

Dishforth Airfield Community Primary School

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Newsletter 7 Monday 19th October 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

The first half term seems to have come around very quickly with us breaking up on Thursday for a week at 3.15pm. We hope you all have a lovely week off school and we look forward to seeing the children on Monday 2nd November. Please read on carefully as there is quite a bit of information in this week's newsletter.

Harvest – Thursday 22nd October

This year, our Harvest Festival is going to take place on the morning and afternoon of **Thursday 22nd October** so please make a note of this in your diary.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will have their Harvest Festival at 9.15am and children in Years 3, 4, 5, 6 will have their Harvest at 2.45pm.

Food bank

This year we would like to support Community Works which is based in Thirsk.

Community Works relies on donations from people right across North Yorkshire and beyond.

Community Works do a lot of different things but their main focus is on helping people that need them. For example: food banks to help feed people, working with people to support their health, a shop providing furniture at low prices and projects to support the elderly, vulnerable women and people living with illnesses.

We would like to support this wonderful charity in the work that they are doing. We would like you to donate food or other items that could be given out to people who need them.

Please can you send into school any of the items below – there is a box in the main entrance to collect any of the following:

- Pasta Sauce
- Boxes of Cereal
- Tinned Fish and Meat/Meat Meals
- Long life Milk
- Tinned tomatoes and tinned vegetables
- Tea, Coffee, Hot Chocolate
- Jam and Honey
- Toilet Roll



- Any toiletries or household cleaning products
- Good strong carrier bags/bags for life

School closes on Thursday 22nd October at 3.15pm for the half term holiday.

Class News:

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

EYFS: This week in Early Years the children have been learning how to represent numbers and amounts. We have been ordering numbers on a number line and we have learnt how to sort numbers when they have been mixed up. We have also been learning how to draw crosses and squares following our write rules programme. Nursery have also loved our dough dance sessions this week, building their fine motor muscles for writing.

Year 1 and 2: We have been learning how to keep ourselves safe online in our computing lessons and talking about the importance of passwords. In history we have been writing about the toys in the loan box and learning more about the differences between toys now and in the past. In science we are building on our learning from last week and describing the structure of animals and making finding similarities and differences between different animals. There has been lots to learn and remember about the different animal groups.

Year 3 and 4: This week we have been enjoying writing a retell of The Velveteen Rabbit in English and using all of the writing features we have been practising over the last few weeks. In Maths, we have started exploring column addition with exchanges to solve 4-digit + 4-digit numbers. In Science, we have set up an egg-citing experiment to observe the effects different types of drinks can have on our teeth (egg shells). We are looking forward to seeing what happens!

Year 5 and 6: This week, in year 5/6 we have been learning about where our food comes from. We have been researching foods that we use every day and that we find in our supermarkets. We were looking at where these foods originate from and how they travel to the UK. We have also begun our toolkit week for writing a news report about a tsunami that happens in our class text 'Running Wild'.

School Council

Our school council members have been elected for the academic year and they are as follows:

EYFS: Theo and Willow
Year 1 and 2: Catherine and Theo
Year 3 and 4: Regan and Freya
Year 5 and 6: Audrey and Noah

Poppy Appeal

We are selling items for the Poppy Appeal again this year. Last year the school was very successful and gave one of the highest donations in the local area.

Alongside the traditional poppy there are snap band rulers, clip-on reflectors and adjustable bracelets. Suggested donations:

Snap Band/Ruler	£1.00
Adjustable Bracelet	£0.50
Clip-on Reflector	£0.50
Pencils	£0.50
Poppies	Any Donation



Please come to the school office before or after school if you would like to donate to the Poppy Appeal.

Black History Month

In the UK, October marks the beginning of Black History Month. This national celebration aims to promote and celebrate the contributions of those with African and Caribbean heritage to society and to foster an understanding of Black history in general. Through Black History Month, we learn so much about ourselves and our abilities to overcome challenges both big and small. We learn to reason and wonder about things morally. We also learn from mistakes people made in the past and learn the importance of treating others with compassion – we learn to be givers and helpers. Through this month we are using a number of assemblies to learn about significant people in history.

Mrs Dixon returning from maternity leave

I am delighted to announce that Mrs Dixon is returning from maternity leave after the half term break. Mrs Dixon will be in EYFS every other Wednesday starting Wednesday 4th November and she will be teaching in Year 3 and 4 every Friday starting on Friday 6th November.

Parent / Carer / Child Consultations

Parents / Carer / Child consultations are tomorrow and Wednesday. Appointments are strictly for 10 minutes only. If there are further areas you would like to discuss with the teacher, please make another appointment so that we can ensure the evenings run to time – thank you.

School Photograph morning - tomorrow

Tomorrow it is school photograph morning. As in previous years, the family photographs are to be taken first from 8.30am, these are for children in school who have siblings who are **not** at school. If this applies to you, please come to school for 8.30am to have your children photographed together. Individual photographs and siblings who come to this school will be taken during the school morning.



Clubs

Clubs start after half term and a confirmation note will be sent home this week if your child has a place at any of the clubs on offer.

Lunch – Thursday 22nd October

A letter was sent home on Friday about lunch on Thursday. Please complete and return the form by tomorrow as we have to get the sandwich choices to North Yorkshire Caterers tomorrow afternoon. If we don't receive a completed form, we will assume that you will provide your own pack lunch.

PTA meeting Thursday 5th November

We are holding a PTA meeting on Thursday 5th November at 3.15pm in the school hall to discuss fundraising events for the school. Please join us!

Year 5 and 6 Ripon Cathedral Service – Monday 9th November

On Monday 9th November, Year 5 and 6 children have been invited to go to Ripon Cathedral to be part of a service celebrating military children. The class will have an early lunch and they will return in time for the end of the school day.

Bikeability – Year 6

Bikeability starts on Tuesday 3rd November for those children in year 6.

Please note if your child does not have a bike, they will not be able to take part. All children taking part need to have a road worthy bike and helmet.



Flu immunisations

On Friday 6th November the Thirsk School Immunisation team will be coming in to school to give the nasal flu vaccination to those children in Reception to Year 6. An email from Vaccination UK will have been sent asking you to give consent.

PE Days – after half term – please note there are some changes

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

EYFS: Please have PE kit in every day

Year 1 and 2: Monday and Tuesday

Year 3 and 4: Tuesday and Wednesday

Year 5 and 6: Wednesday and Thursday

(Children in Y3-6 who are swimming will need their swimming kit on Wednesdays – the children who are not swimming will need their PE kit.)

Reception Starters for September 202

Attached to this newsletter is information for parents and carers who have a child who is due to start Reception in September 2027. The deadline to apply is the 15th January 2027.

Parents of children in our school nursery still need to apply for a Reception place through North Yorkshire Council.

Parents of children in our school Nursery still need to apply for a Reception place through this process.

Year 6 transfer to secondary school – information for Year 6 parents

Information regarding applying for secondary school is attached to this newsletter from North Yorkshire County Council.

Applications need to be submitted from 12th September and by 31st October.

Bonfire School Dinner – Thursday 5th November

Banger in a Bun (Hot Dog)

Cheese Whirl

Fire Cracker Wedges

Toffee Apple Brownie



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: *Children*



Here is a link to the Makaton site:

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

Best Start in Life – North Yorkshire (information)

Welcome to Best Start in Life, North Yorkshire

We're still developing and improving this website, so you may notice new information, services and features being added regularly. We're working with local parents and families to shape the site, and we'd love to hear your feedback to help make it as useful for you and your family as possible.

Best Start in Life is a government strategy to give every child the strongest foundations in their early years by improving family support, strengthening early health services, expanding access to affordable childcare, and raising the quality of early education. It aims to reduce inequalities, improve school readiness, and ensure more children thrive by age five.



In North Yorkshire we are committed to ensuring every child has the best possible start in life. Building on this shared ambition, we are strengthening how we work with families, communities, and local services to create the conditions for strong, supportive local networks. These networks will enable every child to thrive, feel safe, and develop a strong sense of belonging within their own community.

This plan sets out our collective priorities and the actions we will take over the next three years to achieve this ambition. It provides a clear, sustainable framework that will guide our work now and lay firm foundations for a model that extends beyond 2029.

[Best Start In Life | North Yorkshire](#) – Please follow this link for information and support for parents.

Playtime Snack – fruit only

Children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 receive a free fruit snack every day which is Government funded. Children in Year 3-6 can bring a piece of fruit in from home to keep in the classroom for playtime. I strongly recommend that you send fruit in for children in Year 3-6 as they have a long morning and often need a snack. Please can this be put in their book bag and not their packed lunch box as it is easier for them to access at break time – thank you.

Milk

Children under 5 are entitled to Free Milk. Older children can also receive milk (at a charge) and orders are made by yourself through the Cool Milk website. Forms are available outside the office in the foyer.

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 November for children in Year 3-6 will be £78.00 (20 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@dishforthairfield.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/dishforthairfieldprimary/>



AWARDS

Celebration Assembly

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

Celebration Cup

This week the cup goes to someone who is a wonderful role model to others, consistently demonstrating kindness, compassion and respect.

They approach every challenge with resilience, determination and enthusiasm, always striving to do their best and never giving up when things become difficult.

Their positive attitude, caring nature and willingness to support others make them a valued member of our school. They truly embody our school values. Keep up the super work!

Congratulations and well done to

MJ!



Ribbons



EYFS – This week the ribbon goes to someone who has made amazing progress in both reading and writing. This person cares about others and the learning environment and is making excellent contributions to lessons. Well done Thomas!

Year 1 / 2 – The ribbon this week goes to someone who has settled into school here really well. This person is following instructions and is ready to learn in each session. We have been very pleased with how they are contributing to discussions in class too. Well done to Rafi!

Year 3 / 4 – The ribbon this week goes to someone who has written a super retelling of The Velveteen Rabbit from the perspective of another character. This person used all of our toolkit features and enjoyed challenging themselves to use exciting vocabulary. Well done to Enoch!

Year 5 / 6 – The ribbon this week goes to someone who has settled back into Dishforth Airfield really well. This person is impressing us with their attitude toward their learning and their enthusiasm to contribute in lessons. This person has made an excellent start to year 6! Well done to Bobby!

Values in Action

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

This person has been nominated because in class they are a brilliant friend to everyone and when someone is hurt, they will help them.

The values award goes to Harper who was nominated by Mollie.

Well done, Harper!



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 12 th October 2026			
Reception	Year 1 / 2	Year 3 / 4	Year 5 / 6
98%	97%	93%	93%

We hope you all have a lovely half term break and we shall look forward to seeing you all on Monday 2nd November.

Kind regards,

Mrs Julie Lyon
Head Teacher



Diary Dates

October 2026	
20/10/26	Individual School Photograph morning Year 5/6 netball – Outwood Academy Ripon Parent / teacher / child consultations
21/10/26	Parent / teacher / child consultations
Thursday 22 nd October	Harvest Festivals 9.15am Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 2.45pm Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 School closes for October half term at 3.15pm
Friday 23 rd October	Staff training day – school closed to children
November 2026	
2/11/26	School open
3 rd and 5 th November	Year 6 Bikeability
5/11/26	Bonfire School Lunch PTA Meeting 3.15pm in the school hall
6/11/26	Flu Immunisations
9/11/26	Year 5 and 6 Festival of Remembrance at Ripon Cathedral
10/11/26	Year 5/6 football – Outwood Academy Ripon
11/11/26	Year 6 Crucial Crew - afternoon
16-20 November	Anti-bullying week
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