



Hunton & Arrathorne Community Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 7th November 2025

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! What an exciting first week back we have had following the half-term holiday. We have had Multi-skills Competitions, 'No Outsiders' lessons and a visit from a Gladiators champion – more about that below! As if that wasn't exciting enough, we have the exciting Children in Need event on Wednesday evening to look forward to as well - Mrs. Godlee will be sending out a QR code for families attending on Wednesday night, containing details required by the BBC.

On Monday, staff gathered for our latest continued professional development day. This week, we focussed on developing our pedagogy (the practice of teaching) and learnt about some exciting ways we can further develop behaviour, attitudes and learning in classrooms and it has been great to see many of these being implemented throughout the week.

The children have settled back into school so well and it has been a pleasure to see such a mix of exciting things happening outside of the classroom balanced with lots of amazing learning inside the classroom – we are sure it is going to be a fantastic half-term as we quickly approach December which is always a wonderfully exciting but chaotic time in primary schools!

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend,
Mr. Donaldson & Mr. Cope

Gladiators!

What a wonderful day we had on Wednesday when we were visited by the 'Gladiators' champion - Joe Fishburn. After watching clips of the series, the children were amazed when he walked into our assembly. This was followed by lots of questions and answers, and 'Gladiators' workshops for each class. It is certainly a day everyone will remember forever! Have a look at our Facebook page for some more photos.



Children in Need

You should have received a letter about Children in Need events in school next week. The theme this year is '25'. As a result, children will be taking part in a 5 x 5 dance workshops. Please donate directly to Children in Need via the website if you wish.

You should have also received the communication re. the exciting events taking place on Wednesday organized by the BBC. Please ensure you have read the letter carefully and a QR code will be sent out for any families who would like to attend.



Remembrance Events

Our Key Stage 2 service pupils are joining Mrs. Kennedy and Miss Lynn (one of our governors) at Ripon Cathedral this afternoon, to take part in the Service Children's Festival of Remembrance. We will also mark Remembrance Day next week by holding a special assembly, and visiting the war memorial in Hunton to lay our school wreath.

The Importance of Attendance

Research highlights the importance of good attendance, which has been found to have a direct correlation with attainment in school. The Local Authority ask us to reiterate the importance of attendance regularly with parents so we have shared this diagram to help indicate how absence can 'add up' over the course of a school year.



Year 1/2 Multi-skills Festival

Kingfisher Class had a wonderful morning on Tuesday, taking part in a Multi-skills Competition against other children in our local area. The children performed fantastically – their behavior and resilience really shone through. We are very proud of all of them!

Let's Celebrate!

There is no Celebration Assembly this week due to the Service Children's Festival of Remembrance and the short week. However, we would like to congratulate all children on a super first week back!

Diary Dates

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

When?	What?	Who?	How?
Wednesday 12 th November	Crucial Crew	Y6	Information sent
Thursday 13 th November	Torchlight Treasure Hunt	All	Information sent
Friday 14 th November	Children in Need	All	See newsletter
Tuesday 18 th November	Y3/4 NERF Festival @ Richmond School	TBC	Information sent
Wednesday 26 th November	Christmas Fair	All	Information to follow
Tuesday 2 nd December	Y5/6 Netball @ Bedale School	TBC	Information to follow
Wednesday 3 rd December	Christmas Film Night	All	Information to follow
Wednesday 3 rd December	Y5/6 Sportshall Athletics @ Richmond School	TBC	Information to follow
Monday 8 th December	Christmas Post-box Opens	All	Information to follow
Wednesday 10 th December	Reception & Key Stage 1 Nativity @ 2.00 & 6.00pm	REC-Y2	Information to follow
Tuesday 16 th December	Pantomime @ Darlington Hippodrome	All	Information to follow
Wednesday 17 th December	Christingle @ St Patrick's Church – 6.00pm	All	Information to follow
Friday 19 th December	School Closes for Christmas Holiday	All	See newsletter
Monday 5 th January	School Closed – CPD Day	All	See newsletter
Tuesday 6 th January	School Opens	All	See newsletter
Thursday 8 th January	Y3/4 Parliament Visit	Y3/4	Information sent
Thursday 12 th February	Richmond Station Art Exhibition	All	Information to follow
Friday 13 th February	School Closes for Half Term	All	See newsletter
Monday 23 rd February	School Opens	All	See newsletter
26 th – 27 th February	Y5/6 Residential to Carlton Lodge	Y5/6	Information sent

Around the Classes...

Robin Class: This week, we have enjoyed learning more about why we celebrate Bonfire Night! We've enjoyed role playing fire fighters within provision and making beautiful firework pictures using chalks and powder paints! We have enjoyed sharing our own experiences of fireworks and also what we've been doing over the half-term holiday. Our highlight of the week was meeting Joe, the Gladiator champion! We got to have a go at some Gladiator-inspired challenges and were motivated to persevere even when things are hard - a great lesson to take away! A brilliant first week of Autumn 2.

Kingfisher Class: Although it has only been a short week, we have been so impressed with the children's attitudes and hard work. We had a great morning on Tuesday at the Multi-skills Competition; this was followed by our latest 'No Outsiders' lesson where we focussed on the book 'The First Slodge'. We have continued to develop our addition and subtraction skills in Maths and were very excited to finally be able to read 'Billy the Beast' after waiting patiently since before half-term! Well done, Kingfisher Class!

Goldfinch Class: It has been wonderful to get back into the routines of our learning this week; the children loved sharing their tales from half-term. We have had a highly productive week where we have most certainly lived up to our ethos of care-aspire-excel, both in and out of the classroom. We started the week with 'No Outsiders', where we read the text Beegu; the children discussed the word 'outsider' and we role played a detective game. PE commenced with the Ultimate Frisbee topic down on the village green and we had an exciting visitor sharing a workshop with us on Wednesday – the children were incredibly inspired! We ended the week taking some time to think about Remembrance Sunday.

Partridge Class: What an exciting first week of term! We have had a brilliant week of fun and learning. Partridges have written some brilliant fictional stories in the form of a prequel based on our English text, 'The Lost Happy Endings'. We have started our addition and subtraction topic in Maths and in Science; we have been exploring food chains. The children thoroughly enjoyed their Gladiator day on Wednesday and showed brilliant sportsmanship, supporting each other in each of the tasks. Well done for a great first week back Partridges.

Woodpecker Class: The Woodpeckers have had a great first week back from half-term. We kicked off the week reading the moving story 'Rose Blanche', considering how Jewish people were persecuted due to their religion during WWII. On Wednesday, we were excited to meet the 2025 Gladiators Champion, who talked a lot about persevering during difficult times as well as delivering an exciting workshop where the children developed various skills important for Gladiators challengers. We introduced long division in Maths and the children showed their own perseverance in tackling this whilst in History, we started a new unit of learning on the Ancient Greeks. A huge well done to all of the children for a great first week back.

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.