



# NEWSLETTER

9<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## A message from our school leaders

Welcome Back!

We hope you all enjoyed a restful Christmas break and had plenty of time to relax and make special memories with your families. Despite the chilly weather, the children have returned full of positivity and excitement for the new term. Children are beginning their new topics, building on knowledge acquired from previous years.

This terms topics are as follows:

Nursery – All the Colours of the Rainbow

Reception – Dinosaur World

Year 1 – The Great Fire of London

Years 2, 3 and 4 – What is Beneath our Feet?

Year 5 and Year 6 – The Tudors

As temperatures continue to drop, please ensure that children come to school dressed appropriately for the cold weather. Coats should be worn daily, and hats, scarves, and gloves are strongly recommended during colder periods.

We'd also like to remind families of the importance of regular reading at home. Daily reading helps children build fluency, deepen understanding, and strengthen their writing skills. Our most confident readers are often our strongest writers, so making reading a priority truly makes a difference.

## Reminders and Messages

- Please remember to bring water bottles into school every day.
- A reminder that we are a '**NUT FREE**' school.
- **POLITE REMINDER:** We are unable to read or answer messages which are sent through Class Dojo. If you need to contact teachers, please telephone or make an appointment at

A Message from The Friends (FOMS)

## Useful Online Safety Links

- [NSPCC](#)
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#)
- [Childline](#)



## ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

### ~THIS WEEKS ATTENDANCE~

Rec/Yr 1	90.8%
Yr 2/3/4	97.6%
Yr 5/6	100.0 %



# NEWSLETTER

## What have we been up to?

### Nursery – Mrs Dobson

This week, in Nursery, we have been enjoying reading the delightful story, **Mouse Paint**. The story follows three curious mice who discover pots of red, blue and yellow paint, and have fun mixing the colours to create new ones. The children have loved exploring this idea in their own learning!

Inspired by the story, we experimented with mixing paints to see what new colours we could make. While doing this, we introduced some wondrous words to enrich our vocabulary – **MIXED**, **STIFF**, **STIRRED** and **STICKY**.

The children have been using these words in their activities and discussions, e.g.

- We searched around the nursery for objects that were stiff
- We talked about things that feel sticky
- When mixing paints, we practiced saying mixed and stirred

Alongside our creative work, we have learned some interesting facts about mice – the children were fascinated to discover where mice live, what they eat and how they behave.





# NEWSLETTER

## What have we been up to?

### YrR/1 – Miss Humpherson, Miss Anderson and Mrs Niven

This week, our classroom has been transformed into Dinosaur World. The children have absolutely loved exploring the dinosaurs and taking part in all our themed activities. They have learned about different types of dinosaurs and discovered what each one liked to eat.

In maths, Reception have been learning to subitise numbers 0–5, recognising amounts without counting. While Year 1 have been working with numbers to 20 and exploring different ways to make them, using practical resources such as ten frames, base ten, and Numicon.

In writing, Year 1 have been learning how to write clear instructions. They even planted their own seeds so they could relate each step of their writing to the real process. Reception have been exploring rhyming words and opposites, inspired by the book *Dinosaur Roar*.

This terms topic for Year 1 is *The Great Fire of London*, and the children have shown a great interest in starting to learn all about it.

The children have enjoyed taking part in a range of fitness activities in PE this week and have shown great enthusiasm and energy.

In our music lesson this half term, we have begun learning about 'Blues' music. We talked about how Blues often expresses feelings of sadness, and the children listened to some music by B.B. King to help them understand the style.





# NEWSLETTER

What have we been  
up to?

## Yr2/3/4 – Mrs Garnett, Mrs Aislaby and Miss Spenceley

Welcome back and a Happy New Year! We have had a lovely week back at school and it has been wonderful to see the children return with such enthusiasm and fantastic behaviour this week.

In English, we have started our new text, *The Firework Maker's Daughter*. The children eagerly examined the front cover and engaged in a lively discussion about what the book could be about before diving into the first chapter. Their curiosity and imagination were truly inspiring!

During our maths lessons, Year 2 have been exploring patterns while finding 10 more and 10 less than a number; they then applied this to a range of numbers up to 100. Meanwhile, our Year 3/4 students have been working hard on multiplication and division, representing these concepts in various ways to deepen their understanding.

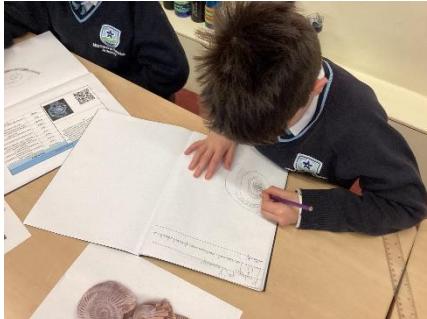
Our PSHE lessons have focused on dreams and goals. We discussed a range of challenges people may face in everyday life and brainstormed how to overcome them. This has encouraged the children to think critically and support one another, as well as thinking about any challenges that they may face and how they could overcome them.

This term, our geography topic is, '[What is Beneath Our Feet?](#)' where we recapped what our world is made up of and explored what lies beneath the Earth's surface. The children began by identifying the earth's crust, mantle, and core.

In art, the children have been studying and sketching ammonites. The children selected their own image and used a variety of drawing techniques, showcasing their creativity.

**Reminder:** Please ensure all children have their reading books with them every day. Homework will continue to go out on Fridays and should be returned no later than the following Wednesday.

Wishing you all a wonderful week ahead!





# NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

## Yr5/6 – Mrs Wharton and Mrs Emery

Welcome back, everyone! It has been wonderful to see the classroom full of excitement and enthusiasm after the break. We began the term by creating our own calendars for the year ahead and thinking carefully about our New Year's resolutions, setting a positive tone for the weeks to come.

We have also made a great start on our new DT unit, which is based around food technology. The children have shown lots of interest already and are looking forward to the practical work ahead.

In maths, Year 6 are continuing with their fraction's unit, while Year 5 have begun exploring multiplication and division.

In English, the class have enjoyed playing Rollama (our new SPAG e-learning platform) and have also completed several stand-alone grammar lessons to sharpen their skills.

Our new PE days are Monday and Thursday, and this week the children had lots of fun using balloons to play games that introduced the basic skills needed for badminton.

In music, the children used Charanga on the chromebooks to compose and explore their own musical ideas. It's been a brilliant first week back, and we're excited for everything the new term will bring!





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## Upcoming Events:

	Event
<b>JANUARY 2026</b>	
Tues 13 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Yr5 Visit to Teesdale School Key Stage 2 SATs Information Evening, 3:30pm
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	'Open the Book' Assembly with The Pathway
Tues 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Kurling + Boccia Festival, Yrs 1+2
<b>FEBRUARY 2026</b>	
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	'Open the Book' Assembly with The Pathway
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Sportshall Athletics, Yrs 5+6
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Safer Internet Day
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Valentine's Disco, FOMS
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Dance Festival,
<b>MARCH 2026</b>	
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> March	'Open the Book' Assembly with The Pathway
Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
w/c 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Science Week
18 <sup>th</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Scholastic Book Fair, in school
w/c 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Shakespeare Week
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Girl's Football Competition, Yrs 4,5+6
Tues 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Tennis/Raquets Festival, Yrs 3+4
<b>APRIL 2026</b>	
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> April	'Open the Book' Assembly with The Pathway
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	School Breaks Up for Easter
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> April	School Re-Opens to Pupils