



September 25th 2026

Meet the Teacher

It was nice to see many families at the Meet the Teacher event on Wednesday. I know children enjoy showing their parents/carers their classroom and it is good to have the opportunity to chat to your child teacher about how they have settled in their new class. It is not too long until our first formal Parents/Carers Evenings on October 12th and 13th.

I hope that the families who attended the Effective Learning and Emotional Wellbeing Team Parent/Carer Workshop found the information useful. We are currently organising a couple more sessions for parents/carers in the near future about Early Reading from Miss Lauder and one about Gaming from experts at the Local Authority.

MacMillan Grab and Go!

A big thank you to everyone who baked, donated or bought a cake for our MacMillan Grab and Go event. It was so well supported and special thanks to parents Mrs Maude, Mrs Kearton and Mrs Jordan who helped our staff enormously during the busy period! Thank you also to Mrs Spence for organising this. We raised a total of around £400 for MacMillan (with some donations still coming in). We will give you the final exact total next week.

Year 6 Netball

A group of Netballers went to Staindrop to compete in a netball tournament today. The children performed well coming 4th out of 7 teams which was a good effort. Thank you to Mrs Turnbull for helping alongside Mrs Wood. Well done team!

Year 5 Handball

On Monday Year 5 are taking part in a Handball festival. Middleton Primary School will be joining us to learn some skills and rules of the game before some fun matches.

Year 6 Tag Rugby Tournament

All Year 6 have been invited to a tag rugby event at Barnard Castle School on October 21st which will mark the end of their training with Paul Davis from Barnard Castle Rugby Club. Paul will then coach Year 5 for the second half term with a tournament towards the end of the Autumn Term.

Two visits for Year 1

Next week Year 1 have two local visits. Firstly, they are visiting St Mary's Church to learn more about Harvest Festivals as part of their RE lessons. On Wednesday they will visit the Bowes Museum to see how the grounds has changed over time as part of their History topic.

Year 2 Visit

Today Year 2 had a visit to the Bowes Museum to sketch out a map of the grounds as part of their Geography work. Thank you to the many parents and family members who accompanied the class.

Music Assembly

Today Mrs Carr, who teaches brass, and Mrs Unwin, who teaches woodwind, talked to our Key Stage 2 children in assembly about the opportunity to play an instrument with them. Years 3 and 4 are able to play recorder with Mrs Unwin with a view to moving onto flute in the future, whilst Years 4, 5 and 6 are able to play brass and decide on a range of instruments. These sessions are

provided in school by Durham Music Service and all the children in Key Stage 2 were given a postcard for parents/carers to find further information.

Happy Healthy Life

Please see the attached link [here](#) for a message from a Healthy Families initiative by Durham County Council.

Harvest Festival

On October 12th we will have a Harvest Festival. We will be collecting food donations for TCR Hub to distribute amongst our local community. We would welcome any donations before this date if you are able. Thank you.

Christmas Fayre

I do not like mentioning Christmas at this time of year but we are keen to share the date of our Christmas Fayre – November 26th – and see if anyone would like a stall at the fayre. Please contact the School Office if you would like a stall. We have some new ideas this year which I am sure you will all enjoy.

Attendance

Please find below our weekly attendance. Well done Year 2!

Class	Attendance this week (%)
Reception	97.3%
Year 1	97.6%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	97.1%
Year 4	97.4%
Year 5	95%
Year 6	94%
Whole School %	96.9%

Dates for the Diary

Sept 28 th	Handball Year 5 (now at Montalbo)
Sept 28 th	Year 1 to St Mary's for Harvest Festival learning
Sept 30 th	Flu immunisation team in school
Sept 30 th	Year 1 to the Bowes Museum
Oct 5 th	Cross country (selected pupils Y3-Y6) Staindrop Academy
Oct 6 th	Pink Run
Oct 12 th – 13 th	Parents/Carers Evening
Oct 16 th	Football World Cup Y5/Y6 selected pupils at Staindrop Academy
Oct 20 th	Kurling and Boccia Festival Year 1 (In school)
Oct 21 st	Year 6 Tag Rugby tournament (1pm)
Oct 22 nd	Halloween Parties (EYFS am/KS1pm)
Oct 23 rd	Cross Country Y3-Y6 (selected children) Staindrop Academy
Oct 23 rd	Halloween Parties (Y3/4 am/Y5/6pm)
Oct 26 th – 30 th	Half Term Holidays
Nov 2 nd	Teacher Training Day
Nov 3 rd	Children back to school
Nov 20 th	Children In Need
Nov 26 th	Christmas Fayre

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.

