



MARCH NEWSLETTER

A message from Mrs Foston

We are fast approaching the end of a very busy spring term. Children across our federation have continued to enjoy the fantastic curriculum and enrichment opportunities available, broadening experiences and developing aspirations.

I would like to thank you for your fantastic attendance at our parent consultations. It was lovely to see so many of you leave with smiling faces and to hear of the ways in which you are working with us to support your child's learning at home also. Thank you also for the kind feedback received- it is greatly appreciated.

I hope everyone has a lovely Easter break when it comes and that we are able to enjoy some time outside in the spring sunshine.





SEND & Inclusion

At the Horizon Federation, we are committed to meeting the needs of every pupil at our schools. We have an inclusive ethos and believe in a stimulating, creative curriculum for all. We have high expectations and our aims for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities are the same as for all our pupils; to provide a broad and balanced curriculum and the highest quality of education. We work to promote children's self-esteem and emotional well-being and help them to form worthwhile relationships based on respect for themselves and others. We celebrate the successes and achievements of every child and put the children's learning at the heart of everything we do.

If you have any concerns about your child's learning, please speak to their class teacher as the first port of call. However, should you need to contact the SENDCo, Mrs Ogden or the HLTA in SEND, Mrs Coxhead, then please call the school office to book an appointment.



Autism Awareness Day - Wednesday 1st April

Today we come together to support the National Autistic Society as part of Autism Acceptance month to celebrate, raise awareness and understanding of autism across our schools. To celebrate all that makes each child unique we ask that all children come to school on this day in their brightest clothing to 'Wear it Loud; Wear it Proud!'





Attendance

Our school attendance target is 96%. The overall attendance so far this year is 94%. Thank you to all those families who are working with us to prioritise their child's learning. We appreciate your working with us to achieve the best outcomes for your child.

What is persistent absence?

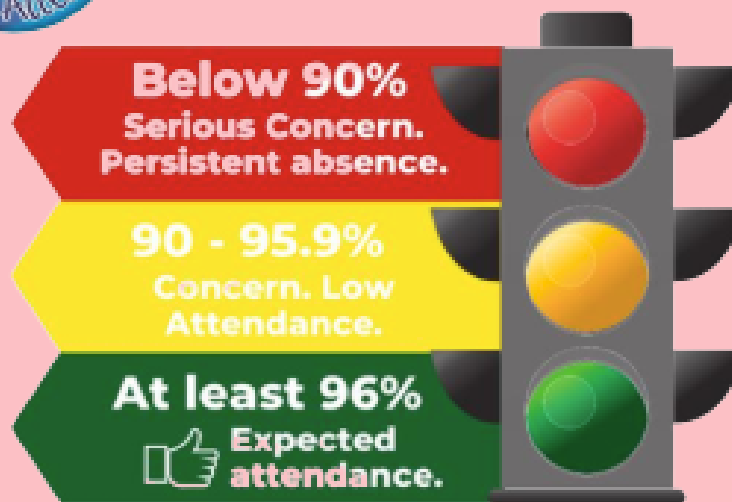
If your child takes too much time off school, they will become categorised as PA or persistently absent. (Attendance below 90% = persistent absence). Missing school will make your child fall behind in lessons and will impact on their academic progress and achievement. Don't allow your child to become a PA student.

How will our school tackle persistent absence?

If your child's attendance has dropped below 90%, school will make contact to raise concern and offer support. An attendance concern letter will be sent to parents, and school will actively consider no longer approving absence unless medical evidence is submitted. School will also access support from the Education Welfare Service. After this point, if absences continue or improvement in attendance is not sustained, a referral could be made for a penalty notice. If the local authority decide that the case meets the criteria to be submitted to the Magistrates Court for prosecution under Section 444(1) of The Education Act 1996 for the offence of failing to secure a child's regular attendance at school, a court hearing would be the next step.



ATTENDANCE EVERY DAY COUNTS!



**Expected attendance means
having no more than seven
days off this school year!**

Maths

This term, we are continuing to strengthen children's confidence, fluency, and enjoyment in maths across the school. Our lessons focus on problem-solving, reasoning, and building secure number skills that support pupils as they move through each year group.

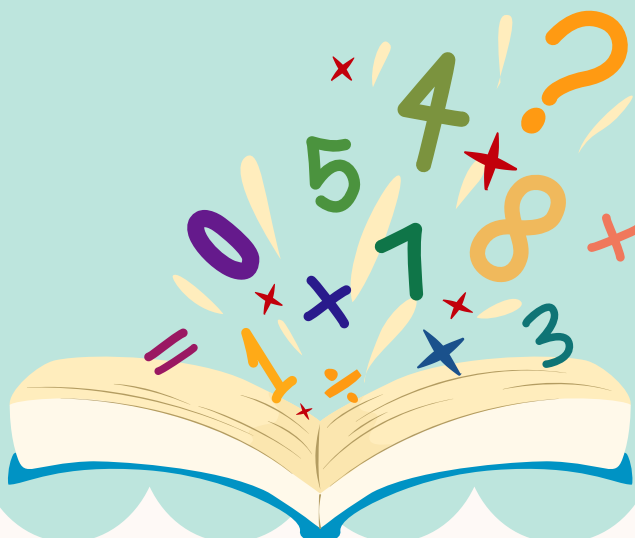
Year 6 Maths Booster Sessions

To help our Year 6 pupils feel fully prepared for their end-of-year assessments, we are running Maths Booster Sessions. These targeted sessions focus on key areas such as arithmetic accuracy, reasoning strategies, and building confidence when tackling multi-step problems. We encourage all pupils invited to attend regularly, as these sessions provide valuable extra support.

Times Tables Practice for Year 4

Times tables knowledge is a vital foundation for maths in the later years. We are encouraging our Year 4 pupils to continue practising their times tables at home and at school. A few minutes each day—whether through quick-fire recall, games, or apps—can make a big difference in helping children build speed and confidence ahead of the Multiplication Tables Check in June.

Thank you for supporting your child's learning. If you have any questions about maths in school or how to support at home, please speak to your child's class teacher.



Summer term assessments

The Year 1 Phonics Screening Check will be administered during the week beginning the 8th of June. Children will be reading 40 words. 20 real words and 20 'alien' words. To prepare for this, please read with your children as much as possible and encourage them to use their Read Write Inc techniques 'Special Friends, Fred Talk, Read the Word.' Class teachers will be able to tell you if there are any sounds your child needs support with.



SATs Week 2026

Year 6 SATs will be taking place week commencing Monday 11th May 2026. These are external statutory tests to assess pupil progress and attainment in English and Maths in readiness for transition to secondary education. The timetable for the week will be as follows:

Date	Activity
Monday 11 May 2026	English grammar, punctuation and spelling Papers 1 and 2
Tuesday 12 May 2026	English reading
Wednesday 13 May 2026	Mathematics Papers 1 and 2
Thursday 14 May 2026	Mathematics Paper 3



Attendance and punctuality are extremely important- we want to be able to start the tests as soon as possible once the children arrive. All children must attend each day. To support your child and ensure they have a good start to the day, we ask that all year 6 children arrive between 8:30 and 8:45 am.



Multiplication Timestable Check

In June 2026, all Year 4 children in England will take part in the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). The aim is to see how confidently pupils can recall their times tables up to 12×12 . Schools will complete the check during the two-week window starting Monday 1st June 2026. It is a short digital check lasting around 5 minutes where there are 25 multiplication questions, each with a 6-second time limit. The children are able to have 3 practice questions first. There is no pass mark, and children do not retake the check. Teachers use the results to identify pupils who may benefit from extra support. The best way to support your child at home is through regular, short practice - 5-10 minutes a day can really help. If you have any questions, please speak to your child's class teacher.



ROOTS — TO FOOD —

Active Education in Health & Wellbeing

Once again Darren joined us across both schools to enable all children to continue to develop their culinary expertise in his fantastic sessions, this time preparing Cantonese Sweet and Sour Chicken and Vegetables with a Five Spice Rice. Recipes have been sent home and I am sure they would love to share this experience with you at home.



Sport

Throughout the term, a variety of exciting sporting events have taken place, some of which are highlighted below.



10 children attended a Dance development session, enjoying the opportunity to work with other schools and learn new choreography.



Boston United delivered a KS1 dance session with two of their mascots. The children loved joining in with the dance off and even beat the Teachers!



10 children attended a Gymnastics Development session at Boston High School - Children were amazing, they showed super flexibility, determination and perseverance to master some really tricky skills!



32 children from Years 5 and 6 attended a development session at Boston Rugby club, this follows on from some new resources and an initial session from a representative from England Rugby.



We also welcomed Peterborough United and Peterborough Phantoms to deliver an assembly, which the children were very excited about.



Sports club has continued for KS1, offering a wide range of activities including football, dodgeball, volleyball, circuit training, and even archery.



Gareth from Young Dons has also continued to coach the LKS2 club; the children's listening and focus have improved significantly, and they are developing some excellent skills.



Looking ahead, Emily Hill from Lincolnshire County Cricket Ltd will be working with all of KS2. We are also expecting an exciting new delivery, which will see the return of a popular ball sport.



Well done to all who participated and represented us with such pride in all our sporting events and we look forward to all the exciting opportunities coming up in the Summer Term.



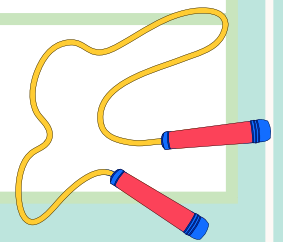


Sports Day

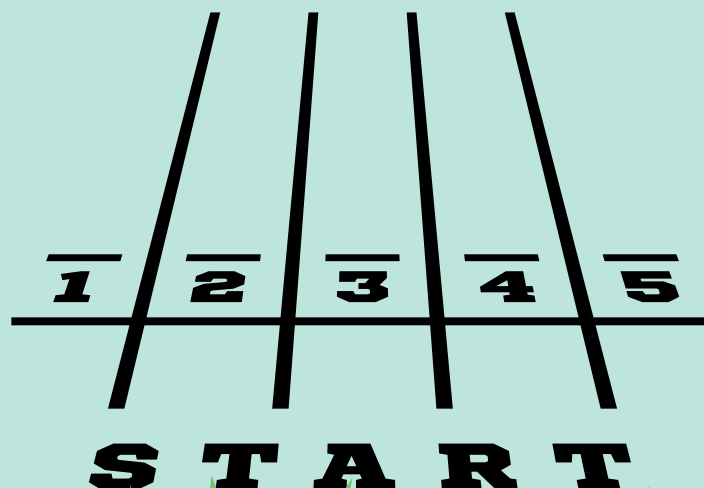


Sports day is on Monday 18th May. Please see below the confirmed times for the day. We apologise for the changes made to the structure of the day compared to the previous newsletter; these adjustments were necessary due to other commitments in school for Key Stage 1. We will open the gates shortly before the start times to ensure everyone is seated and ready for the races to begin.

Year Group	Start time
3 & 4	9.15am
5 & 6	10.40am
Nursery, Reception, Year 1 & 2	13.30pm



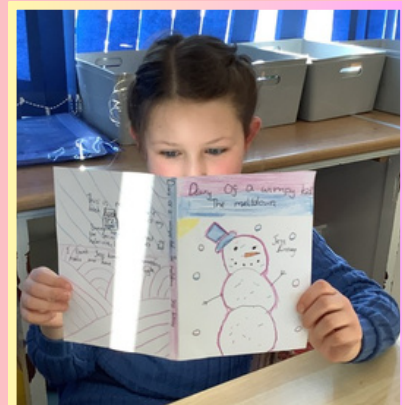
During the afternoon session, Nursery will take part in their events first followed by Reception then Years 1 & 2.





Reading

This World Book Day we enjoyed sharing the book 'I want a dog' by Jon Agee across the school, all the way from Nursery to Year 6! Each class enjoyed several activities which focused on this lovely book. These included Art, Drama and writing. To end the day, children enjoyed a shared reading session, where they had the chance to read books that they had voted for alongside adults from other classes.



School Council - Red Nose Day

This month, School Council have focused on planning and organising Red Nose Day. They came up with lots of amazing ideas to raise money and raise awareness! Their first idea was to have a non-uniform day where children could bring in money donations to be sent to Comic Relief. They also decided to organise an art competition where every child in the school could design a Red Nose Day t-shirt and they would choose the winners. In total, they chose a winner for Nursery and EYFS, Year 1 and 2, Year 3 and 4, and Year 5 and 6. They worked incredibly well as a group and supported each other when making decisions. Thank you to all who donated. as a school we raised an amazing **192.43!**





PTFA

Our PTFA team is hard at work getting everything ready for the Summer Fair! Be sure to save the date and come along to support us—it's shaping up to be a fantastic event for everyone to enjoy.



DONINGTON COWLEY ENDOWED
PRIMARY PTFA PRESENT THE

SUMMER FAIR

6TH JUNE 2025 12-3PM

We'd love to see you there!

Tombola
& Bottle
Stalls

Food
Vendors

PTFA
Raffle

Local Stall
Holders

Class
Games



Important Dates - Donington

April

- 1st - Autism Awareness Day- Non- uniform- Wear it loud and Wear it proud- the brighter the better
- 2nd April - 2pm-3pm EYFS/KS1 Easter crafts
- 2nd - End of Spring Term
- 21st - Start of Summer Term 1
- 23rd - Tennis Development Day

MAY

- 4th - Bank Holiday Monday
- 11th - 14th- KS2 SATs Week
- 18th - Sports Day. KS2 am and EYFS/KS1 pm
- 22nd - End of Summer Term 1

June

- 1st - Start of summer term 2
- 1st - 5th Top up swimming week - Y6
- 1st - 12th Year 4 Multiplication Checks
- 8th - 12th Y1 Phonics Screening Checks
- 6th - Summer Fair
- 19th - Y6 Cricket Day
- 25th - Roots to Food Y6 Gala Dinner
- 26th - Tri Golf festival

July

- 7th - Capture the Castle
- 9th - Orienteering
- 10th - School reports out
- 10th - Summer Disco
- 15th & 16th- Whole School Production
- 22nd - End of Academic year

