



October 9th 2026

Mrs Channell

We wish Mrs Channell well as she begins her maternity leave on Monday and will let you know when her baby arrives! During Mrs Channell's absence, Mrs Morris will be our SENCO.

Pink Run

The children looked fabulous wearing their pink clothing/accessories in support of Teesdale Cancer Research Group's 'Turning Barney Pink' campaign. The children braved the slightly soggy conditions to run/walk around the field several times to earn their medals. Thank you very much to Mrs Lomax for organising this with Pam, Elaine and Sue and to anyone who donated. We will let you know how much we raised next week.

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.

Cross Country Run

On Monday our cross-country team competed at Staindrop Academy, with each race having approx. 80 runners. As always, we approached each race with enthusiasm and team spirit from the side lines. We are extremely proud of all the runners and the Yr 5/6 boys who just missed out on qualifying for the next round at county level.

A shout out to the Year 5 team and Year 3 team who ran against the older age group with brilliant performances from Roman who finished 10th, Romy finished 22nd, Joseph 22nd and Charlie 43rd. Well done to everyone!

Year 1 Visit to the church for Harvest

Year 1 visited St. Mary's church on Monday for a Harvest Festival. Reverend Ana greeted the children at the church and talked through what a Harvest Festival would look like in church.

The children searched the church for hidden animals in the Harvest decorations and talked about the different foods grown. They also sang "Cauliflowers Fluffy" and created their own song to say what they were thankful for including: chocolate cake, orange juice, sweets and pears! Reverend Ana then gave them chance to ask questions about Harvest which turned into a discussion about insects we might see at this time of year, mainly stories about spiders!

Reception Autumn Walk

Our children in Reception enjoyed an Autumn walk around town on Thursday looking at different landmarks and for signs of Autumn. This is always a great first excursion for Reception and they were so excited about it! Thank you to our army of helpers who came along too!

Attendance

As we move towards the winter, DfE has asked us to share two useful resources with parents when deciding whether their child is well enough for school. Please see [here](#) and [here](#).

Parents/Carer's Evening

Hopefully you have managed to book a slot for our forthcoming parent/carers evenings. Please get in touch with the School Office if you are having difficulties. I look forward to seeing you there.

Book Fair

During Parents/Carer's Evening the Book Fair will be in the school hall. If you would like to purchase a book, there is the facility to take cash or card payments.

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

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.

Halloween Discos

Week commencing Monday 19th October 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.

Attendance

Please find below our weekly attendance. Well done Year

Class	Attendance this week (%)
Reception	97.4%
Year 1	98.3%
Year 2	97.5%
Year 3	97.4%
Year 4	98.1%
Year 5	97.4%
Year 6	93.8%
Whole School %	97.6%

Dates for the Diary

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/KS1 pm)
Oct 22 nd	FOMS Bingo Night 6-10pm at Barnard Castle Cricket Club
Oct 23 rd	Cross Country Y3-Y6 (selected children) Staindrop Academy
Oct 23 rd	Halloween Parties (Y3/4 am/Y5/6 pm)
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
Dec 4 th	Reception Nativity (afternoon)
Dec 10 th	Nursery Sing-along (afternoon)
Dec 11 th	Carol Service and Christmas Jumper Day (afternoon)
Dec 14 th	KS1 Nativity (1 afternoon, 1 evening performance)
Dec 15 th	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Party (am)
Dec 15 th	Panto at The Witham 1pm (R-Y6)
Dec 16 th	EYFS Christmas Party
Dec 16 th	Christmas Lunch
Dec 17 th	Y3 & Y4 Christmas Party
Dec 18 th	Y5 & Y6 Christmas Party
Dec 18 th	School break up
Jan 4 th	Staff Training Day
Jan 5 th	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.

