

Dishforth Airfield Community Primary School

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Newsletter 38 Monday 6th July 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

What a busy and wonderful week we had in school last week! A huge thank you to everyone who supported our sponsored walk last Tuesday – we have raised **£1323.00** which will be added to the £518 which has been donated from the Regiment's Army Servicewomen's Network.

Well done to all the children in KS2 who delivered a wonderful performance of Cinderella Rockerfella on Monday and Tuesday. The singing, acting, dancing and staging was wonderful!

I think temperatures are due to rise this week so please ensure your child / children has sun cream applied before coming to school – thank you.

There is again a lot of information in this week's newsletter, so please take note of dates and times.

Class News:

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

EYFS: This week the children have been investigating sea pollution and the effects it could have on sea creatures and the ocean. The children have dropped oil and food colouring onto feathers to see what would happen. We discussed oil spillages and plastic pollution and what the impact this could have. The children tried to clean the water using paper towels, stones and funnels to act as a filter.

Year 1 and 2: This week we have enjoyed taking part in both the sponsored walk and also our seaside trip to Saltburn! In class we have been focusing on the features of instruction writing in preparation for designing and making our own fruit kebabs. In PSHE we have been learning about stranger danger and who safer strangers are.

Year 3 and 4: This week we have been very busy! We enjoyed performing our play Cinderella Rockerfella to our families. On Tuesday, we enjoyed taking part in the whole school sponsored walk. In Art, we have been exploring perspective and have developed our drawing skills of matchstick men in the style of LS Lowry.

Year 5 and 6: It had been a busy week in year 5/6! We have 'wowed' everyone with our singing, dancing and acting in our play. We have also been learning about exports in Geography. We researched the highest value exports from each country and discussed how they were able to support this as a country. We have also begun our next writing unit about a girl called Alma.



Year 1 and 2 trip to Saltburn

The children had a great time at Saltburn last week. We were very fortunate with the weather - the threatened rain held off and the heatwave had, thankfully, abated!

We all enjoyed a delicious ice cream before going on the miniature railway. We had a relaxed lunch, sitting on the pier, looking out to sea. Thank you to Mrs Crabtree for our super packed lunches! We then all tried to spot the different human and physical features of a seaside location. The mist made it a little challenging but it did start to lift after lunch. Then, very tired, we all headed back to the coach for a well-earned rest!



Class Structure for the academic year 2026-27

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

Head Teacher: Mrs Lyon

Deputy Head Teacher and SENCO: Mrs Kestell

School Administrator: Mrs McBride

EYFS: Mrs Hutchinson and Mrs Goodier (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 Clarke (Friday)
Year 5 and 6: Mrs Falco (Monday – Thursday), Miss Arnold (Friday)

Wolf on Trial workshop – this Friday

This Friday, children in KS1 and KS2 will undertake the 'Wolf on Trial' big experience!

We have been invited to the trial of Alexander T Wolf in Judge Chief's courtroom for a rip-roaring interactive experience! We will hear from witnesses, watch CCTV footage and unpick evidence before we decide – is the wolf really as big and bad as they say he is, or is it just porky pies?

This is the perfect celebration ahead of International Justice Day on Friday 17 July!

Sports Day – Reception – Year 6 Monday 13th July at 10am

Our traditional Sports Day is on the morning of Monday the 13th July for children in Reception – Year 6 starting at 10am prompt! Please ensure your child has their PE kit with them on this day.



Families are welcome to join us and please feel free to bring your own chairs!

Leavers' Assembly Thursday 16th July

On Thursday 16th July we will be holding our Year 6 Leavers' assembly at 2.30pm in the school hall. Parents of Year 6 children are welcome to join us for this assembly.

Year 6 Leavers' School Dinner – Friday 17th July

On the last day of the school year, our Year 6 leavers have chosen the school dinner menu. Please find below what they have chosen for the last dinner of the school year.

Pizza

Chicken Korma

Jacket with Beans

Arctic Roll

Swimming **Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 children who can't swim 25 metres** – September



School swimming will continue to take place at Thirsk swimming pool. **Year 3, 4, 5 and Year 6 children who can't swim 25 metres, start on Wednesday 9th 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 **£6.50 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.

Children who can swim 25 metres and above will stay at school and have P.E.

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.

PE Days

Please see below when your child / children are having PE this half term.

EYFS: Please have PE kit in every day

Year 1 and 2: Tuesday and Thursday

Year 3 and 4: Monday and Thursday

Year 5 and 6: Wednesday and Thursday

Summer Reading Challenge!

The Summer Reading Challenge, coordinated by The Reading Agency, is run in 95% of UK public libraries and is the biggest annual national reading initiative. Targeted at 4–11-year-olds, it runs in public libraries throughout the school summer holidays from the first Saturday in July.

The aim of the challenge is to encourage children and families to visit libraries, borrow books, read for pleasure, and enjoy stories together. Libraries offer a range of activities, events, and incentives designed to create excitement around reading and highlight the enjoyment of books and storytelling.

In addition to promoting reading for fun, the challenge helps children maintain and develop their reading skills over the summer break.

Read to the Beat! – 2026 Theme:

The 2026 theme, *Read to the Beat!*, sees The Reading Agency partnering with Universal Music Group UK.

This theme celebrates the connection between storytelling and music, with curated reading lists and activities exploring diverse musical genres and cultural influences.

This year's challenge also forms part of the government-led National Year of Reading, encouraging a renewed culture of reading for pleasure across the UK.

Go to Boroughbridge library to find out more and take part!

Autumn Term School Dinner Menu

Please find attached to this newsletter the new autumn term school dinner menu which will take effect in September and run through until February half term. Hard copies of the menu are available from Mrs McBride in the school office.

Term dates

Attached to this newsletter are the term dates for the 2026-27 academic year for your information and newly released dates for academic year 2027-28.

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: **Chocolate**



Here is a link to the Makaton site:

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



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 £2.40

Please note that the cost of a school dinner is £3.90 for children in Years 3-6.

The cost for the month of July for children in Year 3-6 will be £50.70 (13 meals)

School dinners are paid through ParentPay – new families will receive information regarding a login to ParentPay later this week.

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.

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@dishforhairfield.n-yorks.sch.uk

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.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/dishforhairfieldprimary/>

Summer FEAST Activities – information from North Yorkshire

We have issued FEAST vouchers to all families whose children/young people receive benefits-related free school meals. These vouchers entitle your child to **fully-funded** places on FEAST activities this summer holiday, where they'll also receive a free healthy meal. You should have received this voucher via email or text, from a platform called HolidayActivities. Follow the link to redeem your voucher and book your child's place on some of the fantastic activities on offer in our area.

If you believe your child is eligible and you have not yet received your voucher, or you have lost it, please contact the school office.

To learn more about FEAST, and for information on activities, eligibility and how to manage your bookings, [visit the website](#).

[FEAST Summer 2026 Activity Listings](#)

[FEAST POSTER](#)



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 has worked incredibly hard this year. They have shown resilience, determination and commitment to their learning. We have loved seeing them challenge themselves in our Maths lessons and their perseverance has paid off.



This person is also a kind and caring member of the class and a good friend to many children.

We are so impressed with what they have achieved this year and we look forward to seeing what they do next year.

Congratulations and well done to

Noah!

Ribbons



EYFS – This week the ribbon goes to someone who is showing a 'can do' attitude in phonics and science. They have shown great listening skills. Well done Damien!

Year 1 / 2 – The ribbon this week goes to someone who has been working incredibly hard in all areas of the curriculum. This person always tries their best and listens carefully to instructions. Well done, Aabu!

Year 3 / 4 – The ribbon this week goes to someone who demonstrated super enthusiasm in our KS2 play, giving their everything in group singing and dancing and with their individual roles on stage. Well done to Freya!

Year 5 / 6 – The ribbon this week goes to someone who has made impressive progress in maths. This person listens carefully, works hard and asks for help when they need it. We have seen this person's confidence gradually increase over the year and we think they are starting to see what they are capable of! Well done to Alina!

Values in Action

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



This person has been nominated because this week they have shown all of our school values by being a great friend.

The values award goes to Millie who was nominated by Georgina.

Well done, Millie!



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 29th June 2026

Reception	Year 1 / 2	Year 3 / 4	Year 5 / 6
89%	94%	96%	94%

Kind regards,

Mrs Julie Lyon
Head Teacher



Diary Dates

July 2026	
10/7/26	Wolf on Trial workshops for KS1 and KS2
13/7/26	Sports Day for children in Reception to Year 6 – 10.00am start School reports home
15/7/26	Year 6 Treat
16/7/26	Year 6 Leavers Service – afternoon
17/7/26	Promotional school dinner – Leavers' Lunch – Y6 choice Break-up for the Summer Holidays at 2.30pm
September 2026	
Monday 7th September	School open for the Autumn Term – all children in school (there is no training day on this day)
October 2026	
5/10/26	Honey Pots of Imagination workshops celebrating 100 years of Winnie the Pooh
20/10/26	Individual School Photograph morning
Thursday 22nd October	School closes for October half term at 3.15pm
Friday 23rd October	Staff training day – school closed to children
November 2026	
2/11/26	School open
2nd and 3rd November	Year 6 Bikeability – further details to follow
December 2026	
16/12/26	Christmas School Dinner
17/12/26	Christmas Party afternoon
18/12/26	Break-up for Christmas at 2.30pm
January 2027	
4/1/27	Staff training day – school closed to children
5/1/27	School open for the spring term