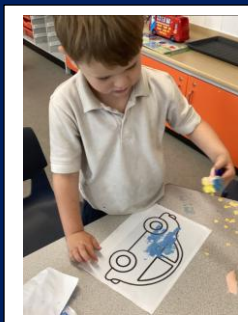


Our HSA Newsletter

First newsletter of the half term

Friday 5th June 2026

Summer 2



Pictures: Foundation in action and Mosaic have messy fun!



Focus on ...

... IN FOUNDATION

Foundation Stage have started the half term as busy as ever and are a real hive of learning!

It has been a pleasure to see the children writing about their recent half-term break and sharing stories of their own adventures. They certainly enjoyed their time away from the classroom and have returned full of enthusiasm and eager to engage in their learning.

This half term, the children have been exploring the wonders of water, discovering fascinating facts about our oceans and seas, as well as the amazing creatures that live within them.

As part of their learning, the children have been enjoying the story *Tiddler* by Julia Donaldson. They have loved hearing about the adventures of the little fish with a very big imagination and have been inspired by the exciting tales he tells.

Using their creativity, the children have been making jellyfish to go hand in hand with their learning (or should we say tentacle in tentacle!).



‘Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere.’ Albert Einstein

Finally, in phonics, Foundation Stage have been learning the ‘oo’ and ‘or’ sounds alongside their red words.

It is amazing to see how much the children continue to grow and develop. They never fail to amaze us with how far they have come, and they are showing just how ready they are for the exciting move into Year 1.

... MOSAIC

This week in Mosaic, the children have been developing their gross motor skills by experimenting with different mark-making tools. They have loved making splashes with paint and creating a variety of patterns using lots of different resources.

As part of their gross motor development, the children practised making BIG circles and exaggerated ‘up’ and ‘down’ movements to see just how large they could make their circles, brush strokes and patterns. The teachers in Mosaic were very impressed not only by the children's enthusiasm and creativity, but also by how well they followed instructions.

As you can imagine, it was messy but fun! Everyone helped to tidy up afterwards, taking responsibility for cleaning the brushes and equipment.

Well done, Mosaic Class! It is brilliant to see how much progress you are making and, most importantly, how much fun you are having along the way!

STAY AND PLAY

Children who are due to start in Foundation Stage this September are invited to join us for our Stay and Play sessions in the Foundation classroom. The dates are :

Red Group: 17th and 24th June at 2pm

Blue Group: 18th and 25th June at 2pm

This is a wonderful opportunity for children to meet the staff and become familiar with their new classroom. It is also a chance for us to meet and welcome some new faces.

This is the start of an exciting journey, and we cannot wait to be a part of it.

Our Values Nominations are in!

RECIPIENTS OF VALUES CERTIFICATES

KS1: Mia, Mason

KS2: Navomi, Delilah, Llayton, Tanzim, Arthur, Joshua, Darcy-Rose and all of 6S

Celebrating Punctuality & Attendance

Most improved attendance is **2H**

The class with the *best punctuality* was **6H** (again). The most *improved class punctuality* was **class 1H**.

Quick links:

[Calendar](#)

[Term Dates](#)

[Latest News](#)

[Family Support \(recently updated\)](#)

[Event Feedback](#)

*Been to an event at Hawes Side?
Your feedback is valuable to us!*

Recent letters/info home:

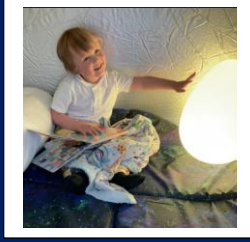
[Year 6 – Dates for your Diary](#)

[4S Parents Evening](#)

[Showtown Trip – Year 2](#)

[Holidays in Term Time](#)

Due to the unpredictable summer weather, please still send your child with a raincoat, just in case!



*Pictures:
Concentrating on his
work and 'down time'
in the Sensory space*

News Round-up

MEET THE TEACHER

In September, your child will be moving into a new year group! As they prepare for this exciting next step in their school journey, we would like to invite you to meet your child's teacher for September.

Please save the dates below should you wish to attend and find out more about the year ahead.

Meet the Teacher Details

Dates of Meet the Teacher are:

6th July children going into Year 2 and Year 6

7th July children going into Year 1

8th July children going into Year 3

9th July children going into Year 4

10th July children going into Year 5

Time: 15:30pm (session last approximately 30 minutes)

Please note that your child will come home with information about who their new teacher will be prior to the 'Meet the Teacher' sessions.

UPBEAT 4H

4H will be giving their first UPBEAT performance to parents and guardians on Friday 12th June at 2.50pm.

This will be an opportunity for the children to perform as a band and showcase the musical talents they have been developing throughout the year. Following the performance, the children will be taken back upstairs and dismissed from the 1H door as normal.

4H are incredibly excited to perform for their families and have been working hard in preparation for the event. They cannot wait to take to the stage and share their music with you.

4S PARENT & GUARDIAN CONSULTATIONS

4S have their rescheduled Parent and Guardian evenings on 9th and 11th June. If you have not yet booked your appointment, please speak directly to Mrs Hodgkinson, who will be pleased to make the appointment for you.

Advice and Guidance

TIKTOK

Zoom in to find out more or [click here!](#)

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TIKTOK

Online videos are often associated with apps such as YouTube, but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a potentially addictive, never-ending stream of short clips tailored to users' interests based on their viewing habits. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while most content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where young people are "most likely to encounter a potential harm".

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT
TikTok's following feed shows videos from known creators, while the default For You feed serves endless clips based on viewing history. Most are harmless, but unsuitable content can still appear, and watching for long enough signals interest to the algorithm. Although TikTok uses digital or inappropriate uploads, the volume of posts means some slip through, increasing the chance that children encounter age-inappropriate content before it is detected or removed.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS
Between 1.6 and 1.8 billion people use TikTok, meaning there's a high risk of unwanted attention from strangers. Accounts created by over-18s for young people using a fake date of birth are set to public view by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and allows anyone to download or comment on them.

BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES
Ofcom reports that most online harms for girls involve body image, while boys more often see dangerous stunts. Both types appear frequently on TikTok and spread quickly through its engagement-driven algorithm. Harmful challenges have included the "blackout" trend, where users held their breath and passed out; families had lawsuits after children died linked to the trend, showing how extreme or risky content can rapidly reach young people and potentially influence them.

MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION
TikTok's short videos may appear light-hearted, but they can expose young people to harmful ideas. Misinformation is common, and Ofcom reports that nearly one-third of 10-19-year-olds use TikTok as a news source, increasing the chance of seeing racist, homophobic, extremist or conspiracy material. Even benign clips can influence impressionable users and shape their worldview, making discussions about critical thinking, propaganda and source reliability especially important for parents and educators.

ADDICTIVE DESIGN
TikTok's fast-paced stream of eye-catching videos can be potentially addictive for young users. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the platform, double the time recorded in 2023. Features like the 'do not disturb' sleep, increase intensity, and distract from healthful activities. Consistently skipping between short clips may also affect attention spans, making it harder to focus on longer tasks such as homework or reading.

IN-APP SPENDING
TikTok is free, but children can still spend money. TikTok coins, costing £0.88 to £224.95, let users buy gifts for creators. TikTok shops add risk by allowing purchases from influencers or companies, sometimes leading to poor-quality items driven by persuasive marketing. A Consumer Investigation found TikTok collected personal data from many children for targeting and advertising despite age limits, meaning young users may lose control over their personal information.

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING
Family pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's in order to manage settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages - and if they can, to whom. Children cannot alter these settings without parental approval.

BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING
Parents can restrict in-app purchases on iPhone and Android devices to prevent accidental or impulsive TikTok spending. Young people can easily spend large amounts on TikTok coins or low-quality products promoted through TikTok Shop. If a disappointing purchase occurs, turn it into a discussion about influencer marketing and how online promotions can be misleading.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS
If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure they don't share any identifying personal information or respond to dangerous trends, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's important to talk about misinformation and propaganda.

READ THE SIGNS
If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

Meet Our Expert
Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.

#WakeUpWednesday
The National College

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Release date: 26.11.2025



A message from our Principal, Mrs Boothroyd

I hope everyone had a restful half term and was able to enjoy the beautiful weather. It has been lovely to welcome the children back into the academy, and they have settled straight back into their learning with their usual enthusiasm and positivity.

The children continue to be absolutely fabulous, showing pride in their work, kindness towards one another and a fantastic attitude to learning each and every day. It is always a pleasure to see how they rise to every challenge and support one another so well.

We have a fun-filled half term ahead, so please do keep an eye on our newsletter and school app for details of upcoming events. It is hard to believe we are now in the final half term of the year, and we are keen to make the most of every moment.

Have a lovely weekend.

We are excited to share that we are on Instagram!
You can catch up with all things 'Hawes Side' with regular posts from the team here at our academy.

Our account is [hawessideacademybpl](#)