



# Newsletter Friday 24th April 2026

Joshua 1:9 Passport- we are going on a journey.

## Attendance: We Are All Attendance Heroes.

Dear Parents/Carers,

A huge "thank you" to you all for the incredible effort you have made with attendance. The numbers tell a story of real dedication: today's attendance was a brilliant 96.4% which is an increase of over 2% on our year-to-date figure of 93%. Amazing.

Furthermore, our absence rate today sat at just 2.7%, which is down by 2.5% compared to our yearly average. This is a fantastic trend that directly impacts our children's progress. As we always say: missed days equal missed learning, and seeing so many faces in classrooms every day is exactly what we strive for.

While our attendance is improving (😊), we do have one area that needs our collective attention: punctuality. Today, nearly 4% of our pupils arrived late. Being late can be incredibly unsettling for a child. Walking into a classroom when their peers are already settled and the lesson is underway can cause anxiety and makes it harder for them to catch up on the day's instructions.

Beyond the academics, the time spent on the yard before the whistle blows is vital. It is a golden opportunity for children to socialise, laugh, and strengthen friendships before the formal school day begins. Arriving on time ensures your child starts their day feeling calm, connected, and ready to succeed.

You will notice new signs around the school site which lay out very clearly how lost days in school directly impact a child's future.

***Attendance and punctuality are everyone's concern—let's work together to get those lates down!***

And finally, as the evenings brighten, many of our children are playing outside more often. To keep everyone safe, please take a moment to remind your child about Road Safety and Stranger Danger awareness. Whether they are at the park or near home, knowing their "safe adults" and staying alert ensures they can enjoy the extra daylight happily and securely.

Regards,

Mrs M Underwood



## Water Bottles

With the warmer weather approaching, please ensure your child brings a water bottle to school every day. We also recommend applying sunscreen before school if the forecast looks bright. Since the weather can still be a bit unpredictable, please continue to send your child with a coat just in case!



## Friends Family Bingo Night

Save the date - We will be holding a bingo night in school on Thursday 14th May 6 - 7.30pm. More information will be sent out soon with ticket details. In the meantime, if you are able to donate any items for prizes, please get in touch with the school office.

## Book Exchange

To celebrate the national year of reading we have set up a community library for parents in the entrance hall of school. This is a book exchange. Please feel free to browse and borrow a book, leaving another in its place for other parents to benefit from. Please bring books that are in decent condition and not falling apart and books that are appropriate to sit in a school's entrance hall (e.g. nothing with vulgar language on the cover). We hope you all enjoy and benefit.

LET'S  
SWAP



## Dates for your Diary

Thursday 30th April	Year 3	Ingleborough Caves
Monday 4th May	Whole School	School Closed - Bank Holiday
Wednesday 6th May	Whole school	School Nurse Drop in 9-10am
Friday 8th May	Whole school	David Attenborough Day
W/C 11th May	Year 6	SATs
Thursday 14th May	Whole school	Friends Bingo Night 6-7.30pm
18th to 20th May	Year 6	Robinwood Residential

# GMSJ Award Winners

## Attendance Awards



This week's attendance winners:  
Reception



This week's most improved attendance:  
Reception

## Award Winners

### Marvellous Maths



#### Ethan Year 2

For amazing knowledge of 7 X table to help work out fractions.



#### Kierson Year 2

For fantastic fraction knowledge.

### Amazing Ancient Egypt



#### Teddy Year 3

For a great trifold leaflet about Ancient Egypt.



#### Fletcher Year 3

For a great trifold leaflet about Ancient Egypt.



#### Emma Year 3

For a great trifold leaflet about Ancient Egypt.

### Wonderful Writing



#### Tilly Year 1

For perfect Peter Rabbit writing.



#### Lorenzo Year 2

For amazing independent writing about Aladdin.



#### Arwa Year 2

For amazing independent writing about Aladdin.



## Celebrating a Century of Wonder: David Attenborough Day!

On May 8th, we are turning our school into a global wilderness to celebrate the 100th birthday of the legendary Sir David Attenborough. It's going to be a day of discovery, storytelling, and a deep dive into the natural world he has spent his life protecting.



### Our Mission: Think Like David

- **The Environmentalist:** Learning how we can protect our precious planet.
- **The Natural Historian:** Investigating the incredible animal life of different continents.
- **The Broadcaster:** Finding our own "voice" to share the wonders of nature with others.

Each class will be assigned a specific continent, turning every classroom into a different corner of the globe—from the frozen plains of Antarctica to the lush depths of the Amazon.




### Dress Like an Explorer

We invite all our young naturalists to come to school dressed for a grand expedition! Think 'field-ready' and functional.

Ideas for your explorer kit:

- Wellies or walking shoes with socks
- Khaki or camouflage coloured clothing
- A wide-brimmed sun hat
- Sunglasses or "field" binoculars

Note: These are just suggestions! Please do not feel the need to purchase anything new. Adventurers come in all shapes and sizes, and any practical/comfortable clothing is perfect for the job.



To enhance the childrens experience further, our kitchen is putting on a special Explorers packed lunch, with hidden twists.

# Year 2 - Fun at the Farm



Year 2 loved their trip to Thornton Hall Farm park and are enjoying writing about their trip in literacy.



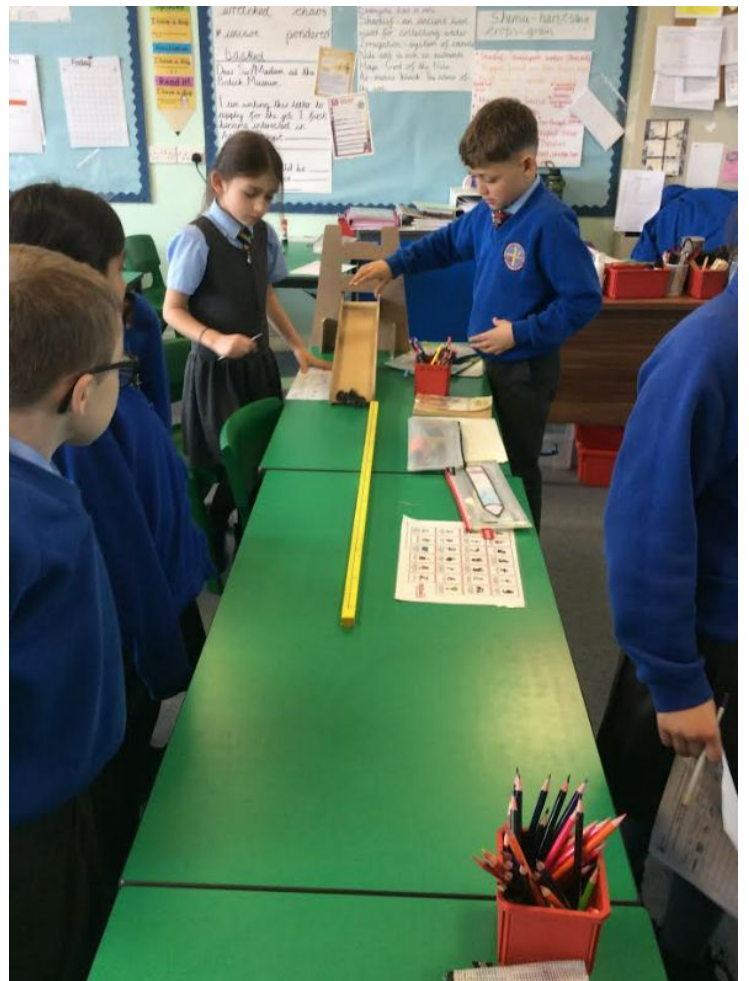
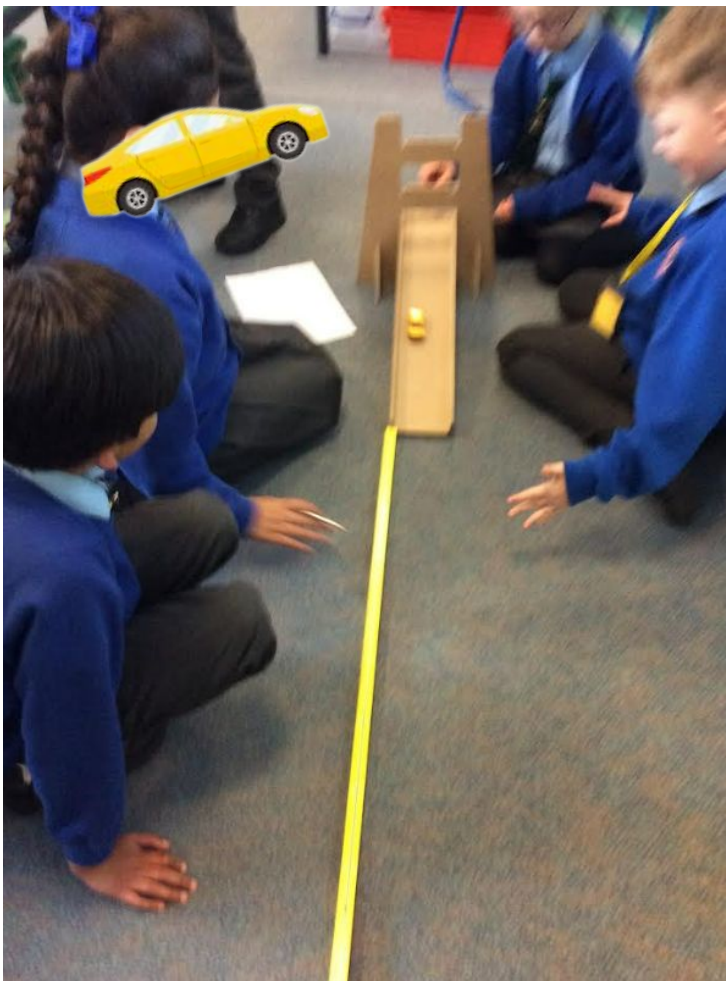


# Year 3

On Monday afternoon, year 3 have been investigating how friction affects how far a car can travel on different surfaces.

We used the carpet, a table, tin foil, bubble wrap, felt and paper.

We discovered that the smoother the surface, the further the car travelled.





# Coffee & Chat



A friendly drop-in for parents & carers

Come along for a relaxed chat and support with:

- ✓ Advice & guidance
- ✓ Benefits support
- ✓ Housing help
- ✓ Financial support
- ✓ Signposting to local services
- ✓ Or just a listening ear



- 💬 No appointment needed
- ♥ Confidential & supportive
- 👏 Everyone welcome

 **Location:** Great Marsden St John's  **Tuesdays**  
**Time: 8:45 - 10 am** **8:45-10 .**

Pop in, have a cuppa, and let us help. You're not alone.