



Hunton & Arrathorne Community Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 16th January 2026

Dear Parents,

It has been a week of hard work and industrious learning throughout school. The week began with our British Values Day on Monday – each class spent time in a carousel of activities focussing on the different values. The British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect / tolerance are well embedded into every day life in our school and this day gave us a chance to celebrate their importance.

On Thursday, we were joined by the ‘wraparound childcare co-ordinator’ from the local authority who visited our morning wraparound provision. She was overwhelmingly impressed with the children who were attending; their behaviour was great, they were friendly and welcoming but what stood out the most was how well the older children supported the younger children in such a nurturing way.

I will be attending some training over the next couple of weeks, which means I may be out of school on certain days. Mr. Cope will be in school as usual so please feel free to speak to him and he will be happy to help should you need anything.

Have a good weekend,

Mr. Donaldson.

Aims Sheds

If you can help us re-stock our breaktime sheds by donating any unwanted items you have at home, we’d be very grateful. We’re looking for items we can make dens out of (tarpaulins, throws, sheets etc.) as they are the most popular items in our ‘aims sheds’ and in great demand! Thank you in advance for your support!

Y6 SATS Information Evening

Just a reminder that we will be holding a Year 6 SATS Information Evening next Thursday at 4.30pm. Mr. Cope and Mrs. Kawai-Calderhead will share useful information with Year 6 parents before the end of Key Stage 2 assessments in May. If you are unable to join us, we will send information home afterwards.

Did you know?...

This week we have started a fortnightly ‘Friday Quiz’ where each class competes in fun team activities, which test their knowledge of all curriculum areas!

Let’s Celebrate!

See who has been awarded in Celebration Assembly this week!

	Mrs. Dozēy	Mrs. Hollocks	Mr. Donaldson	Mrs. Tunmore	Miss Weeks	Mrs. Kawai-Calderhead	Mr. Cope
Care – Aspire – Excel Awards	Harry	Edward	Ruby-mai	Beatrice	Poppy	Rafe	Livy
	Robin Class (Rec/Y1)	Kingfisher Class (Y1 & Y2)		Goldfinch Class (Y3)	Partridge Class (Y4 & Y5)		Woodpecker Class (Y6)
Curriculum Award	Margot	Albie		Margot	Bernard		Bea
Aims Award	Thomas	Arthur		Emily	Max		Charlie R
Team Points	Middleham						
Presentation Prize	Poppy						
Golden Spoon	Bill & Betsy						
Monarch	Grace S						
Tidy Class	Woodpecker						

Diary Dates

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

When?	What?	Who?	How?
Thursday 22 nd January	Y6 SATS Meeting	Y6	Information sent
Wednesday 28 th January	Y3 & Y6 Visit to Sikh Gurdwara, Darlington	GF, WPK	Information sent
Monday 2 nd February	Wellbeing Week	All	Information to follow
Wednesday 4 th February	RE Parent Drop-ins @ 9am	All	Information to follow
Thursday 5 th February	Y5/6 Carlton Lodge Parents Meeting @ 4.30pm	Y5/6	Information to follow
Tuesday 10 th February	Internet Safety Day	All	See newsletter
Thursday 12 th February	Richmond Station Art Exhibition	All	Information to follow
Friday 13 th February	Mid-Year Reports Home	All	See newsletter
Friday 13 th February	School Closes for Half Term	All	See newsletter
Monday 23 rd February	School Opens	All	See newsletter
Wednesday 25 th February	Spring Concert @ 9am	All	Information to follow
26 th – 27 th February	Y5/6 Residential to Carlton Lodge	Y5/6	Information sent
W/C Monday 2 nd March	Book Week	All	Information to follow
Friday 6 th March	'Big Read' @9.00am	All	Information to follow
Monday 9 th March	Y3 Visit to Piercebridge Roman Fort	Y3	Information to follow
Wednesday 11 th March	Music Parent Drop-ins @ 2.45pm	All	Information to follow
Wednesday 25 th March	Parents' Evening 3.30-7.00pm	All	Information to follow
Thursday 26 th March	Easter Labyrinth	All	Information to follow
Friday 27 th March	School Closes for Easter Holiday	All	See newsletter
Tuesday 14 th April	School Opens for Summer Term	All	See newsletter
W/C Monday 11 th May	Y6 SATS Week Begins	Y6	Information to follow
Friday 22 nd May	School Closes for Half Term	All	See newsletter
Monday 1 st June	School Opens	All	See newsletter

Around the Classes...

Robin Class: This week we have enjoyed our Drawing Club which has been based on 'Whatever Next' and our focus vocabulary 'zooming', 'accelerate' and 'soaring'. In provision, we have been creating rockets with our large construction resources... and smaller rockets in our creative area. Our 'Curiosity Cube' this week was all about Neil Armstrong. The children have enjoyed learning about him and why he is an important person from the past. The children are really enjoying learning more about space!

Kingfisher Class: We have had a fantastic start to the term. This week, we have started a new sequence of learning in our Maths lessons by investigating multiplication as 'lots of'. Whilst Year 2 practise their multiplication skills, Year 1 have refined their place value skills. In English, we have written some super sentences about 'Jim and the Beanstalk' using conjunctions. We've also really enjoyed starting our new geography topic based on food by thinking about how milk is produced and flexing our muscles in the gym!

Goldfinch Class: Welcome back, we are working extremely hard with wonderful, positive attitudes to our learning. In Maths, we have consolidated our addition and subtraction journey, including calculations with money. In Computing, we have delved into 'Programming', which the children are really enjoying, and the children loved sharing their special items in RE. Handwriting has been beautiful this week; we have really focused on our presentation. And we have started our new class text of The Iron Man, which we are thoroughly engaged with. Please remember to keep reading at home as often as possible – we are enjoying handing out the raffle tickets and pasta for 5 reads per week. As always, I have been proud of how the children care-aspirer-excel in school.

Partridge Class: What a brilliant week Partridges have had! They have worked extremely hard and have been so successful in their learning. In Maths, the children have been focusing on time, developing skills in reading, writing and converting time between analogue and digital as well as using a 24hr digital clock. In Geography, we were changemakers; after a walk around our school, we discussed ways in which we could be more sustainable and created posters to persuade people to do so. Well done, Partridges!

Woodpecker Class: In Maths this week, we have moved onto 'fractions, decimals and percentages', initially focussing on how we can find equivalent fractions, simplify fractions and comparing/ordering fractions with different denominators. We will spend quite a large part of the term working on this unit, as there is a lot of content to cover. In English, we have continued exploring persuasive writing, focussing on how we can use persuasive vocabulary and a range of punctuation to enhance our work. In Geography, we started a brand-new unit exploring how climate change affects the world. The unit will see us travel to different continents around the world, with this week's focus being on drought and famine in The Gambia. Another brilliant week – well done to everyone!

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.