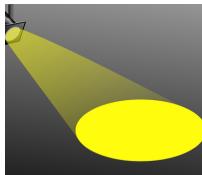


# BALSHAW LANE NEWSLETTER



Happy New Year to all our families. I hope you all had a lovely Christmas break. We have had a lovely first week back in school and are excited about our spring term with lots of fun activities and exciting learning planned for the children.



## Spotlight this week on Maths

**Reception:** We have been subitising to 5 and looking at the value of zero.

**Year 1:** We have been looking at numbers to 20 – counting and ordering.

**Year 2:** We have been looking at 2D and 3D shapes. We have been counting sides, vertices, edges and faces. We have looked at vertical lines of symmetry.

**Year 3:** We have been multiplying and dividing by 5, 10 and 3.

**Year 4:** We have been multiplying and dividing numbers looking at patterns between the 3, 6 and 9 times tables.

**Year 5:** We have been comparing and ordering fractions greater than 1 and adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator.

**Year 6:** We have been adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions.



## Assembly this week...



We have launched our Value and Aspire Skill for this half term. The value we are focusing on is **gratitude**. In assembly we shared the story of Mr Grumble and how he didn't show how grateful he was and grumbled about many things! We explored how we need to show gratitude for the wonderful things we have in our lives and try to share positive statements as these make us feel better and raise our well-being.

Our new Aspire Skill is **self-motivation**. The children explored what this means in their Well-Being Wednesday assembly.

In Mrs Ashworth's KS1 and Mr Woodrow's KS2 Picture News assembly the children explored the question:



This year is the **National Year of Reading**.

More information coming next week on our plans for celebrating reading and the importance of sharing books. We are excited to promote even further our love of reading.



## Messages

Please remember that we aim to be a nut free school so please don't send any nut products into school for snack and packed lunches. We have a number of children with severe nut allergies.

We are aware that some children have received smart watches for Christmas but they are not allowed to wear these for school.

Little reminder that we don't have a crossing patrol currently so please remind children about crossing the road carefully and we ask all drivers to be aware that children may be crossing without an adult.

Many thanks.

## Well-being Week

This week we have focused on:

### Wellbeing Wednesday

Aspire Skill for this half term: Self-Motivation

Reflect: How self-motivated are you? When is it easy and when is it hard? What strategies can we share to help each other to become more self-motivated?



## Curriculum Letters

Curriculum letters are being sent out today so please do look out for the email. They detail the curriculum coverage for this term and other important information regarding your child's learning.

## Music appreciation in assembly

Our musical artist for January is Gustav Holst. This week we have enjoyed listening to "The Planets."



## Gold stars!

Brand new cards have been given out for the children to collect their golden stars for this half term. We know our children will work super hard at following our 3 school golden rules - ready, respectful, safe.



## PTFA

Our next PTFA meeting will be Wednesday 21st January- 7:30pm-9:00pm. All are welcome to attend. Brand new events for 2026 to be planned and discussed. If you feel you can help please do attend.

## Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to the all the children who received a Headteacher Award in assembly just before Christmas:

RA Ruby  
1A Seb  
2HP Grayson  
3B Joel  
4G Poppy  
5B Olivia  
6C Logan

RH Rosie  
1T Maya  
2M Arlo  
3J Matthew  
4W Kingsley  
5H Harvey  
6S Emma



## Attendance and Punctuality

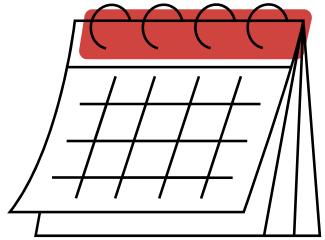
Whole School Attendance for this academic year is: 95.3%. The figures below are for this week.

Congratulations to RH for all being punctual. Well done!

Please ensure all children are in school on time so that valuable learning time has not been lost. We will be sending reminders to children's parents / carers who are repeatedly late.

	R A	R H	1T	1A	2 H P	2 M	3 B	3J	4 G	4 W	5 B	5 H	6 C	6 S
Attendance for last week	98 %	94 %	98 %	93 %	96 %	95 %	95 %	95 %	97 %	98 %	98 %	96 %	97 %	94 %
Punctuality - how many lates?	1	0	3	2	5	2	2	3	3	3	7	4	3	7

## Dates for this term



### **JANUARY**

Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Reception dentist check
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Deadline for primary places for reception 2026
	Reception walk in the local area
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Languages Day
Week beginning 19 <sup>th</sup>	Balance Bikes for reception
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm	Y6 SATS meeting for parents and carers
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Reception walk in the local area
Friday 23rd	KS1 Boccia Festival
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Eco Council trip
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Playgroup for children and families 0-4 years old at 9:30am

### **FEBRUARY**

Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Start of National Story Telling Week
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Y1 assembly at 9:15am
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	4W trip to Helmshore Mill
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	4G trip to Helmshore Mill
	Day off curriculum to promote children's mental health week
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	PTFA Silent Disco
	Young Voices
	Reception balance bikes competition
	Break up for half term
<b>TUESDAY 24<sup>th</sup></b>	Children return to school
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Playgroup for children and families 0-4 years old at 9:30am

### **MARCH**

Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Y2 trip to Martin Mere
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Biggest Ever Girls Football Event
Week beg 9 <sup>th</sup>	Science week
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Reception stay and play
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Opportunity for parents to view children's work
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Opportunity for parents to view children's work
	Parents' Afternoon/Evening
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Y4 assembly
	PTFA bingo



## Selection of photos from this week

Follow us on Facebook.



Please follow the school page as well as the PTFA page.

Just before Christmas, Year 1 made some wonderful Christmas cards for the residents of Astley View care home. The girls all did a fabulous job at sprinkling some festive magic across the home. We love supporting our community. Well done, we are so proud of you all.



Have a lovely weekend.  
Best wishes,  
Mrs Hodgson