



### Dates For Your Diary

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025-** School closed for PD Day

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025-** Children return to school

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025-** Year 3/4 trip to the Hancock Museum in Newcastle

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025-** St. Joseph's Day: Mass in school at 11am

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025-** Year 1/2 trip to the Locomotion Museum in Shildon

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2025-** Mass in school at 2.15pm

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2025-** Children break up for Easter holiday

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025-** Children return to school

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025-** School closed for bank holiday

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025-** Year 6 SATs week

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025-** Children break up for half term holiday

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025-** Children return to school

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025-** Year 4 multiplication check

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025-** Year 1 phonics screening check

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025-** Children break up for summer holiday

## Happy Birthday

to pupils celebrating their birthday during February



Bryan

Amelia D

Rosie F

Maisie

Harley H

Freddy

Violet

Emilia

Indie

Alfred



## **February Highlights**

### **Jubilee Year: More Than Dance**

On Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February, we were lucky enough to have More Than Dance, a liturgical dance group, join us for the day to teach us dances linked to theme of the Jubilee Year, 'Pilgrims of Hope'.

### **Number Day-**

On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February, we celebrated NSPCC's Number Day. Thank you to everyone who joined us for an afternoon full of number games and fun! It was brilliant to see so many outstanding customised Numbers Day t-shirts. We also raised a lot of money for the NSPCC with our loose change collection. Thank you for making this day special. You were all mathtastic!

### **OASES Visit-**

On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February, we were joined by Josh, from OASES. He taught us all about energy and how we can save it around school and home. We really enjoyed the sessions!

### **Jubilee Year: Tree Planting-**

The Jubilee also coincides with the 10th anniversary of Laudato Si', Pope Francis' landmark encyclical on the environment. In this year, we are reminded of our call to love creation. It is a time to work together to replant, repair and renew. Therefore, on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February, we planted trees in our school grounds with the support of Beth and Hannah from OASES. We would like to thank all of the families that joined us and helped us to plant. We look forward to watching the trees grow!

### **Derwent Hill Residential-**

From Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> February, some of our Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils went on a residential trip to Derwent Hill in the Lake District. During the trip, the children went gorge walking, on a high tree swing, hill walking and down a mine. They showed bravery, resilience and excellent teamwork. Well done everyone!

### **Blaze Pod-**

On Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February, as part of active 30, KS1 and KS2 children had the opportunity to participate in Blaze Pods. This activity developed their reaction time, using their hands and feet. Thank you to Go Well for organising the morning. We had a great time!



## Attendance

Children are required to be at school by 9am as our core subject lessons (English and Maths) begin immediately after registration.

Appointments should be made out of school time where possible please.

Holidays should be taken outside of term time.

**The Department for Education deems that if a child's attendance drops below 90%, they become known as a Persistent Absentee. All absences are monitored thoroughly.**

To celebrate great attendance, children with 100% in a week receive 10 dojos on a Friday. The class with the highest percentage will also receive 10 dojos per child.

Below are the percentages of attendance for each class for February:

Matthew (Nursery/Reception) – 87%

Mark (Year 1/2) – 95%

Luke (Year 3/4) – 96%

John (Year 5/6) – 95%

**The government's target for attendance for primary school pupils is at least 95%.**

Our whole school attendance for February was 92.7%.

A child is classed as late if they arrive at school after 9.20am.

0.6% of our pupils arrived late in February.

A child is classed as unauthorised absence if they arrive at school after 9.30am.

2.1% of our pupils had unauthorised absences in February.



## Uniform

School uniform promotes a sense of pride in the school and makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance.

**If your child is not in correct school uniform, we will ask for correct uniform to be brought in for your child to change into.**

Our uniform is:

- Red sweatshirt or sweat cardigan



- White polo shirt



- Grey trousers or skirt/pinafore dress



- Sensible, plain black leather shoes/ trainers



**Jeans and leggings are not permitted. Skirts and trousers should be grey not black.**

## Homework

Homework reinforces and helps your child to retain information taught in the classroom. It also develops study habits and independent learning.

For Year 1 to Year 6, we kindly ask that your child is listened to reading daily and their reading record is signed. Your child will receive a dojo for each signature in their record.

For Year 1 to Year 6, your child will also receive maths and spelling homework each Friday to be handed back in by the following Thursday.

Times tables are extremely important for children in Year 3 to Year 6. In Year 4, children take a times tables test. Every child has log in details for Times Tables Rockstars - <https://ttrockstars.com/>  
We would greatly appreciate it if your child could regularly practise their times tables at home.

## **READING EVERY DAY...**

...**CREATES** lifelong readers.

...**TEACHES** children to find adventure, ideas, and answers through books.

...**STRENGTHENS** relationships and creates memories as a family activity.

...**OPENS DOORS** through which children can learn about themselves.

...**BUILDS** a diverse vocabulary and strengthens fluency in reading.

...**ALLOWS** a child's imagination and creativity to blossom.

...**GIVES** children the tools needed to become successful students.

...**TAKES** the "scary" out of reading in the classroom.

...**HELPS** children make connections to new places, people, and concepts.

...**AWAKENS** children to the world around them.



## PE

On PE days, children are to come to school dressed in their PE kit.

Mark (Year 1/2)- Monday

Luke (Year 3/4)- Monday

John (Year 5/6)- Monday

Our PE uniform is:

- Plain white T-shirt with no branding or logos from professional sports teams
- Plain black shorts or tracksuit bottoms with no branding or logos from professional sports teams



- Red sweatshirt or sweat cardigan or hoodie



- Suitable black trainers



**If your child comes to school in PE kit on a day which is not their PE day, we will ask for uniform to be brought in for your child to change into.**

## Staffing Update

We bid a fond farewell to Ms Wilkinson and Ms Slater.

We thank them both for their hard work and dedication.

We wish them both the best of luck for the future.

**May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind be always at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face;  
the rains fall soft upon  
your fields and until we meet again,  
may God hold you in the palm of His hand**







On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025, we will be celebrating World Book Day.

This year's theme is 'Read Your Own Way'.

Your child is welcome to come dressed as a character from their favourite book or in comfortable clothes they would wear while reading at their leisure, such as pyjamas.

We would like to invite you to come in and read with your child/ take part in reading activities from 2.30pm