



May 8th 2026

Around school

It has been nice to welcome back Miss Halsey and Miss Merrifield as they begin their block teaching placements in Year 2 and Year 4 respectively. We also have two trainees, Miss Hogarth and Miss Sunter, in Reception working alongside Miss Lauder and her team. It is important to me to support and develop the next generation of teachers and they bring great ideas to our school. Mrs Daniels is also working well towards her qualified teacher status and one of the strengths of our school is developing our own teachers and leaders.

I have been either teaching or visiting the other classes regularly and children are working hard. I love to chat with them in breakfast club or at lunchtime and they are full of enthusiasm for school life.

Year 6 SATs

Year 6 have been working very hard in the run up to their end of Key Stage 2 statutory assessments and we are proud of their efforts. We hope they have a restful weekend and look forward to Thursday afternoon when the tests are completed. They have requested that they would like to toast with their friends before the tests so if you would like your child to join in with this they need to be in school for 8.30am.

Learning Outside

This afternoon the whole of Key Stage 2 was outside! Year 5 and 6 children have had a great afternoon cooking outdoors making pizza and s'mores. Year 3 were playing Netball and Year 4 were playing cricket with a coach! It is great to see.

Visits

We have a number of visits/experiences and a residential coming up. We subsidise these events as much as we can from school budgets and give much thought to costs before booking them. We do, however, rely on voluntary contributions from parents/carers too, to allow these events to remain viable. Please check Weduc/Arbor for upcoming visits – thank you.

Information from home

Each year we send a number of data collection sheets home which you return to school in September. Arbor allows us to work in more efficient ways and we will not be sending home data sheets this year, apart from to our new Reception cohort. If there are any changes to home information such as addresses, telephone numbers, you can edit this on Arbor and we will see that changes have been made. The same applies to consents such as photographs, jewellery, walking home information for Year 5 and 6 etc. If you are unsure how to update information on Arbor, please contact the School Office.

Year 6 at the Hub

Mrs Channell has arranged for two days fun, outdoor and adventurous activities for our Year 6 children to look forward to after SATs. We recognise the expense of residentials for our families so try to stay local to minimise costs to parents/carers. All school budgets are under increasing pressures, and we need parental contributions to ensure that these experiences can take place. Details can be found on Arbor – thank you.

New Starters Parents/Carers Meeting

Miss Lauder has emailed parents/carers of our new September starters to invite them an information sharing session in school on Tuesday, June 2nd at 3.30pm. I hope that you can attend.

Piano and Woodwind Concert

A number of children are tutored by Rosie and Mrs Unwin on piano and woodwind. A concert has been arranged for the parents/carers of these children on June 15th, from 1.15pm in our school hall.

Brass Concert

As we have more musicians than ever, a separate brass concert has been arranged. This will be on June 2nd at 2pm.

Attendance-

This week's attendance figures are below. Well done Year 1!

Class	Attendance this week (%)
Reception	87.9%
Year 1	100%
Year 2	97.9%
Year 3	99.1%
Year 4	91.7%
Year 5	94.6%
Year 6	96.7%
Whole School	95.4%

Dates for the Diary

May 11 th – 14 th	Year 6 SATs
May 13 th	Year 2 to St Mary's church
May 15 th	Pedestrian Training for Year 3
May 15 th	Year 6 to Babuls
May 18 th	Wilderness Outdoor Adventure Day – Year 6
May 19 th	Tri Golf (all Y3) at Barnard Castle Golf Club
May 19 th	Wilderness Outdoor Adventure Day (am) – Buttercups
May 19 th	Wilderness Outdoor Adventure Day (pm) – Daisies
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)
June 1 st -4 th	Bikeability for Year 6
June 2 nd	Reception Starters 2026 Parents/Carers Meeting @3.30pm
W.b. June 8 th	Phonics Screening (Y1)
June 11 th	Class Photographs
June 15 th	Piano and Woodwind concert 1.15pm (for children are tutored)
June 16 th -17 th	Year 6 to the Hub
June 19 th	Father's Day (more details to follow)
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 sent 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 3rd

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.

