

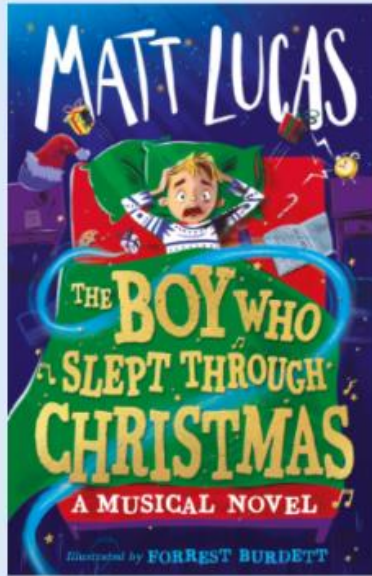


# School Bulletin



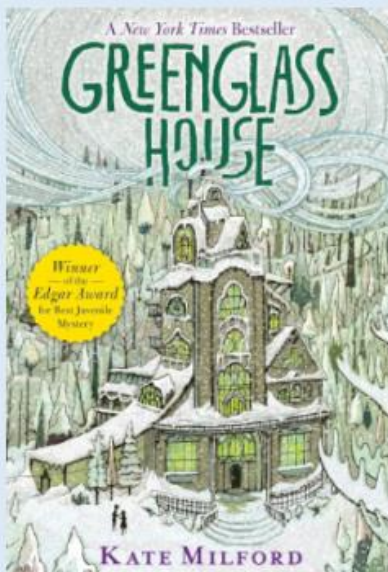
## Recommended Reads

### Yr6 Recommended Read



Ben has one big wish this year: to skip Christmas. Tired of the chaos, carols, and over-the-top celebrations, he decides to go to bed and sleep straight through it all. But when he wakes up, Ben discovers a strange and magical world where Christmas has gone missing completely. With the help of some unexpected allies, Ben must find a way to bring back the holiday—and maybe rediscover its true meaning along the way. Full of humour, heart, and holiday spirit, *The Boy Who Slept Through Christmas* by Matt Lucas, is a festive tale for anyone who's ever wanted to escape the season.

### Yr7&8 Recommended Read



Milo Pine is looking forward to a peaceful winter break at his family's quirky inn, Greenglass House. But when unexpected guests start arriving—each with their own mysterious story—the quiet holiday Milo hoped for turns into a thrilling adventure. Strange objects are uncovered, secrets unravel, and Milo teams up with a new friend, Meddy, to solve a mystery that's tangled in the history of the house itself. Packed with twists, puzzles, and heart, *Greenglass House* by Kate Milford, is perfect for anyone who loves a good mystery and a touch of magic.

## School buses

We are getting an increasing number of reports from the bus companies that some pupils are routinely trying to get on the bus without their pass or a valid ticket / travel card. The bus companies say if this continues they will instruct drivers to refuse travel to those pupils without passes / tickets / travel cards. As a school we support this move as we are working to prepare children for adult life. On the odd occasion a child forgets or loses their pass, they should see a member of staff who will be able to assist and ensure they get home safely. Parents are politely reminded it is their responsibility to get their children to and from school every day. Thank you for your support with this.

## Middle School Governor 2025

Are you looking to make a difference in your local community from 2025?

We are looking to recruit a school governor for Kirkburton and Scissett Middle Schools. School governors are responsible for overseeing the management side of a school. Serving as a school governor is a highly rewarding experience, offering numerous personal and professional benefits. Including the chance to experience leadership at board level, networking and developing your technical and interpersonal skills.

Governors bring expertise from their own life experiences. Our governing board has governors with a range of skills and backgrounds. To be a school governor, you don't need any specific qualifications.

If you are a parent, grandparent, work in a local business or live in the local community and want to make a difference for your local middle schools please get in touch.

If you would like any further information, please contact Sorrel Hellewell on [shellewell@themast.co.uk](mailto:shellewell@themast.co.uk) or call on 01484 865444.

John Jolly

Chair of Middle Schools' Governors



## A special Thank you

We would like to say a big thank to the following business that very kindly donated to our Christmas Fayre raffle:

Just My Look	Friends of Flockton	Emley AFC
Paisley Properties, Skelmanthorpe	Nail Spa, Scissett	Pipers, Skelmanthorpe
Bagden Hall Hotel, Scissett	The George Inn, Upper Denby	Gordon and Frank's Coffee House, Denby Dale
The Beauty Shop, Skelmanthorpe	Top Class School Wear, Skelmanthorpe	The White Hart, Denby Dale
The House of Oak, Scissett	The Whole Groom, Shelley	Anne Hirstle
The Pie Hall, Denby Dale	Cakey's, Scissett	
Term Time Wear, Huddersfield	Thinking of You, Denby Dale	

# NATIONAL CYCLING CENTRE

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## HOME OF BRITISH CYCLING



Sports Leaders had one of their leadership trips this ½ term at the National Cycling Centre in Manchester. What a whizz of an opportunity (excuse the pun!) it was for them to experience a different sport to what they are used to, bringing them out of their comfort zone quite considerably! The trip saw them ride on the velodrome, the indoor cycling arena which is so much steeper in real life(!) in addition to them BMXing on the pump track – the only olympic standard pump track in the country. It was very interesting to witness, with some students who are very confident in other sports such as Football and Rugby actually making the comment “oohh I’m quite nervous” – This enabled the students to understand what it’s like to be nervous at something new, empathy being the key skill here; which is needed when they’re going into first schools working with the younger students. The concentration and focus required was evident, particularly when they were whizzing round at height on the velodrome. A small few students did experience a velodrome crash, however, showed true grit, determination and resilience in getting up and carrying on. They learnt here about the different types of jobs necessary with the track maintenance worker checking the track for any damage, not realising this was even a thing. Another observation made was how light the bikes were and how they differed to usual, everyday bikes, with the realisation that STEM subjects were incredibly important, linking hugely with Sports Performance. An exhilarating, eye-opening experience had by all indeed!

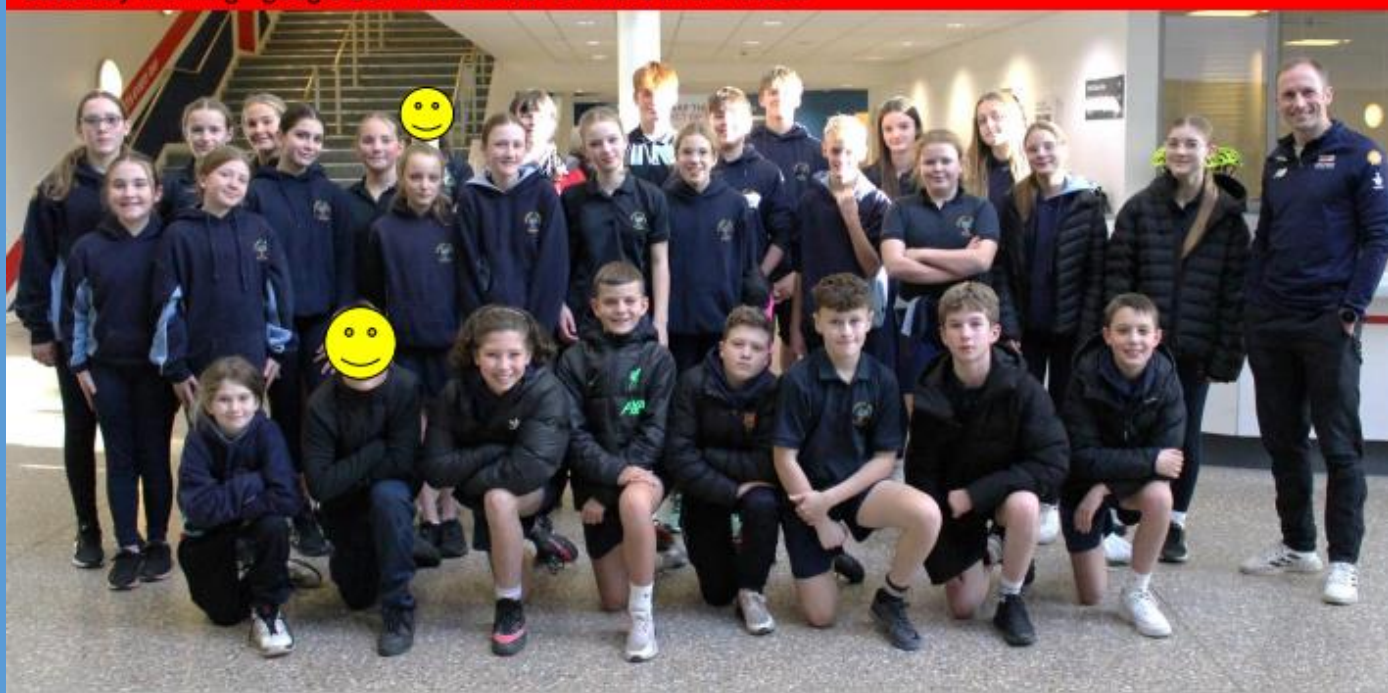


The day also included students experiencing the BMX side of cycling – I wonder if any of you watched this in Paris 2024?! It was amazing for students to recognise the difference in the bikes and the way they are ridden for the different disciplines. Students got padded up and crash helmets on for the BMXing and were already learning the stance needed for riding the pump track effectively. Naturally, some were more suited to the BMX discipline, however, all still gave it a solid go, inline with the leadership qualities. They were soon riding the humps and bumps, which they thoroughly enjoyed – though in some cases too much speed!! At the end of the session, we then had the opportunity to meet some of the upcoming Team GB BMX riders – a mini Q&A session and listening to a brief summary of their background and how they got to where they are! It was fantastic to see them train, with many of the student's faces showing sheer shock when they saw how fast they went and how many parts of the track they managed to skip due to being in the air!!



We were very lucky to have a careers section included by one of our staff member's husband, Steve. He is the Head of Strength and Conditioning at the National Cycling Centre and gave students a brilliant insight into how it is his and his team's job to get athletes ready for the competitions and how the start in the BMXing is the most important part of the race – the explosive strength needed and how they achieve that. We also got a sneak preview of the gym, which was a great insight for students to see the hard work that contributes to the end result – often just the bit we see.

Our trip concluded with students meeting the legend Sir Jason Kenny – many of you more my age and beyond and those who following cycling and the Olympics will be familiar with this household name along with his wife Laura Kenny – the most decorated pair in British Cycling! An amazing opportunity had by all – making memories indeed! Anyone who is interested in giving any of the cycling disciplines a go, check out the club they have on a Saturday morning – google ESV Manchester for more information.





Our sports leaders had another opportunity this week to demonstrate and develop their leadership skills, in both a performing and leading role. It saw them work with able-bodied students as well as students who were regular wheelchair users from a range of Kirklees Schools. Their manners and respect shown to all involved were exemplary throughout the event. They demonstrated the key skills displayed below and it was heartwarming to see their genuine support shown to other students. They celebrated together when they did well and certainly got an idea of how challenging it can be, whilst realising much success can still be achieved regardless of situation. Check out wheelchair Basketball, Rugby and Tennis on YouTube – it is absolutely amazing to watch – they certainly don't hold back in anyway!




## Scissett Sports Leaders

Leading and performing in Wheelchair Basketball



**Sports leadership key skills**

- Empathy
- Problem-solving
- Resilience
- Acceptance
- Organisation
- Determination
- Difference
- Challenge
- Achievement
- Motivation
- Kindness
- Communication



## FOOTBALL UPDATES – ALL YEARS, BOYS AND GIRLS

The year 6 girls have been back out in full force in the floodlit cup. They played brilliantly, pressing the ball up the pitch and worked well as a team. They won 1, drew 1 and lost 1. A great achievement and it's also fantastic to see some new recruits. If your daughter would like to get involved, do get in touch and I'll add them to the list.

The year 6 boys have also been out in full force in their floodlit cup. They were incredibly consistent in all of their games, winning all 3 at 1-0. The teamwork and connections made when passing were super. Well done to all involved. If your son would like to get involved, do get in touch and they can be added to the list.

We have also had some other football events, which have seen year 7 and 8 girls / boys play indoors at 5core. Here, students have demonstrated how they can adapt their football skills to indoor, smaller pitches, playing with adapted rules for the different environment. Watch this space as there is a KS2 event coming up in January.

### Sportshall Athletics

We have now got underway with the first round of the Sportshall Athletics competition. The boys and girls both competed on the same night in their individual and team events, all putting in fantastic, strong performances. We secured 1<sup>st</sup> place on the night out of 4 teams, eagerly waiting to see if we're through to the finals in February. There are 12 schools who compete in total over 3 nights! Fingers crossed for all involved!

Year 7 & 8 boys and girls will compete in their first round on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January – watch this space!

If your child is interested in joining an athletics club and/or doing athletics related activities, check out - [Find a Club - England Athletics](#) – many of them have junior sections.

Closest junior Parkrun events are; Wakefield (Thornes) and Barnsley (Locke Park) – why not give it a go?! You never know where it might lead!



Who says you can't be the next Keely Hodgkinson?!



Wakefield District Harriers & A.C.

**Check out the brand new blue Athletics track at Thornes Park!**

### Additional general updates/reminders

As well as the whole school accessing the PE curriculum, over **60%** of the whole school have accessed a sporting club/activity since September. I am sure you will agree this is fantastic, given that we're only a third of the way through the year! There are more opportunities on the way in term 2, including the Move It Dance Exhibition in London and the Superleague Netball Trip, in addition to the usual clubs and fixtures.

As we are very much in Winter now, please can I ask that you send your child with underlayers (if they have them), hats, gloves etc. so that they are warmer when they're outside in PE and so that they continue to enjoy it and their experience is positive 😊. Year 6 will be doing Gym and Orienteering, whilst Year 7&8 will be doing Basketball and Orienteering.

Could I also take this opportunity to encourage your child to remember all parts of their PE kit please – a suggestion of putting a reminder in their phone would be advantageous or a reminder on the fridge. It is vital they have this so that they get the most out of their PE experience and can access the PE curriculum. Lastly, if they're excused, they must still bring their PE kit – this is so that they can still access the curriculum in an alternative role such as a leader, coach, referee, analyst, timekeeper etc. in addition to ensuring they have a dry set of clothes to change into as well as maintaining good habits and routine of bringing their kit.

From all in PE at Scissett, we wish you a very Merry Christmas, hoping that 2025 will be a happy and healthy year 😊

## Year 7 Pantomime Trip

On Tuesday 17th December, our Year 7 pupils enjoyed a fantastic afternoon at Barnsley Civic watching Jack and the Beanstalk. Produced by Panto-ever-after, the show had students in fits of laughter throughout. We really can't recommend this panto highly enough! Exceptional acting, singing and set design with a constant stream of hilarious jokes. We are looking forward to next year already!

This panto is running until the end of December at Barnsley Civic and would make a fantastic family activity over the festive break!

(Photos taken from Barnsley Civic's social media channels)



## Care Home Choir Visits

Our choir were full of Christmas cheer this week, visiting Scissett Mount and Aden Lodge care homes. Enjoying a mix of carols and more modern festive tunes, the residents were singing and dancing along and were very grateful for our visit. We also featured our talented trombonist Lucas. One resident told me she was herself once a music teacher and hearing children sing brings back lots of very precious memories. Well done choir!

[Please follow this link](#) to hear some videos of our performances.



## Christmas Concert

We are looking forward to welcoming many of you to our rearranged Christmas Concert on Thursday 19th December. Performers need to arrive at 6pm, concert starts at 6.30pm with an estimated finish of 8.15pm. Performers will need to enter through the Yard 1 door, families through reception.

We've an action packed program with performances from Wind Band, String Ensemble, Guitar Ensemble and Pop Choir as well a number of solo singers and instrumentalists, dance acts, a fantastic pantomime and even the staff band. We'll share photos on our Facebook page as soon as we can!

## Musica Kirklees Performances

A highlight of the Scissett calendar is the annual visit of the Musica Kirklees Rock Band and The Musica Kirklees Staff Orchestra to perform for Years 8 and 6 respectively. Over 400 of our students experiencing high quality live music, learning about the instruments that form the ensembles and for some of our most advanced musicians, a chance to sit beside professionals and play too.

[Please follow this link](#) to hear videos of the orchestra in action on Tuesday. After the Rock Band has visited on Thursday afternoon we will upload some clips to our Facebook page too.



If your child has been inspired to start learning an instrument then for more information please visit the Musica Kirklees website for information about getting started. If your child is eligible for free school meals, then please email [mosborne@themast.co.uk](mailto:mosborne@themast.co.uk) as the school may be able to support with the cost of lessons.

In addition to this, some Musica Kirklees instrument teachers are offering Give it a Go taster lessons. If your child would like to take part in these taster lessons, please complete the Microsoft Form below by Monday 23rd December. Once completed and the deadline has passed, the respective instrument teacher will be in touch with you to arrange your child's taster lessons in the new term.

<https://forms.office.com/e/HZj7YrPHSi>

## Strings Workshop at Dewsbury Town Hall

Our orchestral strings players recently enjoyed an inspirational day of workshops with the Benedetti Foundation at Dewsbury Town Hall. Thank you to Musica Kirklees for organising this fantastic event! Pictured is Freya, Year 7, expertly conducting a warm up exercise.





## Shelley Pyramid Dance Festival

A huge well done to Dance Club who rocked it earlier this month at the Shelley Pyramid Dance Festival with a routine choreographed to 'Hot Chocolate' from the Polar Express. This fantastic annual event celebrates dance from across the Shelley pyramid of schools, from reception to Year 13. A huge thanks to our awesome dance teacher Amélie. If your child is interested in joining dance club after Christmas please email [mosborne@themast.co.uk](mailto:mosborne@themast.co.uk). All abilities and experiences welcome!



## Happy Christmas

We would like to wish all of our families a very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year. We look forward to seeing you all in 2025.



## Dates For The Diary

**Friday 20th December** - School closes for Christmas holidays

**Monday 6th January** - School re-opens following Christmas holidays

**Wednesday 8th January** - Harry Potter Trip for Year 6

**Thursday 9 January** - Harry Potter Trip for Year 6

**Friday 10th January** - Harry Potter Trip for Year 6