



# NEWSLETTER

March 2026





## Summer: Key Dates

### Summer 1

Y4 Murton Park Visit  
Y1 The Deep  
Nursery & Reception - Author Visit  
Y1 & Y2 – Author Visit  
Y1 In School Immersion – Owl Visit  
R Whistlestop Valley Visit  
Earth Day  
Y4 Yorkshire Museum Trip  
Bank Holiday – School Closed  
Nursery Stay & Learn

KS2 Statutory Assessments (Year 6)  
Y6 Flamingo Land - Evolution and Inheritance Workshop and Zoo  
General Tour  
INSET DAY – Staff CPD

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April  
Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April  
Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May AM - 10:30 – 11:15  
PM - 14:15 – 15:00  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

### Summer 2

School Photographs – Tempest – Individual and Sibling  
Y6 Spurn Point - Sea & Me Workshop and Changing Coastline  
Workshop  
National School Sports Week  
R – Y6 Islam RE On Demand Workshop  
Y6 Clip n Climb  
Y1 Alfresco Learning Seaside Holidays Workshop  
Whole School Poet Ian Bland Visit  
Sports Day LKS2  
Sports Day KS1  
Sports Day Reception  
Sports Day Nursery AM (Weather Dependent)  
Sports Day Nursery PM  
Sports Day UKS2  
World Wellbeing Week  
SUMMER Assessment Week  
Reception Welcome Meeting – September Intake  
Nursery Welcome Meeting  
Y2 Yorkshire Wildlife Park Visit  
Y3 Filey Coastal Visit  
RWI Development Day  
Bastille Day

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June  
  
Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June to Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June  
Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June & Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1:45 am  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 9:15 am  
Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 9:15 am  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 10:00am  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2:00pm  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 1:45pm  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June – 28<sup>th</sup> June  
Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June  
Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July



# March Round Up



March has been a wonderful month at Oyster Park, filled with exciting learning opportunities, memorable experiences, and plenty of moments that remind us just how special our school community is.

From enriching educational visits and author workshops to creative celebrations for World Book Day and Easter, our children have embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm and curiosity. It has been fantastic to see pupils across the school so engaged, motivated, and proud of their achievements.

This month also saw our Spring Consultation Meetings, and I would like to thank all parents and carers who attended. Your partnership and support play such an important role in your child's education, and we truly value the strong relationships we continue to build.

As always, I want to express my gratitude to our dedicated staff for their ongoing hard work and commitment, ensuring our pupils receive the very best experiences every day. We look forward to an exciting summer term ahead. In the meantime, I wish all our families a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

*Mrs J Chapman - Kemp*







# Attendance



As we move towards the summer term, we kindly ask families to revisit these important attendance expectations:

## **Punctuality**

Arriving at school on time is important for several reasons, and each one helps pupils build good habits and succeed both in learning and in life.

### **1. It sets a positive start to the day**

When pupils arrive on time, they settle in calmly, hear important instructions, and begin lessons with everyone else. Rushing in late can make them feel stressed or behind before they've even started.

### **2. It prevents missing key learning**

Teachers often introduce new topics, explain tasks, or give out resources at the start of lessons. Even a few minutes of missed learning every day adds up over time.

### **3. It builds responsibility and good habits**

Being punctual is an important life skill. It helps young people develop routines and prepares them for future expectations at work, college, and everyday life.

### **4. It avoids disrupting others**

When someone walks into a class late, it can interrupt the teacher and distract other pupils who are trying to learn.

### **5. It helps with friendship and belonging**

Arriving on time gives pupils a chance to socialise, settle in, and feel part of the school community. Missing the start of the day can make them feel out of sync with peers.

Please ensure children arrive on time each day so they can start their learning calmly and confidently. School begins at 8:45am.

***Attendance is everyone's business!***



# Attendance



## Regular Attendance

Good attendance is fundamental to pupils' learning, wellbeing, and future opportunities. When children are in school consistently, they are able to build on their learning each day without gaps, develop strong friendships, and benefit from the routines and support that school provides. Even a few days of absence can make it harder for a child to keep up, affecting their confidence and progress over time.

### **Regular attendance helps children to:**

- make steady academic progress
- feel part of their class and friendship groups
- develop confidence, resilience, and responsibility
- build strong foundations for secondary school and future pathways

We know that there are occasions when absence is unavoidable, such as illness. However, we encourage all families to prioritise attendance wherever possible and to communicate with us if there are any difficulties. Our aim is always to work with you to ensure every child can access the education they deserve.

**Our school attendance target is 97%.**

If you need support with routines, punctuality, or any factor affecting your child's attendance, please contact us.

We are here to help and can work with you to find solutions.

***Attendance is everyone's business!***



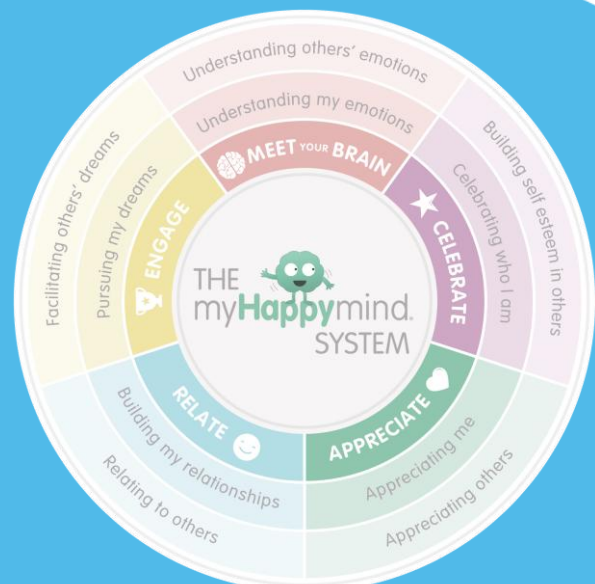


This half term, we have launched **myHappymind** across school. Grounded in positive psychology and neuroscience, myHappymind is a whole-school approach designed to help children become resilient, confident, and independent, while developing their understanding of how to maintain positive mental health. We are committed to embedding myHappymind throughout school to support a consistent, nurturing approach to wellbeing.

myHappymind helps children learn how their brains work and creates a culture that promotes resilience, confidence, and self-esteem. It also teaches children how to self-regulate and manage their emotions during challenging times, enabling them to be the very best versions of themselves.

### **It helps children to:**

- Feel happier
- Know what to do when they feel worried or stressed
- Improve their focus and learn more
- Achieve the goals they set for themselves
- Build positive relationships with friends and family
- Feel proud of who they are and develop strong self-esteem

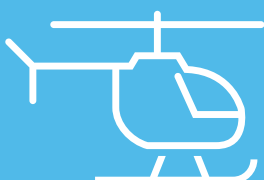


# Wings, Wonder and Year 1!

Year 1 had an exciting adventure at the Yorkshire Air Museum in Elvington, where they explored the fascinating world of planes and the aviators who flew them in years gone by. The children loved getting up close to the aircraft — and the highlight for many was climbing inside a real plane to see what it felt like to be a pilot.

Back in the workshop, they put their learning into action by making their very own paper helicopters, discovering how flight works through hands-on fun.

It was a day full of curiosity, imagination, and plenty of smiles.





# Year 2 Thackery Museum



Linking to our History topic from the Autumn term, the children in Year 2 visited The Thackray Museum. During the visit, they took part in two workshops to deepen and consolidate their learning about the life and work of **Florence Nightingale** and **Mary Seacole**.

The children helped Florence by becoming Nurses and Porters, working together to run Scutari Hospital. They revisited what they had learned about the conditions in hospitals during the Crimean War before helping Florence make vital improvements. Later in the day, the children met Mary Seacole and learned about her remarkable life. They then supported her in running the British Hotel—cooking meals for soldiers, making cinnamon tea, serving in the shop, and caring for injured soldiers by bandaging their wounds.







## Year 2 Temple Newsham

The children in Year 2 visited Temple Newsam last week to take part in a workshop linking to their learning about The Great Fire of London in History and to explore a working farm linking to our learning in Science.

During the workshop, the children explored Temple Newsam House. They discovered how the fire started in a bakery on Pudding Lane. The children then went on a fire tour around the house discovering how many of the houses during the time were extremely flammable. The children then used role play and music to reenact the great fire and explored artefacts and sources of evidence from the time. Finally, the children explored how the fire ended and how this changed what London looks like today.

The children also had the opportunity to visit Home Farm. During the visit, we were able to meet lots of animals including newborn piglets, kids and lambs. The children loved getting to stroke the animals. The children asked lots of amazing questions to extend their learning and got to see behind the scenes of how the farm runs.



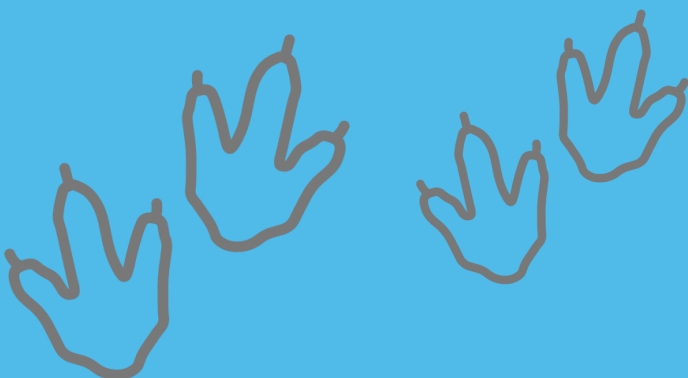
# A Giant Visitor Stomps Into Reception!

As part of their learning about dinosaurs the children in Reception were excited to meet a Tyrannosaurus Rex called Jam. They learnt about some of the key features of dinosaurs and what they liked to eat. They had the opportunity to meet a number of baby dinosaurs and then took part in a virtual reality video where they were chased through the forest by a dinosaur. The children had a fantastic time and were keen to draw pictures of Jam and the baby dinosaurs during their learning time.

*'I loved meeting Jam. He had very sharp teeth.'* Isabella

*'I was very scared when Jam was trying to eat me.'* Abigel

*'I liked the baby dinosaurs. I liked holding them.'* Bailey







# Nursery – Living Eggs

## A Cracking Learning Experience!

This half term Nursery took part in a very special project—hatching their own chicken eggs in school! Over the past few weeks, the children had the chance to observe the eggs in the incubator, learn about how chicks grow, and experience the excitement of seeing them hatch.

The children have developed their curiosity, responsibility, and understanding of life cycles. They asked wonderful questions and showed so much enthusiasm throughout the process. Many of the children enjoyed handling the chicks and even letting them sit on their knee!







# Nursery – Welcome Meeting April Starters

This month, we were delighted to host our New Starters Welcome Meeting for families joining Oyster Park after April. It was a wonderful opportunity to introduce parents and carers to what makes our school such a special place—our nurturing environment, our dedicated staff, and our commitment to every child's success.

During the session, we shared key information about school life and explored our core values: **Care, Aspire, Succeed**. These values shape everything we do, and we look forward to working closely with our new families to ensure the very best start for their children.

We are excited to welcome our newest pupils into the Oyster Park community and begin this next chapter together.

## Spring Parent Consultation Meetings

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our Spring consultation meetings. These meetings are such a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress, celebrate their achievements, and look ahead to their next steps. We really appreciate the time you take to come into school and work in partnership with us. Strong home-school relationships make a huge difference, and your support helps us to ensure the very best outcomes for all our pupils.

Care • Aspire • Succeed



# World Book Day 2026

What an exciting day celebrating all things **literature, imagination, and reading** we had here at Oyster Park! Our pupils arrived in style — dressed as their **favourite book characters** or cosy in their **pyjamas**, ready to share their best-loved stories with friends and staff.

Throughout the day, children are taking part in a magical **'Bringing Books to Life' workshop** delivered by *West End In Schools*, along with a variety of fun, creative, and inspiring **reading-themed activities**.

It's a wonderful celebration of the joy of reading and the stories that spark our imaginations!



## Airedale Library Visits

Across this term, the children have visited the local library, where they immersed themselves in the wonderful range of books and took part in a variety of engaging activities. Each child was able to borrow a book to enjoy back at school, helping to spark a love of reading and expand their interests.

**We would like to say a big thank you to Airedale Library for welcoming us so warmly and providing such enriching experiences for our pupils.**



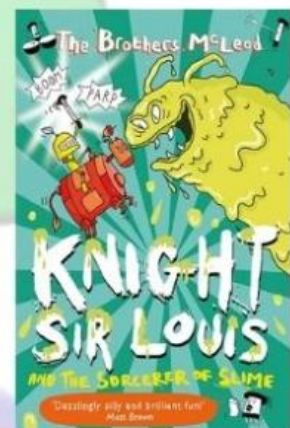
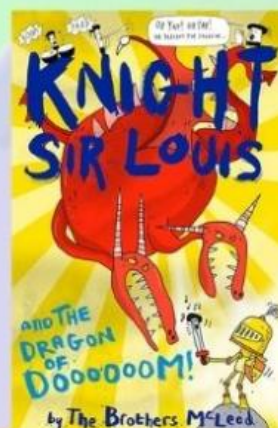
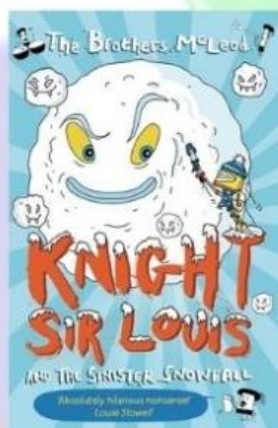
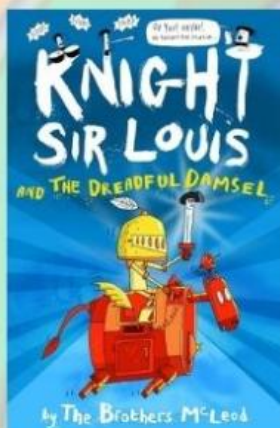
# Author Visit from The McLeod Brothers

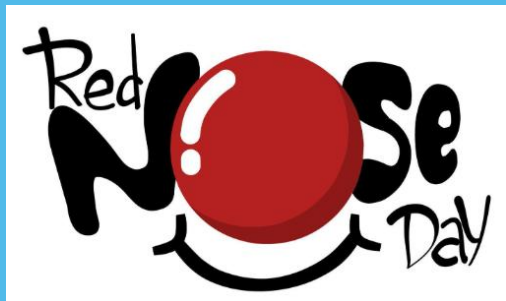


We were thrilled to welcome the fantastic **McLeod Brothers** to Oyster Park this half term for an inspiring author visit. Famous for their energetic storytelling and engaging events, Greg and Myles delivered an unforgettable session packed with creativity, humour and imagination.

Children in **Year 3 to Year 6** were treated to a special workshop led by the BAFTA-winning author and illustrator team. The brothers introduced pupils to the latest book in their hilarious *Knight Sir Louis* series, ***The Sorcerer of Slime***, and guided them through drawing their own characters and creating storyboards.

It was a wonderfully **creative, inspiring, and fun afternoon**, and we know the children left feeling excited about reading, writing, and bringing their own stories to life!

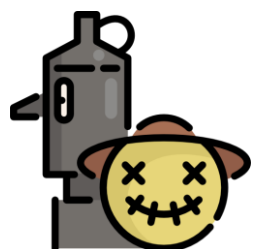




# Comic Relief Red Nose Day 2026

This Red Nose Day, our school community came together to support a fantastic cause while spreading plenty of smiles along the way. Pupils and staff embraced the fun—donning red accessories, taking part in activities, and learning about the importance of helping others.

Thanks to everyone's kindness, we raised valuable funds to support Comic Relief's work with children and families across the UK and beyond. We are incredibly proud of the generosity shown by our school community.



## Off to see the Wizard!



Our Year 6 pupils had a wonderful time on Tuesday 17th March when they visited one of our Trust schools, Castleford Academy to watch *The Wizard of Oz* performed by their pupils. The children thoroughly enjoyed seeing the literary classic brought to life through drama and performance. Our pupils represented both our school and the trust brilliantly, showing excellent behaviour and enthusiasm throughout the visit.





# Easter Celebrations



Thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us for our Easter Coffee Morning. It was wonderful to see so many families enjoying the event and coming together as part of our school community. We are incredibly grateful for your generous donations towards our Easter raffle — your support helps us to continue providing enriching opportunities for our pupils.

## Community Thank yous!

We would like to say a huge **thank you** to the staff at the **Henry Moore Clinic in Castleford** for their generous donation of Easter eggs for our Easter Raffle. Your kindness and support are truly appreciated.

We would also like to extend our thanks to **Asda at Glasshoughton** for their thoughtful contribution.

Your donations helped make our Easter celebrations extra special for our pupils and families.





On behalf of all the staff, governors, and the Trust, we would like to wish you a very **Happy Easter**. We hope you enjoy a restful and enjoyable break.