



Hunton & Arrathorne Community Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 30th January 2026

Dear Parents,

...and just like that, January is over! Hopefully, along with longer days we will start to see some better weather.

This week has been another week of great learning in school. We have also been joined by three student teachers from York St. John University – Mr. Gibson, Miss Marshall and Miss Morehead. They will be observing teaching in Year 6 over the next fortnight before returning later in the year to work with us further.

Year 3 and Year 6 had a great afternoon on Wednesday visiting the Gurdwara in Darlington. Our visit to the Gurdwara this week, and the Mandir earlier in the month, are an important part of our RE curriculum and our approach to enhancing the children's experiences of British Values and cultural diversity. Diversity and inclusion are a key part of our school ethos, and the children had a brilliant reflective experience. As always, they behaved impeccably and were incredibly respectful throughout – we are always very proud to take them out on visits!

Have a good weekend.

Mr. Cope

February Film Night

Just to confirm, the Film Night is on Wednesday 11th February – sorry for any confusion caused!

RE Parent Drop-in

You should have received an email from Mr. Cope inviting you to join your children in some RE learning next Wednesday 4th February. Classrooms will be open for parents to join their children between 9.00-9.30. We do hope you might be able to join in as we focus on our RE curriculum as a focus subject!

Wellbeing Week

Next week we will be thinking about wellbeing in school and exploring one of the 'Five Ways of Wellbeing' each day. More information about wellbeing can be found here <https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/self-help/guides-tools-and-activities/five-steps-to-mental-wellbeing/> and there are lots of ideas available online if you'd like to join in at home. We will be thinking about the following themes:

*Monday – Connect
Thursday – Be active*

*Tuesday – Take notice
Friday – Keep learning*

Wednesday – Give

Let's Celebrate!

See who has been awarded in Celebration Assembly this week!

Carlton Lodge Meeting – Y5/6

Just a reminder about our information session for Year 5 & 6 parents on Thursday 5th at 4.30pm about the Carlton Lodge residential! We will be joined by a member of staff from Carlton Lodge who will be able to answer any questions; we will also be able to provide further information about the visit. If you are unable to attend, we will send information via email as well.

Diary Dates

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

When?	What?	Who?	How?
Monday 2 nd February	Wellbeing Week	All	Information sent
Wednesday 4 th February	RE Parent Drop-ins @ 9am	All	Information sent
Thursday 5 th February	Y5/6 Carlton Lodge Parents Meeting @ 4.30pm	Y5/6	Information sent
Tuesday 10 th February	Internet Safety Day	All	See newsletter
Wednesday 11 th February	Film Night	All	Information sent
Thursday 12 th February	Richmond Station Art Exhibition	All	Information sent
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 sent
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 learning more about stars! We have looked at star constellations, created star paintings and used these to enhance our outdoor learning when we go to 'Space' looking for stars! In our story 'How to Catch a star', we have been ordering the story and retelling it using picture prompts whilst in provision, we've been making lists of things we could use to catch a star! In our handwriting, we have been focusing on perfecting some of our graphemes and working very hard at this! We have also been writing short phrases each day to continue building our writing and longer words in phonics sessions.

Kingfisher Class: Kingfisher Class have had another great week. In Maths, we have started to investigate division by exploring equal groups and by sharing & grouping. We have also enjoyed exploring speech in English, and planning and writing our own sequels after being inspired by 'Jim and the Beanstalk'. In Music, we are enjoying listening to different types of music and thinking about how it makes us feel.

Goldfinch Class: A fantastic week for Goldfinch Class with positive attitudes towards all of our learning. We are proud of our focus with Diamond Dash, which is helping with our new maths topic of multiplication and division. We love chanting our 4s and 8s. We added in some beautiful art this week in preparation for our school art gallery at The Station in Richmond. We were very inquisitive during our visit to the Gurdwara Temple and it was lovely to see how much the children enjoyed the visit. We have been reading about 'Earth Shattering Events' which links with our Geography and finally, in French we now know six types of transport.

Partridge Class: Partridges have been absolute Maths whizzes this week, flying through their multiplication topic brilliantly! We have been creators and prepared some self-portraits ready for The Station art exhibition in Richmond. The children also explored reversible and irreversible changes in science through an experiment and finally, we explored our local county by considering how solar and wind farms help produce energy in North Yorkshire!

Woodpecker Class: In Maths this week, we have been subtracting mixed number fractions, using our knowledge of common denominators and improper fractions to help. In English, we have continued working on our balanced arguments, focussing on how we can use evidence to support our arguments when writing about an endangered animal of our choice. On Wednesday, we visited the Gurdwara Temple in Darlington and we were impressed by the children's curiosity, their knowledge and confidence to answer questions but most of all, how well they behaved, showing respect at all times.

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.