



March 13th 2026

Mother's Day

The weather on Thursday meant that our original planned route for our Mother's Day walk had to be altered as we did not want it to be an endurance test, but rather to focus on talking and being outside together. We hope that you enjoyed the time together and that you may use the vouchers kindly provided by Moments, Marshalls, Chocolate Fayre and Crème de la Crust for a little treat. I hope that you enjoy Sunday too. Thank you very much to Mrs Spence and Mrs Patterson for organising this and to FOMS for helping with the hot chocolates!

Mrs Smith's Ghana Presentation

Mrs Smith would like to share a presentation with you about her time in Ghana. She would like to invite you to the school hall on Wednesday 18th March straight after pick up. I hope to see you there.

Year 3/4 Spring Play

Ticket information has been shared this week by Mrs Smith and Miss Gilmore for the Y3/4 plays which take place on March 31st and April 1st. We look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you FOMS

We are very grateful to FOMS for providing some additional playtime resources for our children to enjoy. We look forward to seeing the children play with these in the coming weeks.

Red Nose Day

Next Friday is Red Nose Day and children can come to school with crazy hair. If you would like to send a donation in for Comic Relief we can let you know our total the following week.

School Meals Price Increase

Chartwells, working with the Local Authority, have announced new school meal prices, effective from Monday 20th April 2026. The new charge for school meals will be £3.08 per pupil per meal. This is an increase of 4.41%. The increase is a direct result of ongoing food inflation, an increase to the National Minimum Wage.

Wraparound care

Breakfast and Afterschool care sessions are becoming increasingly popular therefore it is important that all children are booked into the sessions using Arbor so we can ensure the correct staffing ratios are in place. Could we also remind parents / carers that afterschool care sessions finish at 5.30pm at the latest. Please ensure your child is collected before this time.

School Menu Choices

Please complete and return new lunch menus to the office by Friday 20th March. The new menu will start on Monday 20th April.

FOMS Community Challenge

Our fabulous FOMS committee have come up with a new fundraiser that will run right up to the end of this academic year, '£26 for 2026'. The aim is for children to earn £26 for doing something in the community to help others and they will be sponsored for doing so. FOMS are conscious that they do not just want to ask parents/carers for money all the time, so instead the plan is to widen the net to our local community. Last week Mrs Patterson shared information about this in an

assembly, so most children will know about it. There were some super ideas that the children thought of, e.g. gardening, helping at lambing time, emptying the dishwasher, baking and selling cakes, helping in the garage, doing a litter pick etc. Sponsor forms have been handed out this week and they detail all the information about the Community Challenge. Siblings are welcome to do a joint challenge if they prefer and they can share a sponsorship form.

Attendance-

This week's attendance figures are below. Well done Reception class.

Class	Attendance this week (%)
Reception	100
Year 1	98.7
Year 2	97.7
Year 3	97.9
Year 4	98.7
Year 5	95
Year 6	96.3
Whole School	97.8

Dates for the Diary

March 18 th	Mrs Smith's Ghana Presentation in the hall at 3.25pm
March 20 th	Badminton Y5/6 (2 teams)
March 23 rd	Multi-skills (all Y6) Staindrop Academy
March 25 th	Football Y2 at Staindrop Academy (selected children)
March 31 st	Tennis at Parkside (all Y4)
March 31 st	Years 3 and 4 School Play 6pm
April 1 st	Years 3 and 4 School Play 6pm
April 1 st	Multi-skills (all Reception)
April 3 rd – 17 th	Easter Holiday
April 20 th	Children return to school
April 24 th	Girls Football Y4-6 at St John
May 4 th	May Day Bank Holiday
May 11 th – 14 th	Year 6 SATs
May 19 th	Tri Golf (all Y3) at Barnard Castle Golf Club
May 20 th	Cricket (Y4) at Raby Castle
May 22 nd	Multiskills (all Y2)
May 25 th -29 th	Whitsuntide Holidays (Parade May 25 th)
W.b. June 8 th	Phonics Screening (Y1)
June 30 th	Nursery Sports Day
July 1 st	School Sports Day
July 6 th	Monty Does Rehearsal Day at The Witham
July 7 th	End of Year Reports send out
July 7 th	Monty Does Evening Performance at The Witham
July 8 th	Monty Does Evening Performance at The Witham
July 17 th	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 9am
July 17 th	End of term
July 20-21 st	Teacher Training Days
Sept 1 st - 2 nd	Teacher Training Days
Sept 3 rd	Children return to school

Mr. C Minikin
Head Teacher

Please see the QR code for the School Lottery. The more players we have, the more we raise for the school and the bigger the prize fund.

