

Our HSA Newsletter

Friday

6th February 2026

Spring 1



What's happening

YEAR 3

In year 3, the children have been learning about what plants need to grow. Just like us, plants need food, water and the right environment to grow, bloom and thrive.

Our year 3 Nature Detectives have been investigating the fascinating idea that plants can also grow **without soil**! We often think that a sapling must have soil and nutrients to become healthy, but this isn't always the case. For example, orchids don't need soil at all; in nature, they attach themselves to the branches of trees. There are also *air plants* and *water plants* that use these resources to survive and thrive.

Year 3 have certainly learned a lot. Why not ask your year 3 child about how plants grow? You may be amazed at just how much they know!

'Nature does not demand that we be perfect. It requires only that we grow' Joshua L. Liebman

The children in year 3 have been sewing up a storm - well, actually, pencil cases! Their designs are both creative and practical, and we are incredibly proud of how year 3, through concentration, resilience and imagination, have produced some wonderful pieces of sewing and truly embraced the challenge.



In class 3H, the children have also been busy practising for their upcoming ukulele performance. Music has been cascading out of the classroom, with tunes that are instantly recognisable. They are very excited and can't wait to share their musical talents with Class 3H families on 11th February.

CLASS 2H

Class 2H amazed their families and friends with an incredible performance, showcasing their recorder skills. Over the last three months, the children have been learning their instruments, and their beautiful performance was a true testament to their effort and dedication.



'To play a wrong note is insignificant. To play without passion is inexcusable.' Ludwig Van Beethoven

We are so proud of class 2H's achievements and cannot wait to see how they continue to grow and develop their musical talent.

YEAR 6

On 5th February, parents and guardians of year 6 children were invited into school for a SATs information event. While the children are all working hard in preparation for the Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs), the year 6 team recognise the importance of offering advice and practical tools to parents and guardians to help support their child at home.

Below are some of the resources shared with parents and guardians but visit the 'latest news' or the app for more information.

[Grammatical Terms – KS2 English](#)

[KS2 Maths Knowledge](#)

Pictures: Year 3 in action and our OPAL Event

Our Values Nominations are in!

CLASS TEACHER NOMINATIONS

KS1: Noah, Logan

KS2: Austin, Riley, Aryan, Violet, Noah and Daisy

'She tries hard in everything she does and is an inspiration to others.'

Quick links:

[Calendar](#)

[Term Dates](#)

[Latest News](#)

Smartphone safety – [click here](#) for useful guidance

Tickets are still available for [Schools Alive at the Winter Gardens](#). Our academy performs on Thursday 12th February 2026.

Been to an event here at Hawes Side? [Share your feedback here](#)

Special Feature

FOCUS ON MRS LEE & MRS WEBB

Each week, we have a 'special feature' on one of our Hawes Side team members.

Opal Event – Winners of Farmer Parr Prize Draw were Kobi, Kai, Eduard, Isaac and Nico

This week, it is Mrs Lee, Welfare Supervisor and Extended Schools and Mrs Web, Learning Support

Here's what we asked Mrs Lee and Mrs Webb.

If you could be any animal, either real or mythical, what would you be and why? Mrs Lee would love to be her cockapoo! Her cockapoo is her best friend and part of the family and really does have the best life!

Mrs Lee said the reason she would like to be her pet dog is because she is kind, considerate, knows when you need extra comfort through illness or sadness. She always greets her with an abundance of happiness, and gives loves unconditionally.

'Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole.' Roger Caras

Mrs Webb would be a dragon and fly amongst the clouds. Discovering new worlds and meeting new people. Can you imagine being able to touch the far reaches of the sky with your wings? How magical it would be to be so free!

If you have met Mrs Lee, or Mrs Webb you will know how fitting these animals are to both of them. Mrs Lee is one of the kindest, helpful and considerate people you could meet. Mrs Webb is amazing with people, loves to learn new things and share these experiences with children in her care and will always take you 'under her wing'. It is not surprising then that Mrs Lee would like to be her beloved cockapoo and Mrs Webb the most fantastic mythical creature of them all, a dragon!

OPAL

We held our OPAL event this week, and it was wonderful to see so many of you join us. You took part, gained insight into our OPAL playtimes and helped us raise valuable funds to support play across the school. While the final total is still being counted, we estimate that £450+ has been raised, including money from the prize draw. This is fantastic news for our children, who will be able to enjoy even more imaginative play—whether on the field, the astroturf or the playground.

We also have exciting plans for the pallets currently outside the academy reception. You would be amazed by the children's imagination as they transform these simple objects into fortresses, boats or anything their minds can dream up! Last week even saw a huge marble run snaking across the playground, created using tubes and tennis balls. The tyres are another firm favourite, and it is truly inspiring to see how the children use them as part of their creative play.

Mrs Twiss has put together a compilation video of our OPAL playtimes, [click here](#) to view a snippet of our playtimes in action.

Finally, we are still collecting wellies to help keep children's feet dry. Any donations can be dropped off in your child's class or at the school office.

In addition, next Friday, as we break up for half term and enjoy a non-uniform day, we would be grateful for donations of a chocolate bar to support future fundraising activities. Thank you for your continued support!

Thank you, as always, for your support. It is truly wonderful that we can come together as a community to make a real difference to our children's time at Hawes Side.



A message from our Principal

Our values: Resilience, Respect, Responsibility, Reflection and Relationships



**CAROLINE
BOOTHROYD**

It has been lovely to host so many events and welcome you into school to see the work the children have been doing this week. We were very pleased with the number of parents who supported our OPAL event and continue to support us in developing playtime.

We are looking forward to lighter evenings so we can hold more OPAL events where you can also experience play at school alongside your children.

As we move into the final week of the half term, please remember the importance of attendance and being in school on time. If your child is not in school, they are missing valuable learning and it makes it harder for them to catch up. All our children are wonderful and deserve every opportunity to thrive both in school and beyond.

Sports Club

MULTI-SKILLS | VOLLEYBALL | BADMINTON | TABLE TENNIS | GAMES | FREE PLAY

SPORTS CAMP

ATHLETICS | BASKETBALL | FITNESS FOOTBALL | NETBALL | HANDBALL | HOCKEY



B&FC's action-packed, fun programme of sports, games and creative arts is the perfect way to keep the kids aged 5-14 entertained during the holidays.

Contact:
T: 01253 504184

Our amazing facilities mean we're able to offer a wide range of sporting activities as well as supervised games, competitions, arts and crafts.

There's something for every age group so little ones can keep up and the older ones don't get bored!

£16 PER DAY OR £70 FOR THE WEEK WHEN YOU BOOK AND PAY BY DEADLINE!

News Update

SCHOOL COUNCIL

In addition to our **Pupil Leadership Team** and **OPAL Ambassadors**, the academy also has a **School Council**.

Made up of children from different year groups, the Council is a dedicated group of young people who represent the **pupil voice** across the school. [Click here](#) to read their latest 'News Update'.



*Thank you for
your feedback on
streamlining
communications.
We will share your
comments soon!*

Thank you for your ongoing support, and we wish everyone a happy and restful weekend.