



Thought for the Week: “Love does not dominate; it cultivates” - Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Music for the Week: “Say My Name” – Destiny’s Child

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of this half term, I wanted to say a huge thank you for all the help and support that you provide to your child in supporting their learning. The children have worked incredibly hard so far this year and I hope that they have a lovely half term break.

Safer Internet Day 2026

This week, we marked Safer Internet Day with lessons, workshops and assemblies all based around this year’s theme: *Exploring the Safe and Responsible Use of AI (Artificial Intelligence)*. The children explored smart tech and making smart choices, as well as learning about the misuse of AI and chatbots. In Year 5/6, the children thoroughly enjoyed their *Cyber Critical* workshops delivered by *One Day Creative*. Thank you so much to our Friends of School who have funded these fantastic workshops. Please find attached the Safer Internet Newsletter 2026 and a useful booklet on parenting in the digital world.



Achievement Awards

In assembly this morning, we announced the winners of the achievement awards for this half term. These awards recognise those children who uphold the school’s values as well as rewarding effort, progress, achievement and dedication to particular areas of the curriculum. Congratulations go to all our award winners who will enjoy a drink and sweet treat at Botham’s.

Year 6 ‘To Care’	Harry Palmer
Year 5 ‘To Care’	Jacob Collier
Year 4 ‘To Care’	Billy Calvert-Snowdon
Year 3 ‘To Care’	Hattie Whitaker
Reading	Evie McAfee
Languages	Riley Hickey
Sports	Harry Welford
STEM	George Robinson
Arts	Charlie Hughes
Humanities	Sophie Price
Pickering	Katie Nersessian

Sports Leaders

Our new Sports Leaders for 2026 are now up and running and have officially begun their roles. They have continued to display enthusiasm, encouragement and creativity, ensuring all children are involved in active play during break and lunchtimes. We are excited to be evolving their role even further after half term. Congratulations to: Dorothy Morris, Scarlett Harland, Betsy Hornby, Matilda Mitchell, Katie Nersessian, Hanna Zmudzka, Amaia Stevens, Joseph Ashworth, Evan Challiss, Millie Prest, Margot Calvert-Snowdon, Bella Cunningham, Holly Hedges, Alice Middleton, Leo Paxton, Rose Newton, Artem Yefremov, Archie Reed, Joe Harper, Emily Bell and Olivia Cox who all received their badges in today’s achievement assembly.

Reading Raffle

Congratulations to Benji Smith who won the Reading Raffle for this half term! Benji received a bookmark and book voucher during this morning's assembly. Thank you to our Friends of School for donating these prizes.

Non-Uniform Day

To mark Children's Mental Health Week, our children were invited to wear clothing that makes them feel happy, comfortable and that they truly *belong*. We kindly ask for a voluntary donation, which will be gratefully received by Place2Be - a children's mental health charity who support a number of pupils in our school. We've really enjoyed seeing the wonderful ways our pupils choose to express themselves and celebrate belonging. Thank you for helping us raise awareness and support such an important cause. Please make donations directly to Place2Be.

[Donate to support children's mental health](#)

Story Jar Art Competition

Every child is invited to design a story jar! This is a lovely way to think about how you could represent your favourite book in a jar; is there a certain quote, item or clue that encompasses the story? Please could all story jars be brought into school from **Monday 23rd February** with a clear label including your child's name and class, where they will be displayed for everyone to enjoy. Admissions close on **Wednesday 4th March**. One winner per class will be chosen anonymously, and will win a brand-new book!

World Book Day

World Book Day is just around the corner on **Thursday 5th March** so we wanted to give you a heads up if you want to use half term to organise costumes. We will be inviting the children to dress up as their favourite book characters and bring in their favourite books. Throughout the week there will be activities for the children to be involved in which will culminate in an Inter-house book quiz. Please keep an eye on the newsletter over the next few weeks for more information on the plans for our special day.

World Book Day Inter-House Quiz

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, we are holding an inter-house reading quiz. Application forms are attached to the newsletter and can be printed out if your child would like to be involved. Closing date is **Monday 23rd February**.

Parent, Carer and Visitor Policy

We have recently shared the consultation for this policy. If you have any comments, suggestions or feedback, please send an email FAO: Mrs De Barr via the school office by **Monday 23rd February**.

SATS Information Evening

Thank you to the four parents who attended the SATS Information Evening on Tuesday. We really hope that you found it useful and informative and that it has helped you to help your child on the run up to these statutory assessments. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Arbor Parent Portal App

You should have now received an invitation to download the Arbor parent portal app. Thank you to everyone who has so far set up their accounts. It is **really important** that you do this as soon as you can, as we can no longer use Scholarpack for communications. The Arbor app will also be used for meals, trips and clubs payments after Easter. **It is vital that your ParentPay account is up to date by 23rd March 2026, as we will no longer be using ParentPay after Easter. Credits will be transferred to Arbor.**

Thank you for your continued patience while we get to grips with these new systems.

Cookery and Forest School

On Wednesday 25th February, it is the turn of **Miss Holmes and Mrs Wilkinson's** class for their Cookery and Forest School sessions. Your child will have already received a letter detailing what they need. All children will require appropriate Forest School clothing that can get dirty, including a coat and wellies.

Year 5 Carlton Lodge

This week, children will have brought home a letter with final arrangements for this residential. Payments can be made via Arbor after half-term and the final balance is due by **10th June 2026**.

Year 6 London

This week, children will have brought home a letter with final arrangements for this residential. Payments can be made via Arbor after half-term and the final balance is due by **18th May 2026**.

Year 3 Bushcraft

Please return the slip to say if your child is taking part or not, and pay the deposit via ParentPay by **10th March 2026**.

Year 4 Malham

Please return the slip to say if your child is taking part or not, and pay the deposit via ParentPay by **2nd March 2026**. We are holding a parent information meeting in school at **4pm on Tuesday 3rd March**.

House Point Awards

Congratulations to the following children who have received their bronze award: Liam Howarth, Harry Lee, Millie Prest, Joseph Ashworth, Evan Hoggard and Fred Curry.

Congratulations to the following children who have received their silver award: Amelia Taylor, Phoebe Robson, Elisha Alsop and Hattie Whitaker.

Founders Day & World Thinking Day

On **Sunday 22nd February 2026**, it is Scouts' Founders Day and Guiding's World Thinking Day. As the date falls on a weekend during half term, we would love for our pupils who are members of any Scouting or Guiding organisations — Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers, Rainbows, Brownies, Guides or Rangers — to wear their uniforms to school on that day. We look forward to celebrating the spirit of Guiding and Scouting!

Year 3 Music

On **Monday 23rd February**, it will be the turn of **Mrs Devine's** maths group to have their music lesson. Please remind your child to bring their instrument to school.

Swimming

Miss Scott's class continue their swimming lessons on **Wednesday 25th February**. Please remind your child to bring their swimming kit to school.

North Yorkshire Music Service

North Yorkshire and York Music Hub is delighted to offer a series of free musical opportunities for children and young people across our region. Please see the attached flyers.

Year 3 and 4

In the Spring term, Year 3 and 4 will be learning about pneumatics, and then creating a toy linked to this. Therefore, if you have any clean, hinged boxes with a lid (e.g. an egg box) or a balloon pump, that you could donate to school, please send them into Mrs Morris. Thank you for your support.

School Menu Spring/Summer Term

Please see the attached menus from NYES catering for rest of the school year. Allergy information for the new menus is available via the QR code on the weekly sheet.

PINS

Please see the attached PINS flyers detailing upcoming in-person information sessions. The event on **Tuesday 10th March** is being held at our school.

Year 6 Mini-Police Applications

These were given out by class teachers today and need to be handed in by **Wednesday 25th February**.

Have a great half term break!



Mrs M De Barr
Headteacher

Your support for your child's education is crucial to their progress in school. Please let us know if there are any adjustments we need to make to help you to support your child, for example: letters in different languages; wheelchair access; explaining things over the phone.

“Safeguarding is Everybody’s Responsibility”

Are you worried about your own or another child’s safety?

Speak to one of these members of staff.

The **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)** is:

Mrs De Barr

The **Deputy DSLs** are: **Mrs Hall** and **Mrs Mintoft**

The **Safeguarding Governor** is: **Mrs Smeaton**

Anyone can make a referral. If you believe a child to be at immediate risk, please call 999. If you believe the situation to be urgent, please call:

0300 131 2 131

Lunchtime Clubs	
Home Learning drop-in	Monday 12.15 - 12.45
Singing Squad	Tuesday 12.15 - 12.45
Mindful colouring	Wednesday 12.15 - 12.45

After-School Clubs	
Song writing	Monday 3.20 - 4.20pm
Football (Hawkes Health)	Monday 3.20 - 4.20pm
Nature Rangers	Tuesday 3.20 - 4.20pm
Gymnastics	Wednesday 3.20 - 4.20pm
Music	Wednesday 3.20 - 4.20pm
Dodgeball	Wednesday 3.20 - 4.20pm
Chess	Thursday 3.20 - 4.20pm

Year 6 Boosters	
Mrs De Barr Reading	Monday 3.20 - 4.20pm
Mrs Hall Maths	Monday 3.20 - 4.20pm
Mrs Mintoft Reading	Monday 3.20 - 4.20pm
Mrs Wilkinson Maths	Thursday 3.20 - 4.20pm
Mrs Wortham Maths	Thursday 3.20 - 4.20pm

	Menu
<p>Monday</p> 	<p>Chicken Nuggets</p> <p>Tangy Tomato Pasta</p> <p>Jacket Potato-various filling</p> <p>Cheese Sandwich</p> <p>Crumble & Custard</p>
<p>Tuesday</p> 	<p>V Pizza</p> <p>Hot Ham Panini</p> <p>Jacket Potato-various filling</p> <p>Egg Mayo Sandwich</p> <p>Victoria Sponge</p>
<p>Wednesday</p> 	<p>Roast Gammon</p> <p>Vg Sausage Roll</p> <p>Jacket Potato -various filling</p> <p>Tuna Mayo Sandwich</p> <p>Shortbread</p>
<p>Thursday</p> 	<p>Pasta Bolognese</p> <p>Hot Cheese Panini</p> <p>Tuna Mayo Jacket Potato</p> <p>Egg Mayo Sandwich</p> <p>Jelly & Ice-cream</p>
<p>Friday</p> 	<p>Battered Fish & Chips</p> <p>V Cheese & Bean Pasty</p> <p>Jacket Potato-various filling</p> <p>Ham Sandwich</p> <p>Chocolate Brownie</p>
	<p>Available Every Day</p> <p>Jacket Potato Fillings – Cheese and Beans</p> <p>Seasonal Vegetables & Sides</p> <p>Bread</p> <p>Fresh Fruit or Fruit Yoghurt</p>