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## Weekly Newsletter: wb 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026

*Welcome back to school! We hope you had a relaxing break (and didn't eat too much chocolate!). Although it is only April, we are now entering the 'Summer Term'... Let's make every day count!*

### Cricket (and Table Cricket!)

- Thank you to Jenson from Oughtibridge Cricket Club for running our whole-school cricket day on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March. The children had a great time! Meanwhile, the cricket club are on the lookout for new players aged 4 to 13. Please see the attached flyer for more information.
- Did you know that our Learning Zone Table Cricket team have been crowned the **CHAMPIONS of South Yorkshire**? They followed this up by competing at the Yorkshire Finals at Headingley on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March. Although we couldn't go one step further, we were the youngest team there and gave a very good account of ourselves. Well done **Ellie, Thea, Ameera, Lexi, Oliver, Kaiden, Nayel, Rocco, Raydan, Theo, Thomas P and George** for their contributions in the two tournaments. Thank you to Mr Warne for organising this!

### SATs

The SATs for Y6 children are just around the corner (wb 11<sup>th</sup> May). Thank you to all the parents who attended our recent information session about these. The children have been working very hard in class and we want them to be as well prepared as they possibly can be...

- Children already have their revision books and this should be returned to school each week for checking
- To further support with this, Oak Academy have a fantastic website full of videos, quizzes and more. The link is here: [www.thenational.academy/pupils/years/year-6/subjects](http://www.thenational.academy/pupils/years/year-6/subjects)

### New Lunch Menu

Our new lunch menu starts from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April. After consultation with our School Council, this has been produced by our caterers, Taylor Shaw. Your child does not need to have school dinners every day; they can pick and choose their favourites using the menu – payable via ParentPay unless you qualify for free school meals. A copy of the menu has been sent alongside this newsletter and will be available to view / download from our website.

### After-School Clubs

The following after-school clubs are now available to book on ParentPay:

**Mondays:** Football (KS1), Art Club (all)

**Wednesdays:** Yoga (Y1 – Y6)

**Fridays:** Pickleball (KS2)

### Scooter Skills

Paula from Modeshift STARS will be in school next Wednesday to run her popular 'Scooter Skills' session for any children in Reception, Y1 or Y2 who would like to take part. The session is FREE but with limited places – sign up via the link sent on ReachMore. To take part in this session, children should have their own scooter (in good working order) – just bring it with them in the morning! Any questions, please do not hesitate to ask!

### Partnership with SWFC

- The Easter HAF (Holiday Activities with Food) Camp was a huge success and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended (including quite a few children from other schools). We are hoping to repeat this during the May half-term – please keep an eye out for more details! Remember all HAF camps are completely FREE for families on free school meals (with a small daily charge for those who aren't). Places at these events are always limited however – so please do not book if you are not going to attend. This potentially stops someone else from attending and may result in you being 'blacklisted' from future events.
- Meanwhile, thank you to SWFC for donating tickets for the match against Leicester on Easter Monday. Parents entered the draw via ReachMore and these were given out on the last day. If you went to the match, we hope you had fun (at least we didn't lose for a change!).

### School Trips

We have a number of trips scheduled for the Summer term; including Whirlow (Y2), Cresswell Crags (Rowan), Thornbridge (Y6) and MoveFest (Sycamore & Willow). We always try to provide a variety of valuable experiences for our children but this is becoming more difficult due to the cost. Residential trips have to be paid for in full or children will not be able to attend. Other trips, which are part of the curriculum, ask for 'voluntary donation' and costs are often subsidised by school / the PTA. Sadly, we may be forced to cancel trips if enough people do not pay – school budgets are very tight and we cannot afford to make up the shortfall. If you are struggling to make payments, please get in touch and we can discuss this with you in the strictest confidence. Thank you.

### 'Be Bright, Be Seen' sale

Thank you to our school council for organising the 'Be Bright, Be Seen' sale during the last week of term. We raised £50.30 altogether and this will be reinvested into other road safety projects in the future (we will resell the reflectors when the darker nights return in Autumn 2026!).

### Picture News Surveys

You may not know that we have a partnership with 'Picture News'. They provide topical resources on a weekly basis for use in class / assemblies; helping us talk about the news in a child-friendly way (they also host live assemblies such as the one with Robert Swan OBE). Anyway, they are conducting a couple of surveys to try and improve what they offer and have asked us to share the following links:

- Children's survey: [Survey for children: Understanding Young Minds | Picture News Forms](#)
- Parent survey: [Survey for parents: Talking with children | Picture News Forms](#)

Each survey takes just a couple of minutes to complete and will be greatly appreciated. Thanks in advance!

*Mr Gaughan*

*Nurturing confidence, nurturing potential, nurturing success.*



This week's birthdays:

Willow C (5), Hope (10), Lexxi B (6), Enes (10), Vinnie (10)

This week's 'School Standard' is: Be Creative





## Celebrating Achievement



Well done to the following children:

- ★ **Bronze:** Penny, Caleb F (Sycamore); D'low, Sienna, Aaron (Oak)
- ★ **Silver:** Oscar B, Ada (Ash); Arnie-Grey, Macie (Willow); Fearne (Rowan)
- ★ **Gold:** Teddy (Ash); Cooper, Oliver, Thea (Rowan); Elliana (Sycamore)
- ★ **Nursery Stars of the Week:** Aya & Grace (Seedlings); Eddie & Kovie (Saplings)
- ★ **Attendance winners:** Attendance during the final week was a disappointing **87.0%** overall (excluding the day we were forced to close). The winning classes were **Ash** (KS1) with **92.2%** and **Rowan** (KS2) with **93.8%**.
- ★ **House Point winners:** **Europe** won the trophy in the final week. **Oceania** collected the most during the last half-term.
- ★ **Rocksteady:** A HUGE well done to all the children who performed in our special 'Rocksteady' assembly during the last week: **Roscoe, Rocco, Henry B, Cameron, Holly, Iris, Lucy, Frankie-Lola, Elizabeth, Ellis, Willow H, Lily, Eloise & Abigail.**
- ★ **Decorated egg winners:** **Dexter, Theo R, Matilda, Jude, Fearne, Skyla, Joely & Rory**
- ★ **Egg rolling winners:** **Nova, Cian, Ada, Elio, William, Maze, Gray, Abigail, Kwontay, Mrs Thomas, Mrs Kirk & Mrs Longmore**

## What's Happening?

**Little Seedlings** are starting their new topic on 'growing'; whilst **Saplings** are learning about the lifecycle of a caterpillar.

**Ash & Willow** are starting their new geography topic: 'Where in the World are we?' (starting small with Wharncliffe Side and expanding to the UK).

**The Learning Zone's** new topic is all about Space (very topical at the moment!)

**Rowan** are learning about electricity in DT and science.

**Sycamore** are starting their new geography topic all about Europe.

**Oak class** have been making pizzas!

