

October 16th 2026

Football World Cup

Today I went to a Football World Cup event with Mrs Spence and our Year 5/6 squad. We were picked out to be France and played 6 group games, winning all six which meant we qualified for the semi finals. In quite a tense affair, we triumphed 2-1 and were through to the World Cup Final, where we played Brazil! In another tight game we won 1-0 to bring home the trophy. The whole squad were an absolute credit to our school from start to finish and played superbly too. Well done to our Year 6s: Hayden, Tommy, Freddie, Louie, Rory, Scarlett, Darcey and our Year 5s: Roman and Elliott.

Parents/Carers' Evening

It was nice to talk to many of you on Monday and Tuesday. I hope that you enjoyed looking at your child's books and having a discussion with the Class Teacher.

After School Clubs

The new After School Club booking system for clubs beginning after half term will open tonight. Please book and pay for these clubs via Arbor. Thank you.

Year 3 Visit to Raby Castle and High Force

Year 3 had a brilliant school trip on Wednesday to Raby Castle and High Force. They started their day at Raby Castle where a guide talked us through the 3D interactive model of the River Tees. The children had lots of interesting questions and many facts about the journey of the River Tees. They then had time for a play in the maze in Raby Castle gardens and a walk around Deer Park before heading to the yurt for lunch. In the afternoon, they moved onto High Force, where the children explored the impressive waterfall and surrounding landscape. The children completed field sketches, taking time to observe the natural features and capture the beauty of the area in their work. The children represented the school brilliantly throughout the day, demonstrating excellent behaviour, listening carefully to instructions and showing respect for their surroundings. Well done to everyone for making the trip such an enjoyable day! A special to thank you to Mrs Lockwood and Mrs Larkin for accompanying Class 3 on the trip!

FOMS Bingo Night

I am very grateful to FOMS for organising a bingo night for adults at the Cricket Club on October 22nd starting at 6pm. Please see the following link if you would like to purchase a ticket **https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/bingo-night-207**

FOMS have also put together an amazing Halloween hamper – tickets are £1 and will be on sale at the Roundhouse 12th - 16th October 3-3.30pm and the front gates 19th - 22nd October 3-3.30pm Winner will be drawn on Friday 23rd October.

Year 4 Visit to Hulands Quarry

On Tuesday October 20th Year 4 will visit Hulands Quarry as part of their Geography work. This was a visit we first arranged last year.

Durham University Trainee

We are delighted to host trainee teachers from Durham University and our first this year is Miss Bewes who will be working with Mrs Newton in our Year 1 class.

Halloween Discos
Next week we have a number of different Halloween Discos. Children can come to school in the costumes on their disco day (see dates for the diary below). Please ensure children can still access the toilet independently and they have sensible footwear. Thank you.

Wraparound Care
Please ensure that children are booked into breakfast club, after school care or activity clubs via Arbor. We have increasing numbers accessing care and we need to ensure we have the correct ratios.

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

Class	Attendance this week (%)
Reception	92.6%
Year 1	99.3%
Year 2	98.6%
Year 3	99.2%
Year 4	98.1%
Year 5	94.6%
Year 6	92.6%
Whole School %	96.4%

Dates for the Diary

Oct 20th	Kurling and Boccia Festival Year 1 (In school)
Oct 20th	Year 4 to Hulands Quarry
Oct 21st	Year 6 Tag Rugby tournament (1pm)
Oct 22nd	Halloween Parties (EYFS am/KS1 pm)
Oct 22nd	FOMS Bingo Night 6-10pm at Barnard Castle Cricket Club
Oct 23rd	Cross Country Y3-Y6 (selected children) Staindrop Academy
Oct 23rd	Halloween Parties (Y3/4 am/Y5/6 pm)
Oct 26th – 30th	Half Term Holidays
Nov 2nd	Teacher Training Day
Nov 3rd	Children back to school
Nov 20th	Children In Need
Nov 26th	Christmas Fayre
Dec 4th	Reception Nativity (afternoon)
Dec 10th	Nursery Sing-along (afternoon)
Dec 11th	Carol Service and Christmas Jumper Day (afternoon)
Dec 14th	KS1 Nativity (1 afternoon, 1 evening performance)
Dec 15th	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Party (am)
Dec 15th	Panto at The Witham 1pm (R-Y6)
Dec 16th	EYFS Christmas Party
Dec 16th	Christmas Lunch
Dec 17th	Y3 & Y4 Christmas Party
Dec 18th	Y5 & Y6 Christmas Party
Dec 18th	School break up

Jan 4th	Staff Training Day
Jan 5th	Children back 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.