



16 May 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

It's been another busy couple of weeks in school with lots of news to share. The children have been working hard on their learning and I'm sure they will be looking forward to a well-earned break when we finish for May Half Term next Friday.



ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance is currently 95.50% which is below our target of 97%. Please remember that I am unable to authorise holidays. **Penalty notices are being issued for unauthorised absences which reach the local authority limit.** Thank you for helping us to maintain high rates of attendance. **Well done to Class 1 for winning the fortnightly attendance award.**

APPLETON WISKE PRE-SCHOOL

You will have heard the sad news that Appleton Wiske Pre-School is closing in July after many years of service. On behalf of the school community, I would like to express my thanks to Liz Huckle and her team at pre-school for working in partnership with us over the years and for forming such a strong relationship which has benefitted all the children in our care. We wish the staff at Appleton Wiske Pre-School all the very best for the future.



CLASS STRUCTURE 2025-26

Every year, we review our class structure based on the school budget and the number of pupils we have in each year group. The Governing Body have agreed the following class structure for 2025-26:

	Year Groups	Number of pupils
Class 1	Reception/Year 1	27
Class 2	Year 2/3/4	27
Class 3	Year 5/6	25

As you are aware, we were able to fund a 4-class structure this academic year with Miss O'Neill appointed on a fixed term contract. Unfortunately, Miss O'Neill will be leaving us in July due to our school returning to a 3-class structure. I will write more about Miss O'Neill and the wonderful job she has done in a future newsletter. Please be assured that the children in Class 2 will access their full curriculum entitlement by experienced staff who will differentiate learning activities appropriately. We are adept at having three year groups in one class as this is the nature of a small school. There are several benefits to this model such as younger children gaining confidence from being part of a broader age group; older children developing leadership, empathy and independence; children benefiting from a rich variety of activities and experiences; and friendships forming across age groups helping to build a caring and inclusive classroom. Thank you for your support.



NURSERY PROVISION

Following our recent consultation, we intend to open a governor-run nursery for 3 and 4 year olds in September. A letter from the Governing Body has been shared with the school community; please contact the school office if you have not received the letter. We will be very busy in the coming weeks planning, preparing and recruiting for

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this new provision. I understand that there will be lots of questions, queries and possibly concerns, including how the nursery fits in with a 3-class structure. This is perfectly understandable and we aim to provide more information very soon regarding our plans. Thank you for your support.



YEAR 6 SATS

Our Year 6 pupils have been outstanding this week during SATs. Their attitudes have been exemplary and they have tried their hardest every day. We are extremely proud of them all and, regardless of any test results, we are lucky to have them in our school with their lovely personalities and individual qualities. A big thank you to Miss Rowling for getting the children ready for their SATs and also to the parents for their support. The children have enjoyed a post-SATs party today on the school field with treats and games! Well done to Annabelle, Chloe, Grace, Kian and Zak.



MAY FAYRE

Thank you for joining us for our May Fayre on Friday 2nd May. The children did a brilliant job with all their dancing and it was a lovely community event. A big thank you to the Friends of the School for providing refreshments and thanks also to the Year 6 pupils who ran the stalls.



YEAR 3/4 CRICKET TOURNAMENT

All of our Year 3/4 pupils took part in a cricket tournament at Northallerton Cricket Club last week. We took two teams and everyone played great cricket and enjoyed the event. One of our teams finished in 1st place which is fantastic and they will represent our school at the finals next week. The other team finished in 3rd place which is a super achievement. Well done to all the children.



VE DAY

We celebrated VE Day on Thursday 8th May with a range of activities including an assembly led by Father Simon, a fish and chips lunch and a Class 4 discussion with Mr Blackwood who shared a range of personal memorabilia. We ended the day with games and a picnic on our school field. Thank you to everyone who embraced this event; it was lovely chatting to you all and watching the children have fun with their families.



YEAR 3/4 TCHOUKBALL COMPETITION

Our Year 3/4 Tchoukball team took part in a competition this week and enjoyed learning new skills with other schools. They played well and were proud to represent our school. Well done to Ava, Barney, Bella, Darcy, Eva, Henry A, Henry B, Jay, Jessie and Percy.



THANK YOU

Many thanks to Mrs Burkitts's father Mr Dale Gibson for his kind donation of bird feeders to our school. They are lovely to have and very much appreciated.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Yours faithfully

N Clark

Mr N Clark
Head Teacher

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- 21st – 23rd May - Year 5/6 Residential - Robinwood - Barhaugh Hall
- 23rd May - School closes for Half Term
- 2nd June - School opens
- 2nd June - New Parents Information Evening, 5.00pm – 6.00pm
- 3rd June - Y5/6 Sportshall Athletics, Northallerton Leisure Centre
- 4th June - Y5/6 Swimming Lessons
- 6th June - Pre-School Transition Session, 9.15am – 11.15am
- 9th June - Class 1 Wensleydale Railway Trip
- 10th June - Y3/4 Sportshall Athletics, Northallerton Leisure Centre
- 11th June - Y5/6 Swimming Lessons
- 11th June - Pre-School Transition Session, 9.15am – 11.15am
- 12th June - Tempest Photography – Class Photos
- 16th June - Friends of the School meeting – 5.00pm
- 20th June - Sports Day

ABSENCE

Please ensure the school office is notified by 9.00am either by telephone or email if your child is absent from school due to illness.

Thank you.



COMMUNITY LINKS

Used stamp collection for bone cancer research trust and RNIB.

Please keep sending in your used Stamps. Thank you.



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Please let us know your club arrangements. Booking forms and Parental Contracts are available from the office.

CLUB ACTIVITIES – w/c 19th May 2025 and 2nd June 2025.



MONDAY 19TH MAY 2025	COOKING – PASTA POTS
TUESDAY 20TH MAY 2025	CRAFTS – ANIMAL PLATES
WEDNESDAY 21ST MAY 2025	COMPUTER GAMES
THURSDAY 22ND MAY 2025	OUTDOOR GAMES – FOOTBALL
FRIDAY 23RD MAY 2025	FILMS & GAMES
MONDAY 2ND JUNE 2025	COOKING – CHOCOLATE CROISSANTS
TUESDAY 3RD JUNE 2025	CRAFTS - MOSIAC STICKER BOOK
WEDNESDAY 4TH JUNE 2025	COMPUTER GAMES
THURSDAY 5TH JUNE 2025	OUTDOOR GAMES – BASKETBALL
FRIDAY 6TH JUNE 2025	FILMS & GAMES

LUNCH MENU W/C 19TH MAY 2025



Main Choice **OR** SANDWICH

Monday - Pizza & Potato Wedges **OR** Egg Mayo sandwich
 Tuesday - Pasta Bolognese **OR** Cheese Sandwich
 Wednesday - Chicken & Tomato Bake **OR** Tuna Sandwich
 Thursday - All Day Breakfast **OR** Ham Sandwich
 Friday - Battered Fish & Chips **OR** Cheese Sandwich

LUNCH MENU W/C 2ND JUNE 2025

Main Choice **OR** JACKET POTATO = JP

Monday - Beef Burger & Fries **OR** Cheese JP
 Tuesday - Sweet & Sour Pork Noodles **OR** Baked Bean JP
 Wednesday - Roast Chicken & Yorkshire Pudding **OR** Tuna JP
 Thursday - Macaroni Cheese **OR** Cheese JP
 Friday - Fish Stars **OR** Baked Bean JP