



## Contents

[Foundation 1](#)

[Foundation 2](#)

[Year 1](#)

[Year 2](#)

[Year 3](#)

[Year 4](#)

[Year 5](#)

[Year 6](#)

[Dates](#)

[Children's news](#)

[PTA News](#)

### Attendance

Whole school target 97%

Whole school	93.5%
Foundation 2	99.8%
Year 1	94.2%
Year 2	98.9%
Year 3	94.2%
Year 4	94.5%
Year 5	95.4%
Year 6	95.2%

## Message from Mr Wilkes

### Happy New Year!

Welcome to 2026! I hope you had a restful break. It has been wonderful hearing all about the things the children got up to in the holidays - some amazing experiences and great presents!

### New Staff

We have welcomed Mrs Emma Langon to school this week as our new Inclusion Leader. She has made a great start to the term and will bring wealth of expertise and capacity. She will be working on a Wed, Thurs and Friday this term.



We have also welcomed Miss Amy Bonser who will be working in the office across both sites.



### Attendance Policy update

The new attendance policy is now in place. Over the next few weeks you will start to notice some changes to the systems in school for managing attendance.

#### Why are we making these changes?

The Department for Education has produced statutory guidance for schools - which can be read [here](#) - which our policy now follows. The impact of not attending school has a significant impact on future success, social development and children's confidence so we want to support you and your children to enable them to be successful and have good attendance.

We have produced a summary of the school policy which can be accessed [here](#). We have created an updated leave of absence form and the criteria when leave will be authorised. One of our current focus areas is lateness. Please work with your children to ensure they are at school on time and ready to start the day - the school day starts at Meadow Lane at 8.45 and 8.55 at Cator Lane.

Our attendance team - Ms Gosling, Mrs Ireland, Mrs Langon and myself will work to support you and your child to improve attendance. Further information can be found on the school website - [click here](#).

# FOUNDATION 1 NEWSLETTER



[Click here for contents](#)

## What's been happening?

Welcome back everyone! We have been so proud of how smoothly the start of term has been. A huge well done to our new children for settling in so well, and thank you to parents and carers for all your support with the transition—it has made such a positive difference. We are also incredibly proud of our returning children for remembering our routines, settling back in quickly, and being such wonderful role models for our new friends. We are really looking forward to lots of exciting learning and fun together, including our upcoming Teddy Bear Picnic to continue our key story learning on Bear Hunt, which we know the children will love!

Miss Clarke, Mrs Ireland, Miss Shepherd and Miss Carlin



## Dates for your diary

- Mon 12<sup>th</sup> we will have our own Teddy Bear picnic! Feel free to bring in a soft toy you feel comfortable looking after at school.
- [Link to whole school dates](#)

## Important information

If your child would like to begin having milk at school, see the attached link for cool milk. <https://coolmilk.com/>

Your child can also enjoy a piece of fruit from home in the morning if you wish.

Our door will begin shutting promptly at 8:45 and will open promptly at 3:10. If you drop off or collect outside of these times please do so via the school office.



## Looking ahead

Phonics – Our phonics focus is word rhythm. We will be re-reading The Train Ride and practice keeping a steady beat.

Maths – This week we will focus on exploring shape and space through fun games.

Enquiry – Our enquiry question for our new term is 'What can we learn by exploring?' Exploring colour mixing and textures of materials/

Gross and Fine Motor – We have finished our finger games unit and will be beginning junk modelling.



# FOUNDATION 2 NEWSLETTER



[Click here for contents](#)

## What's been happening?

Welcome back! We hope you have had a brilliant break over the holidays and your children are well rested and ready for another busy half term!

PE day will be on a Tuesday again this half term. Please remind your child to bring in their PE kit from Monday 5th.

If your child has pierced ears please put tape or plasters on them on Tuesday morning.



## Dates for your diary

- [Link to whole school dates](#)

## Important information

Please remember to keep reading with your child as often as you can, it really makes a difference.

If you have bought any new school uniform over the holiday, please check it has been clearly named. We get such a lot of lost property that isn't named. It's also worth checking that name labels haven't fallen off from old uniform as well. If you are missing anything, please come and have a look in our lost property box at the end of the day.

## Looking ahead

In Literacy this week we will be writing our wishes for the New Year. This links with this half term's PSED themes of happiness and positivity.

In Maths we will continue to develop subitising and counting skills and explore the composition of numbers within and beyond 5.

In Phonics we will be learning 'ch' and 'sh'. We will practise reading and spelling words with these sounds in them.

In RE we will be learning different Bible stories. This week, we'll look at Noah's Ark.

# YEAR 1 NEWSLETTER



[Click here for contents](#)

## What's been happening?

Welcome back everyone!  
PE day will be Thursday each week.

On Friday mornings at 8.45-8.55 we will have family reading morning, please come and join us if you can.

We will enjoy celebrating children in the early years for star assembly this week.

If you need to talk to us, we prefer to do this either face-to-face or on the phone. You can catch one of the team on the playground in the morning or at the end of the day. If you can't catch us, you can email the year group team on [year1@thelanes.notts.sch.uk](mailto:year1@thelanes.notts.sch.uk)

## Important information

1AW will have Outdoor learning on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Jan. Please can children arrive at school in their outdoor learning kit and bring uniform in a named bag.

Our parent WOW afternoon will be Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> Feb at 2.45-3.15 it will be lovely if you can join us.



## Looking ahead

Maths – We will be working out subtraction word problems together.  
English – We are writing sentences about our story 'Penguin' using 'and' to connect sentences and looking at capital letters.  
Topic – We have begun our new topic of Hot and Cold places. We have located the Equator on a map and The North and South Pole and we will be locating rainforests and learning about climate in different parts of the world.  
In Science - We will name a variety of materials and begin describing them according to their properties.



## Dates for your diary

- WOW afternoon, Weds 4th Feb @ 2.45pm
- [Link to whole school dates](#)

# YEAR 2 NEWSLETTER



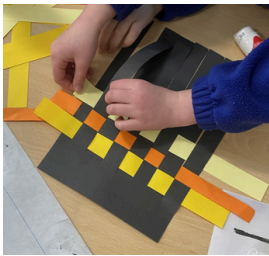
[Click here for contents](#)

## What's been happening?

Our Topic day went well on Monday! It was great to see everyone involved learning about Ghana!



Children tried the traditional Kente cloth.



They also wove some kente patterns.

## Important information

- Welcome back and Happy New Year!
- PE day on Mondays as usual

If you need to talk to us, we prefer to do this either face-to-face or on the phone. You can catch one of the team on the playground in the morning or at the end of the day. If you can't catch us, you can email the year group team on: [year2@thelanes.notts.sch.uk](mailto:year2@thelanes.notts.sch.uk)

## Looking ahead

- English: continuing Emmanuel's Dream.
- Maths: division and making equal groups for sharing.
- Topic:
  - PE: Dance &
  - Geography: cities & village Ghana.
  - PSHE: Diversity (age)
  - Science: How to meet our basic needs in a hot climate.

## Dates for your diary

- [Link to whole school dates](#)

# YEAR 3 NEWSLETTER



[Click here for contents](#)

## What's been happening?

It's been a great first week back in Year 3. We've started reading our new class text 'The Stolen Spear' and the children are already super engaged.

In Science we've been looking at natural vs human made materials. We went on a rock hunt around school to see what we could find.



## Important information

### PE days this half-term

Tuesday - 3CD and 3DC

Wednesday - 3IM

### Stars of the Week

3CD - Arthur and Eleesha

3IM - Tristan and Darcey

3DC - Leela and Charlie

### Creswell Craggs visit

We are looking forward to our visit to Creswell Craggs later this month, please ensure you have completed the consent form, reminder texts have been sent.

## Looking ahead

- Maths - 4 Times Table Strategies
- Reading - Sequencing and summarising
- Writing - Vocabulary work
- More about different types of rocks in our Science work
- Art - Stone Age cave painting
- PE - Netball and Fitness
- RE - Prayer
- ICT - Editing



## Dates for your diary

- [Link to whole school dates](#)

# YEAR 4 NEWSLETTER



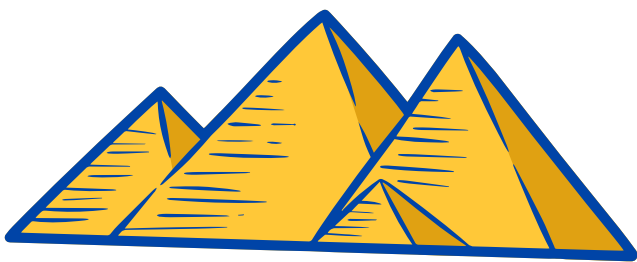
[Click here for contents](#)

## What's been happening?

Welcome back to a new term!

It has been lovely hearing happy stories about your Christmas breaks from the children.

Our new topic on the Ancient Egyptians is proving to be very popular and we're enjoying being peppered with questions!



## Dates for your diary

- [Link to whole school dates](#)

## Important information

Our meeting about the Year 4 Residential to Castleton will be after school this Friday, 9th January in 4RR classroom.



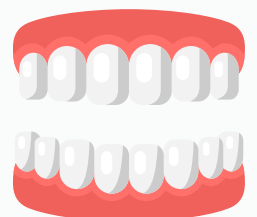
Our PE day is still on Thursdays this half term.



## Looking ahead

Next week, we'll be learning:

- What life was like in Ancient Egyptians times;
- Written methods for multiplication
- All about mummification in our reading;
- More about teeth in Science
- How Hindus celebrate Diwali.



# YEAR 5 NEWSLETTER



[Click here for contents](#)

## What's been happening?

It was lovely to welcome everyone back, with the children starting the year positively and showing enthusiasm, focus and commitment to their learning.

In Writing, we explored how authors evoke sympathy and use persuasive techniques, while in Reading we began our study of Macbeth. In Maths, we completed our work on division, with the children showing growing confidence and understanding.


We also introduced our new Topic on Scotland, which sparked curiosity and excitement, and we looked forward to building on this enthusiasm as the term continued.



## Dates for your diary


- Great Project commences Tuesday 13th.
- [Link to whole school dates](#)

## Important information

5CC: Swimming Tuesdays. Reminder of the Googles form and ensure that the swimming attire follows guidelines. 

5MS: P.E. will be on Wednesdays with the sports coach – Circuit training and tag rugby. Please dress appropriately for the weather.

5CT: Outdoor learning will be on Wednesdays with Miss Howe, so please ensure that appropriate kit is prepared, including additional socks.

5CC and 5CT: P.E. will be on Fridays for tag rugby and circuit training (monitoring over the term). 

## Looking ahead

Next week, we will start the great project. This is delivered over 4 weekly sessions and is designed to help Year 5 and 6 pupils understand and develop healthy relationships. Each session has clear goals, learning outcomes, and links to the RSE and PSHE curriculum.

- In Maths, we will start fractions.
- In Writing, we will develop key skills to help with persuasion.
- In Reading, we will start or book on Macbeth.
- During Topic, we will continue to look at the Geography of Scotland and develop our Forces knowledge.

# YEAR 6 NEWSLETTER



[Click here for contents](#)

## What's been happening?

Welcome back, Year 6!

This week we have started our new topic – a turning point in British history. Through this topic we will be exploring how WW2 began and how the country rallied together to support the troops. Our focus will be on the events that took place at Dunkirk.

SATs homework:

Maths – Prime numbers and cube numbers – page 25/26

Reading – Cider with Rosie

Grammar – Punctuating speech – page 56/57



## Important information

In class, we will be exploring issues around smoking, alcohol and knife crime. This will be covered by class teachers and will provide opportunities for children to hear facts on the subject.

Post Christmas, we have seen an increase in the number of phones coming in to school. Please remind your children that phones should be turned off once the child enters the school grounds and should be out of sight by the playground. Phones will be secured in classroom lockers throughout the day.

## Looking ahead

At the beginning of March, classes will be taking a trip to the Holocaust Museum, located near Ollerton. This trip will require a couple of parent helpers to help facilitate the smooth running of the excursion – if you are able to help, please email the team on [year6@thelanes.notts.sch.uk](mailto:year6@thelanes.notts.sch.uk)

## Dates for your diary

- Holocaust Museum - 3/3/26
- [Link to whole school dates](#)



# PTA NEWSLETTER



[Click here for contents](#)

## Update from Friends of the Lanes

Thank you to everyone for helping us have a fantastically successful winter term! Our Fireworks event, Christmas Fayre, Wreath Making and discos combined to raise over £9000! This money is sitting safely whilst we work closely with Mr Wilkes and the school to work out how best to spend it - watch this space.

These events and this money can't happen without your support, and a couple of key members of our team will leave at the end of this academic year, which means we need you!

We have three levels of support needed:

1. Core team of (currently) 4 members holding formal roles (Chairs, Treasurer, Secretary)
2. Wider committee to support on decision making and organising events
3. Volunteers on an ad hoc basis, which we ask for as each event happens, and have a standing WhatsApp group

The more people we have in 1 & 2, the less commitment is needed from each member. We all have our own jobs and families so the time commitment is as minimal as we can make it whilst still making the PTA a success.

If you are able to give some time to the committee, or even just be added to the wider volunteer pool, please get in touch at [friends@thelanes.notts.sch.uk](mailto:friends@thelanes.notts.sch.uk) - we're a nice, friendly group 😊. Our next meeting is at the Cadland 7.30pm on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January - everyone welcome.

We're starting to make more plans for the rest of this school year, but in the meantime please make sure you have Discos in your diary - Wed 25<sup>th</sup> March and Wed 24<sup>th</sup> June for Cator Lane and Wed 11<sup>th</sup> March & Wed 8<sup>th</sup> July for Meadow Lane. The Year 6 Disco will be Mon 20<sup>th</sup> July.



## Dates for your diary

- Preloved Uniform Sale - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January - Cator Lane play ground, after school
- Cator Lane Disco - 25<sup>th</sup> March & 24<sup>th</sup> June
- Meadow Lane Disco - 11<sup>th</sup> March & 8<sup>th</sup> July
- Year 6 Disco - 20<sup>th</sup> July



# School News

FROM THE REPORTERS

Joke of the week

What did the snowman  
say to the other  
snowman?

Can you  
smell carrots?

## Headlines

This week we have had some new pupils join the school nursery. Some of our reporters paid nursery a visit to find out how they are settling in. Here is what they said: "Every morning we get in and listen to music." "My favourite thing to do is play in the toy kitchen." "I like reading the different books." Sounds like they are having a great time!

## STAFF INTERVIEW

We had a new SENCo, Mrs Langan, join school this week. She is a lovely person, who would love to help change the school for the better. We interviewed her and here are some sneak peaks of what happened:

Q: How would you help change the school?

A: I would love to help change the way people come to school every morning by helping them look forward to it.

Q: Have you enjoyed your time here?

A: Yes!! Everyone is super friendly and there are smiles all around! :)

## Y2 GHANA DAY

In Year 2, the new topic is Ghana and they did their very own Ghana day. Our reporters, Eloise and Lily went down to Year 2 to find out all about it. This is what they said:

"We played African drums and it was one of the best parts of the day!"

"We learned about Kente cloth and did paper weaving."

"We searched on Google maps and looked at different places in Ghana."



# DIARY DATES

Spring term dates listed here, new additions will be highlighted

Date	Day	Event	Location	Who?
5th Jan	Mon	Y2 Ghana WOW day	CL	Y2
6th Jan	Tues	5CC first swimming session	Bramcote Baths	Class 5CC
13th Jan	Tues	Great Project – every Tues	CL	Y5
16th Jan	Fri	Preloved Uniform Sale - PTA	CL	
22nd Jan	Thurs	MHST Body Image Workshop	CL	Y5
26th Jan	Mon	Y3 visit to Creswell Craggs	Creswell Craggs	Class 3CD
26th Jan	Mon	Dental Survey	ML	F2 & Y1
27th Jan	Tues	Y3 visit to Creswell Craggs	Creswell Craggs	Class 3DC
27th Jan	Tues	Young Voices visit to BP Pulse	Birmingham	KS2 Choir
29th Jan	Thurs	MHST Body Image Workshop	CL	Y6
29th Jan	Thurs	EY Height & Weight Check	ML	EY
30th Jan	Fri	Y3 visit to Creswell Craggs	Creswell Craggs	Y3
3rd Feb	Tues	Y6 Height & Weight Check	CL	Y6
4th Feb	Weds	Y1 parent WOW afternoon 2.45pm	ML	Y1
13th Feb	Fri	INSET DAY	CL & ML	ALL
16th – 20th Feb	Mon-Fri	HALF TERM		