



“Children are at the centre of all we do.”

NEWSLETTER 13th MARCH 2026

Our newsletters are available to view on the school website at:

<https://heslerton.n-yorks.sch.uk/parents/newsletters>

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE



ATTENDANCE winners this week is FARTHING WOOD!!

Badger Wood 95.7%

Keeper Wood 96.5%

Farthing Wood 97.6%

DIARY DATES

Monday 16th March, Community Cuppa at the village hall with Y5, 2:15pm.

Thursday 19th March, Pop up library.

- Gymnastics Club Y1 – Y3 week 3.

Wednesday 25th March, Pre-Reception taster day.

Thursday 26th March, Gymnastics Club Y1 – Y3 week 4.

Friday 27th March, Easter Service at church 1:30pm.

- School closes for Easter.

EASTER HOLIDAY

Monday 13th April, Training Day.

Tuesday 14th April, School opens to pupils.

There may be changes to these dates. Please check the school website for events and Dojo for details.

THANK YOU

Today is Mrs Lealmans last day at West Heslerton School. We thank her for all of her hard work at Heslerton. We wish her the best of luck for the future.

BAG2SCHOOL

Thank you for all the donations for Bag2School. This week's event raised **£78.90 for the Friends of School.**

COMMUNITY CUPPA

Residents of all ages, parents and pre-schoolers are invited to join our Year 5 pupils at the village hall for a chat and cuppa on **Monday 16th March 2:15 – 3:15pm.**

We are always pleased to receive feedback at school. This helps us to know what parents value.

A LOVELY MESSAGES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

" The Glow Party sounds like it will be brilliant! You all organise such fab things for the kids to raise funds so thank you!"

POWER CUT

Just wanted to say a big thank you for managing to keep school open today. I appreciate it would be a challenging day and I am very thankful as I could still be at work. Sorry for the late message due to a great time at the school disco.

GLOW DISCO

It was just nice to see all the children being happy, getting on and enjoying themselves. We are very lucky to be a part of West Heslerton school. Well done, you do a fab job!

"What a polite and lovely group of children your school have. We have never worked with a whole school of such well-behaved children and we were especially impressed by how kindly the older pupils interacted

LONDON RESIDENTIAL Y5 / Y6

Please can all families check ParentPay for any outstanding balances for the Year 5 / 6 London residential. Final payments to be received by the **1st of May 2026.** Thank you.

If you require this information in a different format, please contact the school office.

ONLINE TREND

A harmful online trend known as “School Wars” or “Red vs Blue” has begun circulating on platforms such as TikTok, Snapchat and Instagram. Children are encouraged to align with a colour “team” and engage in physical attacks on pupils from the opposing group. Posts often include lists of schools and instructions for taking part.

The trend promotes:

- Encouraging physical assaults (“jumping” pupils).
- Use of everyday school items (compasses, scissors, rulers) as improvised weapons.
- Recording and sharing harmful incidents.
- A points-based scoring system (e.g., points for punching, chasing, or stabbing-related content).

These features significantly increase the risk of violence, weapon-enabled harm, peer-on-peer abuse and escalation.

Please be aware of the following signs:

- Pupils discussing “red vs blue”, “sides”, or scoring systems.
- Pupils showing or sharing violent online content.
- Sudden changes in arrival/departure behaviour due to fear or peer pressure.
- Evidence of low-level physical confrontations beginning to escalate.

UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

We recognise that from time to time, events occur and families run late for school. Arriving after 8:55 means your child's absence is marked as unauthorised for the morning session.

Occasionally, children need to attend appointments out of school during school time. In order to authorise this absence, we must see evidence of appointments. Any absences without evidence will not be authorised. The whole session will be classified as unauthorised whether the child is present for the register or not. Should your child collect up 10 unauthorised absences, fines will be issued by authorities. We are always available to work with you to support your family's needs, please reach out to us if we can help in any way.

INCLUSIVE CLASSROOMS

We are a highly inclusive school with Quality First Teaching for all children each day. This means that all children are taught and supported with a range of strategies that are part of their usual routine. These strategies are adapted to meet children's needs in class. Each week we will share with you an aspect of Quality First Teaching so that all parents and families are aware of the high quality provision at West Heselton Primary School.

Active Engagement & Participation: We plan lessons so that all children can take part by using techniques like questioning, mini-whiteboards, and talk partners.

DAY TO DAY ARRANGEMENTS

All children need to know what they are doing for lunch and what they're doing at the end of the day. Mornings are very busy in school and it really helps when the children know if they are having a packed lunch or school lunch and what the arrangements are for the end of the school day.

FAIRTRADE STALL

The Fairtrade stall took **£174** in the last few weeks, this event raised **£17** for school. Thank you.

If you require this information in a different format, please contact the school office.

Violin Lessons

A number of children came to try out the violin after assembly on Wednesday and it was lovely to see so much enthusiasm for music. If any children are interested in taking up the violin, Lucy has some availability for lessons during school time.

Lucy teaches following the Suzuki method, where pupils learn the violin in a similar way to how we learned our mother-tongue languages. We do learn to read music, but pupils ideally learn a great deal by listening to the music and internalising it, and a large emphasis is placed on good posture, correct technique and listening to achieve a beautiful sound. Pupils learn in a very supported, safe environment, both in lessons and at home; practice at home is a necessary part of their learning journey, and parents will need to help them with this – especially in the first year. There is no need for parents to have any prior musical experience, as Lucy will give as much guidance as is needed.

In learning to play the violin, pupils also develop in many ways beyond the music itself, including:

- ♪ Developing fine and gross motor skills
- ♪ Increasing memory capability
- ♪ Building personal discipline, patience and perseverance
- ♪ Growing confidence through success and performance
- ♪ Finding an outlet for reducing stress and feeling calm
- ♪ Making new friends by playing music together
- ♪ Improving posture and coordination
- ♪ Recognising and celebrating progress, including being kind and supportive to others

Individual lessons give pupils a fully personalised experience and they are generally recommended for the best progress, but learning as a pair can be great fun, and is particularly effective for setting up posture and the basics of playing. For this to work, there needs to be a suitable friend to share the lesson with.

Lesson options are as follows:

- Individual 30 minute lessons = £20 per lesson
- Individual 20 minute lessons = £15 per lesson
- Shared 30 minute lessons = £10 per lesson per pupil

Pupils will all need their own violin, and there are second hand options to keep this affordable. Lucy will help and advise with this.

Pupils are all encouraged to attend our string group – the Ryedale Suzuki Group – which Lucy runs with Joanna Wallington and her cello pupils. This nurturing community is a cornerstone of our teaching practices and has a big impact on how our pupils learn. We meet approximately once a month in order to transform a solitary activity into a social one – when we play together as a group, techniques are reinforced, friendships are strengthened, and the joy of making a big sound together is really motivating.

If you are interested in lessons, or have any questions, please get in touch with Lucy:

lucybrunsdentutor@gmail.com or message/WhatsApp on 07803340189.

PARENTING SMART

Parenting can be joyful but also very hard. Each week we aim to bring you a link that may be useful to you to find your way. This week's short clip is about cultural identity.

[Helping your child understand cultural identity | Place2Be's Parenting Smart \(youtube.com\)](#)

DROP OFF

Please can parents drop pupils at the school gate? This means that all adults who are unaccompanied on the school site have met all safeguarding checks. Thank you for your continued support.

If you require this information in a different format, please contact the school office.

FRIENDS OF SCHOOL GLOW DISCO

Thank you to everyone who supported the Friends' Glow Disco yesterday. Despite some tricky journeys, many children joined them at Ganton village hall. Looks great fun!



If you require this information in a different format, please contact the school office.

Cook - West Heslerton Primary School

Vacancy Hours 22.5 hours per week (Closing date 16th March 2026)

We have an opportunity to join our award-winning Facilities Management catering team where you will be providing tasty, nutritious, home-cooked meals made from locally sourced fresh produce.

We are a 'fresh food' organisation encouraging children and young people to choose nutritious meals. We are proud to offer a wide choice of healthy options to our children encouraging them to eat well and fuelling their appetite for learning.

We are currently recruiting a Cook to join our team at West Heslerton School, catering for around 60 meals per day. As a Cook your role will lead and support the team to deliver an effective catering service operating to the highest standards of food safety. Your role will require you to prepare, cook and serve meals to students and staff, setting up and the clearing away the dining hall, washing up as well as other kitchen management duties such as supervision of staff, ordering food, stock taking and administration.

As a valued member of our hardworking team, you will be reliable, dependable and committed to providing healthy wholesome dishes, typically working from 9.00am till 1.30pm, 4.5 hours per day, totalling to 22.5 hrs per week.

No weekend work!

You will work term time only. However you will receive equal monthly payments throughout the year. For this you will be paid £13.47-£13.90 per hour in addition to annual holiday and Bank Holiday entitlement.

What can we offer you?

You could find working for North Yorkshire Council more rewarding than you first thought.

Competitive rate of pay, Excellent Local Government Pension Scheme, Generous holiday entitlement starting at 23 days increasing with continuous service, paid pro rata as part of annual salary, Access to range of benefits and discounts including green car scheme, childcare vouchers and home technology scheme.

This post requires an Enhanced DBS, the cost of which will be met by the Employer.

If you would like an informal discussion, please contact Sarah Hodges (Area Manager) on 07966188294 or email at sarah.hodges@northyorks.gov.uk

Please note we will be interviewing whilst the role is live and reserve the right to close the advert should suitable candidates be appointed.

BIKEABILITY YEARS 5 AND 6

We offer Bikeability training to all children at school every other year when children are in either Year 5 or 6. Learning to ride a bike safely,

navigating roads and following the highway code are all important skills covered during these sessions. Your child will take part in Bikeability during April. They will complete this training on the playground and around the village. The full Bikeability training takes 2 days and will be completed whatever the weather!

This course will be fully funded by school from the PE budget. Your child will need a bike and a cycle helmet. We are giving all Year 5s and 6s prior warning to get bikes out of sheds and checked over or a bike borrowed if necessary.

Sessions will take place during the week Beginning **Monday 27th April**.

Exact dates will be confirmed shortly. Any questions, please get in touch.

If you require this information in a different format, please contact the school office.

Easter adventure awaits!

The school holiday countdown is on, and we've got a fun-filled, action-packed programme planned. From Adventure Club and Family Activity Days to exciting courses, there's something for everyone!



Bewerley Park Outdoor Education Centre, Pateley Bridge
East Barnby Outdoor Education Centre, Whitby

30 March to 10 April

outdoored.co.uk/schoolholidays

 North Yorkshire
Outdoor Learning Service



Proud of myself

be yourself

I am enough

Self Esteem Webinar



Monday 23rd March 2026
4pm-5pm

This webinar is aimed at parents or young people needing support and advice.

The webinar will focus on:

- To understand what self-esteem is.
- Why we may experience low self-esteem
- To learn about the importance of good self-esteem.
- Knowledge on how to improve self-esteem.

Joining Information

To join our self-esteem webinar please scan the QR code and follow the instructions to join using Microsoft Teams. You can also join using the following details:

Meeting ID: 313 158 142 153 0
Passcode: HD3w6H69



If you have any issues logging on or any questions prior to the webinar please contact teww.wimtsa@nhs.net

[@wellbeinginmind.mhst](https://www.wimtsa@nhs.net)

GYMNASTICS CLUB

There will be a Gymnastics Club at West Heselton CE School next half term for **6 weeks** for pupils in **Years 3-6**. The club will be run by Harry Sheader Sports School, funded by school sports funding, **free of charge** to children.

This will take place from 3.30pm – 4.30pm from **Thursday 16th April to Thursday 21st May 2026 inclusive**. Numbers are limited therefore, places will be on a first come, first served basis. Should your child decide not to continue, please let us know. Places are limited. Should your child wish to join this club, please block book the sessions on **ParentPay**. No payment needed.

FRIENDS FUNDRAISING

Friends are always keen to organise social events and fundraisers for school and work tirelessly to do so. We are lucky that they have subsidised the Glow Disco to allow as many pupils to take part as possible.

If you know of any schemes or grants that are available, they'd love to hear from you. This will help them to provide opportunities for pupils at reasonable rates for us all.



 Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys
NHS Foundation Trust

ONLINE WEBINAR SCHEDULE SUMMER TERM 2026

Monday 20th April 4pm - 5pm -
Exam Stress

Monday 15th June 4pm - 5pm -
Transitions

Monday 13th July 4pm - 5pm -
5 Ways to Wellbeing

All webinars can be accessed through Microsoft teams and are free to join. We welcome young people, parents and carers, teachers and other professionals to join.

Joining information will be posted on our social media channels closer to the time.



[@wellbeinginmind.mhst](https://www.instagram.com/wellbeinginmind.mhst)



[@WIMT_MHST](https://twitter.com/WIMT_MHST)

If you have any questions please contact teww.wimtsa@nhs.net

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