

# Term: Spring 1 2026 Newsletter



Thursday 12 February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please take a look at what has been going on this term - I am sure you'll agree it has been another busy one!

## Learning this term!

### Nursery

This half term, Nursery have been learning all about **transport**. They have explored how **different vehicles** travel and have **compared** 'old' and 'new' transport. They have especially enjoyed exploring this topic in our structured play area of the classroom, **acting** out their experiences and **understanding** of the different modes of transport that we have explored.

### Reception

This half term in Literacy, Reception have been exploring the four seasons - Autumn, Winter, Spring and Summer. The children have been finding out about the different animals that hibernate and migrate during the different seasons and what flowers and plants grow. They have also enjoyed learning all about transport and showing their understanding about using the different modes of transport depending on their destination.

### Year 1

This half-term, we've explored our "Wonderful Weather" topic through **geography** and **science**. It was great to see so many parents join our **phonics** and **reading** sessions—please continue using those techniques at home! In **English**, we've been using *Grandpa's Gift* to master **prefixes** and **suffixes**; check ClassDojo for helpful links to support this learning.



### Year 2

In year 2 we have been learning about pirates. We have been learning how to make our own local maps and how to read a key with symbols. We have been exploring different sentence types in English and have loved our text (*Grandad's Camper*) this term. maths we have been earning multiplication and division. We would love for you to continue practicing on TTRS and Hit the Button. Check class dojo for links for these. We can't wait for more learning in spring 2!



### Year 3

We've been learning all about **Ancient Greece** this term which has been fascinating! Did you know that they invented the Olympic Games which were named after Mount Olympus where the Greek Gods lived? Carrying on our sporty term, we've also been honing our **basketball skills, practising dribbling** the ball, bounce passes and chest passes. We'll be Olympic ready in no time!



### Year 4

This half term we have been concentrating hard on our **sewing skills** creating a beautiful book mark. We were also lucky enough to have the circus visit us where we learnt and watched amazing circus skills.



### Year 5

We have had a wonderful time learning all about the Tudor dynasty. The highlight was our visit to Ordsall Hall, where we experienced what life was like for rich and poor Tudors. In writing, we've written our own Norse myths based on Arthur and the Golden Rope. The hard work and creativity in writing lessons has really shone through!



### Year 6

This half term, Year 6 have been learning all about **Ernest Shackleton's** expedition to trek across Antarctica in order to produce some writing about it. We have also been learning about **Climate Change**, and ways in which we can have an impact on future generations.

6T also had a visit from **The Circus House, Jin Long Performing Arts and the Guizhou Acrobatic team** in preparation for Chinese New Year. They taught the children how to use a diablo, take part in a lion traditional lion dance and a form of martial arts called Wushu.



### Star Group

Star Group has been working hard on our phonics, maths and English this half term with some of us looking at our book *The Dragon Machine* and using it for some amazing independent writing. We had a wonderful time on **Number Day**, we did lots of maths and even fitted in a few games of **Bingo!**



### **Dental hygiene**

The dental team came to work with Reception children and it highlighted that we have one of the poorest records for dental health. Please make sure children avoid high sugar foods and keep up with twice daily brushing. Sadly, we have had at least 5 children with more than 4 teeth removed!

### **Fundraising**

During Children's Mental Health Week you helped raise funds for the Place 2 Be charity who do amazing work with helping young people with their mental health.

### **Enrichment**

We had our regular Early Start club carrying on with a record 83 pupils attending last week! Remember any child Reception or over can attend from 8:00am.

Our CITC Sports club for Reception and football clubs for girls and boys in Y4, Y5 and Y6 continue to be well attended.

The Chinese Circus visited and taught our pupils lots of exciting skills such as martial arts, diablo and dragon dance with Y6 and Y4.

### **Parent events**

We had our third **Chai Coffee morning** this term which focussed on your views and sharing our priorities for the year - getting reading, phonics, maths and writing better and better.

Parents attended classes in Year 1 and Reception to see how **phonics** is taught which we hope has been helpful!

### **Parent volunteers**

It is lovely to have our parents as volunteers around the school helping in class, going on trips and supporting tasks. If you have some spare time and want to upskill and gain experience in a school environment, then please ask at the office for more information.

### **Attendance:**

Some good news to share - we are finally seeing an improvement in attendance this term with a few classes getting into the green and blue zone! Our overall attendance for this term is also much better and we are getting close to national and Manchester. Let's keep this up please!

### Attendance percentage

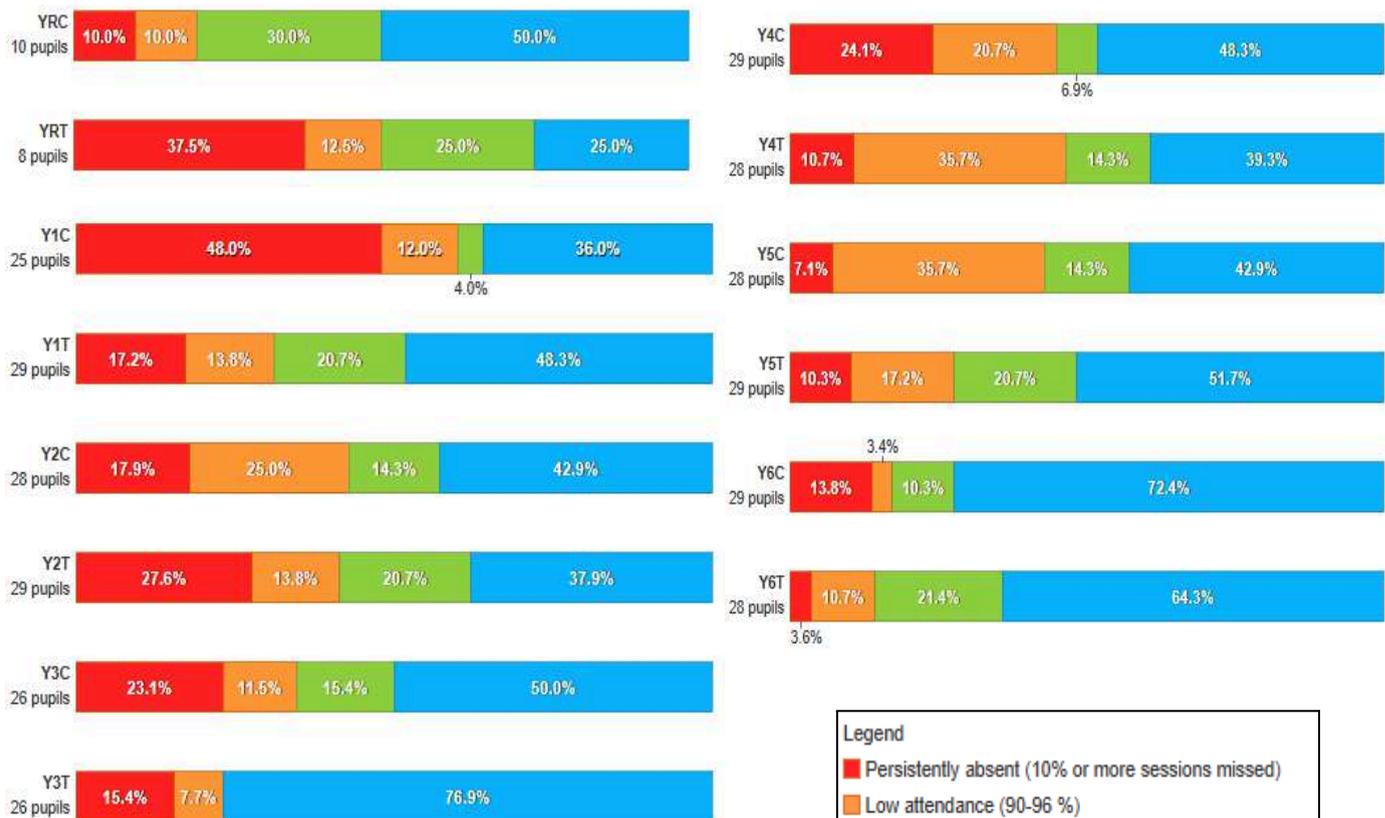
School	93.6%
National	94.9%
Local Authority	94.2%

	<b>15-18 days missed</b>	<b>19+ days missed</b>
School	3	1

### DfE penalty notice consideration threshold

(10+ unauthorised absences in 10 rolling school weeks)

- 22 pupils currently meet the threshold
- 13 pupils previously met the threshold between 05/01/2026 and 11/02/2026



**Legend**

- Persistently absent (10% or more sessions missed)
- Low attendance (90-96%)
- Good attendance (96-97%)
- Excellent attendance (97-100%)

We still get a lot of requests for term time absences sadly and this contributes to our very high persistent absence rate. Alongside sporadic illness absences these contribute to a very high persistent absence rate for us. The penalty charge from the council is **£180 per parent per child** for absences 5 days (10 sessions)

or over.. Children taken out of school for **20 days or more** will lose their school place. **3** children have lost their places this term.

We started our **Mission 95+** project this term and had a coffee morning to kickstart it. Thank you to the parents who attended the session - it shows you care about attendance. Lets' hope the target pupils get to 95% and over!

The best attending class gets treats every week and pupils with the most improved attendance get a certificate from Mrs Blackett. Classes with 100% attendance get extra playtime like Y6T!



## MAKE EVERY DAY COUNT!

### Ramadan Mubarak!

For all our families celebrating Ramadan, may the month be full of blessings for you and your family. PLEASE NOTE: during this special month daily routines change quite a lot - please make sure your children get the right amount of rest and structure so they are **READY TO LEARN** when we return.

#### Dates to note:

Thursday 26th February - Nursery and Reception CLOSED due to site used as polling station

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day

Thursday 19th or Friday 20th March - Eid-ul-Fitr - ONE day of authorised absence

Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th March - Year 6 Parent consultation - times to be confirmed

Monday 30th March - Thursday 3rd April - Parent consultations

School **closes**: Thursday 2nd April 2026 at **1:30pm**

School **opens**: Monday 20th April 2026 at 8:45am

On behalf of all at St Agnes, I wish everyone in our community a very safe and peaceful holiday.

Mr Uddin and the St Agnes Team

LOVE TO LEARN • LEARN TO DO WELL • LIVE WELL TOGETHER