



Dear Parents,

It was lovely to see so many of you at our Parents' Evening this week. I know the teachers enjoyed sharing all of the children's progress so far. Your support is very much appreciated. As we are not in school next Friday, this is the last newsletter of this half-term and it has really flown by – from our Ofsted inspection in Week 2 to our Art Week next week with lots of hard-work in between! Thank you, as always, for all of your support.

When we return in November we will look forward to all of our favourite Christmas events – please find information about these on the diary dates section overleaf.

Before then, we have our 'Art Week' next week when our 'Artist in Residence' (Chris) will be joining us to hold workshops with each of the classes. We're so lucky to have Chris as part of our extended team and can't wait to see what beautiful work is created in preparation for our next exhibition at Richmond Station in 2024.

Have a great weekend!

CPD Day Reminder

Just a reminder that school is closed on Friday 27th October for staff training. Half-term will begin when school closes on Thursday 26th October 2023.

Harvest Festival & Pumpkin Parade

Our Harvest Festival and Pumpkin Parade will take place on Thursday 26th October at 2.30pm. Each class will perform as part of our Harvest Festival and the afternoon will end with the results of our Pumpkin Parade.

Parents, carers and friends are very welcome to join us. Please remember the event will take place on the playground whatever the weather and seating will be limited. Thank you.

Halloween Disco

Our PTFA Halloween Disco will take place on Wednesday 25th October from 3.30-5.00pm. Tickets are available via Parent Pay.

School staff will accompany children to the Village Hall and children can be collected from their classrooms at 5.00pm. Due to safeguarding, parents are not able to attend the disco. Children are welcome to bring 'disco clothes' to change into. Year 5/6 will join the disco on return from their visit.

Let's Celebrate!

See who has been awarded in Celebration Assembly this week!

	Woodpecker Class (Y5/6)	Partridge Class (Y3/4)	Kingfisher Class (Y2)	Robin Class (R/Y1)
Above & Beyond (Care – Aspire – Excel)	Thomas	Faye	Rose	Beatrice
	Woodpecker Class (Y5/6)	Partridge Class (Y3/4)	Kingfisher Class (Y2)	Robin Class (R/Y1)
Curriculum Award	Isaac	Charlie R	Margot	Erin
Aims Award	Emily	Rollo	Henry S	Finn
Team Points	Bolton			
Tidy Classroom	Kingfisher			
Golden Spoon	Ralph			

Mrs. Thewsey

We wish Mrs. Thewsey 'goodbye and good luck' as she steps back from her role as General Teaching Assistant at the end of half-term – we're delighted that she will remain as part of our team on a relief basis, so we will still see plenty of her around school. Miss Jones will be moving to Robin Class to work with Reception each morning and Miss Whittaker will be taking over the running of Wraparound Club each morning. We thank Mrs Thewsey for all of her work with all of our children over the last nine months and wish her lots of luck.

Diary Dates

<u>When?</u>	<u>What?</u>	<u>Who?</u>	<u>How?</u>
Wednesday 25 th October	Y5/6 Visit to Eden Camp	Y5/6	Information sent
Wednesday 25 th October	Halloween Disco	All	Information sent
Thursday 26 th October	Pumpkin Parade / Harvest Festival at 2.30pm	All	Information sent
Friday 27 th October	CPD Day – School Closed	All	Information sent
Friday 10 th November	Remembrance Service @ Ripon Cathedral	KS2-HH	Information to follow
W/C Monday 13 th Novemb	'Friendship Week' / Odd Socks Day	All	See newsletter
Tuesday 14 th November	'Big Read' with Parents	All	Information to follow
1 st December +	'Nativity Trail' at Parish Churches	All	Information to follow
Wednesday 13 th December	Reception / Key Stage 1 Nativity – 2pm and 6pm	All	Information to follow
Thursday 14 th December	Pantomime Visit @ Darlington Hippodrome	All	Information to follow
Monday 11 th December	Festive Film Night	All	Information to follow
Wednesday 20 th December	Christingle @ St Patrick's Church, 6pm	All	Information to follow
Friday 22 nd December	Break up for Christmas Holiday	All	See newsletter

Around the Classes...

Robin Class (Reception): This week all the reception children have blown us away with their phonics knowledge - so driven and focused. They have learnt so much this half term- and continued to aim high, by working hard on their oral blending, decoding words and starting to write words this week! Wow! They have really enjoyed listening to and acting out 'Room on the broom' and creating their own story map! They have also enjoyed creating various spells and potions in the witch's kitchen, exploring what's inside a pumpkin, making wands and hats to support their play and lots of drawing!! Another fantastic week learning!

Robin Class (Year 1): The Robins have had another highly productive week where they have most certainly lived up to our ethos of care-aspire-excel, both in and out of the classroom. To celebrate 'This is Me Week' we have listened to our song of the week many times. We all printed our fingerprints and explored them using the magnifying glasses, did you know that no two people have the same fingerprint? We have loved sharing our likes and dislikes and celebrating we are unique. Outdoors, during forest school we even linked 'This is Me' and used mud to make fingerprint patterns and clay portraits! In English I was so impressed with their Autumn poems, a variety of exciting vocabulary was used. And we had another very successful time learning catching skills in our cricket session, with coach Joe.

Kingfisher Class: This week the Kingfishers have been working hard in English to write their letters all about our school. In maths we have continued to develop our place value skills, particularly our counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. On Thursday, the children competed incredibly enthusiastically in our termly 'intra-house sport competition', definitely living up to our 'We are Happy and Healthy' aim. We have also been working on our Harvest Festival performance this week with the children fine-tuning their singing and speaking parts ready for next week. The children have settled so well into year 2 and it was incredibly rewarding being able to share with you all how well they are doing during our Parent Evening meetings - one week to go and a well-earned break for all of them!

Partridge Class: We have enjoyed our 'This is Me' week and we have celebrated how we are all different. We looked at diversity, equality and individual liberty and rounded off the week with 'Free Dress Friday'. It was yet another sporty week in Partridge Class. We had another superb cricket workshop, a fantastic basketball session and a group of children represented school in the Y3/4 football tournament. The children worked really well as a team and showed excellent sportsmanship skills. We are all very proud of you. In English, we have been writing a balanced argument: Should all wild animals in circuses be banned? The children have impressed with their choices of vocabulary and explaining both sides of the argument.

Woodpecker Class: This week Woodpeckers have loved getting creative and writing a setting description inspired by the Wizarding World of Harry Potter. The children's vocabulary, figurative writing and imagination has WOWED me this week. In science, we have learned how to keep our bodies healthy and made colourful, informative posters to educate people about the importance of eating a balanced diet, exercising regularly and getting enough sleep.

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.