



Skelton
PRIMARY SCHOOL

BELONG - BELIEVE - ACHIEVE



Newsletter - Friday 18th September 2026

A Message from Mrs Naylor

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back for the start of a new school year. There has been such a positive atmosphere across school as children have settled into their new classes, reconnected with friends and teachers, and begun to embrace the routines and expectations of the year ahead. We are particularly proud of how well our pupils have managed their transitions, whether moving into a new year group, joining a new class or simply getting back into the rhythm of school life. Thank you to families for supporting this smooth start by ensuring children arrive at school on time, ready to learn and wearing the correct school uniform each day. Being punctual and prepared helps children begin the day calmly and confidently, and our smart uniform helps us to create a strong sense of belonging and pride in our school community. We are delighted with the enthusiasm, kindness and positive attitudes we have seen so far, and we look forward to building on this excellent start as the year progresses.

Welcome to Mrs Hawkes - SENCo

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Hawkes to our school community as our new SENCO. Mrs Hawkes brings with her a wealth of experience and expertise in supporting children with additional needs, and she is already looking forward to getting to know our pupils, families and staff. She is excited to work closely with families to ensure that every child feels supported, valued and able to thrive at school. To give families an opportunity to meet Mrs Hawkes and find out more about her role, we are inviting parents and carers to **Coffee and Cake** with Mrs Naylor and Mrs Hawkes on **Wednesday 30th September, from 2.30–3.00pm**. This will be a relaxed, informal opportunity to drop in, say hello, have a chat and ask any questions you may have. We look forward to seeing lots of you there and to welcoming Mrs Hawkes as an important part of our school team.

Uniform

A big thank you to all our parents and carers for supporting us with our uniform expectations and ensuring that children are coming to school looking smart and ready to learn. We really appreciate your support in making sure pupils have the correct school uniform and PE kit, as this helps to create

a strong sense of pride and belonging within our school community. Just a gentle reminder that long hair should be tied back securely, and jewellery should not be worn in school, with the exception of one pair of small stud earrings. Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain our high standards and ensuring that all children are ready to take part safely in all aspects of school life.

Attendance

Thank you to all our parents and carers for your continued support in helping children attend school regularly and arrive on time. Being in school every day and arriving promptly gives children the best possible start to their learning and helps them settle into the day calmly and confidently. Our gates open at 8.40am, classroom doors open at 8.45am and the gates close at 8.55am. Pupils arriving after 9.00am will be recorded as late. We understand that occasional delays can happen, but regular lateness can quickly add up to a significant amount of missed learning time. For example, arriving just 10 minutes late each day could mean missing around 30 hours of learning over the course of a school year.

Healthy Lunch

A big thank you to all our parents and carers for supporting us in promoting healthy eating and for providing nutritious lunches and snacks for your children. We really appreciate the thought and care that goes into helping children make healthy choices, which supports their wellbeing, concentration and readiness to learn throughout the school day. We would also like to remind families that children have the option of enjoying a hot, nutritious school dinner, with a range of choices available each day. School dinners are a great way for children to enjoy a balanced meal with their friends, and we encourage families to make the most of this option where they can. Thank you, as always, for your continued support in helping us promote healthy habits across our school community.



Dispatches from Robins

What have you enjoyed learning about this term?

SC - We're learning all about where we live, we're going to the shop and the church!

EH - I want to learn more sounds with Fred the Frog!

EMA - I'm excited to play. I like the home corner.

Our topic this half term is 'Me and my Community'

JD - I made my family in the workshop. I made me, mummy and daddy.

HP - I made my family too, and I drew them.

AB - I made a house in the construction area and it was really tall, taller than me!

AM - I made Fred the Frog a house with my friends.

Tell us a funny, silly or cool thing that happened in school this half term.

AB - We played duck duck goose outside and it was funny!

HP - Fred the Frog told us to stick our tongue out!

What are you looking forward to this half term?

We are all looking forward to making new friends and exploring our indoor and outdoor provision areas!



Dispatches from Woodpeckers

What have you enjoyed learning about this term?

We have been reading Cave Baby and learning about all the animals. IW We enjoyed looking at the old stuff for babies and comparing then and now. JP

Tell us a funny, silly or cool thing that happened in school this half term.

IW was funny doing voices CC. BP found different objects at playtime to make us laugh.

What are you looking forward to this half term?

Doing more maths! JH, RL I love doubles! Finding out more about children's toys from the 1950s. AT EM, Going on school trips. AR I love doing RE. HW I'm looking forward to Science and experiments. Doing reading plus+ JP. TT rocksstars CC We are all looking forward to trips.



Dispatches from Owls

What have you enjoyed learning about this term?

AA - In maths we have been learning about partitioning and place value.

LG - We are learning about Leon and the Place Between in writing.

LH and EH - In art we have been drawing animals.

AA - We have been learning greetings in French.

Tell us a funny, silly or cool thing that happened in school this half term.

AF - I found a triple helicopter leaf at playtime.

LG - CH wore his coat in a funny way to look like an alien at playtime so I did the same.

What are you looking forward to this half term?

AF - I am excited to paint prehistoric pictures in art.

IR - I am really looking forward to learning more French with Miss Wilson!

OW - I can't wait to learn more about the skeleton in science and look at mechanical systems in DT.

EH - I'm excited to do computing!

Owls - Swimming and baking!

EH - To learn more about different religions in RE.

LG - The Year 4 Multiplication Check and the next book in writing.

Dispatches from Kingfishers

What have you enjoyed learning about this term?

(PN) We have been learning about Philippe Petit who performs tricks and also he walked across the two Twin Towers. (RL) In science we have been learning about Earth and space and we have learnt that our galaxy is called the Milky Way and is made of billions of stars. (BM) We've been learning that the sun is actually responsible for everything on Earth - without the sun we wouldn't be here.

Tell us a funny, silly or cool thing that happened in school this half term.

(CG) In my opinion, the funniest thing we have done today is when Mr Barker sang the sentence marching song. (LL) The most fun subject we have done so far I think is art. We have been drawing a picture of architecture by using observational drawing. (RL) I think the most fun subject so far is science as we have been learning about planets and strange objects such as white holes.

What are you looking forward to this half term?

(JS) I am looking forward to going to Eden Camp because I would like to see old-fashioned fighters, guns and maybe tanks. (LG) I am looking forward to the football tournaments because I feel like the school's players have developed a lot and this year I think we stand a good chance of winning. (CG) I am looking forward to some of the science experiments with Mr Barker and the rest of the class. (ERY) I am excited for dissections if we get to do any. (PN) I'm excited about DT this year because it's entertaining and I like doing creative things. (LG) I am excited for science because I love space and I have visited the Science Museum's space exhibition which was my favourite part. (CG) I am excited to complete my SATs as I wonder what it's like to do a complete week of tests. I also wonder what my sister went through. (SB) I am looking forward to more challenging work.



Looking ahead: key messages and reminders

Playing out in the village

We would like to take this opportunity to gently remind families about the importance of keeping children safe when they are playing out in the village or at the local park. We have received some reports of unkind behaviour, bullying and children becoming involved in activities that could put themselves or others at risk. We know that children enjoy having the freedom to play and spend time with their friends, but we ask parents and carers to ensure that children are appropriately supervised and understand the importance of making safe, respectful choices. Please remind children to treat others with kindness, include others in their play, follow the rules of the park and local area, and seek help from a trusted adult if they are worried or if something does not feel safe. By working together and talking regularly with our children about respectful behaviour and personal safety, we can help ensure that our village remains a happy, welcoming and safe place for everyone to enjoy.

Anti-bullying including online bullying (Break the silence)

We are continuing to strengthen our work around anti-bullying, online safety and respectful relationships across school. Through assemblies, classroom discussions and our Break the Silence work, we are helping children understand what bullying is, how it can affect others and, importantly, how they can speak out if something is worrying them. We are also talking about online bullying and responsible use of technology, reminding children that unkind behaviour can happen online as well as face-to-face and that they should always tell a trusted adult if they see or experience something that makes them feel uncomfortable or unsafe. Our message to all children is simple: if something is happening, break the silence and tell someone. We want every child to feel listened to, supported and confident that there is always an adult who will take their concerns seriously.

Wonderdome

We are very excited to welcome Wonderdome to school on **Wednesday 23rd September!** Wonderdome is a mobile planetarium that brings the wonders of space and science to life through an immersive, 360-degree experience. Throughout the day, all classes will have the opportunity to take part in an engaging workshop inside the dome, where children can explore the planets, stars and wider universe in a fun and memorable way. We are asking families for a voluntary donation of £2.50 per child towards the cost of this fantastic experience. We hope that all children will be able to take part and enjoy this exciting opportunity to learn, explore and be inspired by the world beyond our planet. Thank you, as always, for your generous support.

Owls Trip to York Minster

We are looking forward to taking Owls class to York Minster for a special educational visit during the school day. As part of the visit, the children will take part in an engaging RE workshop, giving them the opportunity to explore a significant place of Christian worship and deepen their understanding of Christianity, beliefs and traditions. They will have the chance to look closely at the Minster's beautiful architecture, artwork and features, while considering how and why places of worship are important to Christian communities. The workshop will bring their classroom learning to life and encourage the children to ask questions, reflect and make meaningful connections with their RE learning. We are sure it will be a memorable and enriching experience for everyone in Owls class.

Term Date 2026-2027

Please find below the key term dates for the 2026–2027 academic year. We recommend that families make a note of these dates when planning holidays and appointments to support excellent attendance throughout the school year.

Autumn Term	
Wednesday 9th September 2026	Thursday 22nd October 2026
Half term Monday 26th October 2026 - Friday 30th October 2026	
Monday 2nd November 2026	Thursday 17th December 2026
Christmas Holiday Monday 21st December - Friday 1st January 2027	
Spring Term	
Tuesday 5th January 2027	Friday 5th February 2027
Half term Monday 8th February 2027 - Friday 12th February 2027	
Monday 15th February 2027	Friday 19th March 2027
Easter Holiday Monday 22nd March 2027 - Friday 2nd April 2027	
Summer Term	
Monday 5th April 2027	Friday 28th May 2027
Half term Monday 31st May 2027 - Friday 4th June 2027	
Monday 7th June 2027	Friday 23rd July 2027

Summer Holidays start Monday 26th July 2027 - Friday 3rd September 2027

We would like to remind families that, in line with government guidance, holidays during term time cannot be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. Regular attendance is essential for children's learning, progress, and wellbeing, and even a short absence can have an impact on their education. We ask that families please use the published school term dates when planning holidays and appointments to ensure that children do not miss valuable learning opportunities. Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain excellent attendance across our school.

Class Attendance

9.9.26-18.9.26

			
Robins	Woodpeckers	Owls	Kingfishers
98%	99%	99%	95%

We are aiming for 96% for good attendance.

Dates for your diary

Please see all important dates below. Dates are correct at the time of publication but may be subject to change.

Autumn Term

2026

Date	Focus	Time and place
Wednesday 23rd September	Wonderdome All classes	School Hall All Day

Tuesday 29th September	Owls Trip to York Minster	York Minster 9-3
Wednesday 30th September	Coffee and Cake with Mrs Naylor and Mrs Hawkes (SENCo)	School Hall 2.30-3
Monday 5th October	Kingfishers Trip to Eden Camp	Eden Camp 9-3
Tuesday 6th October	Individual and Siblings Photos	School Hall Morning
Tuesday 6th October	Robins Trip to the shop	Local shop 1.30-2.30
Wednesday 7th October	Robins Book Breakfast Parents invited	School Hall 8.45-9.30
Tuesday 13th October	Woodpeckers Trip to the Castle Museum	Castle Museum 9-3
Thursday 15th October	Robins Trip to the Church	Church 1-3
Thursday 15th October	Reception Open Evening (Sept 27 cohort)	Robins Classroom
Friday 16th October	Harvest Donations	All Day
Monday 19th October	Reception Open Evening (Sept 27 cohort)	Robins Classroom 3.30-4.30
Wednesday 21st October	Flu Immunisations Reception to Year 6	Morning
Wednesday 21st October	Halloween Disco	EY/KS1 3.15-4.00 KS2 4.15-5.00
Thursday 22nd October	Non-uniform day	All Day
Friday 23rd October	Disaggregated Day	School closed
Half Term holiday Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October		
Monday 2nd November	Back to school	Classrooms 8.45

Tuesday 10th November	Parents' Evening	School Hall 3.30-5.30
Thursday 12th November	Parents' Evening	School Hall 3.30-5.30
Wednesday 18th November	Coffee and Cake with Mrs Naylor	School Hall 2.30-3
Friday 20th November	Children in Need Non-uniform	All Day
Wednesday 25th November	Woodpeckers Local Area Walk	Half a day
Friday 27th November	Owls Trip to The Dig	The Dig 9-3
Monday 30th November	Non-uniform day Donations for Christmas Fair	All Day
Monday 30th November	Christmas decoration workshop	School Hall 3.30-4.30
Thursday 3rd December	Christmas Fair	School Hall 3.30-4.30
Tuesday 8th December	EY/KS1 Nativity	School Hall 2.30-3.15
Wednesday 9th December	EY/KS1 Nativity	School Hall 2.30-3.15
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas Jumper Day	All Day
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas Dinner	Lunch time
Thursday 17th December	Non-uniform day	All Day
Friday 18th December	Disaggregated Day	School closed
Christmas Holiday Monday 21st December - Friday 1st January		
2027		
Monday 4th January	Training Day - teachers only	School closed
Wednesday 20th January	Coffee and Cake with Mrs Naylor	School Hall

		2.30-3
Tuesday 26th January	Owls Trip to The Yorkshire Museum	Yorkshire Museum 9-3
Friday 5th February	Non-uniform day	All Day
Half Term holiday Monday 8th February - Friday 12th February		
Monday 15th February	Back to school	Classrooms 8.45
Tuesday 16th February	Valentine's Disco	EY/KS1 3.15-4.00 KS2 4.15-5.00
Wednesday 3rd March	Coffee and Cake with Mrs Naylor	School Hall 2.30-3
Thursday 4th March	World Book Day Non-uniform - Pyjamas	All Day
Tuesday 9th March	EY/KS1 Mother's Day Afternoon Tea	School Hall 2.30-3.00
Tuesday 16th March	Parents Evening	School Hall 3.30-5.30
Thursday 18th March	Parents Evening	School Hall 3.30-5.30
Friday 19th March	Red Nose Day Non-uniform	All Day
Easter Holiday Monday 22nd March - Friday 2nd April		
Monday 5th April	Back to school	Classrooms 8.45
Wednesday 21st April	Coffee and Cake with Mrs Naylor	School Hall 2.30-3
Monday 3rd May	Bank Holiday	School closed
Monday 10th May	Start of Y6 SATs week Mon-Thurs	In school Mornings
Thursday 13th May	Kingfishers Trip to Footgolf	Afternoon

Friday 14th May	Y6 Celebration Trip (TBC)	All day
Friday 28th May	Non-uniform day	All day
Half term Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June		
Monday 7th June	Back to school	Classrooms 8.45
Monday 7th June	Y4 Multiplication Timetables Check (over 2 weeks)	In school
Tuesday 8th June	Class photos	School Hall Morning
Monday 14th June	Y1 Phonics Screening Check week	In school
Tuesday 15th June	Reception New Starter Parent meeting	School Hall 4.00-4.30
Thursday 17th June	EY/KS1 Father's Day Afternoon Tea	School Hall 2.30-3.00
Monday 21st June	Reception New Starter Stay and play	Robins Class 3.45-4.30
Wednesday 23rd June	Coffee and Cake with Mrs Naylor	School Hall 2.30-3
Friday 25th June	Sports Day	KS2 9.00-10.30 EY/KS1 1.30-3.00
Tuesday 29th June	Big Talk	All classes During the day
Thursday 1st July	Reception New Starter Whole school transition	All classes 9.15-12.00
Friday 9th July	Y6 Leavers Assembly (Y6 Parents invited)	School Hall 2.30
Friday 9th July	School Reports sent home	End of the day
Friday 23rd July	Last day of school - non-uniform day House Point Celebration	All day

Summer Holidays Monday 26th July - Friday 3rd September

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