

Dishforth Airfield Community Primary School

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Newsletter 39 Monday 14th July 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

We have had a super year in school and we are all looking forward to spending time at home with our families for a few weeks over the summer break and hopefully we will be able to enjoy some lovely weather as well!

We have much to be proud of at Dishforth Airfield Primary School. The staff are dedicated and passionate in supporting every child to reach their potential and I can't thank them enough for all their hard work and commitment. I do hope you all have a lovely summer and I wish you well in all your plans for the future if you are a family moving on.

School closes at 2.30pm on Friday 18th July for the summer holidays.

Class News:

Every week the classes will share the highlights of what they have been learning about with our families:

EYFS: This week we have really enjoyed exploring bigger numbers in maths. The children have created addition sentences making sure they correctly form their numbers and use the correct symbols. We have played a variety of number games and worked with a partner to add amounts together. Keep up the great number work Early Years!

Year 1 and 2: We have had a very busy week in Year 1 and 2 this week where we have started writing our own versions of the story 'The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig'. We have also made our smoothies in DT and finished our Starry Night pictures in Art.

Year 3 and 4: This week we have enjoyed completing our Geography unit about rainforests. We have held a debate about whether or not deforestation should be illegal, exploring the positives and negatives involved. We have used our digital mapping skills to create a labelled map of key landmarks and cities within Brazil too.

Year 5 and 6: This week Year 5/6 have been super busy - they are continuing with their story Holes - and are excited to find out what has happened. They have been practicing for Sports Day and have taken on additional responsibility to help set up and reset the races. We have completed our learning on puberty within our PSCHE lessons. The children are excited to be designing and



beginning to make their fairground rides which will be powered by a battery-operated motor. The children had lots of fun exploring the Crime and Punishment box which has been borrowed from Ripon Museum and have been dressing up and exploring the different artefacts.

Swimming – Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 – September



School swimming will continue to take place at Thirsk swimming pool. **Year 3, 4, 5 and Year 6 children start on Wednesday 10th September.** Please ensure your child has swimwear, goggles and a towel (named). It is helpful if girls wear socks and not tights on swimming days. Due to the layout and number of cubicles at Thirsk swimming baths, some children need to share a cubicle in order to change before and after the lesson. If any parents have questions or queries about this then please don't hesitate to speak to

Mrs Lyon.

The cost of swimming will be **£6.00 each week**, this still has to be paid even if your child misses a swimming lesson as we still have to pay for the bus, pool hire and swimming instructors. Payments must be made on your Parent Pay account. School has heavily subsidised the cost of swimming due to rising prices from the bus company and constraints imposed by Thirsk Pool.

Sports Day – Reception – Year 6



Thank you so much for supporting us this morning with our Sports Day – we couldn't have asked for better weather! A huge thank you to the staff and the children in Year 5 and 6 who helped make the event run so smoothly. Thank you as well to the PTA for supplying refreshments and also for all their hard work throughout the year supporting fundraising for the school.

Sports Festival for Nursery children – tomorrow

A Sports Festival for Nursery children (with Reception children helping out!) is on Tuesday 15th July at 2.15pm.

Year 6 School Dinner Choice - Friday

On the last day of the school year, the Year 6 children have chosen the menu for their final school dinner which is as follows:

Chicken Korma
All Day Breakfast (V)
Jacket Potato and Cheese

Arctic Roll

Year 6 Leavers' Assembly

On Thursday 17th July at 2.30pm we are holding our Year 6 Leavers' Service in the school hall. Year 6 parents are welcome to join us for this event and stay for refreshments afterwards.



Term dates

Attached to this newsletter are the term dates for the 2025-26 academic year and also the 2026-27 academic year for your information.

Autumn Term School Dinner Menu

Please find attached to this newsletter the autumn term school dinner menu. This menu runs up to February half term.

Parental Controls

Please find attached to this newsletter a parental controls booklet for your information.

Ear-rings in PE

Please can I remind parents of the policy regarding the wearing of ear-rings in PE. Guidance was updated by the Association for PE a number of years ago.

All personal effects should be removed including earrings.

Newly pierced earrings can be removed after a 6-week healing duration. During this period students should be given alternative tasks within physical education such as officiating.

Students unable to remove earrings were previously permitted to make them safe by taping. The guidance on the aforementioned has now changed based on national advice issued by the Association for Physical Education (afPE) 2019. It is now felt that the taping of earrings 'creates a perception of safety and is not recommended', as there have been several incidences within the local authority where children's ears have been injured from earrings being pulled out from under the tape.

Teachers/TAs are not permitted to take out or replace children's earrings if they are unable to do so themselves, therefore, it would be helpful if earrings could be taken out at home on PE days.

If a child has recently had their ears pierced and is unable to remove their earrings, they will not be permitted to take part in the practical aspect of PE lessons for six weeks, after which time they will be expected to remove their earrings in order to participate in PE lessons. During this six-week period the child will be able to take on the role of umpire, referee or coach where appropriate.

Please be aware that this policy will be followed by school staff and Sport coaches.

If your child is going to have their ears pierced, please do so at the start of the summer holidays rather than during term time.

Makaton sign of the week

We have a number of children in school who are using Makaton to support their communication. During assemblies, we are continuing on developing some basic signs.

This week's sign is: ***golf***



Here is a link to the Makaton site:

https://makaton.org/TMC/TMC/The_Makaton_community/Sign_of_the_Week.aspx



Class Structure for the academic year 2025-26



Please see below the staffing structure for the next academic year. The whole school transition session takes place this Wednesday morning.

Head Teacher: Mrs Lyon

Deputy Head Teacher and SENCO: Mrs Kestell – TMP Lead

School Administrator: Mrs McBride

EYFS and Year 1: Mrs Hutchinson and Mrs Dixon (every other Wednesday)

Year 1 and 2: Mrs Lyon (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday) and Mrs O'Connell (Wednesday)

Year 3 and 4: Mrs Armstrong (Monday – Thursday), Mrs Dixon (Friday)

Year 5 and 6: Miss Newton – who will be known as Mrs Falco as Miss Newton is getting married!

We are saying goodbye to Mrs Porter and Miss Robinson at the end of term.

Mrs Porter has an increase in days at another school she works at and Miss Robinson has secured her first teaching position – we thank them both and wish them good luck for the future!

PE Days this half term

Please see below when your child / children are having PE this half term. **Children in Y1-Y6 need a PE kit in school which has a black / navy blue tracksuit, socks and trainers as a PE session may take place outside.**

EYFS: Please have PE kit in every day

Year 1 and 2: Tuesday and Thursday

Year 3 and 4: Tuesday and Thursday

Year 5 and 6: Thursday and Friday

Keep in touch – School Facebook Page

Please ensure you are signed up to the school Facebook page so that we can get in touch with families quickly.

Reading

All children need to read at home every day. Please listen to your child read and ask them questions about the text and / or pictures. Please ensure that you record what your child has read and how they have managed with their reading in their record book. **Reading and record books need to be in school every day so that they can be checked and new books issued.**

ParentPay

Breakfast and After school club, school meals and nursery fees are put on Parent Pay at the end of every week. Please can we remind families to check their account on ParentPay and make sure bills are paid as soon as possible. New families to the school will receive login information for ParentPay once their child / children have started.



School Dinners

Children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 can have a school dinner free of charge.

Children in Nursery can order a school dinner and the cost of their meal is £2.10

Please note that the cost of a school dinner is £3.77 for children in Years 3-6.

The cost for the month of July for children in Year 3-6 will be £52.78. (14 meals)

Packed Lunches

A polite reminder that there should be no sweets or chocolate bars in packed lunches or fizzy drinks. Also, we are a **NUT FREE SCHOOL**. We do have children with allergies to nuts so please refrain from any sort of nut products in packed lunches – thank you.

Sun Cream

Please can I ask parents to ensure the children have sun cream applied to them before they come to school in the morning when the forecast is due to be sunny and also, please do send into school a bottle of sun cream labelled with your child's name on it so that they can apply it, when necessary, over the summer months – thank you.



Easy Fundraising

We have set up an Easy Fundraising page to help us raise extra money for our school. You can raise FREE donations for Dishforth Airfield Primary School EVERY time you shop online. Please support us by following this link, signing up and using easy fundraising when you shop online. Thank you for your support!

<https://www.easypfundraising.org.uk/causes/dishforthairfieldprimary/>

Bookings for Dandelions Childcare

All bookings must be made **by 12pm on a Friday** for the following week so that we can ensure we have staffing ratios and food for the children. Accounts are put on ParentPay. Parents are charged based on the bookings they make and any additional sessions.

Please either telephone the school office, use the link <https://forms.office.com/e/A50V4pv57w> or email admin@dishforthairfield.n-yorks.sch.uk

Summer Reading Challenge – 12th July – 6th September 2025



North Yorkshire libraries will welcome children aged four to 11 to read six library books of their choice over the summer holidays, offering stickers and prizes to encourage children to take part. This year's theme is 'Story Garden – adventures in nature and the great outdoors' by award-winning illustrator Dapo Adeola. Created by The Reading Agency and delivered in partnership with libraries, it encourages children to explore the connection between storytelling and nature.

Children sign up at their local library to start the challenge, which is to read six books over the summer break. Reading or listening to books with grown-ups or siblings also counts towards completing the challenge. They can choose any books they like, as long as they're from the library and ebooks and audiobooks borrowed from our digital platforms Borrowbox and Libby also count. For each book read, children collect stickers. When completed, they are presented with exclusive prizes, a certificate and medal.

Please click on the link below to see all the libraries in North Yorkshire with information about workshops they are holding over the summer holidays.

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/leisure-tourism-and-culture/libraries/summer-reading-challenge>



AWARDS

Celebration Assembly

On Friday, we have our Celebration Assembly. This week the following children were given our weekly awards;

Celebration Cup

The cup this week goes to someone who loves learning and is keen to find out more! This person contributes to whole class and group discussions and is able to make links between their learning in different subjects.



This person has made a lot of progress in all areas of the curriculum since joining us in February and they are a kind and fun friend.

Keep up the great work.

Congratulations and well done to

Rory!

Ribbons



EYFS – This week the ribbon goes to someone who had gained lots of confidence with their maths abilities. This person loves the challenge of maths and pushes themselves to achieve their best. Well done Theo!

Year 1 / 2 – The ribbon this week goes to someone who thoroughly enjoys learning and challenging themselves in all areas of the curriculum. They take great pride with the presentation of their work and they are also a kind and caring friend. Well done, MJ!

Year 3 / 4 – The ribbon this week goes to someone who has been a superb mathematician! This person has carefully used written methods to add and subtract numbers with multiple exchanges. We have been so impressed with their independence and enthusiasm. Keep up the super work, Amelia-May!

Year 5 / 6 – The ribbon this week goes to someone who is demonstrating our school values in every aspect of the school day. This person takes great care of our classroom - keeping it neat and tidy. We have noticed this person going out of their way to help others including the adults. Well done Lucas!

Values in Action

This week our Values award goes to someone who has demonstrated our school values of respect, resilience, responsibility, commitment, compassion and co-operation.



This person has been nominated because at school this person is kind and respectful and they are a hard-working unique friend.

The values award goes to Florence who was nominated by Rowan.

Well done, Florence!

Attendance

Weekly Attendance

Good attendance at school is key to your child's progress.

Good attendance is essential for pupils to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing, and wider life chances. Nationwide research has shown that the pupils with the highest attainment at the end of key stage 2 have had higher rates of attendance throughout primary school, compared to those with the lowest attainment. The government aims for all pupils to have a minimum of 96% attendance across the school year, and any child with less than 90% attendance is recorded as a persistent absentee. Here is our school's current overview of attendance:

Week commencing 7th July 2025

Reception	Year 1 / 2	Year 3 / 4	Year 5 / 6
95%	97%	97%	82%

Leavers

Goodbye and Good Luck to all the children and families who are leaving Dishforth Airfield over the summer. It has been a pleasure to have the children in the school and we are all going to miss you!

I would like to thank all the staff for their hard work, dedication and commitment over the last year – we have a fabulous team of staff who work incredibly hard to ensure that the children have an exciting curriculum and make excellent progress.

On behalf of the staff and governors, may we wish you a relaxing, peaceful summer break. We look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 2nd September at 8.45am.

Kind regards,

Mrs Julie Lyon
Head Teacher



Diary Dates

July 2025	
15/7/25	EYFS sports afternoon at 2.15pm Year 5 and 6 Ripon field trip
16/7/25	Year 6 treat - afternoon
17/7/25	Year 6 Leavers' Service 2.30pm
18/7/25	School breaks up for the summer holiday at 2.30pm
September 2025	
1/9/25	Training day for school staff
2/9/25	School open for academic year 2025-26
October 2025	
6/10/25	Flu Immunisation
21/10/25	Individual School Photograph Morning
21/10/25	Parent / Child / Teacher consultations from 3.30pm
22/10/25	Parent / Child / Teacher consultations from 3.30pm
24/10/25	Break-up for October half term at 3.15pm
November 2025	
3/11/25	School open
7/11/25	Year 5 and 6 Ripon Cathedral
December 2025	
17/12/25	Christmas School Dinner
18/12/25	Christmas Party afternoon
19/12/25	Break-up for Christmas at 2.30pm
January 2026	
5/1/26	Training Day for school staff
6/1/26	School open for the spring term