



June 19th 2026

Reception Class Assembly

What a lovely treat we had this morning for our Reception children's class assembly. It was a wonderful journey through each half term of their learning and the children spoke, sang and danced confidently throughout. Our children did so well to remember their lines. They looked amazing in their different costumes and seemed to really enjoy sharing their experiences with a big audience! They certainly fit in so much in Reception and I know that our children have had the best start to school. Thank you so much Miss Lauder, Miss Henderson and Miss Teasdale for organising this and to Miss Hogarth.

Our next Class Assembly is for Year 1 families on Friday June 26th at 9am.

Woodwind, Piano and Community Choir Concert

On Monday families of children attending tuition by Rosie and Mrs Unwin, as well as members of the Community Choir, held a lovely concert for family members. We were treated to a performance by our flautists, recorder players, pianists and singers and it was wonderful. The knowledge, skills and confidence of all of the performers was great to see. Thank you to Rosie, Mrs Unwin and Dr Blezard for working together on this and the children for their excellent work.

The next performance for families of Mrs Carr's brass group is on June 24th at 2pm.

Community Choir is free to attend and it looks good fun – each Thursday from 5.30pm - 6.30pm.

Father's Day

As I write this, I hope the weather has stayed fair for our Father's Day Event. There are so many nice things to do and I hope that everyone has a great afternoon. Thanks to Mrs Bowron for organising and all the school staff for their help and also to FOMS for their stalls.

Year 6

Year 6 enjoyed a great time at the Hub on Tuesday and Wednesday this week. They took part in a range of activities including orienteering, archery, high ropes and kayaking. They had a lot of fun and pushed themselves to try new experiences. They enjoyed pizzas and playing with their friends in downtime, and although not too much sleep took place, came home tired but happy. Thank you so much to Mrs Miller and Mrs Spence who accompanied me and to Miss Smith, Mrs Patterson and Mrs Channell who came to support at different times. Well done Year 6!

Parking and dropping off

We have received an email from a concerned resident about parking and dropping off on Montalbo Road. She highlights cars travelling too fast, pupils being dropped off in the middle of the road and drivers not being considerate to each other. Please drive and park appropriately around school – thank you.

FOMS Summer Raffle

Raffle tickets were handed out for FOMS Summer Raffle. Thank you for supporting this by donating prizes and buying tickets.

PCSO/Fire Service Visit

On Monday, our children in Year 5/6 were visited by PCSO Singh from the police. He talked to the children about antisocial behaviour and what to do if they witness any and how to keep safe/not get involved. Ms Filipiak, a fire officer, gave some important water safety advice. As our older children tend to be given a little more freedom in the local area, please remind them of this if they play near the river. Please see below for general water safety advice.

Water Safety

Please see the link [here](#) from the Fire Service regarding water safety.

RSE Parents/Carer Information

The information Mrs Leonard prepared with the changes to the RSE curriculum will be shared shortly once our new website goes live.

Monty Does Mash Ups

We are very excited for next month's Key Stage 2 show of Monty Does Mash Ups. The classes have been busy choreographing dances and the Y5/6s have just begun practising the script. Hopefully you have made your ticket requests. If not, please contact the School Office.

Free School Meals Checks

As you may already be aware the Government have recently announced changes to the FSM eligibility from 1st September 2026. There will be 2 categories of benefits-based free school meals: Targeted FSM - which continues to be based on the existing threshold, covering pupils who are in households in receipt of Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less. Expanded FSM - a new category covering pupils who do not qualify for targeted FSM, but who are in households receiving Universal Credit.

In addition to this, Transitional protections for free school meals will end. Transitional Protections have been in effect since 1 April 2018. This has meant that pupils becoming eligible for free meals under the benefits-based criteria have retained their entitlement, even if their household circumstances have changed. Households must meet the new FSM eligibility criteria from the start of the 2026 to 2027 academic year to continue receiving provision, therefore it is vital all pupils complete a new FSM form and return to school as soon as possible to ensure a new check can be made before the Summer Holidays ready for September 2026.

Forms have been handed out to all children earlier this week. Please complete the form even if you are unsure as to whether you qualify, we can run the check regardless. Please do not assume you still qualify and not return the form - all pupils require a new check.

Universal Free School Meals for children in Reception-Year 2 inclusive will still be in place but it is still important that parents/carers for children in these years complete the forms.

26 for 26!

Thank you to the children and families who have returned the sponsorship forms and money for the 26 for 26 FOMS challenge. Please try to return any forms and funds before the end of term. Thank you.

Melody Makers Choir

There will be no Melody Makers Choir on Thursday 25th June as Rosie has an important exam, it will resume the following week as normal.

Leave of Absence Requests

We have received more Leave of Absence requests than ever this year. Please try to book holidays within the school holidays as these cannot be authorised.

Please remember how important school attendance is and the positive, well-documented links between progress, attainment and well-being.

Attendance-

This week's attendance figures are below. Well done Year 3!

Class	Attendance this week (%)
Reception	95
Year 1	95.3
Year 2	94.3
Year 3	98.2
Year 4	97.2
Year 5	96.6
Year 6	95.7
Whole School	96%

Dates for the Diary

June 24 th	Brass concert (for children who are tutored) 2pm-3pm
June 26 th	Year 1 Assembly
June 26 th	World Cup Football Event at Staindrop (selected children)
June 29 th	Y5/6 Rounders (selected children)
June 30 th	Year 2 to Kirby Stephen (back for lunch)
June 30 th	Nursery Sports Day pm
July 1 st	School Sports Day pm
July 2 nd	Jack Drum Arts Assembly then workshop for Y6 (pm)
July 3 rd	Year 2 Assembly
July 3 rd	The Oaks transition Day
July 6 th	Monty Does Rehearsal Day at The Witham
July 7 th	Year 4 Frisbee Festival
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 9 th and 10 th	Staindrop Transition Day
July 10 th	Teesdale Transition Day
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.

