



GROVE ROAD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER – 2ND FEBRUARY 2024



NEWSLETTER

We are as busy as ever here at Grove Road, the children and staff are working incredibly hard.

It really does not matter which classroom I walk into, the children are always on task, focussed and ready to learn. What more could I ask for?



We have had a fire drill in school today, please thank the children for me, they were so sensible. Mr Frost was extremely pleased with how everyone conducted themselves.



We are all looking forward to next week in school, our Mental Health Week is set to be amazing. Thank you to all the ambassadors for organising and planning the events. Look out for them on the playground before and after school next week and be sure to say hello.

IMPORTANT DATES – We are adding dates/ events each week now to the newsletter. Please keep an eye on the back pages. For each event, more information will be posted by staff, closer to the time.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

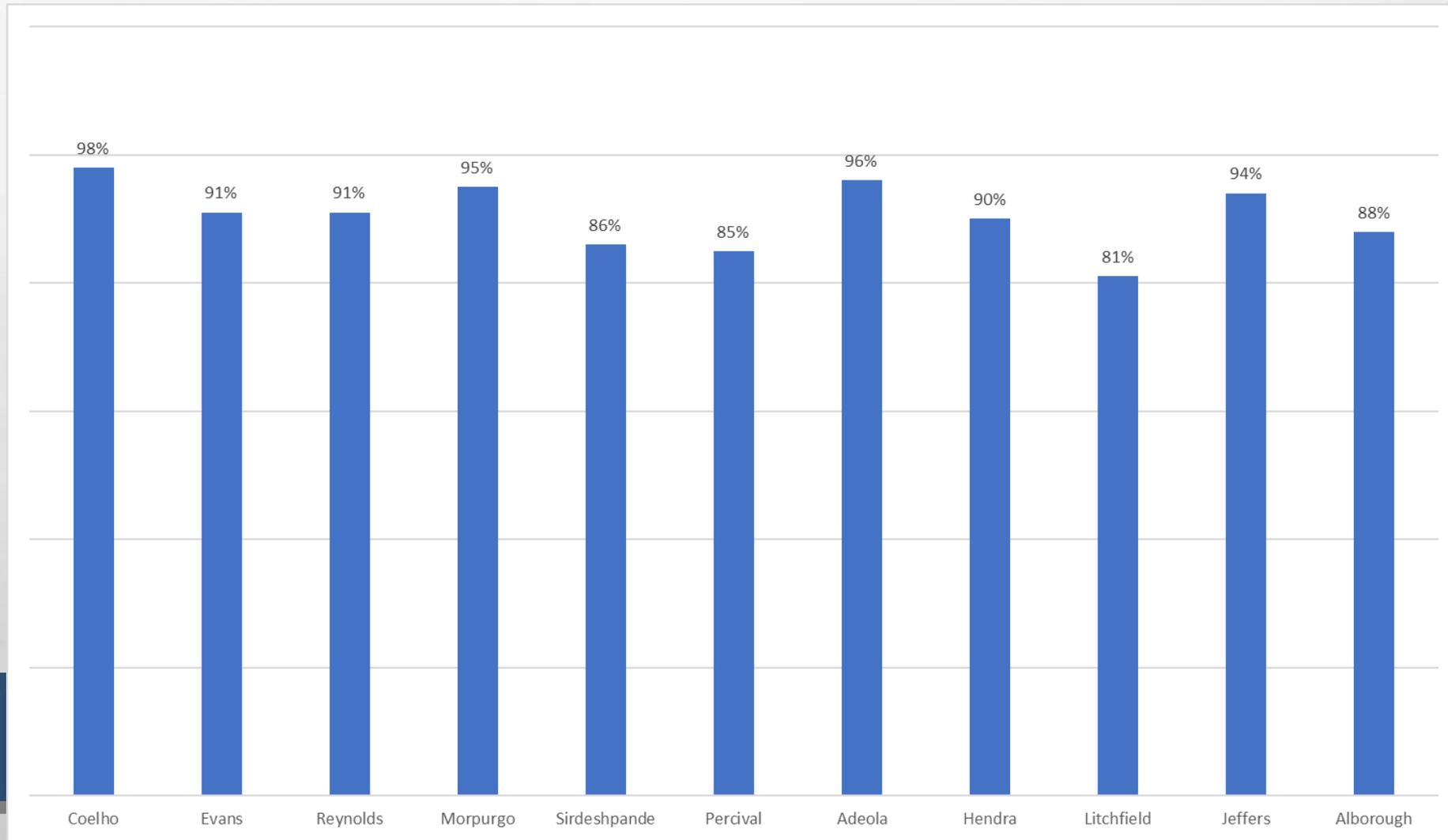
WELL-BEING



ATTENDANCE



Attendance totals for each class – Monday 29th January to Friday 2nd February



SAFEGUARDING



Grove Road Community Primary School Safeguarding Team



Designated Safeguarding Lead
James Grayston - Headteacher



Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead
Dawn Winkley – Deputy Head
& SENDCo



Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead
Sue McGrogan – Parent
Support Adviser

Lead Governor for Safeguarding – Margaret Beagle

For further advice / referral information, please contact:
North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership
<https://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk>

- Please visit our school website for more information and links to safeguarding websites.
- [Grove Road Safeguarding Page](#)
- For more information about keeping children safe please click here:
- [NSPCC – Keeping Children Safe Online](#)
- These websites have wonderful advice about children keeping safe on Instagram and other social media sites
- [NSPCC – Share Aware](#)
- [CEOP Police Safety Centre](#)



STARS OF THE WEEK



JEFFERS	-	Elijah
LITCHFIELD	-	Ava
HENDRA	-	Louisa
ADEOLA	-	Heidi
PERCIVAL	-	Lindsay
SIRDESH-PANDE	-	Karina
MORPURGO	-	Olivia
REYNOLDS	-	Seth
EVANS	-	Farrah
COELHO	-	Amanda



Congratulations





National Online Safety



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about PERSUASIVE DESIGN ONLINE

'Persuasive design' refers to the techniques that companies employ to influence our thoughts and behaviours when we're on the internet. These approaches can be spotted on websites, in apps and even as part of some video games. Persuasive design means that this content has been deliberately presented in a way that's intended to encourage you to spend your time or money (or both). These methods often prove highly effective at keeping people engaged and invested for longer than we might expect.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

POTENTIAL ADDICTION

In the digital world, persuasive design can make certain activities more addictive and harder to walk away from: some people may begin to feel anxious or irritable without access to their device or their favourite app, for example. It can also often leave users feeling isolated, as – if they spend most of their time on social media – they may start to find it difficult to talk to other people in real life.

MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS

Scrolling online or gaming without regular breaks is proven to be harmful to our mental health. The constant bombardment of news stories (many of them negative), images and influencers' posts can create sensations of anxiety, uncertainty and FOMO (fear of missing out). Young people can get so immersed in this environment that they become less likely to spot misleading posts.

PROLONGED SCROLLING

Social media can draw any of us – regardless of age – into a continuous pattern of refreshing our screen, following posts and liking down rabbit holes or reading countless comments made by others. This aimless scrolling can eat up time which could have been spent on more productive activities. It could also lead younger users into areas of the online world which aren't age appropriate.

KEEP SCROLLING



SENSORY OVERLOAD

Repetitively scrolling, clicking on links or playing games can create an unending stream of new information and visual stimuli. Put it this way: social media isn't exactly renowned as a caffeine, chills-out environment. Such overstimulation can become too much for young people to handle, resulting in sensory overload and causing them to feel drowsed, overwhelmed and exhausted.

COSTLY ADDITIONS

Video games sometimes display offers for downloadable content or loot boxes which can be bought with real money. While these microtransactions' tempting promises to improve a player's gaming experience, most of the time they are money sinks. Young people in particular, excited by the chance of enhancing their game, could spend quite a sizeable sum very quickly indeed.

PHYSICAL CONSEQUENCES

Hours spent sitting and scrolling means far less time moving around and getting exercise: hardly ideal for a young person's physical health. Additionally, prolonged exposure to the light given off by a phone's screen can lead to eye fatigue and discomfort, especially if viewing it in the dark. Strenuous phone use before bed can also impact on sleep quality, affecting mood and energy levels over the following days.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ESTABLISH LIMITS

Talk to your child about setting some time limits on how long they can use their phone, tablet or console in the evenings or at weekends – or perhaps how often they can go on a specific app, game or website. You could also decide to involve the whole family in creating this shared screen time agreement, making things fair (and healthier) for everyone.



ENCOURAGE MINDFULNESS

Acknowledging any addiction is key in overcoming it – and compulsive scrolling is no different. If anything mentioned in this guide sounds familiar, it could help to have an honest, open chat with your child about how much time they spend online. Get them to think about how often they scroll through social media aimlessly or habitually open it up whenever they have a spare moment.

NIX NOTIFICATIONS

Stop knee-jerk responses at the source by turning off push notifications and alerts. Whether it's a gaming notification or a social media update, these notifications reminders are designed to catch our attention and lure us back to our device. Switching them off – or even deleting any particularly intrusive apps – can help prevent your child from being reeled back into the online world.



MAKE A CHECKLIST

Considering a list of relevant questions can be an effective way of helping children figure out why they're scrolling on certain sites or consuming particular pieces of content. A checklist can prompt young people to ask themselves if they're learning anything or benefiting from this activity – or if they're wasting their time. Taking a step back can sometimes help us to see things more clearly.



Meet Our Expert

Helena, who has more than 20 years' experience in the field of relationships, can help with education (2017), as well as reviewing, monitoring and taking action on social media, games and tech tools. She is also an expert on the Department of Education.



The National College
NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.



DFE ADVICE RELATING TO MEASLES CASES

You might have seen reports in the media this week relating to the rising number of cases of measles in England.

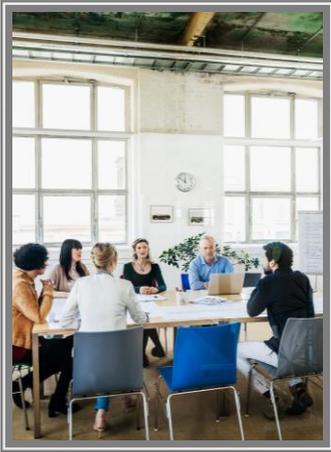
The Department of Education has created the following advice for parents, schools and nurseries.

[DfE guidance and advice - Measles](#)

Most children will have been vaccinated with two doses of the MMR vaccine during their early childhood, but if a dose has been missed it is not too late to catch up. Vaccines can be arranged for free through your GP.

Additional information about measles can be found on the NHS website.

[Measles - NHS \(www.NHS.uk\)](http://www.NHS.uk)



You could be a governor

Hi, I'm Alex, a parent-governor at grove road. In the new year, the school will send out a message asking for people to put themselves forward to be a parent-governor to fill some vacancies. You will almost certainly want to ignore that message. But please don't. Please take a few minutes to understand what a school governor is, and why you might want to be one.

- **What is a school governor?**

Basically, a school governor is a regular person, often a parent or carer, who supports the headteacher and leadership team to run the school. We do this by acting as a critical friend to the leadership team, supporting them in their work and challenging them to ensure their decisions are strong and well thought out so the children of grove road receive the best education possible.

- **What does it involve?**

There are meetings, I won't deny it, but they are really interesting meetings where you learn more about the running of the school, and can ask questions of the leadership team. And there are a variety of other ways of getting involved too, depending on your interests and your experience.

Governors play an important role in improving children's education. If this is something that you'd like to be part of, email me at a.tomlin@groveroad.n-yorks.sch.uk and ask any questions you might have.

Thank you.

Alex





What do we do?
We run fundraising events to raise funds to support the school

- School discos
- Bake sales
- Xmas Fair
- Summer Fair

Who are we?
FOGR is a group of parents/guardians with children who attend Grove Road

Want to get involved?
We would welcome any help you can give e.g.

- event preparation
- Set-up
- Running events

So we can run these fun events for our children

It's also a great way to meet other parents!

Get in touch for more information

Email us at Friendsofgroveroad@gmail.com

or find us on facebook
Friends of Grove Road C.P School



Friends of Grove Road are a group of Parent/Carer volunteers associated with Grove Road Primary School. We raise funds to support the school and enhance the education of the children

Please support FOGR raise vital funds for the school by signing up to the following online initiatives

Easy Fundraising

Sign up to support us
Shop with your favourite brands
We get a bonus £5 donation
It's not magic, it's easyfundraising!

@easyfundraising

Friends of Grove Road Fundraising Ideas
Help Friends of Grove Road raise free funds today by shopping online via easyfundraising.org.uk. Shop at no extra cost and raise free donations for Friends of Grove Road!



Your School Lottery

Email us at Friendsofgroveroad@gmail.com

or find us on facebook
Friends of Grove Road C.P School





January 2024

Dear Team GR Families

Happy New Year! We hope you all enjoyed the winter break. Last term we began our fundraising efforts for this school year with the Family Quiz Night and the Christmas Fair. We will update how much we raised at these events soon. We (FOGR) would also like to share with you a summary of our fundraising efforts from the last school year.

The last year was the first year since the Covid-19 pandemic where we held the traditional Summer and Christmas Fairs and discos, as well as a few other events. It was lovely to see the Team GR community come together, have fun, and raise lots of money for the school.

Below is a summary of the events that we ran during the 2022-2023 school year and how much we raised.



We have also continued to raise money through our online initiatives - Your School Lottery and Easy Fundraising. Thank you to all our families who have signed up for the lottery and who support us through easy fundraising. If you want to take part and support the school via these online platforms, please visit the links below.

Easy fundraising: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?invite=JX50E6&char=247251&referral_campaign=c2s&utm_source=bssuharebox&fbclid=IwAR3nOCrDPvQzIuTrZVCJD36GSeT_LDy_fzgSCxFS_V_BDnZfcRSexRgfnS5o

Your school lottery: <https://www.yourschoolottery.co.uk/lottery/school/grove-road-community-primary-school?fbclid=IwAR3FaF3a6phY8xms8I9DYFbgdOQbWdn-dPqd15sd4PMr1u488Bph3UTFY6Vw>

FOGR supported the school in a number of ways this past academic year including subsidising school trips, helping towards the upgrade of the Jungle Library and purchasing much needed classroom supplies. We also helped with a number of smaller requests such as funding the year 6 pizzas, and ice pops on sports day. To mark the Coronation of King Charles we were very happy to gift all the children with sunflower seeds and memory cards.

This year we are looking forward to working with Mr Grayston and we have already met with him to discuss fundraising plans for the upcoming year.

But... in order to be able to run events this year and raise important funds for the school, we **urgently need volunteers to join the FOGR committee.**

All the children at our school have enjoyed and benefitted from the work of the FOGR, from using classroom equipment and reading new books funded by FOGR, to making wonderful memories at the fairs, discos and other activities we run, all which serve to enrich our children's school experience.

We would love for this to continue, however, the current Chair and Secretary of FOGR are standing down from their roles now that their children are in year 6, and after many years of supporting FOGR. Unfortunately, we have been unable to fill these roles and without a full committee the FOGR will be unable to continue to run these memorable events and the FOGR may not be able to continue. We had hoped to fill these roles this year whilst the previous members are still around to help with a smooth transition.

We are sure this is the last thing anyone wants to happen, and so we are reaching out to see if there is anyone who is able to, to consider taking on one of these committee roles – this could be anyone in the Grove Road School community e.g. parents, carers or grandparents. Further details of the required roles can be found at the end of this letter. Please contact us at friendsofgroveroad@gmail.com if you can help or if you have any questions.

If you are unable to take on a role, please consider stepping up to help at events where you can. We often only get a handful of volunteers which limits what we are able to do. Volunteering at events is a great way to support FOGR and the school, and it can also be fun and a way to meet other members of the school community.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support last year – for everyone who volunteered so we could run events, and to everyone who attended the events and helped raise vital funds for the school – Thank you!

Kind Regards

The FOGR Committee



Committee Roles

Key Duties and responsibilities of the Chair

- Manage/Coordinate the activities being ran by the FOGR
- Prepare for and chair FOGR meetings
- Liaises with the school, regarding projects to raise money for/fund
- Ensures the committee fulfils its role in respect of the governance of the association as set out in its constitution
- Writes the Chair's report for the AGM

Key skills

- Confident and assertive – able to control meetings
- Able to remain impartial – ensures contributions are brief and that everyone's views are respected
- Organised and able to delegate – for organisation of activities.

Key Duties and responsibilities of the Secretary

- Supports the Chair in preparing for meetings
- Takes and circulates meeting minutes, recording attendance, actions points and decisions
- Supports the Chair with School liaison
- Record keeping
- Correspondence

Key skills

- Organised and efficient
- Good listener to identify key discussion points, actions and agreements in meetings.

PARENTPAY

ParentPay is now the only system that the school is using for payments for school meals, Sammy's Den, trips and other school events. If you have not activated your account, or you are having any difficulties in using the system, please contact the school office. Please delete any links that you have to previous payment systems and cancel any automatic payments that may have been set up.



What are the benefits to parents & pupils?

ParentPay is easy-to-use and will offer you the freedom to make online payments whenever and wherever you like, 24/7

The technology used is of the highest internet security available ensuring that your money will reach school safely - offering you peace of mind

Payments can be made by credit/debit card or also through PayPoint

Full payment histories, balance alerts and statements are available to you securely online at anytime

More information, including your activation/login information has been sent out via email if you have not received this, please contact the school office

What are the benefits to our school?

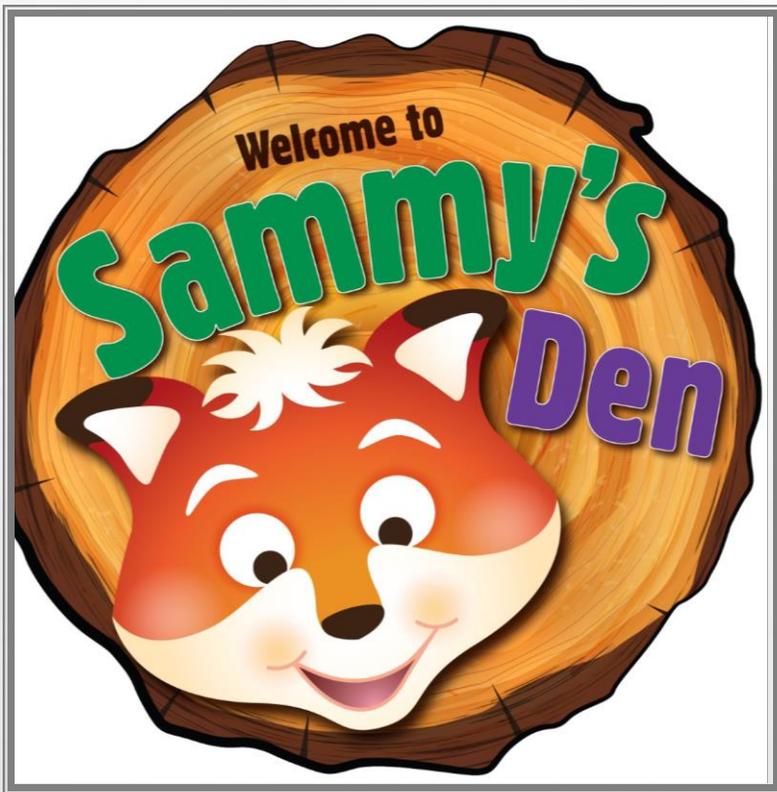
You can help us reduce workloads for all staff as no more counting cash, chasing debt and stop cash collection services

Creates more time to lend to educational support and the smooth running of the school

Improves school security

Using ParentPay also ensures that all financial transactions are safe and secure - helping us to remove costs associated with us having to manage cash securely on the school premises

The more parents that use ParentPay, the greater the benefit is to our school.



Reminder - Please Book Sammy's Den Sessions In Advance via ParentPay



- Breakfast club is very popular, and we are full most mornings which is lovely, however it does mean that it's extra important to make sure that you have booked a space in advance of attending.
- To help us with planning and so that we know which children will be joining us, bookings close 2 days before the session takes place. (If you need a short notice booking, please call the office and we will try to help)
- If the club is full, we might not be able to accept children who are dropped off without a booking.
- The same applies for afterschool club. All children attending must be booked through ParentPay.
- If you are having any problems booking spaces, please contact the school office

IMPORTANT DATES



When	Event
Friday 9 th February	School closes for half term (3:15pm)
Monday 19 th February	School reopens
Thursday 29 th February – 8:40am – 9:30am	Reception & Key Stage 1 Stay and Play (Jeffers, Litchfield, Hendra & Adeola)
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day
Thursday 14 th March – 4:30pm – 5:30pm	Easter Disco – Reception & Key Stage 1
Thursday 14 th March – 6:00pm – 7:00pm	Easter Disco – Key Stage 2
Friday 17 th March	Red Nose Day
Friday 22 nd March	School closes for Easter Break (2:15pm)
Monday 8 th April	INSET Day – School Closed
Tuesday 9 th April	School reopens



IMPORTANT DATES



When	Event
Monday 6 th May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Tuesday 7 th May	School reopens
Friday 24 th May	School closes for half term (3:15pm)
Monday 3 rd June	School reopens
Tuesday 4 th June	Jeffers & Litchfield – Visit to Harlow Carr Gardens
Friday 7 th June	Hendra & Adeola – Visit to Harlow Carr Gardens
Wednesday 26 th June – Friday 28 th June	Year 6 Residential – Newby Wiske Hall
Friday 5 th July – 3:30pm – 5:00pm	Summer Fair
Friday 19 th July	School closes for the Summer Break (2:15pm)
Monday 22 nd July	INSET Day – School Closed

