



GROVE ROAD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER – 9TH FEBRUARY 2024



NEWSLETTER



That was a wintry end to the half term, I hope everyone kept safe in the snow yesterday.

Thank you for your patience yesterday whilst we made sure all our children and staff made it home safely.

Mr Morland took this fabulous photo of our school on his way out.

We have had such an amazing week in school, all the children and staff embracing lots of new activities and challenges. It is great to see everyone taking part in the 'express yourself' theme today.

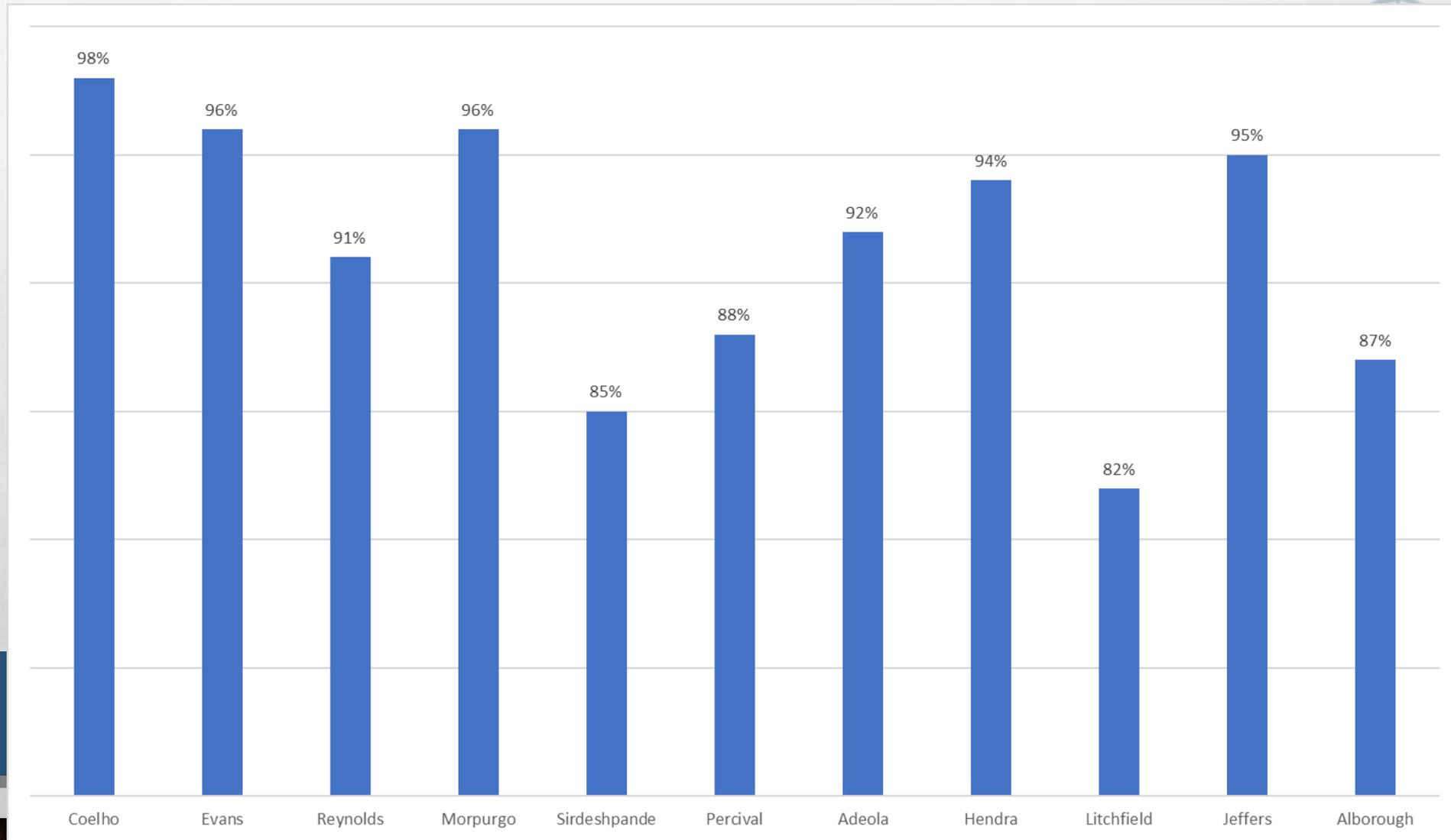
Have a restful week next week, we look forward to seeing you all on **Monday 19th February.**



ATTENDANCE



Attendance totals for each class – Monday 5th February to Friday 9th February



SAFEGUARDING



Grove Road Community Primary School Safeguarding Team



Designated Safeguarding Lead
James Grayston - Headteacher



Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead
Dawn Winkley – Deputy Head
& SENDCo



Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead
Sue McGrogan – Parent
Support Adviser

Lead Governor for Safeguarding – Margaret Beagle

For further advice / referral information, please contact:
North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership
<https://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk>

- Please visit our school website for more information and links to safeguarding websites.
- [Grove Road Safeguarding Page](#)
- For more information about keeping children safe please click here:
- [NSPCC – Keeping Children Safe Online](#)
- These websites have wonderful advice about children keeping safe on Instagram and other social media sites
- [NSPCC – Share Aware](#)
- [CEOP Police Safety Centre](#)



STARS OF THE WEEK



JEFFERS -

Nicole/ Charlie

LITCHFIELD -

Liubomyr

HENDRA -

Lacey

ADEOLA -

Thomas

PERCIVAL -

Harrison

SIRDESH-PANDE -

AJ

MORPURGO -

Genevieve/ Miss Erdei

REYNOLDS -

Skyler

EVANS -

Davide

COELHO -

Bobbi





National Online Safety®

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

MONKEY

Also known as Monkey Cool, this platform aims to fill the gap left by Omegle (which has now shut down) by placing users in random video chats with strangers. Participants use their mobile number and Snapchat username to connect to the service, where they can make matches, message other people and join group chats. The mobile version has been removed from the App Store due to safety concerns, but iPhone owners can still access the site via their web browser. The app remains available on Google Play, where its listing claims that Monkey has more than 30 million users worldwide.



Subtle age restriction icon means that someone younger could easily log in to be able to talk to you.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The app claims to use AI to detect sexual content or activity that violates its policies, along with having a 24/7 moderation team. However, reports in the media continue to indicate that explicit content remains commonplace on Monkey (including sexually graphic or violent material) and is therefore accessible to anybody who uses the app – including those aged under 18.



CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

The obvious risk in accepting random video chat partners is that users cannot know what or who they will see on their next connection. Talking to strangers is, of course, potentially dangerous – especially for children who might be persuaded to meet up with these people offline. The app lets users find each other by location, increasing the chances of a child being matched with a stranger from their local area.



IN-APP SPENDING

While Monkey is free to download, it nevertheless offers in-app purchases promising to unlock access to premium features. For example, users who wish to make use of 'Knock Knock chat' (Monkey's text-based messaging option), rather than the app's Chatroulette-style random video calling feature, will need to pay to be able to do so.

INTRUSIONS ON PRIVACY

According to Monkey's privacy policy, personal information (such as name, profile picture and date of birth), user-contributed content (any photos, texts, videos and screenshots shared) and each user's browser and IP address are collected. That is a considerable amount of data for Monkey to gather on its users – and all of this information is shared with third parties.



Advice for Parents & Carers

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

Even if you're comfortable with your child using Monkey, it's still important to talk about the potential dangers. It's crucial, for instance, that young people recognise the risks that stem from video chatting with strangers: that they understand not to share identifying information (like their street or school name); and that they know what to do if they are exposed to inappropriate content.



RESTRICT IN-APP PURCHASING

If your child is accessing Monkey via an Android device, you can prevent them from making in-app purchases through the device's settings. If you do allow your child to use the site, we'd recommend that you enable this feature: young people have been known to spend significant amounts of money in their desire to unlock more features in apps such as this.



REPORT INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Monkey states in the safety section of its site that "people are given the power" and that, to a large extent, Monkey is "self-governing". If a user is exposed to sexually explicit or inappropriate content on the platform, they can select the "police" emoji in the top right corner of their screen to submit a report for Monkey's moderation team to review.



SPOT THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child is spending too much time on Monkey – or that they may have been exposed to inappropriate or distressing content – it's important to watch for potential indicators that they've been affected emotionally. They could be unusually irritable or unable to concentrate, for example, or failing to complete their homework or even to eat regular meals.



Meet Our Expert

Dr. Claire Gutteridge is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and led staff training for the Department for Education on protecting and supporting the wellbeing of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.



DFE ADVICE RELATING TO MEASLES CASES

You might have seen reports in the media this week relating to the rising number of cases of measles in England.

The Department of Education has created the following advice for parents, schools and nurseries.

[DfE guidance and advice - Measles](#)

Most children will have been vaccinated with two doses of the MMR vaccine during their early childhood, but if a dose has been missed it is not too late to catch up. Vaccines can be arranged for free through your GP.

Additional information about measles can be found on the NHS website.

[Measles - NHS \(www.NHS.uk\)](#)



You could be a governor

Hi, I'm Alex, a parent-governor at grove road. In the new year, the school will send out a message asking for people to put themselves forward to be a parent-governor to fill some vacancies. You will almost certainly want to ignore that message. But please don't. Please take a few minutes to understand what a school governor is, and why you might want to be one.

- **What is a school governor?**

Basically, a school governor is a regular person, often a parent or carer, who supports the headteacher and leadership team to run the school. We do this by acting as a critical friend to the leadership team, supporting them in their work and challenging them to ensure their decisions are strong and well thought out so the children of grove road receive the best education possible.

- **What does it involve?**

There are meetings, I won't deny it, but they are really interesting meetings where you learn more about the running of the school, and can ask questions of the leadership team. And there are a variety of other ways of getting involved too, depending on your interests and your experience.

Governors play an important role in improving children's education. If this is something that you'd like to be part of, email me at a.tomlin@groveroad.n-yorks.sch.uk and ask any questions you might have.

Thank you.

Alex



Additional information about the role was sent out via email last week. Nomination forms are available from Mrs Pitt via email Business.Manager@groveroad.n-yorks.sch.uk



What do we do?
We run fundraising events to raise funds to support the school

- School discos
- Bake sales
- Xmas Fair
- Summer Fair

Who are we?
FOGR is a group of parents/guardians with children who attend Grove Road

Want to get involved?
We would welcome any help you can give e.g.

- event preparation
- Set-up
- Running events

So we can run these fun events for our children

It's also a great way to meet other parents!

Get in touch for more information

Email us at Friendsofgroveroad@gmail.com

or find us on facebook
Friends of Grove Road C.P School



Friends of Grove Road are a group of Parent/Carer volunteers associated with Grove Road Primary School. We raise funds to support the school and enhance the education of the children

Please support FOGR raise vital funds for the school by signing up to the following online initiatives

Easy Fundraising

Sign up to support us
Shop with your favourite brands
We get a bonus £5 donation
It's not magic, it's easyfundraising!

@easyfundraising

Friends of Grove Road Fundraising Ideas
Help Friends of Grove Road raise free funds today by shopping online via easyfundraising.org.uk. Shop at no extra cost and raise free donations for Friends of Grove Road!



Your School Lottery

Email us at Friendsofgroveroad@gmail.com

or find us on facebook
Friends of Grove Road C.P School





January 2024

Dear Team GR Families

Happy New Year! We hope you all enjoyed the winter break. Last term we began our fundraising efforts for this school year with the Family Quiz Night and the Christmas Fair. We will update how much we raised at these events soon. We (FOGR) would also like to share with you a summary of our fundraising efforts from the last school year.

The last year was the first year since the Covid-19 pandemic where we held the traditional Summer and Christmas Fairs and discos, as well as a few other events. It was lovely to see the Team GR community come together, have fun, and raise lots of money for the school.

Below is a summary of the events that we ran during the 2022-2023 school year and how much we raised.



We have also continued to raise money through our online initiatives - Your School Lottery and Easy Fundraising. Thank you to all our families who have signed up for the lottery and who support us through easy fundraising. If you want to take part and support the school via these online platforms, please visit the links below.

Easy fundraising: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?invite=JX50E6&char=247251&referral_campaign=c2s&utm_source=bssuharebox&fbclid=IwAR3nOCrDPvQzIuTrZVCID36GSeT_LDy_fzgSCxFS_V_BDnZfcRSexRgfnS5o

Your school lottery: <https://www.yourschoolottery.co.uk/lottery/school/grove-road-community-primary-school?fbclid=IwAR3FaF3a6phY8xms8I9DYFbgdOQbWdn-dPqd15sd4PMr1u488Bph3UTFY6Vw>

FOGR supported the school in a number of ways this past academic year including subsidising school trips, helping towards the upgrade of the Jungle Library and purchasing much needed classroom supplies. We also helped with a number of smaller requests such as funding the year 6 pizzas, and ice pops on sports day. To mark the Coronation of King Charles we were very happy to gift all the children with sunflower seeds and memory cards.

This year we are looking forward to working with Mr Grayston and we have already met with him to discuss fundraising plans for the upcoming year.

But... in order to be able to run events this year and raise important funds for the school, we **urgently need volunteers to join the FOGR committee.**

All the children at our school have enjoyed and benefitted from the work of the FOGR, from using classroom equipment and reading new books funded by FOGR, to making wonderful memories at the fairs, discos and other activities we run, all which serve to enrich our children's school experience.

We would love for this to continue, however, the current Chair and Secretary of FOGR are standing down from their roles now that their children are in year 6, and after many years of supporting FOGR. Unfortunately, we have been unable to fill these roles and without a full committee the FOGR will be unable to continue to run these memorable events and the FOGR may not be able to continue. We had hoped to fill these roles this year whilst the previous members are still around to help with a smooth transition.

We are sure this is the last thing anyone wants to happen, and so we are reaching out to see if there is anyone who is able to, to consider taking on one of these committee roles – this could be anyone in the Grove Road School community e.g. parents, carers or grandparents. Further details of the required roles can be found at the end of this letter. Please contact us at friendsofgroveroad@gmail.com if you can help or if you have any questions.

If you are unable to take on a role, please consider stepping up to help at events where you can. We often only get a handful of volunteers which limits what we are able to do. Volunteering at events is a great way to support FOGR and the school, and it can also be fun and a way to meet other members of the school community.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support last year – for everyone who volunteered so we could run events, and to everyone who attended the events and helped raise vital funds for the school – Thank you!

Kind Regards

The FOGR Committee



Committee Roles

Key Duties and responsibilities of the Chair

- Manage/Coordinate the activities being ran by the FOGR
- Prepare for and chair FOGR meetings
- Liaises with the school, regarding projects to raise money for/fund
- Ensures the committee fulfils its role in respect of the governance of the association as set out in its constitution
- Writes the Chair's report for the AGM

Key skills

- Confident and assertive – able to control meetings
- Able to remain impartial – ensures contributions are brief and that everyone's views are respected
- Organised and able to delegate – for organisation of activities.

Key Duties and responsibilities of the Secretary

- Supports the Chair in preparing for meetings
- Takes and circulates meeting minutes, recording attendance, actions points and decisions
- Supports the Chair with School liaison
- Record keeping
- Correspondence

Key skills

- Organised and efficient
- Good listener to identify key discussion points, actions and agreements in meetings.

PARENTPAY

ParentPay is now the only system that the school is using for payments for school meals, Sammy's Den, trips and other school events. If you have not activated your account, or you are having any difficulties in using the system, please contact the school office. Please delete any links that you have to previous payment systems and cancel any automatic payments that may have been set up.



What are the benefits to parents & pupils?

ParentPay is easy-to-use and will offer you the freedom to make online payments whenever and wherever you like, 24/7

The technology used is of the highest internet security available ensuring that your money will reach school safely - offering you peace of mind

Payments can be made by credit/debit card or also through PayPoint

Full payment histories, balance alerts and statements are available to you securely online at anytime

More information, including your activation/login information has been sent out via email if you have not received this, please contact the school office

What are the benefits to our school?

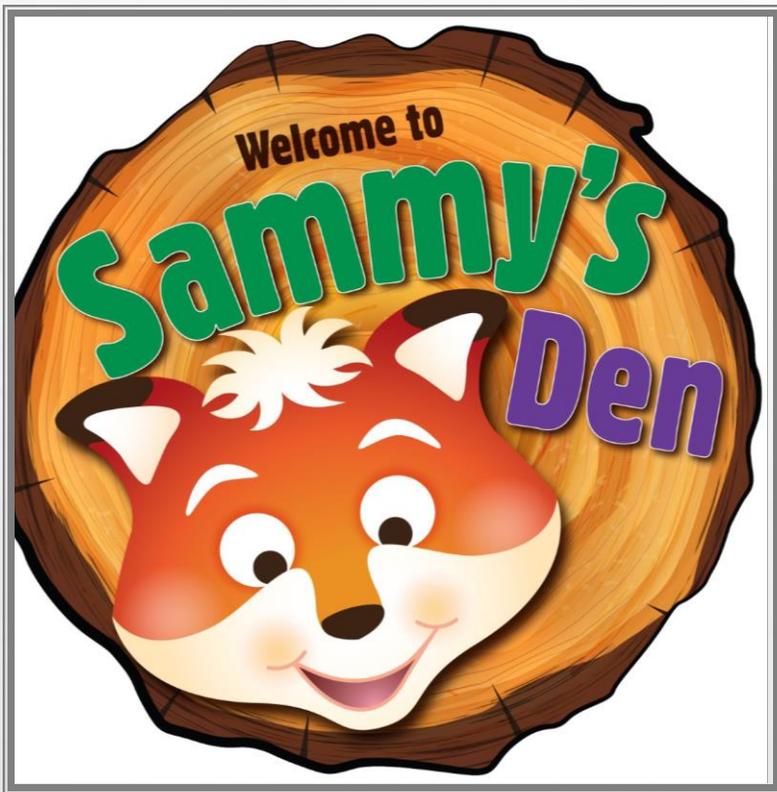
You can help us reduce workloads for all staff as no more counting cash, chasing debt and stop cash collection services

Creates more time to lend to educational support and the smooth running of the school

Improves school security

Using ParentPay also ensures that all financial transactions are safe and secure - helping us to remove costs associated with us having to manage cash securely on the school premises

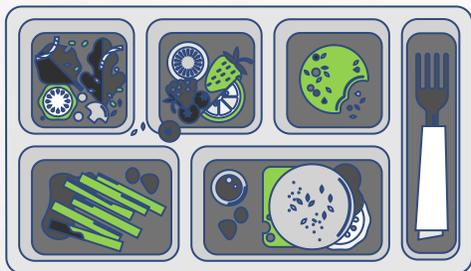
The more parents that use ParentPay, the greater the benefit is to our school.



Reminder - Please Book Sammy's Den Sessions In Advance via ParentPay



- Breakfast club is very popular, and we are full most mornings which is lovely, however it does mean that it's extra important to make sure that you have booked a space in advance of attending.
- To help us with planning and so that we know which children will be joining us, bookings close 2 days before the session takes place. (If you need a short notice booking, please call the office and we will try to help)
- If the club is full, we might not be able to accept children who are dropped off without a booking.
- The same applies for afterschool club. All children attending must be booked through ParentPay.
- If you are having any problems booking spaces, please contact the school office



VACANCY

Midday Supervisory Assistant (MSA)



- We are looking for someone to join our team of midday supervisors.
- This is a key position supporting children in the dining hall during lunchtime.
- Experience of working with children in a school or nursery setting is preferred but not essential as full training will be given.
- 7.5 hours per week, term time only, £11.59/hour.
- Full information and the application form can be found on the school website [Job Vacancies | Grove Road Community Primary School](#)

IMPORTANT DATES



When	Event
Friday 9 th February	School closes for half term (3:15pm)
Monday 19 th February	School reopens
Thursday 29 th February – 8:40am – 9:30am	Reception & Key Stage 1 Stay and Play (Jeffers, Litchfield, Hendra & Adeola)
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day
Thursday 14 th March – 4:30pm – 5:30pm	Easter Disco – Reception & Key Stage 1
Thursday 14 th March – 6:00pm – 7:00pm	Easter Disco – Key Stage 2
Friday 15 th March	Red Nose Day
Friday 22 nd March	School closes for Easter Break (2:15pm)
Monday 8 th April	INSET Day – School Closed
Tuesday 9 th April	School reopens



IMPORTANT DATES



When	Event
Monday 6 th May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Tuesday 7 th May	School reopens
Friday 24 th May	School closes for half term (3:15pm)
Monday 3 rd June	School reopens
Tuesday 4 th June	Jeffers & Litchfield – Visit to Harlow Carr Gardens
Friday 7 th June	Hendra & Adeola – Visit to Harlow Carr Gardens
Wednesday 26 th June – Friday 28 th June	Year 6 Residential – Newby Wiske Hall
Friday 5 th July – 3:30pm – 5:00pm	Summer Fair
Friday 19 th July	School closes for the Summer Break (2:15pm)
Monday 22 nd July	INSET Day – School Closed

