



AYRCOUGHFEE HALL SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER: 05/06/26

Dear Parents,

We have certainly started the final half term with a bang! What a busy week we have had in school. The Spalding School's Music Festival was held here on Tuesday and it was good to host local schools and take part ourselves. Well done Year 6, for your fantastic singing performance.

On Thursday, our Year 4 children departed for Sacrewell Farm for their overnight residential. The weather has mostly been kind to them and they have had a fantastic time. Many thanks to our parents for supporting the visit and to the staff who gave up their time to accompany the children.

Rehearsals for the Junior production are now well underway and the children are working hard to learn their lines and the songs. Things are already sounding very good!

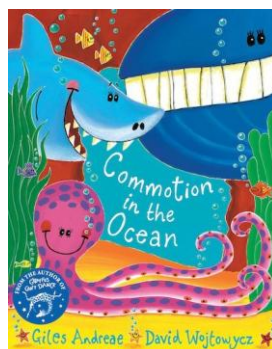
Finally, our Year 6 children began their community skills sessions this afternoon, with groups setting off to conduct various activities to support the local community and extend their own understanding of the concept of volunteering to make a difference.

Everybody will certainly be ready for a good rest this week!

KINDERGARTEN



We have had a wonderful start to the new term with our exciting topic, *Commotion in the Ocean*! The children have been sharing what they already know about ocean life and thinking of lots of fantastic questions that they would like to investigate further. As always, we have enjoyed expressing our creativity through art, creating ocean-inspired pieces using collage, colouring and printing techniques. It has been lovely to see the children becoming increasingly independent in their work and learning. This week, we are enjoying the story *The Snail and the Whale*, which has sparked lots of discussion and imagination, and we are looking forward to discovering many fascinating facts about life beneath the waves in the weeks ahead.



RECEPTION

We have had a wonderful start to the new term and the children have settled in very well. Our new topic *Commotion in the Ocean* has already brought lots of excitement. The seaside cafe role play has been a big hit and the dressing up area with flip flops, shorts and sunglasses has inspired lots of imaginative play. The children love pretending to be at the beach and serving each other food and drinks. A cappuccino seems to be the top choice every day.

In Drawing Club, we have been exploring *The Snail and the Whale* by Julia Donaldson. The children have been so keen to write about the snail's adventures and imagine the pair meeting new friends. Their writing is becoming more confident with growing neatness and fluency.

Maths has taken us on a shape adventure. The children have been rotating and manipulating shapes to create pictures, patterns and tangrams. They have also enjoyed using silver pens to make swirly writing which has been great fun and brilliant for fine motor skills.

In Art we have been blending white with different shades of the primary colour blue to create ocean scenes. The children have loved experimenting with colour and watching the sea and sky appear on their work.



YEAR 1

The children have settled back in well during our first week and they have been busy with lots of exciting learning! In English, we have been exploring our text 'Lots' by Nicola Davies and the children have enjoyed reading a variety of facts about animals and life on Earth. They loved reading the text and were very surprised to discover some animals that are extinct. They have produced some fantastic pieces of work including informative posters about protecting wildlife and beautifully descriptive sentences about the habitats in which different animals live. All the children worked incredibly hard on their handwriting and the quality of their work has been outstanding! Well done Year 1.



YEAR 2

The children have come back ready and raring to go for their final half term in Year 2!

In English we have thoroughly enjoyed exploring Jim and the Beanstalk by Raymond Briggs. The children confidently identified similarities and differences between this story and the traditional tale of Jack and the Beanstalk. I particularly enjoyed listening to their thoughtful discussions about which book they preferred and the reasons behind their choices.

In Maths we have begun our new topic on statistics. The children have enjoyed collecting and interpreting data using tallies and tables and have shown great enthusiasm when organising different sets of information. In Science we have started an exciting experiment to investigate what plants need to grow. The children made predictions and helped to set up a range of plants under different conditions. Some plants have been placed without water, some without soil, some in a colder environment and others without sunlight. Over the coming weeks, we will carefully observe and record any changes, before comparing the results with our original predictions. Well done, Year 2, on a fantastic first week back.



YEAR 3

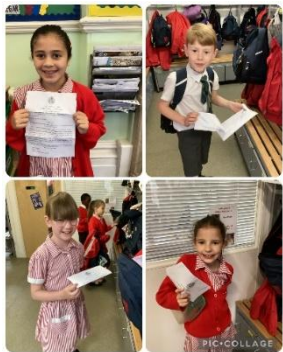
The Year 3 children have received their acceptance letters to Hogwarts and magic; mischief and mayhem are in the air! However, we solemnly swear that... we are learning in here!

In English, the children read the first chapter of "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone" and analysed the techniques J.K. Rowling used to captivate and engage her readers. They explored how she introduced characters, created suspense and built a magical atmosphere. Inspired by this, the children then wrote their own imaginative story openings featuring magical settings, mysterious characters and exciting adventures.

In Maths, the children have been practising how to tell the time using both digital and analogue clocks as well as how to distinguish between am and pm times.

They have worked hard to improve their accuracy and confidence when reading and recording time. Our science lessons focused on investigating different materials to determine which would be most suitable for creating effective shadow puppets – our next DT project. We also experimented with light and colour and successfully created coloured shadows, which will certainly come in handy as we continue developing our DT project.

In Geography, the children have begun their exciting journey of exploring Italy. They have been learning about the country's location, key physical and human features, as well as some of its most famous landmarks and traditions. To deepen their understanding of Italian culture, the children also designed their own Venetian Carnival masks, inspired by the colourful and elaborate masks worn during the famous celebrations in Venice. What a great week!



YEAR 4



Year 4 pupils are on their first ever residential at Sacrewell Farm.

YEAR 5

This week, the children have been thoroughly enjoying learning and rehearsing parts of our junior play. They have been working hard on speaking with expression and confidence, as well as using gestures, movement and body language to bring their characters to life. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and engagement during rehearsals and we are already beginning to see the performance take shape.

In Maths, the children have been focusing on adding and subtracting decimals. They have been developing their understanding of place value by carefully lining up digits and ensuring decimal points are in the correct position. The children have shown great determination when tackling a range of fluency and reasoning questions, and many are becoming increasingly confident in explaining their mathematical thinking and methods.

In English, we have been exploring the key features of spooky stories. The children have been identifying and using ambitious vocabulary to create suspense and build tension. They have also been experimenting with short sentences for impact and using vivid imagery to help the reader picture events and settings. We have been very impressed with the children's creativity and look forward to seeing these skills applied in their own spooky story writing.





On Tuesday, the Year 6 children had a fabulous time taking part in the School Music Festival. The children joined with other schools to sing and perform some songs that they had been learning. The children also sang 'The Earth Turns' to the other participants and really made their teachers really proud. In the afternoon, they had the opportunity to see some amazing 'Travelling Tuba' players and the fabulous array of different musical instruments that they brought in to play. The children had a fantastic time and we are very thankful to the organisers who made this event possible.

The children have also been working hard in our play rehearsals. It is good to see that lines are beginning to be learnt and the children have been really trying to bring their characters to life. Great work, Year 6 – keep practising those lines.

In maths, the children have been learning all about coordinates. They have been plotting points in all four quadrants, learning about translation as well as using their skills to solve problems. Well done, Year 6. On Friday, the children are participating in their community work and are helping to support our local area through visiting a local care home, litter picking, helping at a local church and helping with gardening activities at Ayscoughfee Hall. It is great to see their enthusiasm towards helping others and being great ambassadors for our school.

LEARNING LANGUAGES



This week in Modern Foreign Languages, pupils have made an excellent start to their new summer term topics, demonstrating enthusiasm and confidence as they build upon their language learning.

In Infants, pupils have begun exploring the exciting themes of holidays, pirates and the body. They have quickly acquired a range of new vocabulary and have impressed me with their ability to recall and use it in a variety of contexts. Through interactive games, songs and speaking activities, pupils have consolidated their learning while developing their confidence in using Spanish. It has been wonderful to see such positive engagement and enthusiasm for language learning — *¡fantástico trabajo!*

In Juniors, pupils have embarked on their final Spanish unit of the year, focusing on practical communication and cultural understanding. Topics this term include conversations, animals, market shopping and a cultural study of Madrid. Pupils have enjoyed developing their speaking and listening skills through role-play activities, while also broadening their understanding of life in Spain and the wider Spanish-speaking world.

A particular highlight this week has been Year 5's introduction to their project exploring the unique features of Spanish towns and cities. Pupils have begun researching famous landmarks, cultural traditions and places of interest, and have shown great curiosity and enthusiasm as they discover what makes different regions of Spain special. I look forward to seeing their projects develop over the coming weeks — *¡qué interesante!*

SPORTS REMINDERS

HOME SPORTS FIXTURES

A reminder that parents who are coming to watch children in home fixtures on the Grammar School field must arrive 15 minutes before the fixture starts to gain entry, due to safeguarding.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS ATTENDANCE

Please may I remind all parents that if your child is not going to attend an after-school club for any reason that you either write in the child's school diary to confirm this or email the school office direct. It is important that teachers supervising clubs know where the children are due to our safeguarding commitment.

'Save A Life' Workshop



Thanks go to Jojo and Karen from the Castle Sports Complex for hosting our 'Save a Life' workshop on Thursday this week at Ayscoughfee Hall School. Our parents were invited to join them in a theory and practical session, learning how to put casualties into the recovery position and give CPR to infants, young children and adults. It was a very informative session where our parents were able to practise on manikins and understand how to perform chest compressions and how to treat drowning victims. I am sure there was lots to take away for our parents and maybe one day it will make a difference to saving someone's life. Thank you, Jojo and Karen, and to our parents who attended the event.

STAFF CAR PARK

A polite reminder that parents should not be using the staff carpark at any time during the day, including for after school club collection. This is for health and safety reasons and we thank you for your support in this.

KIDS CLUB – KEY FOB ACCESS ENTRY AND EXIT

We kindly remind all parents dropping off and collecting their children from Kids' Club to use their key fobs for entering and exiting the school. In line with our safeguarding procedures, parents are not permitted to access the main school building unaccompanied. Thank you for your understanding and support.

SCHOOL STATIONERY SHOP

The school stationery shop will be open during breaktimes every Thursday for pupils to purchase pens, pencils etc.



THE EMBROIDERY ATTIC – SCHOOL UNIFORM SUPPLIER

Please note The Embroidery Attic (School Uniform Supplier) has a new webpage. All prices and items are up to date so if you need to order anything in future then please use this link <https://the-embroidery-attic.myshopify.com>



PTFA NEWS

The PTFA would like to invite any parents to join the "Ayscoughfee Hall School PTFA" Facebook & Instagram page. These pages are private groups used by the PTFA to keep parents up to date on any news and events.

UPCOMING PTFA EVENTS:

- THURSDAY 11TH JUNE – DEADLINE FOR SUMMER RAFFLE TICKETS (SEE ATTACHED DETAILS)
- FRIDAY 12TH JUNE – DEADLINE FOR FATHER'S DAY ORDERS (SEE ATTACHED DETAILS)
- FRIDAY 12TH JUNE – NON-UNIFORM IN EXCHANGE FOR TOMBOLA PRIZE FOR THE FETE
- FRIDAY 19TH JUNE – NON – UNIFORM DAY / SUMMER FETE – 5PM TO 7PM (DETAILS TO BE SENT OUT NEARER THE TIME)

PRE-LOVED SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

The shop will be displayed at the Summer Fete on **Friday 19th June – 5pm to 7pm**. If you are unable to make the date you can arrange an appointment by emailing PTFA@ahs.me.uk.

REMINDERS FOR NEXT WEEK:

- **Monday 8th June – Piano / Flute assembly (parents invited) 9am**
- **Tuesday 9th June – Drums assembly (parents invited) 9am**
- **Tuesday 9th June – Summer Music Concert – 7pm**
- **Friday 12th June – Non-uniform day in exchange for a tombola prize for the fete (details to follow shortly)**

MUSIC ASSEMBLIES AFTER HALF TERM

Date	Time	Teacher	Instrument
Monday 8 th June	9am	Miss Potter	Piano & Flute
Tuesday 9 th June	9am	Mr Jackson	Drums

MUSIC LESSON SLIPS FOR AUTUMN TERM

Just a reminder that if you would like your child to continue with music lessons in the Autumn term, then please remember to return the reply slip to Mrs Jeffries no later than **Friday 12th June**.

Dates for Your Diary

JUNE	
Mon 8 th	<i>Piano assembly – Miss Potter’s pupils – starts 9am – Parents invited.</i>
Tues 9 th	<i>Drums assembly – Mr Jackson’s pupils – starts 9am – Parents invited.</i> Summer Music Concert – starts 7pm
Fri 12 th	Non-uniform day in exchange for a tombola prize for PTFA Summer Fete Year 6 Community skills
Mon 15 th	Music ‘watching week’ infant parents
Tues 16 th	New intake information evening – Year 6 girls – Spalding High School
Thurs 18 th	Year 4 Open Day at Spalding High School Art Competition in school Father’s Day gifts sent home with pupils 11+ Information Evening for Year 5 boys at Spalding Grammar School
Fri 19 th	Non-uniform day (details to follow nearer the time) PTFA Summer Fair – 5pm – 7pm (details to follow nearer the time)
Tues 23 rd	Wellbeing Workshops in school – Year 1 to Year 6 pupils
Wed 24 th	Away Fixture: U9 & U11 girls Cricket at Grantham Prep / 2.15pm start
Thurs 25 th	Sports Day for Infants & Juniors – starts at 10am – parents invited to attend picnic in the playground (details to follow nearer the time)
Fri 26 th	Year 1 and Year 3 outing to Lincoln Zoo Year 6 Community Skills
Mon 29 th	Kindergarten and Reception outing to Skegness Aquarium (details to follow nearer the time) ‘Lives’ in school to do first aid training with Year 6 pupils
Tues 30 th	Widdershins Theatre Company – in school (details to follow nearer the time) New intake information evening - Year 6 boys - Spalding Grammar School

STARS OF THE WEEK



Congratulations to this week's **STARS** who are;

Kindergarten: Franklin

Reception: Arthur

Year 1: William

Year 2: Max B

Year 3: Arlo

Year 4: Max A

Year 5: Orla

Year 6: Anesu

Kindness Awards: Vira (Infant) Caitlin (Junior)

Headteachers Award: Year 6

Golden Dustpan Award: Reception

Lunchtime Award: Year 2

We have the following birthdays:

6th June – Rupert F.

7th June – Teddee-beau

9th June – Eliza N. and Ronnie-Rose

Best wishes,

Mrs Wright