NEWSLETTER

14.11.25

Aim high, work hard, be happy and successful

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a fantastic start to the new half term! It's been wonderful to see the children return to school full of energy, enthusiasm and ready to learn.

I had the pleasure of organising and attending our **Year 5 and 6 residential trip** last week, and I could not have been prouder of them. Their behaviour, attitude and resilience were outstanding throughout the visit. They truly embraced every challenge and adventure that came their way — from climbing and team activities to being away from home — each child found their brave! It was a joy to share this experience with them and to see the confidence, teamwork and friendships that grew along the way. A huge thank you to the staff who supported the trip and made it such a memorable experience for everyone.

Last week, I was also delighted to attend the **official opening of Auckley Primary Academy**, the newest school to join our Trust. The event was a real celebration of the school community, filled with excitement, pride and a strong sense of purpose. It was inspiring to see their new chapter begin, and we're really looking forward to working closely with them as part of our growing family of schools.

We look forward to another exciting half term ahead, filled with learning, new opportunities and plenty more moments to celebrate.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support — it makes such a difference.

EARLY YEARS NEWS

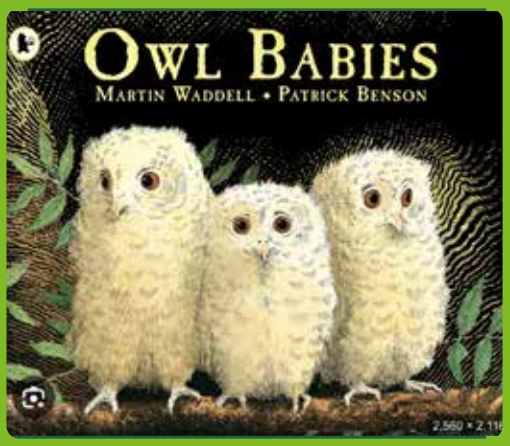
NURSERY

Nursery have had some very special feathered visitors last half term... Owls!

As part of our learning around our Core Book 'Owl Babies' by Martin Waddell we were fortunate to be able to meet six owls in our setting, we saw the owls swoop and stroked their soft feathers. We learnt lots of Owl facts and a new word – nocturnal.

We have made snowy and barn owls in our craft area – using our gluing and scissor skills.

We hope you like them!



EARLY YEARS NEWS

RECEPTION

In **Reception**, we have been learning all about birthdays and how people celebrate them! The children have loved sharing their own birthday experiences and talking about the special ways families mark the occasion.

In our provision, we have been busy creating colourful birthday cards and party invitations, practising our writing and design skills along the way. We also explored wrapping presents — working carefully with paper, tape, and ribbon to make them look just right!

We also baked some delicious birthday cakes together and held our very own class birthday party for Kipper the dog! We really enjoyed celebrating Kipper's special day!

KEY STAGE 1 NEWS

YEAR 1

Year 1 had a surprise visitor. Frankie the fox had been dropped over the school fence. We immersed him in Year 1 life and decided to make posters to reunite him with his owner.

Year 1 have started their new topic on toys. In provision, the children have been creating their own games.

Year 1 had a wonderful session with our artist, Emma. The focus was on using different shades to create pencil drawings of our favourite cuddly toys.

KEY STAGE 1 NEWS

YEAR 1

Year 1 had a fabulous hands on workshop with Wakefield Museums Service on Toys from the Past. They loved exploring the toys and being detectives to work out how old they were.

Year 1 delivered their first assembly to the school about Barbara Hepworth. They used excellent presenting skills and confidently answered questions.

KEY STAGE 1 NEWS

YEAR 2

Year 2 have had an exciting start to the new term. We have been introducing our core text 'Wolves' by Emily Gravett. Year 2 have been busy working in teams to sort and find information about Wolves. Great team work!

Stunning observational drawing from **Year 2!**

In Geography, **Year 2** labelled the seven continents and five oceans using atlases to help us.

KEY STAGE 2 NEWS

YEAR 3

Year 3 have had a visit from the school nurse and she has been explaining and demonstrating the importance of tooth care.

Year 3 had the privilege to be involved in one of the Author's workshops, as a reward for our school coming first place in the Summer reading challenge.

Year 3 have visited Stanley library. They have been learning about how to join the library and the books that they can borrow.

Children in **Year 3** have been working hard on their Fluency, reading pages and learning new vocabulary from the book "Fantastic Mr Fox".

KEY STAGE 2 NEWS

YEAR 3

Here are some of the children in Class 3, who have successfully completed a level in their diamond dash.

To celebrate Diwali, **Year 3** have been learning more about the festival and have created Mehndi patterns on their hand worksheets.

Here are a few of the fantastic Local Area projects that children have completed as part of their Homework. We were really impressed!

KEY STAGE 2 NEWS

YEAR 4

Year 4 produced some incredible projects on endangered species and presented these with great skill to the rest of the class.

We kick started our art sessions this half term with Quentin Blake style illustrations. We are next moving onto mono-printing next.

We are loving our Yoga sessions this half term! It is so calm and relaxing.

KEY STAGE 2 NEWS

YEAR 5

What a real pleasure it was for **Year 5** to hear about the successes in Gymnastics and Trampolining of our **Year 5** pupils. He shared his fantastic achievements with confidence and pride. A huge well done. We are so proud!

What a fantastic opportunity again to share the love of reading with Year 6 during **Year 5's** DEAR Time. So wonderful to see the children reading with confidence and clarity to their peers.

Fantastic outcomes today for children in Class 5 when they used 'Teachable Machine' image projects to train the programme to identify different climates from around the world when presented with a stimulus.

KEY STAGE 2 NEWS

YEAR 6

Year 6's have enjoyed coding, using Scratch to create their own games.

Year 6 enjoyed their virtual farm tour, led by LEAF.

Year 5's and 6's who did not attend the residential used Tom Palmer's novel 'Arctic Star' to create excellent watercolours.

Year 5s and 6s had a fantastic time on their residential!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

INSET DAYS FOR 2025-2026

1st September 2025	
24th November 2025	
30th January 2026	
22nd May 2026	
20th July 2026	

NOVEMBER 2025

21st November	Christmas Card Competition due today. We would like our academy Chrismas cards to be designed by on of our pupils. Please send any entries into school with child's full name and age on. No glitter please.
21st November	Reports for full time pupils emailed to parents today. Please check we have your email address on our system.
24th November	**INSET DAY. School closed to children.**
25th November	Parent Meetings on site 3:15 – 6:00pm
26th November	Parent Meetings online 3:15 – 5:30pm

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DECEMBER 2025	
9th December 9:15	UKS2 (Class 5 and 6) Christmas Performance.
9th December 1:30	LKS2 (Class 3 and 4) Christmas Performance.
10th December 9:15	Reception Christmas Performance.
10th December 1:30	KS 1 (Year 1 and 2) Christmas Performance.
12th December 1:30	Whole school Christmas House Point Event in memory of our treasured friend, Mrs Bell.
17th December	KS2 Christmas Party
17th December 3:15pm	Christmas Fair
18th December	KS 1 Christmas Party
18th December	Early Years Christmas Party.
19th December	SCHOOL CLOSES
JANUARY 2026	
5th January	SCHOOL OPENS

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

97%

100-95% GOOD

94-85% WORRYING

Below 85% SERIOUS CONCERN

YEAR GROUP	AVERAGE THIS YEAR	NATIONAL AVERAGE
NURSERY PM	**97.0%**	**93.9%**
RECEPTION	**96.7%**	**94.9%**
YEAR 1	**93.1%**	**97.3%**
YEAR 2	**100%**	**95.5%**
YEAR 3	**96.7%**	**94.7%**
YEAR 4	**95.0%**	**96.7%**
YEAR 5	**95.0%**	**93.8%**
YEAR 6	**91.9%**	**95.2%**

We continue to monitor attendance in the academy. Next half term, we will be looking at pupils with 90% or less attendance and are classed as persistently absent and organising meetings in school to look at how we can ensure pupil's attendance stays high enough for them to make progress in school in line with their peers with good attendance. Please ensure your child is in school every day to give them the best chance of success.

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Children and Young People

PENALTY NOTICE FINES FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ARE CHANGING!

With the introduction of the New National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force on 19th August 2024.

PENALTY NOTICES WILL BE ISSUED FOR

Term time leave: Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days

10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period: A Penalty Notice may be considered/issued when a pupil has had 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week* period.

*School Week's

PER PARENT/PER CHILD

Penalty Notice Fines will continue to be issued per parent per child.

For example: 3 Siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

FIRST OFFENCE

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for a Term Time Holiday or Irregular School Attendance the Penalty Notice will be charged at:

£160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days of issue, reducing to £80 if paid within 21 days**.

SECOND OFFENCE (within 3 years of the First Offence)

Where it is deemed appropriate to issue a second Penalty Notice to the same parent for the same pupil within 3 years of the first notice, the second Penalty Notice will be charged at:

£160 if paid within 28 days (no reduced fee for paying early).

(**Unpaid Penalty Notice's after 28 days may result in a parental prosecution)

THIRD OFFENCE (within 3 years of the First Offence)

On the third time that an offence is committed for either a Term Time Holiday and / or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, the case may proceed straight to Parental Prosecution under the Single Justice Procedure. If found guilty of the offence of 'Failure to send a child to school' the Magistrates can impose a fine up to £1000.