



Dear Parents/Carers,

Wednesday 14th January 2026

### **Attendance**

***You have 190 days to come to school and 175 to do everything else!***

Regular attendance at school is significant to a child's educational development and progress. There is now a bigger [Government drive to improve attendance](#). When a child's attendance falls to 90% or below it is classed as persistent absence. We hope that by working together, attendance will improve and children will achieve fully in school. The school's policy for attendance is available on the school [website](#).

Please click on the [link](#) to see the guidance for parents regarding attendance:

We reward good attendance each week and are aiming for at least 96% attendance. Class attendance for last week was as follows: Year 2 - 99%, Year 1 & Year 4 – 97%, Reception – 95.33%, Nursery – 94.46%, Year 5 – 94.07%, Year 6 – 93.08%, Year 3 – 92.96%. Overall school attendance – 95.56%.

The classes in green are above our target of 96% and those in red are below, some significantly below. We will be targeting those with poor attendance.

*If you are unable to call school, e.g no credit on your phone, please use School Spider \* to report the absence or click [here](#) to send an email to let us know, please try to let us know by 9.00AM. You will need to log into School Spider to do this, if you need help logging in, please let school know.*

Info for parents from the DfE regarding fines: [Fines for parents for taking children out of school](#).

### **National Year of Reading 2026**

The Education Secretary is calling on parents to lead by example and make reading a daily habit to help reverse the decline in reading for pleasure, to help give kids the best start in life as part of the Plan for Change.

The call comes as the Department for Education and National Literacy Trust join forces to launch a National Year of Reading, starting this month to kick start a reading revolution. It will reverse the trend as just [one in three aged 8 to 18](#) said they enjoyed reading in their free time in 2025.

Bringing together parents, schools, libraries, businesses and literacy experts, the campaign aims to foster a love of reading for pleasure in children and young people, ensuring all children get the best start in life.

Reading for pleasure isn't just a hobby. It's linked to a range of benefits including stronger writing skills, improved wellbeing and confidence, and even higher future earnings, with new data showing those proficient in reading and writing in primary school [earn £65,000 more over their lifetime](#).

### **Mentor Lunch 15 January 2026**

Our mentor lunch takes place tomorrow, 15.01.26. Envelopes were sent home with children from Y3 – Y6 last Wednesday. Please return your envelope with payment to school as soon as possible. Please note that there is no facility for packed lunch on this day.

### **Scooters and Bikes on premises**

May we remind you that scooters and bikes should not be used on the school premises.

### **Cinderella**

Please see the flier for the St. Luke's pantomime.

## Dates for Academic Year 2025/26

For school term dates for this academic year, please see the school calendar on our [website](#).

### January – February Half term

#### **After school clubs started this week**

- 15<sup>th</sup> January Year 6 swimming am. (Last one for Y6)  
Mentor Lunch – **all children**  
20<sup>th</sup> January Gymnastics for Years 1 & 2 pm.  
21<sup>st</sup> January 1/2 Year 3 swimming pm.  
26<sup>th</sup> January Y1 Phonics meeting.  
27<sup>th</sup> January Gymnastics for Years 1 & 2 pm.  
28<sup>th</sup> January 1/2 Year 3 swimming pm.  
30<sup>th</sup> January TT Rockstars competition.

#### **February**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> February Gymnastics for Years 1 & 2 pm.  
4<sup>th</sup> February 1/2 Year 3 swimming pm.  
9<sup>th</sup> February Children's Mental Health Week 'This is my place.'  
10<sup>th</sup> February Safer Internet Day  
Gymnastics for Years 1 & 2 pm.  
11<sup>th</sup> February 1/2 Year 3 swimming pm.  
13<sup>th</sup> February Last day of half term – finish normal time 3.15pm.

### **CAMHS**

The Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) put together a monthly newsletter for parents and professionals, signposting support such as groups, training and workshops. Click the [link](#) to have a look and see if there is anything of any interest. If you have any questions you can contact Miss Murtagh, Headteacher and school's Mental Health lead via the school office.

**Christian Values** This week's Christian Value is **Thankfulness**.

**Article 27:** Every child has the right to a standard of living that is good enough to meet their physical, social and mental needs. Governments must help families who cannot afford to provide this.

Yours sincerely,



Miss E Murtagh  
Headteacher



#### **A Prayer for our School**

*This is our school,  
Let peace dwell here,  
let peace begin with me.  
Let the room be full of contentment  
Let love abide here  
Love of human kind, love of life itself  
And love of God  
Let us remember that as many hands  
build a house,  
Many hearts build a school.  
Amen*

