

# Weekly Newsletter

Friday 11th September 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

Now the children are back in the routine of school, exciting new learning themes are underway. These themes will provide meaningful opportunities for children to explore new concepts, develop their knowledge, and make connections across different areas of the curriculum.

To help parents stay informed about their child's learning, we have introduced a new section on our website under the Parent Information area called "What We're Learning". Here, you can find an overview of your child's current learning theme, along with key information about the topics being explored in class.

A direct link to the page can be found below:

[What We're Learning](#)

We have also added additional links onto our Home Learning page for parents wanting further resource ideas, to support their child at home - [Home-Learning](#)

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Swinbank



<https://kellslaneschool.co.uk>

Find your Remarkable



Emerald



Sapphire



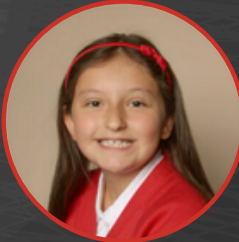
Ruby



Amber



"This week well done Ruby for winning the most team points. We hope everyone has had a great (full) first week in their new classes. We also hope the new Dojo point system is working out well - you can use your points to buy things from the shop at the end of each half term (60 points at minimum.)"



Head Boy & Girl



See more from the past week here -



## Remarkable Award

Every Friday, we celebrate children who have shown outstanding effort, kindness, resilience, or have simply been fantastic members of our school community.

Each week, the class teacher randomly selects one child to receive the Remarkable Reward. Together, the class shares positive examples of why that child is remarkable, recognising qualities such as kindness, perseverance, hard work, helpfulness, and friendship. This celebration helps build self-esteem and encourages children to appreciate the strengths and achievements of others.

The Friday Remarkable Reward is about more than achievement; it is about character. We celebrate the everyday acts that make a difference, from encouraging a friend to showing kindness or determination when things are challenging. These are the children we are proud to recognise.





# PE achievements outside of school

Has your child achieved something remarkable in sport outside of school?

We would love to celebrate their success at school. Please send in photographs of your child into school earning medals or certificates, competing in matches/tournaments or learning a new skill.



Photos will be displayed in school, featured on our PE board to celebrate sporting achievement and inspire other children.

Please send photographs in with your child or hand them into the school office.





## Year 6 Bikeability

This week and next, our Year 6 children will be participating in Bikeability. This program aims to equip them with essential cycling skills and road safety awareness. Through a series of fun and engaging sessions, the children will learn how to ride confidently and safely on roads, ensuring they are well-prepared for future journeys.





## Nursery

We have had a delightful week in Nursery this week, as our children adapted to their new daily routines.

We celebrated two of our children turning 4 and one of our children becoming a big brother by baking a giant chocolate cake and a batch of cupcakes. This involved lots of counting, measuring and estimating, as the children worked out whether there would be enough for everyone in our class. This prompted us to read the book 'Chocolate Cake' by Michael Rosen which captivated the children's imaginations and led to lots of lovely conversations about making mistakes and good choices.

We were very excited to share the new Julia Donaldson book 'Gruffalo Granny' with the children. We read the books 'Goat goes to Playgroup' and 'The Family Book', sang some Nursery rhymes and took part in our first session of 'Dough Disco' as we helped strengthen our finger, hand and wrist muscles.

There has been lots of den building, independently reading books, challenging ourselves outdoors on the equipment and imaginative play.





## Reception

This week in Reception, we have enjoyed starting out phonics sessions. We've learnt the sounds for m, a, s and d. We have even had a go at handwriting these letters in handwriting books. In our classroom we have continued to get to know each other and have had lots of fun exploring the new areas of our classroom.

In **Maths**, we have focused on the composition of the most important number '1'. We have also used our fast eyes to subitise and see 1, 2 and 3 represented in different ways.

In **English** we have been reading *The Colour Monster Goes To School* by Anna Llenas. We thought about how the monster felt at different points in the story and how that compared to our first days in Reception.





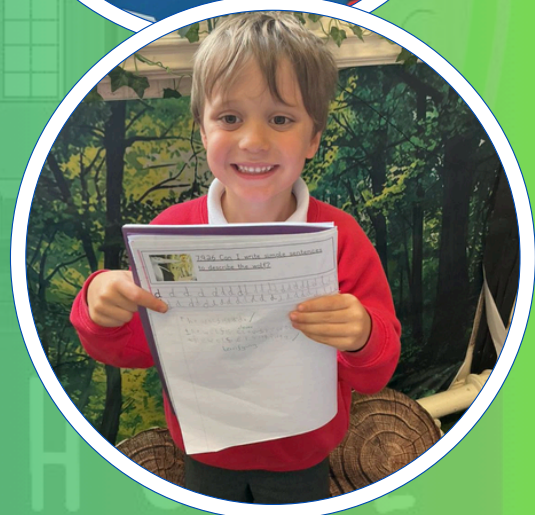
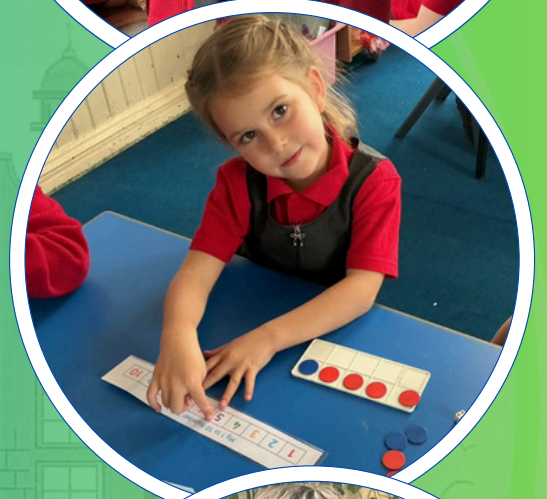
## Y1

In **English**, we have continued our Little Red Riding Hood topic, writing simple sentences to describe the wolf's character.

In **Maths**, we have been representing amounts using objects and counters, such as using a cube to stand for each sheep in a group, to help us count accurately.

In **RE**, we have been learning about Christian baptism and how it welcomes a new baby into the church family.

In **Music**, we have been finding our singing voice, learning songs to sing together with our friends.





## Y2

In **English**, we have been retelling the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears, using adverbials of time such as 'first', 'next' and 'after that' to sequence our writing.

In **Maths**, we have been using place value charts to work out how many tens and ones make different numbers. We have also been writing numbers as words,

In **Art**, we have been mark-making to sound, drawing orchestras and instruments as we listen to music.

In **History**, we have started our 'Global News Hub' topic, comparing how news was shared in the past (runners, church bells, pigeon post) with today.







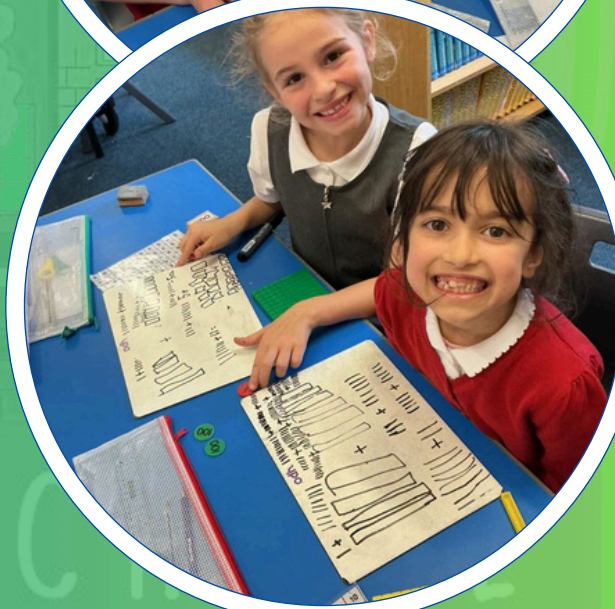
## Y3

In **Maths**, we have been representing and partitioning numbers up to 1000.

In **History**, as part of our 'Lights, Camera, Animation' topic, we have learned about early animation, exploring cave paintings and the zoetrope.

In **Science**, we have started our new topic on Light, learning what a light source is and thinking about how some can be dangerous.

In **English**, we have been creating posters about our own imaginary friends, inspired by the story Imaginary Fred.





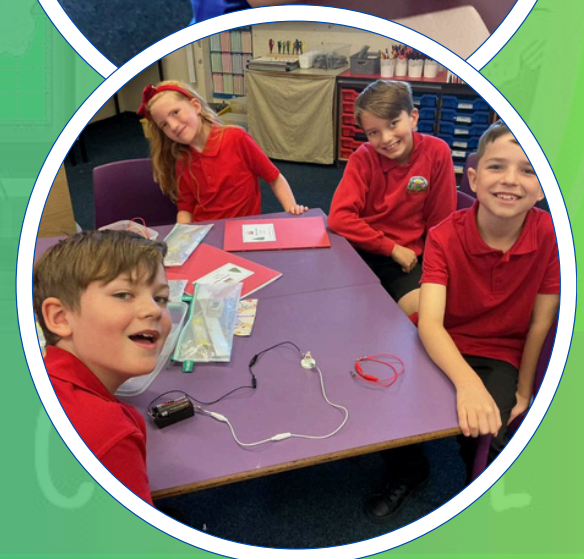
## Y4

In **Maths**, we have been counting in thousands and writing numbers in both digits and words.

In **History**, we have started our topic on the internet, thinking about what life was like before it existed and learning about its invention.

In **English**, we have been extending our use of similes and metaphors, describing scenes inspired by the story Flotsam.

In **RE**, we have started learning about Sikhism, exploring key values such as equality, respect and acceptance.







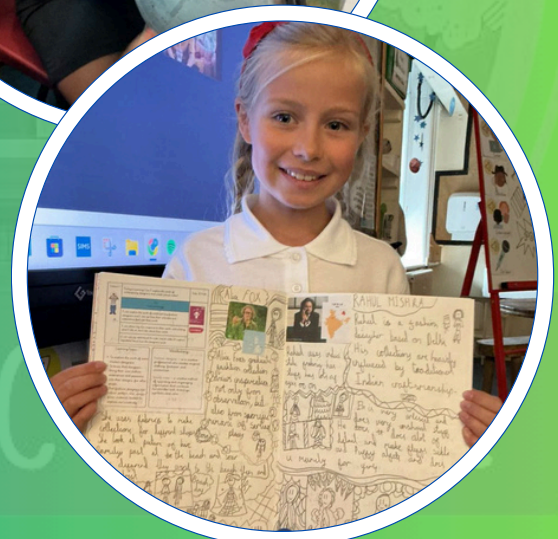
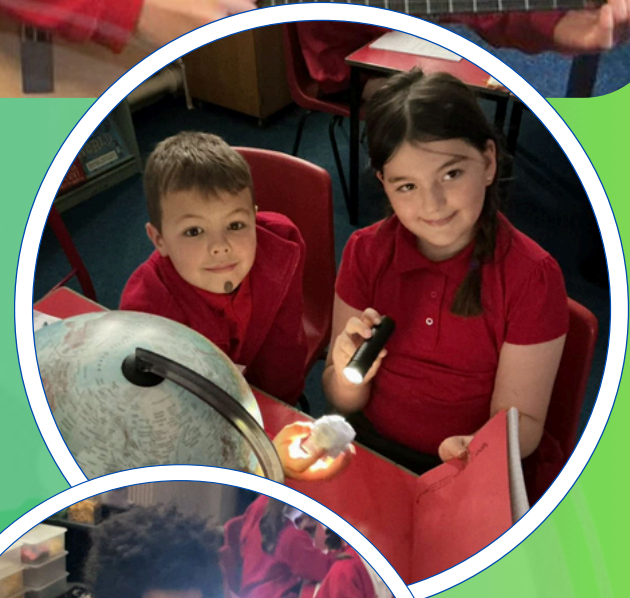
## Y5

In **English**, we have been reading *Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly and learning to analyse the key features of a diary entry.

In **History**, we have been learning about famous astronauts, including Katherine Johnson, who helped launch the first rocket into space.

In **Art**, we have started our Fashion Design unit, exploring the work of designer Alice Fox and how she draws inspiration from memories, places and old family photographs.

In **Maths**, we have been reading and writing numbers up to 1,000,000 and exploring the power of 10.







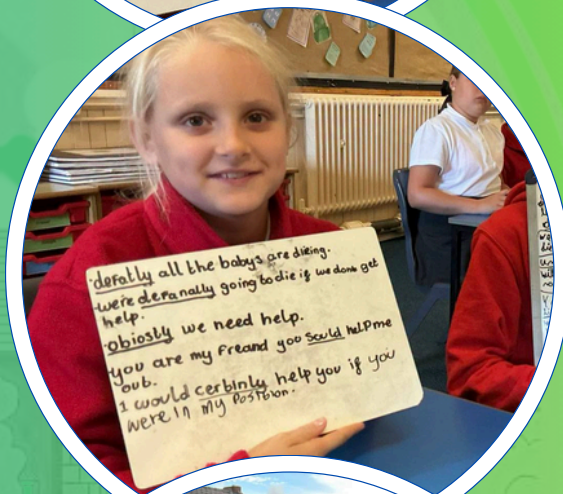
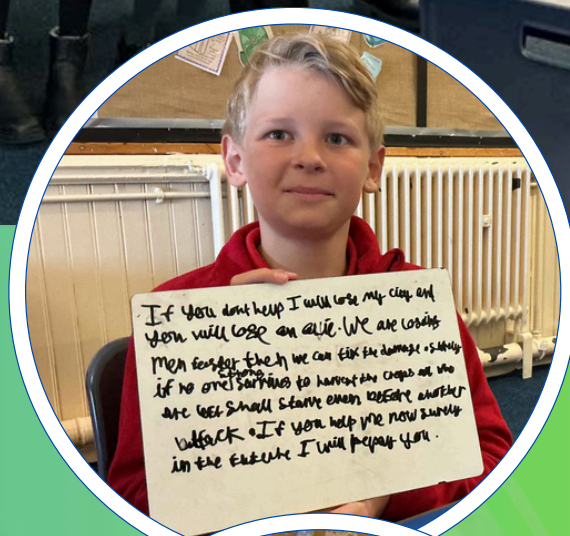
# Y6

In **English**, we have begun reading Beowulf, learning how stories were passed down orally by bards in mead-halls.

In **Science**, we have started our Forces topic, measuring pushes and pulls and exploring why unsupported objects fall towards Earth.

In **Maths**, we have been using number lines to represent numbers up to 10 million.

In **RE**, we have been learning about Hinduism, exploring the role of deities and the Trimurti (Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva).





# INCLUSION & SEND

## Spotlight on... SEND Thresholds

Gateshead launched the SEND thresholds in January 2024. These descriptors are based on national best practice in determining and describing the needs of Children and Young People (CYP) aged 0-25 with SEND. They are based on the four areas of the SEND Code of Practice (2015) - cognition and learning, communication and interaction, social emotional and mental health and sensory, physical and medical needs. A golden thread running through these four areas are the four elements of Preparation for Adulthood (PfA) - education and training, independence, good health and community inclusion.

The SEND Thresholds provide:

- a way of assessing the needs of children and young people
- suggestions on a wide range of interventions that can be used across services
- how to measure the impact and outcomes of the above

So, in terms of transitions, the SEND thresholds will provide an essential framework for discussion and sharing information across and between services and settings for young people aged 0-25, on:

- a young person's needs
- interventions that have worked and those that have not
- ways of working and building on the current and future provision ensuring continuity and consistency of approach
- effective ways of sharing information

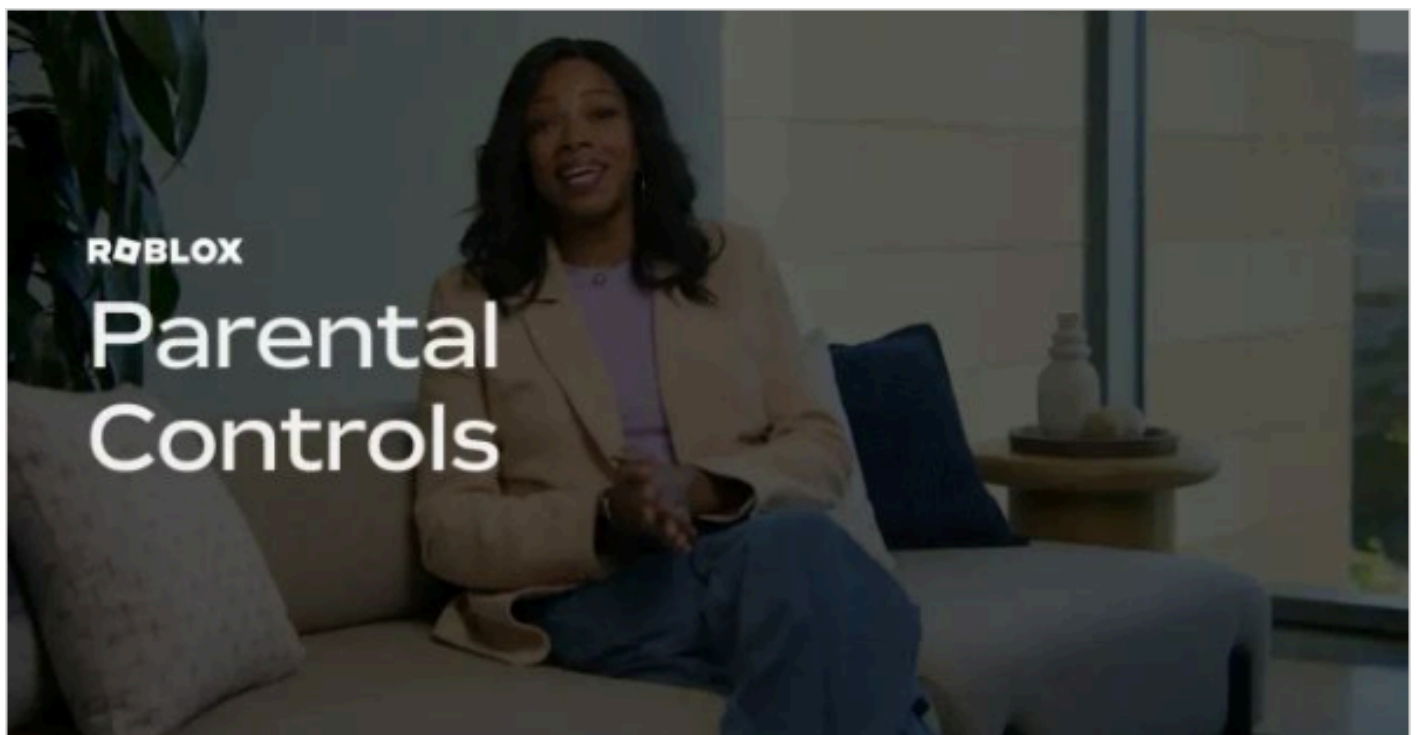
Thus, supporting effective transition and giving confidence to families and young people that their needs are fully understood.

# SEND Thresholds

**A brief overview for Parents and Carers  
2024**



# SAFEGUARDING



## Parental Controls

Learn how to set up parental controls. Manage your child's spending, content filters, screen time, Connections, and more.





# DIARY DATES

Any changes/updates will be highlighted in green

| Autumn Term                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September                                          | Inset day – no children in school                                                                                                                                      |
| Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September                                        | Start of new term for children                                                                                                                                         |
| W/c Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> September                                       | Y6 Elm Bikeability week                                                                                                                                                |
| W/c Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> September                                      | Y6 Larch Bikeability week                                                                                                                                              |
| Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> September                                       | EYFS/Year 1 – Animals About Town (rearranged visit from summer term)                                                                                                   |
| Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> September                                       | Year 2 – Reading in Year 2 -session for parents 5pm                                                                                                                    |
| Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup> September<br>(info to follow) | Photographer in school – individual and sibling photos                                                                                                                 |
| Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> October                                          | Y5 visit to the Centre for Life                                                                                                                                        |
| Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> October                                           | Y3 visit to Beamish Museum                                                                                                                                             |
| Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> October                                         | Reception Stay & Play (1 parent per child)<br>Early reading session for parents 1.45-2.15pm<br>Stay & Play session 2.15 - 3.15pm<br>Sign up information to be sent out |
| Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> October                                          | Reception Stay & Play (1 parent per child)<br>Early reading session for parents 1.45-2.15pm<br>Stay & Play session 2.15 - 3.15pm<br>Sign up information to be sent out |
| Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October                                            | Last day of term – non uniform day (1 donation per family please)                                                                                                      |
| Half Term (Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October)      |                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> October – deadline for secondary school applications      |                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November                                            | Inset day – no children in school                                                                                                                                      |
| Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November                                           | First day of term                                                                                                                                                      |
| Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November                                           | Y5 visit to Segedunum                                                                                                                                                  |
| Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> November                                           | Odd Socks Day – all children invited to wear odd socks to mark anti-bullying week                                                                                      |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> November            | Parents Evenings                                                                                                                                                       |
| Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> November                                           | Children in Need- children are invited to wear pyjamas to school to raise money for the charity                                                                        |
| Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November                                        | Choir Christmas Tree Light Switch On                                                                                                                                   |
| Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December                                         | Reception (Cedar) Nativity performance for Cedar parents/carers (3 tickets per child) 2.30pm                                                                           |
| Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December                                          | Reception (Holly) Nativity performance for Holly parents/carers (3 tickets per child) 2.30pm                                                                           |
| Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> December                                            | Y1 Poplar Christmas Crafternoon – 1 parent per child 2.30-3.30                                                                                                         |
| Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> December                                            | Flu Immunisations                                                                                                                                                      |



|                                                                             |                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> December                                            | Y1 Juniper Christmas Crafternoon – 1 parent per child 2.30-3.30                                                                    |
| Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December                                          | Y3 & Y5 watching pantomime performance at The Little Theatre                                                                       |
| Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December                                          | Y2 Beech Christmas Crafternoon – 1 parent per child 2.30-3.30                                                                      |
| Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December                                          | Year 1 & Year 2 watching Christmas performance of Tinsel Tally in school                                                           |
| Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December                                          | Christmas jumper day                                                                                                               |
| Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> December                                          | Y2 Rowan Christmas Crafternoon – 1 parent per child 2.30-3.30                                                                      |
| Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> December                                          | Reception watching Christmas performance of The Littlest Elf in school                                                             |
| Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> December                                            | Reception & Y4 Christmas Parties. <i>Children come to school in party clothes</i>                                                  |
| Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December                                           | Y1 & Y5 Christmas Parties. <i>Children come to school in party clothes</i>                                                         |
| Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December                                         | Y4 & Y6 watching pantomime performance at The Little Theatre                                                                       |
| Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December                                         | Nursery & Y3 Christmas Parties. <i>Children come to school in party clothes</i>                                                    |
| Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December                                         | Christmas Dinner day                                                                                                               |
| Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December                                          | Y2 & Y6 Christmas Parties. <i>Children come to school in party clothes</i>                                                         |
| Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December                                            | Last day of term – non uniform day (1 donation per family please)                                                                  |
| <b>Spring Term</b>                                                          |                                                                                                                                    |
| Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January                                              | First day of term                                                                                                                  |
| Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> January                                            | Y1 Phonics screening information session for parents 5pm                                                                           |
| Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> January                                          | Y6 – SATS meeting for parents (no children to attend) 5pm                                                                          |
| Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> January                                          | Reception Cedar Stay & Play session (1 parent per child)<br>1.30-2.00pm early maths information session<br>2.00-3.15pm Stay & Play |
| Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> January                                           | Reception Holly Stay & Play session (1 parent per child)<br>1.30-2.00pm early maths information session<br>2.00-3.15pm Stay & Play |
| <b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January</b>                                       | <b>Reception Application Closing Date</b>                                                                                          |
| Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February                                            | Last day of term – non uniform day (1 donation per family please)                                                                  |
| <b>Half Term (Monday 15<sup>th</sup> – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February)</b> |                                                                                                                                    |
| Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February                                            | First day of term                                                                                                                  |
| Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> March                                                | World Book Day – <i>children to dress as their favourite book character</i>                                                        |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> March                | Parents Evenings                                                                                                                   |



|                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday 22nd March                                                                                  | Reception & Apple Egg Decorating (1 parent per child) @2.15pm                                                                                         |
| Tuesday 23rd March                                                                                 | Y1 Egg Decorating (1 parent per child) @2.30pm                                                                                                        |
| Wednesday 24th March                                                                               | Blossom Egg Decorating (1 parent per child) @2.15pm                                                                                                   |
| Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March                                                                   | Y2 Egg Decorating (1 parent per child) @2.30pm                                                                                                        |
| Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> March                                                                    | Last day of term – non uniform day ( <i>1 donation per family please</i> )                                                                            |
| <b>Summer Term</b>                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                       |
| Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> April                                                                      | First day of term                                                                                                                                     |
| Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April                                                                      | Y5 Spring Showcase for parents @2.45pm<br><i>2 parents per child</i>                                                                                  |
| Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> April                                                                     | Y4 Spring Showcase for parents @2.45pm<br><i>2 parents per child</i>                                                                                  |
| Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> April                                                                   | Y3 Spring Showcase for parents @2.45pm<br><i>2 parents per child</i>                                                                                  |
| Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April                                                                    | Y1 Spring Showcase for parents @2.45pm<br><i>2 parents per child</i>                                                                                  |
| W/c Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> May                                                                    | Y6 SATS week                                                                                                                                          |
| Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> May                                                                       | Y4 Robinwood Residential meeting for parents 5pm                                                                                                      |
| Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May                                                                     | Y6 London Residential meeting for parents 5pm                                                                                                         |
| Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May                                                                        | Last day of term – non uniform day ( <i>chocolate or bottle donation for summer fair tombola</i> )                                                    |
| <b>Half Term (Monday 31st May – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June)</b>                                    |                                                                                                                                                       |
| Monday 7th June                                                                                    | First day of term                                                                                                                                     |
| W/c Monday 7th June                                                                                | Y4 Multiplication Check week                                                                                                                          |
| Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                     | New Nursery Parents Welcome Meeting @5pm                                                                                                              |
| W/c Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                   | Y1 Phonics Screening Check week                                                                                                                       |
| Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                        | Sports Day – Date to be confirmed<br>9:30-10:40 - Year 3 and 4<br>11:00-12:10 - Year 5 and 6<br>12:30-13:40 - Year 1 and 2<br>14:00- 15:10- Reception |
| SPORTS WEEK<br><i>Children should come to school in PE kit all week (please wear team colours)</i> |                                                                                                                                                       |
| Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                    | New Reception Parents Welcome Meeting @5pm                                                                                                            |
| Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June                                          | Y4 Residential to Robinwood                                                                                                                           |
| Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> – Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> June                                           | Y6 Residential to London                                                                                                                              |
| W/c Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                   | Whole school transition week                                                                                                                          |
| Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July                                                                        | Parents to meet new class teachers @2.45pm (1 parent per child)                                                                                       |
| W/c Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                    | End of Year Reports to be sent home                                                                                                                   |
| Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                     | Y2 (Rowan) End of Year Production performance for Rowan parents/carers ( <i>3 tickets per child</i> ) 2.45pm                                          |



|                                 |                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> July   | Y2 (Beech) End of Year Production performance for Beech parents/carers ( <i>3 tickets per child</i> )<br>2.45pm |
| Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> July     | Summer Fair TBC                                                                                                 |
| Date to be confirmed            | Y6 End of Year Production @ 5.15pm                                                                              |
| Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July | Reception graduation @ 2.45pm                                                                                   |
| Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> July  | Y6 Leavers Assembly @ 5pm                                                                                       |
| Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July    | Last day of term – children to wear school uniform. <i>Children may bring a toy (not electronic)</i>            |