



Aim high, work hard, be happy and successful

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

A Wonderful Start to the New Term

It has been fantastic to welcome everyone back. The atmosphere across school has been vibrant, purposeful, and full of enthusiasm. Pupils have settled quickly into learning, and staff have worked incredibly hard to ensure a smooth and positive start. Thank you to our whole school community for helping make the beginning of this term such a success.

A Magical World Book Day

This year's World Book Day was a real highlight. A huge thank you to Mrs Marsden and our brilliant Junior Reading Leaders for organising such an imaginative and engaging day. The whole school was buzzing with a love of stories. It was wonderful to see pupils so inspired and eager to share their favourite books and the potato book character competition made us all smile and was so creative. It was lovely to see the AMAT academies all celebrating and sharing a real love of reading in their schools and communities.





Free School Meals – Check If You're Eligible

We would like to remind families that you may be entitled to Free School Meals, depending on your circumstances. Even if your child is in Reception, Year 1, or Year 2 and already receives Universal Free School Meals, applying for eligibility-based Free School Meals can bring additional funding into school to support your child's learning. If you think you might qualify, we strongly encourage you to apply. The process is simple, and the support can make a real difference. Please contact us if you need further support with this.

A Proud Closing Message

As we move further into the term, I want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible achievements of our pupils. Their hard work, determination, and positive attitudes have been evident in every classroom. We have also seen fantastic participation in sporting events and competitions, with pupils showing teamwork, resilience, and pride in representing our school. Whether they are excelling in lessons, trying something new, or supporting their peers, our pupils continue to make us proud every single day. Thank you to our families for your ongoing encouragement and partnership—it truly makes a difference.



Family Karaoke Night

Another standout moment this term was our Parents and Children Karaoke Event, organised and confidently led by our Junior Leaders. Their leadership, planning, and enthusiasm made the evening a huge success. Families sang together, laughed together, and created memories that will stay with us for a long time. It was a fantastic example of how pupil leadership can bring our community together in joyful and meaningful ways.

Attendance Matters

We are pleased to see many pupils starting the term with strong attendance. Good attendance is vital—it helps children build routines, stay connected with their learning, and make the most of every opportunity school offers. We encourage all families to continue supporting excellent attendance throughout the term. Every day in school truly makes a difference.

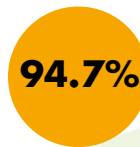


ATTENDANCE

**SCHOOL
TARGET**



**WHOLE
SCHOOL
AVERAGE
THIS YEAR**



YEAR GROUP	AVERAGE THIS YEAR	NATIONAL AVERAGE
NURSERY Y1	91.0%	89.0%
NURSERY Y2	91.8%	91.5%
RECEPTION	94.9%	93.9%
YEAR 1	96.3%	94.6%
YEAR 2	95.3%	95.0%
YEAR 3	96.2%	95.2%
YEAR 4	94.6%	95.1%
YEAR 5	93.3%	95.0%
YEAR 6	95.8%	94.7%

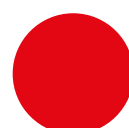
100-95%
GOOD



94-85%
WORRYING



Below 85%
SERIOUS
CONCERN



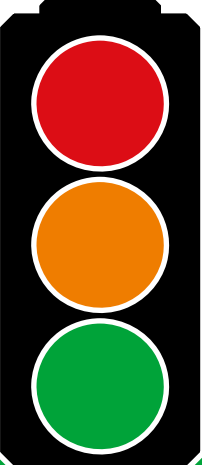


Attendance Matters



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.



NURSERY

Nursery have been developing their understanding of the world by searching for signs of Spring around the school site. We found buds and daffodils; we talked about how plants begin to grow at this time of year. The children also planted cress, beans and re-potted Viola's which they have cared for as Special Mother's Day gifts.



RECEPTION

Over the past few weeks in Reception, we have been learning all about **plants and springtime**. The children have enjoyed noticing the changes happening around us as the weather gets warmer and flowers begin to grow.

During our learning, the children developed a real interest in **minibeasts and insects**. We have been talking about the different creatures we might find in our gardens and outdoor spaces, and learning about where they live and why they are important.

We have also been on several **bug hunts** around our outdoor area, carefully searching under logs, in the grass, and around plants to see what we could find. The children have loved spotting different minibeasts and trying to identify them together



KEY STAGE 1 NEWS



YEAR 1

Year 1 loved hearing all about Chinese New Year from a member of our class.

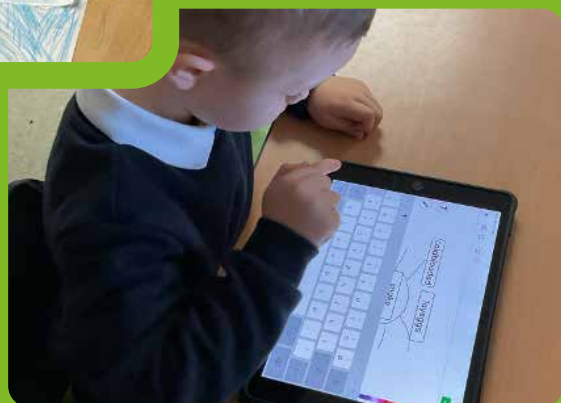


We were very proud to win the attendance trophy FOUR weeks running!

In DT, Year 1 have started learning how to make moving pictures.



In science, we have started to learn about animals. In provision, we are getting very excited about our trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park and are thinking about grouping different animals.



In ICT, Year 1 have started to learn how to make spider diagrams on Seesaw about animals.

KEY STAGE 1 NEWS



YEAR 2

Our new core text Lifesize Dinosaurs is a HUGE hit! Children are loving seeing just how big parts of dinosaurs really were learning comes alive when scale becomes real.



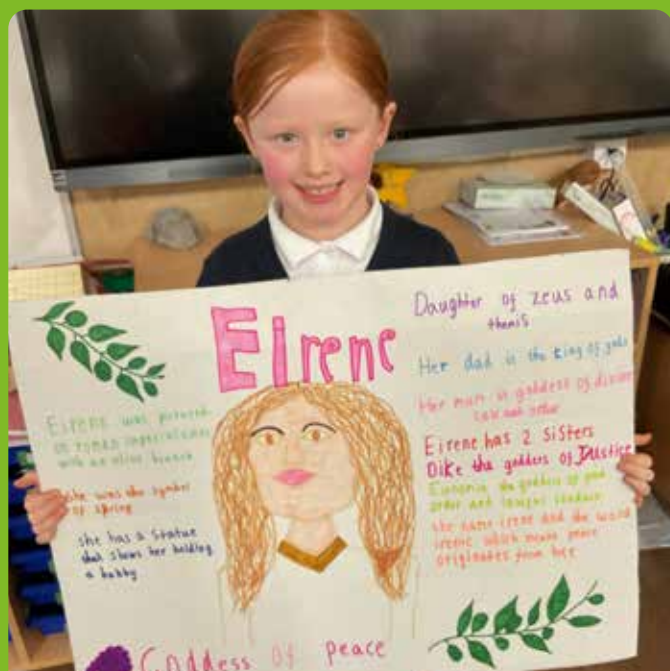
Year 2 had a visit from our wonderful art specialist Emma. They have created some gorgeous artwork to link to our writing about dinosaurs! They practised drawing and painting techniques before creating their dinosaur eye from water colours and oil pastel.

KEY STAGE 2 NEWS



YEAR 3

Some wonderful homework projects on Ancient Greece created by children in **Year 3**.



Year 3 enjoyed a Wakefield Museums workshop about Ancient Greek pottery. We got to explore real ancient artefacts.



Some of our wonderful diamond dash winners in **Year 3** this week. Congratulations!

KEY STAGE 2 NEWS



YEAR 3

A wonderful House Team Event this afternoon linked to Mental Health and Well-Being Week, where a number of adults were able to join children for some quiet meditation, mindful colouring and enjoying a good story.



Quality partner work in Oracy and Fluency with **Year 3**. Children have begun reading their new Novel "The Nothing to see here Hotel" by Steven Butler during Fluency sessions this week.



Year 3 have had a wonderful afternoon sharing their favourite books with Class 6, as part of National Storytelling Week.



A calming yoga session for children in **Year 3** this afternoon.

YEAR 4

Wakefield Museum Roman workshop

Year 4 enjoyed a Roman workshop session where they got to dress up as Romans, learn some Latin and hold artefacts that are more than 2000 years old.



Lighthouses

Year 4 have created their 'lighthouse' designs. We will be adding our electrical circuits to these when they are built.



Electricity

Year 4 have been learning about electricity and making complete circuits. Next they will be answering what if questions. (What if I add more bulbs/cells to the circuit?)

YEAR 5

A super productive sewing session in **Year 5** this morning. Thank you so much for the support of the adults, who were able to come in and work alongside the children creating fantastic outcomes for their recyclable 'Bags for Life'.



A very productive session with **Year 5** using their tinkering skills to create different scenarios using animation within the Keynote app.



Reflecting on a very busy and productive last half term from **Year 5**. Continuing to focus on quality and the highest standards of work across all areas of the curriculum.

KEY STAGE 2 NEWS



YEAR 6

Year 6 children were immersed in handling artefacts from Ancient Egyptian tombs that are thousands of years old! We also practised using hieroglyphics.



Year 6 have been working in collaboration with our Trust Art Leader to design and create clay jars inspired by Ancient Egyptian canopic jars. The pupils have shown great creativity and care in developing their pieces, drawing on their historical learning to inform their designs.



KEY STAGE 2 NEWS

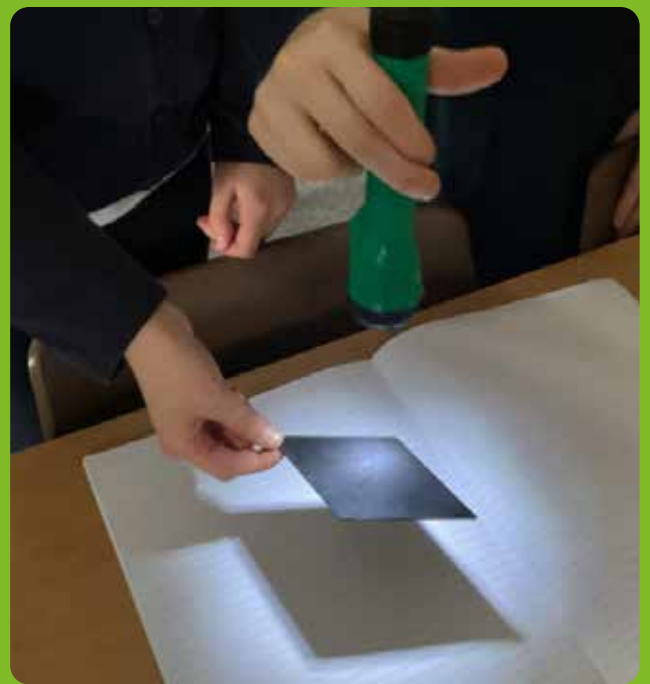


YEAR 6

One of our **Year 6** pupils kindly shared a presentation with the class, and also in other classes, about Chinese New Year. They brought in a range of artefacts to enrich everyone's understanding, providing a valuable and engaging insight into this important celebration.



Using technology and augmented reality, **Year 6** pupils have designed models of Tutankhamun's tomb to retell the story of its discovery by Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon. Through this innovative approach, pupils combined their historical knowledge with digital skills to bring this significant moment in history to life.



In Science, **Year 6** investigated light, shadows and light filters before making their own conclusions about this.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

INSET DAYS FOR 2025-2026

1st September 2025

24th November 2025

30th January 2026

22nd May 2026

20th July 2026

MARCH 2026

17th March STEM 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.