

Netherton J&I School

Parents Newsletter



Date: 06.03.26

2025/26 No 23

Headteacher News :

Dear Parents,

School Development Plan 25/26 - Priority 2 Reading

As you may know, we are having a real focus on developing reading in school this year with a particular focus on teaching reading beyond phonics. We are focusing on reading for meaning and have revised our approach to whole class reading sessions particularly in KS2.

Our school improvement advisor, Mrs Julie Mills, visited school in January and undertook lesson visits alongside leaders as well as a brief look at work in books. Her note of visit commented on 'reading leader (Mrs Douglas) is passionate and knowledgeable about reading. She has undertaken extensive research around effective reading approaches.' Mrs Mills noted that the structure was in the early stages of implementation however was the right approach for developing fluency across school.

Since her visit Mrs Douglas and staff have worked hard, building on the success identified, undertaken further training in order to develop confidence and consistency in approach.

This week we were delighted to welcome Mrs Mills back into school on Tuesday to see the progress made in lessons and on our reading environment. She even opened our new KS1 library area! We were all very pleased and feel that reading has a real focus and buzz in our school which was further celebrated in our Book Week celebrations. Many thanks to all staff for their hard work and special thanks to Mrs Douglas, our reading leader.



World Book Day Celebrations

Well, what a week of reading fun!

- Book Breakfasts - These took place on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings this week. We were absolutely thrilled again at how many parents came to support the event! I think we had the most parents we have ever had; thank you and I say this every year! We hope you enjoyed this opportunity to share books with your child in school and we look forward to repeating this activity in the future.
- Assembly - Mrs Douglas led a special assembly on World Book Day which continued the theme of recommending books to each other and trying new authors.



- Book Swap - We had a super book swap allowing the children to donate and swap preloved books. Thank you again to parents who donated books for this event.
- Dress Up Day - We had many characters from a wide range of books walking around school yesterday, which was fabulous! Many thanks to parents for your support and effort in coming up with such fantastic outfits!
- Teacher Swap - Teachers swapped classes on World Book Day to read a story to another year group to share a wide range of stories. This was enjoyed by all involved and again promoted books that the children could borrow from our school libraries.
- Book In a Box - Our pupil reading leaders had a tricky job judging these beautiful boxes this morning. Well done to the winners and also to everyone who took part.

Please remember to spend your token which can be exchanged in many bookshops for one of the special £1 books or used towards the cost of another book worth £2.99 or more.

Huge thanks to all staff for another fabulous celebration of World Book Day and to parents for supporting our various events. Special mention to Mrs Douglas, English Leader for organising the week's events. Many thanks also to our kitchen team who did a lovely themed display and desserts to celebrate World Book Day.

Week beginning 16th March - Junior Leadership Team Talent Show Competition.

Our Junior Leadership Team would like to hold a talent show again this year, for 50p an entry. All children can enter and we will have a 1st, 2nd and 3rd selected from each class, at class shows during the week beginning 16th March, who will then go forward for a final on Friday 13th March. Winners from each phase will then be voted by the whole school to select one overall winner. We are looking forward to seeing the talent on show!

Timetable of class show days:

Year 1 & 2 - Monday 16th March

Early Years (EY1 and EY2) - Tuesday 17th March

Years 3 & 4 - Wednesday 18th March

Years 5 & 6 - Thursday 19th March

Finalists from each phase perform for the whole school on Friday 20th March.



Diary Dates

- 11th- 13th March - Y4 Whitby Residential (NEXT WEEK)
- Week beginning 16th March - Junior Leadership Team Talent Show Competition.
- Tuesday 24th & Wednesday 25th March- Parents Evening (Letter to follow shortly.)
- Friday 27th March - School closes for Easter and reopens on Monday 13th April.
- Y6 SATs week - Week beginning 11th May. (Further details to follow.)

Class News:



EY2

This week in EY2, the children are working from the book 'Little Red and the hungry lion.' They have been making sunset and silhouette pictures in their artwork. Mrs Rosamond

Year 2

Which material is suitable to build a house for the three little pigs? In science this week, Year 2 tested the strength of each material and whether it was waterproof or not. They used their results to decide which material was the most suitable and why. Super investigating. Miss Reid



Year 5

Year 5 scientists exploring and investigating soluble and insoluble solids. Mrs Douglas



Sporting News:

A big well done to our representatives at the West Yorkshire School Games Cross Country Finals this week! The children did brilliantly on what was a very tough course!



Endeavour Award



EY2:

George Piper
Daisy Armitage

Class 1:

Luna Lister
Myla Chaplin

Class 3:

Jacob Pearman
Iris Johnston

Class 5:

Harrison Wallis
Tommy Siddle

Class 2:

Cole Edwards
Teddy Furness

Class 4:

Joey Greenwood
Matthew Walkden

Class 6:

Lacie Bottomley
Jessica Crossley



Star of the Week



Early Years 1:

Alara Shan
Tommy Bird
Isaac Romney
Jasmine Burgess
Zac Bakewell
Lottie Huntington
Asher Drotsky-Perera
Henry Bedford
Harry Ashton

School Meals:

A reminder to parents that children in EY2, Year 1 and 2 are entitled to a free school meal.

Meal options for next week are given below:

Monday	Chilli Fajita with Paprika Wedges The Ultimate Chicken Burger with Paprika Wedges Jacket potato various fillings Wholemeal Sandwich of cheese, ham, egg mayonnaise or tuna mayonnaise.
Tuesday	Cheese & Tomato Panini with Wedges Chicken Keema Curry with Rice Jacket potato various fillings Wholemeal Sandwich of cheese, ham, egg mayonnaise or tuna mayonnaise.
Wednesday	Cheese Puff with Potatoes and Gravy Roast Gammon/Chicken with Potatoes, Yorkshire Pudding and Gravy Jacket potato various fillings Wholemeal Sandwich of cheese, ham, egg mayonnaise or tuna mayonnaise.
Thursday	BBQ Strips with Wedges Margherita Pizza with Wedges Jacket potato various fillings Wholemeal Sandwich of cheese, ham, egg mayonnaise or tuna mayonnaise
Friday	Quorn Dippers and Chips Battered Fish and Chips Jacket potato various fillings Wholemeal Sandwich of cheese, ham, egg mayonnaise or tuna mayonnaise.
	Fresh vegetables and salad will be available each day. A selection of desserts available each day.