

Newsletter

May 2026

Eager to Learn, Proud to Achieve

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A Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents, Carers and Members of our School Community,

May has been an exceptionally busy and rewarding month for everyone across the school, with many memorable moments to celebrate.

Our Year 6 pupils have shown tremendous dedication and resilience during their SATs week, and we are incredibly proud of how they approached this important milestone. Their hard work and positive attitudes were wonderful to see. Following the tests, they thoroughly enjoyed celebrating with a well-deserved Domino's pizza treat, as well as an exciting and memorable trip to Alton Towers.

Although we were unfortunately unable to go ahead with Sports Day due to the weather, we appreciate your understanding and look forward to rescheduling this much-loved event.

It has also been fantastic to see our pupil governors taking such an active role in representing the school. They have worked hard to create our entry for the Forge Mill Farm scarecrow competition, choosing the theme of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. We are very proud of their creativity and teamwork. Parents are invited to support us by voting for our scarecrow on Facebook—your votes would be greatly appreciated!

Our Nursery children had a wonderful visit to Sycamore Adventure Centre. It was lovely to see parents joining the trip and sharing this special experience alongside their children.

Finally, we celebrated Culture Day on 21st May, which was a real highlight. It was wonderful to see children proudly wearing a wide variety of cultural outfits and celebrating the rich diversity within our school community.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Accelerated Reader



We kindly remind KS2 parents of the importance of encouraging children to read regularly at home and complete their Accelerated Reader quizzes. Daily reading helps to build fluency, comprehension, and confidence, while the quizzes support understanding and track progress. Your support in listening to your child read and ensuring quizzes are completed makes a significant difference to their learning and enjoyment of reading. To access the login page, please scan the QR code on the right.



Year 6 SATs

Key stage 2

Mathematics

Paper 1: arithmetic

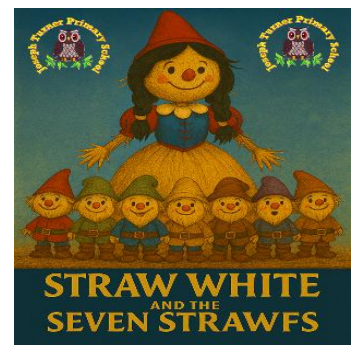
First name				
Middle name				
Last name				
Date of birth	Day	Month	Year	
School name				
DE number				



We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 children for the fantastic way they approached their SATs this week. Throughout the assessments, they demonstrated outstanding determination, resilience, and maturity, giving their very best effort in every test. They showed great focus, perseverance, and positivity, supporting one another and rising to the challenge with confidence. Their hard work and commitment have truly shone through, and they should all feel extremely proud of what they have achieved. To celebrate the end of a busy and successful week, the children enjoyed a well-deserved treat on Friday with a Domino's takeaway, which was a lovely opportunity to relax and recognise their efforts. Well done to each and every one of them!

Forge Mill Farm Scarecrow Competition

Our Pupil Governors have been hard at work designing and creating our entry for this year's scarecrow competition at Forge Mill Farm. Entries had to be created based on the theme 'Once upon a time...' so we opted for Straw White and the Seven Strawfs (Based on Snow White). As the defending champions, they are feeling both excited and determined to retain our title! We would greatly appreciate your support—voting is open on the Forge Mill Farm Facebook page, where you can simply 'like' our school's entry photo. There is a fantastic prize up for grabs: a free visit to the farm. Last year, this special reward enabled us to take the Pupil Governors along with two children from each class who had demonstrated exceptional behaviour throughout the year—an experience thoroughly enjoyed by all. Thank you in advance for your support!



Nursery – Sycamore Adventure

Our nursery children had a wonderful time at Sycamore Adventure Centre, joined by their families for a day full of fun and exploration! The children enjoyed racing on the go-karts, getting creative with water and sand play, and setting sail on the indoor pirate ship. There were plenty of smiles as they climbed, swung, slid, and crawled through tunnels together. It was a fantastic opportunity for children and families to play, learn, and make special memories together. One of the favourites being singing nursery rhymes around the campfire whilst hearing the popping of the popcorn.



Reception – transport

Reception children have continued their *Air, Ground and Water* topic, focusing on transport.

Last week, they became mechanics, using tools to “repair” a car and complete forms about the problems they found. This week, after reading *Topsy and Tim Go on an Aeroplane*, they made planes from playdough, lolly sticks, and buttons. Many also used junk materials to build their own planes. In role play, they packed suitcases, wrote plane tickets, and created passports ready for travel.

In Maths, the children are working hard comparing capacity and length. In RWI, they are making good progress and will move into new groups after half term.

During a recent basic skills session, they practised teamwork, problem solving, speaking, and listening by passing a hoop around a circle while holding hands—getting faster as they worked together.

Year 1 – Art

Year 1 have been busy exploring the work of artist Megan Coyle. Inspired by her unique style, they created their own beautiful seaside-themed collages. They especially enjoyed tearing the tissue paper and carefully layering it to bring their artwork to life.



Year 2 – Pizza fun!

Year 2 had a fantastic time in their English lessons by making their very own pizzas! To help bring their instructional writing to life, the children created a simple recipe step by step, learning how to give clear and precise instructions. The best part, of course, was tasting their wonderful pizzas at the end!



Year 3 – Art

Year 3 have been creating fantastic art work recently. They have been exploring how to layer different fabrics, colours and textures, developing their creativity and skills in preparation for our upcoming weaving projects.



Year 4 Swimming

Year 4 have been making fantastic progress with their swimming, growing in both skill and confidence each week. In the big pool, children have been developing important survival techniques, including treading water, as well as practising pushing off the wall and turning smoothly in the water. Meanwhile, in the small pool, children are working hard to build their confidence by submerging their heads and swimming widths without the use of aids. It is wonderful to see all pupils becoming more capable and assured in the water as they continue to learn and improve their swimming abilities.



Year 5 – Exciting opportunities!

Year 5 have had a busy and exciting term, taking part in Bikeability, where a selection of pupils developed confidence and safety awareness while cycling on the roads. In English, the children produced impressive newspaper reports about Ernest Shackleton, showing a strong understanding of historical detail and clear organisation. In maths, Year 5 have worked hard on fractions and decimals, confidently applying their skills to problem-solving and demonstrating good reasoning. Well done to Year 5 for their enthusiasm and excellent progress across the curriculum.



Year 6 – Alton Towers

As a well-deserved reward for their incredible hard work and determination during SATs week, our Year 6 pupils enjoyed an exciting trip to Alton Towers. The visit was a fantastic opportunity for the children to relax, celebrate their achievements, and spend time together after such a focused and demanding week. They showed the same excellent behaviour, enthusiasm, and teamwork throughout the day, making the most of every moment and supporting one another on the rides. It was wonderful to see their smiles and hear their laughter as they created lasting memories with their friends. We are immensely proud of each and every one of them for their efforts and hope they thoroughly enjoyed this special treat.



Dates for the diary – June

Date	Event
Monday 1 st – Friday 12 th June	Y4 Multiplication Test Check (MTC) window
Monday 1 st June	Nursery Sponsored Toddle
Tuesday 2 nd June	Y5 Space trip
Tuesday 2 nd June	Year 6 Leaver's photos
Wednesday 3 rd June	Y1 Seaside Day
Friday 5 th June	Baggie Bird penalty shootout event
Monday 8 th June	Y4 Glebefields Library Trip
Monday 8 th – Friday 19 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
Tuesday 9 th June	Parent Drop-in coffee morning with school nurses 8:45-10:00
Wednesday 10 th June	Y5 Glebefields Library Trip
Wednesday 10 th June	Nursery Art Gallery workshop for parents 10:45-11:30 & 2:30-3:00
Tuesday 16 th June	Reception Ash End Farm Trip
Wednesday 17 th June	Danny Butler GB Mountain Biker Sponsorship Event
Wednesday 17 th June	Year 1 Glebefields Library Trip
Friday 19 th June	Y1 (9:00) and Y4 (2:45) Father's Day Assemblies
Saturday 20 th June	Big Summer Picnic 11:00-3:00
Monday 22 nd June	Y6 Glebefields Library Trip
Wednesday 24 th June	Year 2 Minibeast experience
Thursday 25 th June	Year 3 Weston Trip
Monday 29 th June	Year 3 Glebefields Library Visit
Wednesday 1 st July	Transition day for most Year 6 pupils
Wednesday 1 st July	Meet the teacher day (transition)

Skills Builder



This month, the children have been developing their understanding of the Skills Builder essential skill of **Leadership**. Through a range of collaborative activities, they have been learning how to take responsibility, inspire others, and guide their peers towards shared goals. The children have practised important leadership behaviours such as listening carefully to different ideas, making thoughtful decisions, and encouraging teamwork. As their confidence grows, they are beginning to recognise that leadership is not just about being in charge, but about supporting others and setting a positive example. It has been wonderful to see them stepping up, showing initiative, and reflecting on how their actions can positively influence those around them.



National Online Safety

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday



Conversation starters for parents and carers: ONLINE CONTENT



Trying to start a conversation about online safety with children can be a daunting task. There are many reasons why children may not want to talk to adults about it. One might be that they don't think you'll understand or that you won't know how to help if they came to you with an online problem. It can also be hard to start a conversation about something that you might have limited knowledge about. However, with screen time increasing during the lockdown, it's important now more than ever, to be talking to children about what they are accessing online.

1 ASK THEIR MOTIVATION

Sometimes it's easy to assume we know why children choose certain games or apps. It can seem obvious, like the child interested in football will be enthusiastic about the new FIFA game. But sometimes it can be more subtle than that. It could be that it's an outlet for their creativity or it might be that they like the look of the main character. Learning their motivation and knowing why they like it can help advising them on how to use it safely and help you discuss the pros and cons.



6 MAKE TIME TO LISTEN

When your child can't wait to tell you about their new game, always try and listen to what they say. We always have a lot on our minds, so it's easy for us to drift off onto other things which may be more important. However try to stay involved and ask them more details about aspects of the game/app. Children will appreciate your interest and the more questions you ask, the more you can find out. If you act uninterested, then they are less likely to tell you about it again in the future.



2 CULTIVATE A BLAME FREE CULTURE

Children can often blame themselves if they come across something that scares them or makes them feel uncomfortable. There will be times when your child has gone against something that you have forbidden, however, most children do not intend to put themselves at risk. Therefore, it's important that your child is able to come to you with a problem and won't be blamed for it. Try to understand what happened and why and warn them of the dangers once more. Engaging in a 'told you so' dialogue or suggesting they are in trouble for not listening may deter them from reporting any future concerns.



7 ASK THEM TO BE THE TEACHER

Showing an interest in what children are accessing online is a great opportunity for you to learn something new as well. Children on the whole love sharing their experiences so by asking them to teach you how to use an app or play a game is not only a great way to bond, but you will also feel more empowered to talk about it. It is easy to shy away from conversations when the child perhaps knows more about the subject content than you do. This can help to turn this around.



3 SHARE PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

Starting a conversation by sharing something that you've seen or that has made you feel uncomfortable can be a great opener. Talking about your own feelings can help children realise that it isn't just them - adults can be affected too. You can then go into how you coped with it therefore indirectly giving children advice on how they can also cope in uncomfortable situations. You can also explain that the reason that you've chosen to talk to them about it is because talking helps. Children will hopefully be able to see the parallels in the experiences and mimic your behaviour in future.



8 USE SCHOOL MESSAGING

It might be that your child's school has sent out a message about the Childline number or to remind children to use the CEOP button to report content. Ask the children what they learned about these at school. When would they use the Childline number? When would they need to use the CEOP button? What does it look like? Asking the children why the school thought that the information was so important that they sent out a message about it reinforces what they learnt whilst at school.



4 TALK ABOUT THE NEWS

Asking children what their response is to news stories around online safety can be revealing. For example, there has been a recent survey conducted by the BBFC who are currently campaigning for the application of age ratings and content warnings on video sharing platforms. What do they think about this? Can they think of a time when this would have helped themselves or someone they know? Are they against the idea? If so, why? Could they be accessing something they shouldn't be?



9 ASK ABOUT THE RISKS

Many children may know what online risks are and will happily explain the potential dangers. Listen and try not to be overly shocked if they tell you something that disturbs you. This can then lead nicely into you asking the question about what steps they are taking to look after themselves or what help they could seek if something goes wrong. Sometimes it's just nice to know that your children know the dangers and have taken steps to help reduce the risk for themselves - this is the ultimate goal.



5 ASK FOR ADVICE

It could be that you really do have a friend at work who is debating whether or not to let their child do something online, or it could be that you're bending the truth slightly, but hopefully the outcome would be the same. Don't be afraid to ask others for advice. Not only why they should let the child use it, but also what would they tell the child to be aware of. What are the risks? This will help you understand the risks yourself and what to look out for in future.



10 ASK ABOUT RESPONSIBILITIES

Try asking open ended questions about roles and responsibilities online. Who is in control of the internet? Who is looking after you whilst you are online? Who decides what is appropriate for children to see? This can reveal a lot about a child's perception about who is responsible for their online safety. If they believe that it is up to everyone else to keep them safe, then you know you need to have a conversation about how they can reduce their own risk.



11 ASK ABOUT SCHOOL ADVICE

Sometimes it's hard to know what to warn children about. If there is a new app or game that your child has come across recently, ask them what they think their teacher would say about it. What advice would school give them? What have they been told about trusting people online or about fake news? Finding this out would be a good way to hear what advice they were given at school and help you reiterate the same message. Quick reminders about what to do if something makes them feel uncomfortable or who their trusted adults are can make all the difference.



Meet our expert

Heather Cardwell is a practising Online Safety Lead and senior school leader who is passionate about safeguarding children online and educating them around online risks. She has over 10+ years as a Computing Lead and has successfully developed and implemented a whole school approach to online safety in schools, delivering online safety training to both school staff and parents and helping to roll-out a bespoke online safety policy across her local network of education settings.



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Attendance at Joseph Turner!

Throughout May we have our attendance event at Joseph Turner, where we will be celebrating attendance. On Thursday 21st May, we have an attendance day where we are asking our pupils to dress up, the theme is "Country and Culture", so all pupils are invited to dress up in a traditional or common outfit from any country they wish or from a culture, whilst celebrating attendance, this is also a wonderful opportunity to celebrate different cultures from around the world.

Our attendance has slightly dropped from last half term, so we need to give a big push to ensure that our attendance is above 95%, the higher our attendance, the more pupils are in school and it means that pupils are getting more from their education, and the more they are able to achieve.

Our attendance table for this half term, shows some classes and year groups that are doing amazingly, a huge well done to year 2 and year 5 for smashing their attendance, as a whole year group! There are 5 classes who have 97% or more attendance so far this year, this means it will be close for those classes to win the attendance cinema afternoon reward...who will win it in the end? The only way to win, is to ensure your child is in school every day and on time.

Group	Attendance
Ladybirds AM	90.80%
Ladybirds PM	89.60%
Bumblebees	88%
Honeybees	97.40%
1 Tadpoles	97.10%
1 Dragonflies	91.40%
2 Penguins	94.40%
2 Puffins	97.90%
3 Flamingo	94.90%
3 Parrots	97.10%
4 Toucans	91.80%
4 Hummingbirds	94.30%
5 Panthers	97.60%
5 Jaguars	95.30%
6 Lions	94.60%
6 Tigers	96%
Totals	94.80%