



Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## Dear Families

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year! Thank you for helping us start the year in school with a bang and being resilient and supportive in all the challenges with the weather we have had. Hopefully, things will start to get a little easier with the weather but we will always communicate anything you need to know via email, in the Arbor App message and the Facebook page so, please do check them on any mornings that we do experience bad weather. We have loved seeing school open and busy with a love of learning again and it has been a real pleasure to have all your wonderful children back together. We have a number of things coming up over this half term, please do check the boxes below for things we wanted to communicate with you this month and as ever, please do not hesitate to contact us here at school if you have any questions, thoughts or ideas. Miss Barker 😊

### Dates for the Diary

Remember, we have a parent planner on the website that we will keep updated of important dates for families to know.

[Parent Planner | Birdsedge First School](https://birdsedgefirst.org/parents/parent-planner)

(<https://birdsedgefirst.org/parents/parent-planner>)

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Jan:** PINS Parent Workshop 9am

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Jan:** Religious Education Enrichment Week in School

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan:** Winning House Pizza and Movie Reward Night until 4:30pm

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan:** PINS Parent Workshop 9am

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Jan:** PINS Parent Workshop with Dawn from PCAN

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Feb:** Children's Mental Health Week.

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb:** Clas 1 Family Assembly

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb:** Last Day of the Half term, school then closes for 1 week for the half term holiday.

### HD8 Network

Just a reminder of the HD8 Network

[www.hd8network.co.uk](http://www.hd8network.co.uk)

### Communication

<https://twitter.com/birdsedgefirst>

<https://www.facebook.com/BirdsedgeFirstSchool>

<https://birdsedgefirst.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/friendsofbirdsedge>

### Subject Spotlight – Religious Education

Religious Education is taught through a weekly lesson in classes, following our Curriculum Plan designed using the Kirklees Scheme of Study. We also have regular RE focused assemblies each week to enhance learning in classrooms. Like with other subjects, we will be dedicating some enrichment time during our subject spotlight month to RE. We have chosen to do this next week to link with World Religion Day on Sunday.

During the week each class will be focussing on a Key Religion and will be exploring it through a variety of medias. The focus on the deep understanding of concepts (like forgiveness, empathy) will give children the opportunity within subjects, not just surface-level knowledge.

As part of World Religion Day we will be connecting RE to the Real World: Linking lessons to local, national, and global contexts, preparing children for a diverse society. We are hoping to speak to people of faith, try foods from different cultures, research arts and develop skills that apply across subjects and life.

### After School Clubs

Clubs are on Arbor and open for anyone to book. This half term we have: Monday: Lego Club Tuesday: Art Club with Sean Thursday: Dance Club Friday: Cooking Club

### Holiday Clubs

Just a reminder that I have created a register of interest at the link below with some more information about possible Holiday Club Days and to collect data on possible numbers for the school holidays ahead. If this is something you would use or be interested in, please do have a look and let us know so we can hopefully set some days for you to book in. I have also now added options for the Summer Holiday if anyone is planning ahead.

[Forest Friends Holiday Club Register of Interest – Fill out form](#)

Forest Friends Holiday Club Register of Interest



### An Update from Sian Allen our Chair of Governors

Hello and on behalf of the school Governors - we wish you all a very Happy New Year. As we start 2026, we would like to share an exciting new feature of our role. To help further strengthen Birdsedge BEST and also to ensure collaboration within The Trust's vision of providing stronger Governance in the school community, we have been invited by the pupils' School Council to become individual class Link Governors. This means one Governor will be teamed up with one class throughout the year, to enable us all to gain more of an insight into "what a day in the life of Birdsedge" looks and feels like. We feel very privileged to be asked and will let you know more, once we have been paired together. Many thanks for your continued parental commitment and engagement to Birdsedge First School. If you would like to know more about who we are and what we do, then please contact me via the school office.