



Skelton
PRIMARY SCHOOL

BELONG - BELIEVE - ACHIEVE



Newsletter - Monday 22nd September 2025

Welcome to Our New Reception Pupils!

We are so pleased to welcome our newest members of the school community—our Reception pupils! It has been a delight to see their smiling faces, boundless energy, and curiosity as they've settled into school life over the past few weeks.

Starting school is a big step, and we are incredibly proud of how well the children have adapted to their new routines. From learning to hang up their coats and find their pegs, to joining in with songs, stories, and classroom activities, they've shown confidence, kindness, and enthusiasm every step of the way.

The children are already beginning to build friendships and explore their learning environment with growing independence. We've seen them enjoy outdoor play, creative tasks, and early phonics sessions—always with a sense of wonder and excitement.

Thank you to all our Reception parents and carers for your support during this important transition. Your encouragement at home makes such a difference, and we're looking forward to a wonderful year of growth, discovery, and learning together.

Student Leadership Opportunities

We believe that developing leadership skills from an early age helps build confidence, responsibility, and a sense of community. Over the past few weeks, pupils across the school have been getting involved in a range of leadership opportunities—and we've been so impressed by their enthusiasm and maturity.

School Council & Editor Elections

Pupils recently took part in democratic elections for our School Council and Newsletter Editors. Candidates shared their ideas with their classmates, and participated in a school-wide vote. It was inspiring to see so many children putting themselves forward, listening to others, and thinking about how they can contribute to improving our school. Congratulations to all those who were

elected—we look forward to seeing the positive impact you'll make this year.

Kingfishers Lead the Way

A special mention goes to our Kingfisher class, who have taken on a range of leadership roles this term. From becoming Playground Leaders who help organise games and include others at break times, to acting as Lunch Buddies supporting younger pupils in the dining hall, their sense of responsibility and kindness has truly stood out. These roles help foster a caring and inclusive environment and give our older pupils a chance to be positive role models for others.

We are incredibly proud of all our student leaders and look forward to seeing them grow in confidence and responsibility as the year progresses.

Celebration Assemblies – New Additions!

We're excited to share some updates to our weekly Celebration Assemblies, which continue to be a wonderful opportunity to recognise and reward the amazing achievements and positive attitudes of our pupils.

Each week, our assembly is centred around a focus value; Respect, Kindness, Creativity, Teamwork or Success. Teachers carefully select one pupil from their class who has shown the week's value in action, and they are presented with a Value Award Certificate during Thursday's assembly. It's always a proud moment for pupils and staff alike!

This year, we've introduced some new certificates to help celebrate even more aspects of school life:

- **Class Shout Out** – awarded to a pupil that has shown fantastic teamwork, behaviour, or effort during the week.
- **Reading/Phonics Awards** – recognising pupils who have made excellent progress or shown dedication in their reading and phonics learning.
- **Principal's Award** – a special certificate chosen by the Principal, celebrating exceptional contributions or achievements across the school.

We're also celebrating our shared commitment to good attendance and punctuality:

- The class with the **highest weekly attendance** is awarded our **Attendance Trophy**.
- Each class has the chance to earn a **Punctuality Star Trophy** for arriving on time and being ready to learn.

These additions help us highlight the many ways pupils contribute positively to our school community and reinforce the values and habits that help everyone thrive.

Update: Changes to Show and Tell

We wanted to let you know about a small change to our classroom routines. This year, we will no longer be holding **Show and Tell sessions in class**. While these sessions have been a lovely

opportunity for children to share their interests, we are making some changes to help manage time more effectively during the school day and ensure all pupils get the most out of their learning time.

However, we still love to celebrate pupils' achievements outside of school!

If your child has received a **certificate, trophy or award** for something they've taken part in — such as sports, dance, music or any other hobby — they are warmly invited to bring it in to share during our **Celebration Assembly on Thursdays**. This is a special time when we come together as a school to recognise effort, achievement, and values both in and out of the classroom.

Thank you for your support and understanding as we continue to develop the best routines for our pupils.

A big thank you!

Hello everyone,

I'm delighted to share that I successfully completed the Great North Run a couple of weekends ago. It was a challenge, but such an amazing experience – and I couldn't have done it without all the encouragement, kind words, and support I've received from our school community.

A huge thank you to everyone who donated, shared advice, or simply cheered me on. Your generosity and kindness mean so much, and together we've managed to raise over £370 for a wonderful cause.

I was back in the kitchen the very next day with very achy legs, but a very happy heart. Thank you once again for being such a fantastic community.

From Mel





Dispatches from Robins

What have you enjoyed learning about this term?

RL - I like learning letters!

BR - I like playing! I made Jurassic World in the construction area.

VP - I made a noisy instrument in the workshop. MS - We've been playing lots!

Robins have been busy exploring their indoor and outdoor provision areas. In maths, we have been matching and sorting and in phonics we have learnt our first sounds!

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

CY - We found a worm in the mud kitchen!

BM - When Mrs Crump read that story (Ravi's Roar) and she did a big roar!

What are you looking forward to this half term?

EM - I'm excited to learn more letters!

RB - I'm excited to come to school every day.

VP - I'm excited to sing T-T-together in our Jigsaw Jenie lesson.



Dispatches from Woodpeckers

What have you enjoyed learning about this term?

In Science we have been learning about animals and what they need to survive. They need air, water and food to survive (LH). We have enjoyed writing about Wolves in English. We have been writing facts about wolves and sharing them with our friends.

We have been on the computers with Mrs Wilson learning to log on and off. We have been designing and making ferris wheels and putting our cereal boxes to good use!

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

Some of us liked it when we created a pretend zoo game at playtime. (MG) - we thought this was cool! Some children were making bird noises with their hands on their mouths at playtime. (EM)

What are you looking forward to this half term?

We are looking forward to more science and learning things about animals. We are really excited to make our ferris wheels in DT and to see what everyone else's looks like when they are finished.



Dispatches from Owls

What have you enjoyed learning about this term?

In Maths we have been learning about place value. We have been rounding to the nearest 10 and just started rounding to the nearest 100. We have enjoyed doing art because there is no right or wrong answer. In art we have just started doing a background for an Egyptian background. In Geography we are learning about countries. We are looking at countries on a map to see what type of renewable energy they use. In History we are learning about the past and ancient times. We are learning about when the Romans left Britain, looking at the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings.

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

I went to Hickories for my birthday and had TWO PORTIONS of popcorn chicken and a GIANT chocolate milkshake with whipped cream and a cherry on top!! (WS)

When I was on the playground I jumped off the obstacle course. (CH)

When we were playing the spinny game on the grass, we all fell to the ground when we spun too fast and then let go! (OW)

What are you looking forward to this half term?

We are looking forward to finishing our Egyptian artwork and doing experiments about teeth.

Dispatches from Kingfishers



What have you enjoyed learning about this term?

In History we have been learning about Athens and Spartans and we debated which was better. At 9, Spartans had to go to a camp to hunt for food and fight. (LG) In Geography, we have been learning about different countries, and their populations. Tokyo had the highest population each and every time. (KB) In art we drew a self portrait and then we used a sheet of paper and drew words over it creating a portrait of ourselves made out of words. We have been designing a background for our portraits using watercolour paints. (HG) In English, we have been reading The Arrival and we had to find out where the main character was going - fingers crossed he will find his family again. (GT) I have enjoyed English because we created a poster about a fictional animal. (EB) We have been using temperature to help us understand negative numbers - below zero is negative and above zero is positive. (LG)

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

Mr Barker destroyed a chair by trying to sit on it and it was the end of its lifetime - it said "I'm 60 years old, it's time for me to go!". (AW) I went on the trim trail and on the wheel at the end of it, I ran and I jumped on that and I flew like Superman and I landed on something, and that something

stained my T-shirt. (GT)

What are you looking forward to this half term?

I am looking forward to DT this half, whatever our project may be. (KB) I am looking forward to doing fun activities in school. (MF) I'm looking forward to dissecting an eye. (AW)

Looking ahead: key messages and reminders

Y6 Secondary School Open Evening

Vale of York	Tuesday 23 September 2025
Outwood Academy Easingwold	Tuesday 23 September 2025
All Saints RC School	Wednesday 24 September 2025
York High School	Thursday 25 September 2025
Manor CE Academy	Tuesday 30 September 2025
The Joseph Rowntree School	Wednesday 1 October 2025
Archbishop Holgate's School	Thursday 2 October 2025
Millthorpe School	Tuesday 7 October 2025
Fulford School	Wednesday 8 October 2025
Huntington School	Thursday 9 October 2025

Attendance and Term Time Holidays

At Skelton Primary School, we are committed to giving every child the best possible start to their education—and excellent attendance plays a big part in this!

Being on time is just as important as being present. Our school doors open promptly at **8:45am**. Please make sure your child arrives **before 9:00am** each day, ready to learn. Arriving late can cause disruption to their learning and to the class.

If your child is unwell and unable to attend, it's essential that you **ring the school office and leave a message each day they are absent**. This helps us keep accurate records and ensures we know your child is safe.

Please remember that we **cannot authorise holidays during term time**. Unauthorised absences impact your child's learning and may result in a fine. If a pupil **misses 10 sessions, AM/PM register mark, (5 or more days of unauthorised absence)**, including term-time holidays, the school is required to **issue a fixed penalty notice**.

Let's work together to make sure every child gets the most out of every school day. Thank you for your support!

Lego Kit donations

We are excited to introduce **LEGO Therapy sessions** to help support children with their communication, teamwork, and problem-solving skills.

To make these sessions a success, we are kindly asking for **donations of complete LEGO kits**. If you have any **boxed sets (with all pieces included and the original instruction booklet)** that are no longer being used at home, we would love to give them a new purpose in school.

Please hand any donations in to the **school office**.

Thank you for helping us build brighter futures—brick by brick!

Class Attendance

2.9.25-19.9.25

			
Robins	Woodpeckers	Owls	Kingfishers
95.9%	94.2%	91%	89.4%

We are aiming for 96% for good attendance.

Dates for your diary

Please see all important dates below. Further dates are in the process of being confirmed. We will inform parents via the newsletter when further dates are added.

Summer Term

Date	Focus	Time and place
Tuesday 30th September	Robins Trip to the Shop	Afternoon
Wednesday 1st October	Robins Parent Phonics Morning	8.45-9.30 Robins Classroom

Thursday 2nd October	Census Day Menu - to follow	School Hall (Lunchtime)
Friday 10th October	Robins Trip to the Church	Afternoon
Wednesday 15th October	Flu Immunisation (R-Y6) - see flu letter for online consent	In School
Monday 20th October	Reception Open Evening (September 2026 starters)	Robins Class 4pm-5pm
Wednesday 22nd October	Halloween Disco	School Hall (details to follow)
Friday 24th October	School Closed - Training Day Start of half term	
Autumn Half Term Holiday Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October		

Monday 3rd November	First day of Autumn 2 Term	School
Thursday 13th November	Reception Open Evening (September 2026 starters)	Robins Class 4pm-5pm
Friday 14th November	Children in Need - Non-Uniform Day	School