

Newsletter



Autumn Term

7th September 2026

Welcome Back!

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We hope that you all had a great summer break. To those parents/carers who are new to the school, we extend a warm welcome to you. The term started for staff on Monday, 1st September where we spent the day focusing on our Academy Improvement Plan and looking back and celebrating our many successes from the previous year. We also spent time updating annual safeguarding training. It was also a great opportunity to welcome back all members of staff.

It's been truly wonderful to welcome our children back to school. Each day as we walk through the school, we are met with the buzz of learning and the joy of children fully immersed in their classrooms, clearly thrilled to be back. Being surrounded once again by our dedicated staff and vibrant pupils is a powerful reminder of what a special place this is—and what an incredible privilege it is to lead such an inspiring school community. It is common for children to feel nervous about going back to school at the start of a new term. To help calm their nerves and make sure they are prepared for the school day, you could try: Adjusting bedtimes to get into a healthy routine - making sure they sleep well and are not taking their mobiles, tablets, or any devices to bed; Helping them to be organised—get the correct uniform, packed lunches & water bottles ready the night before & ensuring bookbags are returned every Friday; Making sure they eat breakfast every morning.

Mrs E Bramley and Mrs Osborne



Building Improvements

Over the summer break, significant improvements were made to our learning environment through a programme of redecoration and the installation of new flooring across key areas of the school.

These enhancements have created brighter, more welcoming spaces for pupils and staff, ensuring classrooms and communal areas are both attractive and fit for purpose. We are delighted to welcome children back to refreshed learning environments that support their wellbeing, pride in their school and readiness to learn.

Summer Refresh



Attendance – September 2026



Our attendance ladder provides a clear and powerful visual reminder that every single day in school makes a difference to your child's learning, progress, and wellbeing.

Every day counts. We're here to support families in achieving strong attendance. If you have any questions, concerns, or would like help improving your child's attendance, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We're always happy to work together to find positive solutions.

Dates For Your Diary

September

Week Commencing 14th Sept: Launch of Extra-curricular Clubs & Y3 SWIMMING BLOCK

- Mon 14th Sept Children's University launch assembly
Wed 16th Sept 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Reception Pupils
Y5 Sports Leader Training
Y6 visit Victorian Workhouse Museum

Week Commencing 21st Sept: Fairtrade Fortnight

- Wed 23rd Sept KS2 Cross Country Event
Thurs 24th Sept Macmillan Coffee Morning for parents & carers
Tues 29th Sept Celebrate European Day of Languages
Wed 30th Sept 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y6 Pupils



October

Oracy October



- Thurs 1st Oct Big Breakfast Lunch & National Poetry Day
Fri 2nd Oct PD Day 2 for Staff Training (school closed for pupils)
Wed 7th Oct 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y4 Pupils
Tues 13th Oct Y4 visit Binchester Roman Fort
Wed 14th Oct 9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y3 Pupils
PM Y6 Rugby Festival
3:20pm Hallowe'en Costume Shop
Thurs 15th Oct Y6 Visit Beamish Museum
Wed 21st Oct AM Y5 Sports Festival
Thurs 22nd Oct Hallowe'en Disco (No extra-curricular clubs)
4-4.50pm - Y1-Y3 5-6pm - Y4-Y6

H A L F T E R M

Break Monday, 26th Oct – Friday, 30th Oct

Dates For Your Diary

November

Non-Fiction November

Wed 4th Nov

PM Y1 Sports Festival

Thur 5th Nov

9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y1 Pupils

Week Commencing 9th Nov: Parent Consultation Evenings

Wed 12th Nov

18 pupils from Y3/4 attend Indoor Athletics event

Fri 13th Nov

Children In Need Day

w/c 16th Nov

Road Safety Week

Fri 20th Nov

9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y2 Pupils

w/c 23rd Nov

UK Parliament Week

Mon 23rd Nov

Flu Nasal Spray (pupils from Rec-Y6)

Tues 24th Nov

Individual & Sibling Photographs

Thurs 26th Nov

9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Y5 Pupils

Mon 30th Nov

PD Day 3 for Staff Training (school closed for pupils)



December



Wed 2nd Dec

3.30pm Friends of Oakdene Christmas Fair

Fri 4th Dec

10am Y3/Y4 Tableau @ St. Luke's Church

Tues 8th Dec

2.15pm Nativity Performance

Wed 9th Dec

Christmas Lunch

Thurs 10th Dec

2.15pm Nativity Performance

Fri 11th Dec

9.10am Open Morning for Parents & Carers of Nursery Pupils

Tues 15th Dec

9.10am Y5 & Y6 Christingle, PM Y1 & Y2 Christmas Parties

Wed 16th Dec

PM Y3 & Y4 Christmas Parties

Thurs 17th Dec

AM and PM Little Sycamores and Nursery Christmas Parties

PM Reception Christmas Parties

PM Y5 & Y6 Christmas Parties

Fri 18th Dec

LAST DAY OF TERM

Christmas Holiday: Monday, 21st December 2026 - Friday, 1st January 2027

Children will return to school on Monday, 4th January 2027

C H R I S T M A S B R E A K

Monday, 21st Dec – Friday, 1st Jan