



Dear Parents,

It has been brilliant to share lots of our learning with parents and carers this week – it was great to see so many of you at ‘The Big Read’ on Monday. We hope you enjoyed looking at some of our new books and helping us create a culture of lifelong reading. Your support in this, and reading regularly with your child at home, is very much appreciated. We also welcomed some new parents on Monday evening who are looking for school places in September 2025. We are always happy to show prospective parents around – if you know of anyone looking for a school place, please ask them to get in touch.

We also loved our first ‘Christmas Fair’ on Wednesday. Thank you so much for your support (including the donations of cakes!) – we raised an incredibly £440 which will be used to further enrich the curriculum for all of our children. A big ‘well done’ to the Year 6 children who supported as well; as always, they were great ambassadors for our school and made us all very proud. Our older children also enjoyed a live orchestra session on Wednesday which has really helped further our children’s love of Music – and developed one of our priority subjects this year.

Finally, we had the pleasure of showing a visitor around school on Wednesday who is the Headteacher of a similar sized school on North Yorkshire. She was so impressed by every single class and reiterated what we always say about the wonderful atmosphere in school. Well done to all of our brilliant children!

Mr. Donaldson & Mr. Cope

Interested in teaching?

Are you considering a career in teaching? Mrs. Tunmore is working with the Red Kite Teaching Alliance to support those interested in pursuing work in education. You can speak to Mrs. Tunmore for further information, or visit the Red Kite website <https://www.redkiteteachertraining.co.uk/why-train->

Safeguarding Update: Prevent

The ‘Prevent Agenda’ is an important part of our safeguarding work, and focuses on protecting children from radicalisation. Further information regarding this important aspect of our role can be found by following the following link:

<https://www.educateagainsthate.com/parents/>

Sheets

If anyone has any old bed sheets which we could use at breaktimes our children would love to make use of them!

Let’s Celebrate!

See who has been awarded in Celebration Assembly this week!

	Mrs. Dozēy	Mrs. Tunmore	Mr. Cope	Mrs. Hollocks	Miss Weeks	Mrs. Kawai-Calderhead	Mr. Donaldson
Above & Beyond <i>(Care – Aspire – Excel)</i>	Albie	Lucas	Rose	Ivo	Rosa	Ronnie	Evie F
	Robin Class (Rec / Y1)		Kingfisher Class (Y2)		Partridge Class (Y4/5)		Woodpecker Class (Y6)
Curriculum Award	Lottie	Jack	Max		Noah		Thomas
Aims Award	Oskar	William R	Emily		Rollo		Barnaby
Team Points	Bolton						
Tidy Classroom	TBC						
Golden Spoon	Rosa						
Monarch	Rafe						

Diary Dates

Please keep checking the dates below as some may change at short notice!

When?	What?	Who?	How?
Monday 2 nd December	Y4/5/6 Sportshall Athletics Competition	Y4/5/6	Information to follow
Wednesday 4 th December	'The Wriggly Nativity' @ 2pm and 6pm	R/Y1	Information sent
Friday 6 th December	'French Open' Afternoon for Y2-Y6 – 2.30pm	Y2-Y6	Information sent
Monday 9 th December	Christmas Film Night	All	Information to follow
Tuesday 10 th December	Reception 'Drawing Club' Session for Parents	Rec	Information sent
Wednesday 11 th December	'Sleeping Beauty' @ Darlington Hippodrome	All	Information sent
Thursday 12 th December	H&A Museum	All	Information sent
Friday 13 th December	Christmas Lunch	All	Information sent
Wednesday 18 th December	Christingle @ St Patrick's Church – 6pm	All	Information sent
Friday 20 th December	School Closes for Christmas Holiday	All	See newsletter
Monday 6 th January	School Closed – CPD Day	All	See newsletter
Tuesday 7 th January	School Opens – Spring 1	All	See newsletter
Wed 5 th – Thu 6 th February	London Residential	Y5/6	Information sent
Mon 3 rd – Tue 4 th March	Y2/3/4 Stargazing Residential	Y2/3/4	Information sent

Around the Classes...

Robin Class (Reception): This week, Reception have enjoyed all things Paddington Bear! We have been on adventures to Peru, had a 'Paddington Tea Party' with marmalade sandwiches and enjoyed a range of Paddington activities following the children's lead! We talked about how to stay safe in road safety week and we were very excited to find and explore some ice in our outdoor classroom! In Drawing Club, we have been creating Gruffalo caves and our own woodland creature creations with some wonderful and inspiring drawing and word writing!! In Maths, we have been looking at part and whole of objects and ourselves!! (My leg is a part; the whole is my body).

Robin Class (Year 1): We loved starting the week with the Big Read, the children enjoyed sharing their love of reading with lots of adults. And of course, the chocolate break time! We have been writing our own stories in English, based on the book 'I Want My Hat Back'. Ask the children who stole the hat! It was great fun wearing boots on National Farming Day! In Maths, we have continued to develop our understanding of addition, using number bonds to ten to help us. History has seen us discover Amy Johnson, who flew the plane to Australia solo. The children, as always, were incredibly inquisitive. Please remember to keep reading at home as often as possible – we are enjoying handing out raffle tickets for 5 reads per week.

Kingfisher Class: We kicked off the week with our 'Big Read' and really enjoyed sharing some time with our grown ups who were able to join us! We also had an incredibly exciting Wednesday; we attended a virtual orchestra concert in the afternoon before the Christmas Fair after school and the children really enjoyed both. Back to the classroom and in Maths, we have started learning about money. We have been adding and comparing various amounts so any extra work at home using real-life money would be really beneficial! We have come to the end of our English topic based on the text 'Dear Earth' which has seen us publishing a leaflet about how we can protect our planet whilst in History we have been learning about the discovery of Tutankhamen. A great week, big well done to all!

Partridge Class: We all had a wonderful time at the Christmas Fair and enjoyed the beginning of the festivities despite the bitter weather. This week, the children have conducted research in Science about naturalists, David Attenborough and Jane Goodall. They also had the chance to become naturalists themselves, observing a barrier reef and red panda live camera. We have been writing mythical stories about our magical creatures in English, the children have done a fantastic job and have been extra creative! Well done for another brilliant week, Partridges!

Woodpecker Class: We have had a great week in Year 6. We were so proud of the way the children took the lead during our Christmas Fair on Wednesday, and showed our school community what a fantastic bunch of young people they are! In the classroom we have enjoyed furthering our fraction skills by learning how to add and subtract fractions. We have begun to write our own persuasive information report on endangered animals and delved deeper into the story of the Trojan Horse!

Safeguarding Reminders

Mr. Sam Donaldson is the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Mr. Gavin Cope is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Mrs. Louise Wyatt is the Safeguarding Link Governor.

If you have worries or concerns about a pupil, please don't hesitate to speak to one of the people named above, in confidence.