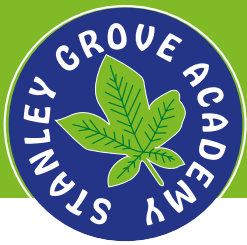
Year 4 - Mrs Hodgson

Year 5 - Mr Whipp

Year 6 - Mr Reynolds

Lessons start at 8:45. Please ensure that you arrive before this so that children can enter classroom prior to this. Gates will open prior to this to allow this to happen. As you know we have a breakfast club so these children use the playground and field prior to school opening so we cannot open the school site while these pupils are accessing these areas.

We will continue to enter at the field gate as this has created a calm entry to school and staff on the gates are able to see adults entering the school for messages and for safety. Please don't feel you have to queue outside school. As I have explained before, you are more than welcome to use the area near the scooter part, or come onto the field area near the path so you are not near the road whilst waiting to enter school. Lessons finish at 3p.m. and again, we will not be able to open more than 5 minutes before this due to children using the areas for their lessons. Thank you for understanding.



ATTENDANCE

**SCHOOL
TARGET**



100-95%
GOOD



94-85%
WORRYING



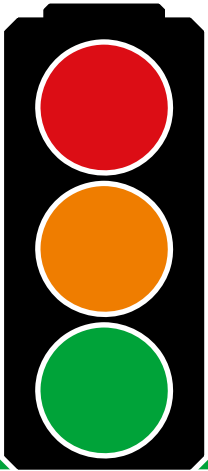
Below 85%
SERIOUS
CONCERN



YEAR GROUP	AVERAGE THIS YEAR	NATIONAL AVERAGE
NURSERY Y1	100%	88.9%
NURSERY Y2	92.6%	91.3%
RECEPTION	94.5%	93.8%
YEAR 1	96.7%	94.4%
YEAR 2	94.5%	94.8%
YEAR 3	94.0%	95.1%
YEAR 4	94.2%	95.0%
YEAR 5	92.8%	94.9%
YEAR 6	94.8%	94.6%



Attendance Matters



BELOW 90%
Serious concern
Persistent absence

90% - 95%
Cause for concern
Low attendance

AT LEAST 96%
Expected attendance

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/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.

