

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 11th September 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

Now the children are back in the routine of school, exciting new learning themes are underway. These themes will provide meaningful opportunities for children to explore new concepts, develop their knowledge, and make connections across different areas of the curriculum.

To help parents stay informed about their child's learning, we have introduced a new section on our website under the Parent Information area called "What We're Learning". Here, you can find an overview of your child's current learning theme, along with key information about the topics being explored in class.

A direct link to the page can be found below:

[What We're Learning](#)

We have also added additional links onto our Home Learning page for parents wanting further resource ideas, to support their child at home - [Home-Learning](#)

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Swinbank



<https://kellslaneschool.co.uk>

Find your Remarkable



Emerald

600

Sapphire

800

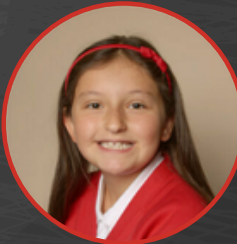
Ruby

900

Amber

600

"This week well done Ruby for winning the most team points. We hope everyone has had a great (full) first week in their new classes. We also hope the new Dojo point system is working out well - you can use your points to buy things from the shop at the end of each half term (60 points at minimum.)"



Head Boy & Girl



See more from
the past week
here -



Remarkable Award

Every Friday, we celebrate children who have shown outstanding effort, kindness, resilience, or have simply been fantastic members of our school community.

Each week, the class teacher randomly selects one child to receive the Remarkable Reward. Together, the class shares positive examples of why that child is remarkable, recognising qualities such as kindness, perseverance, hard work, helpfulness, and friendship. This celebration helps build self-esteem and encourages children to appreciate the strengths and achievements of others.

The Friday Remarkable Reward is about more than achievement; it is about character. We celebrate the everyday acts that make a difference, from encouraging a friend to showing kindness or determination when things are challenging. These are the children we are proud to recognise.



PE achievements outside of school

Has your child achieved something remarkable in sport outside of school?

We would love to celebrate their success at school. Please send in photographs of your child into school earning medals or certificates, competing in matches/tournaments or learning a new skill.



Photos will be displayed in school, featured on our PE board to celebrate sporting achievement and inspire other children.

Please send photographs in with your child or hand them into the school office.



Year 6 Bikeability

This week and next, our Year 6 children will be participating in Bikeability. This program aims to equip them with essential cycling skills and road safety awareness. Through a series of fun and engaging sessions, the children will learn how to ride confidently and safely on roads, ensuring they are well-prepared for future journeys.



Nursery

We have had a delightful week in Nursery this week, as our children adapted to their new daily routines.

We celebrated two of our children turning 4 and one of our children becoming a big brother by baking a giant chocolate cake and a batch of cupcakes. This involved lots of counting, measuring and estimating, as the children worked out whether there would be enough for everyone in our class. This prompted us to read the book 'Chocolate Cake' by Michael Rosen which captivated the children's imaginations and led to lots of lovely conversations about making mistakes and good choices.

We were very excited to share the new Julia Donaldson book 'Gruffalo Granny' with the children. We read the books 'Goat goes to Playgroup' and 'The Family Book', sang some Nursery rhymes and took part in our first session of 'Dough Disco' as we helped strengthen our finger, hand and wrist muscles.

There has been lots of den building, independently reading books, challenging ourselves outdoors on the equipment and imaginative play.



Reception

This week in Reception, we have enjoyed starting out phonics sessions. We've learnt the sounds for m, a, s and d. We have even had a go at handwriting these letters in handwriting books. In our classroom we have continued to get to know each other and have had lots of fun exploring the new areas of our classroom.

In **Maths**, we have focused on the composition of the most important number '1'. We have also used our fast eyes to subitise and see 1, 2 and 3 represented in different ways.

In **English** we have been reading *The Colour Monster Goes To School* by Anna Llenas. We thought about how the monster felt at different points in the story and how that compared to our first days in Reception.



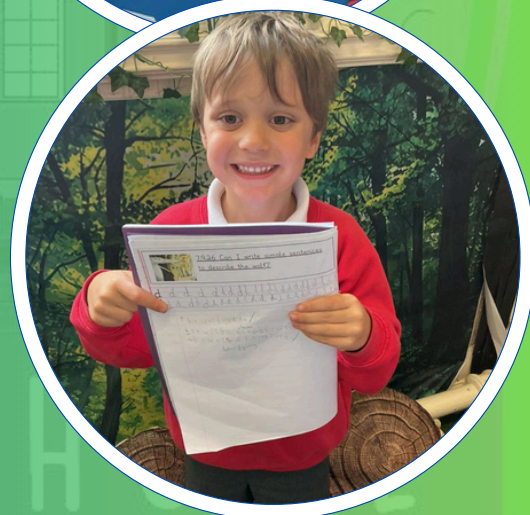
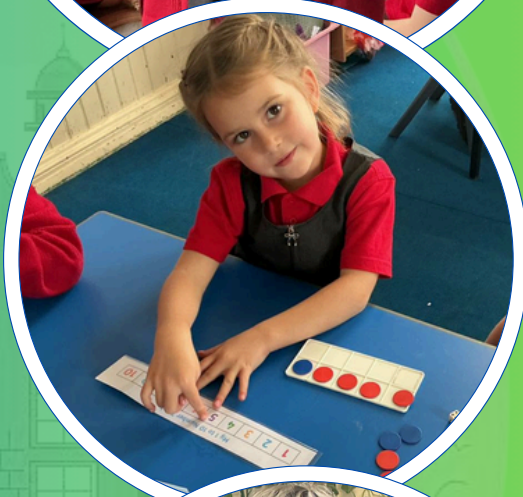
Y1

In **English**, we have continued our Little Red Riding Hood topic, writing simple sentences to describe the wolf's character.

In **Maths**, we have been representing amounts using objects and counters, such as using a cube to stand for each sheep in a group, to help us count accurately.

In **RE**, we have been learning about Christian baptism and how it welcomes a new baby into the church family.

In **Music**, we have been finding our singing voice, learning songs to sing together with our friends.



Y2

In **English**, we have been retelling the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears, using adverbials of time such as 'first', 'next' and 'after that' to sequence our writing.

In **Maths**, we have been using place value charts to work out how many tens and ones make different numbers. We have also been writing numbers as words,

In **Art**, we have been mark-making to sound, drawing orchestras and instruments as we listen to music.

In **History**, we have started our 'Global News Hub' topic, comparing how news was shared in the past (runners, church bells, pigeon post) with today.





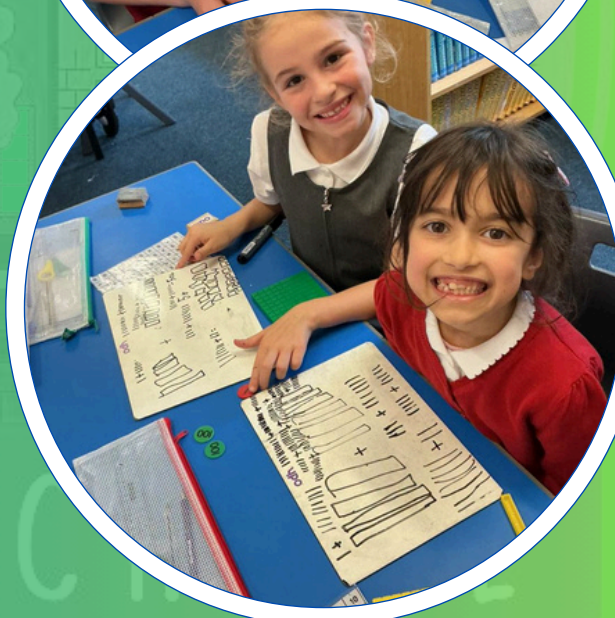
Y3

In **Maths**, we have been representing and partitioning numbers up to 1000.

In **History**, as part of our 'Lights, Camera, Animation' topic, we have learned about early animation, exploring cave paintings and the zoetrope.

In **Science**, we have started our new topic on Light, learning what a light source is and thinking about how some can be dangerous.

In **English**, we have been creating posters about our own imaginary friends, inspired by the story Imaginary Fred.



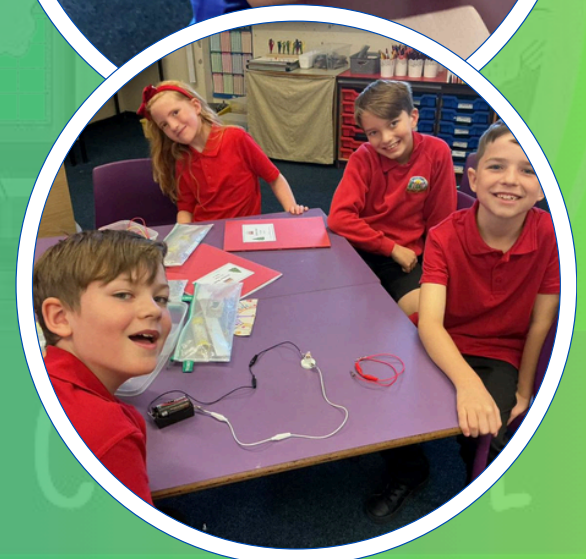
Y4

In **Maths**, we have been counting in thousands and writing numbers in both digits and words.

In **History**, we have started our topic on the internet, thinking about what life was like before it existed and learning about its invention.

In **English**, we have been extending our use of similes and metaphors, describing scenes inspired by the story Flotsam.

In **RE**, we have started learning about Sikhism, exploring key values such as equality, respect and acceptance.





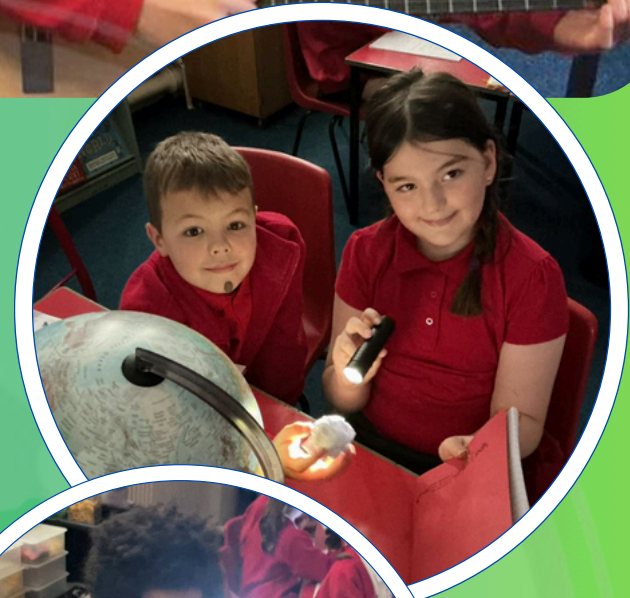
Y5

In **English**, we have been reading *Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly and learning to analyse the key features of a diary entry.

In **History**, we have been learning about famous astronauts, including Katherine Johnson, who helped launch the first rocket into space.

In **Art**, we have started our Fashion Design unit, exploring the work of designer Alice Fox and how she draws inspiration from memories, places and old family photographs.

In **Maths**, we have been reading and writing numbers up to 1,000,000 and exploring the power of 10.





A young boy with light brown hair, wearing a red hoodie, is holding a piece of white paper with handwritten text. The text on the paper reads: "If you don't help I will lose my class and you will lose an ally. We are losing men faster than we can fix the damage. I don't see how we can survive to harvest the crops and who are we shall starve even worse another week. If you help me now surely in the future I will repay you." The background shows a radiator and some papers on a wall. The entire image is framed by a thick white circular border.

defatly all the baby's are dying.
were ~~de~~rately going to die if we don't get
help.
obiosly we need help.
you are my friend and you could help me
out.
i would certainly help you if you
were in my position.

In **RE**, we have been learning about Hinduism, exploring the role of deities and the Trimurti (Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva).

INCLUSION & SEND

Spotlight on... SEND Thresholds

Gateshead launched the SEND thresholds in January 2024. These descriptors are based on national best practice in determining and describing the needs of Children and Young People (CYP) aged 0-25 with SEND. They are based on the four areas of the SEND Code of Practice (2015) - cognition and learning, communication and interaction, social emotional and mental health and sensory, physical and medical needs. A golden thread running through these four areas are the four elements of Preparation for Adulthood (PfA) - education and training, independence, good health and community inclusion.

The SEND Thresholds provide:

- a way of assessing the needs of children and young people
- suggestions on a wide range of interventions that can be used across services
- how to measure the impact and outcomes of the above

So, in terms of transitions, the SEND thresholds will provide an essential framework for discussion and sharing information across and between services and settings for young people aged 0-25, on:

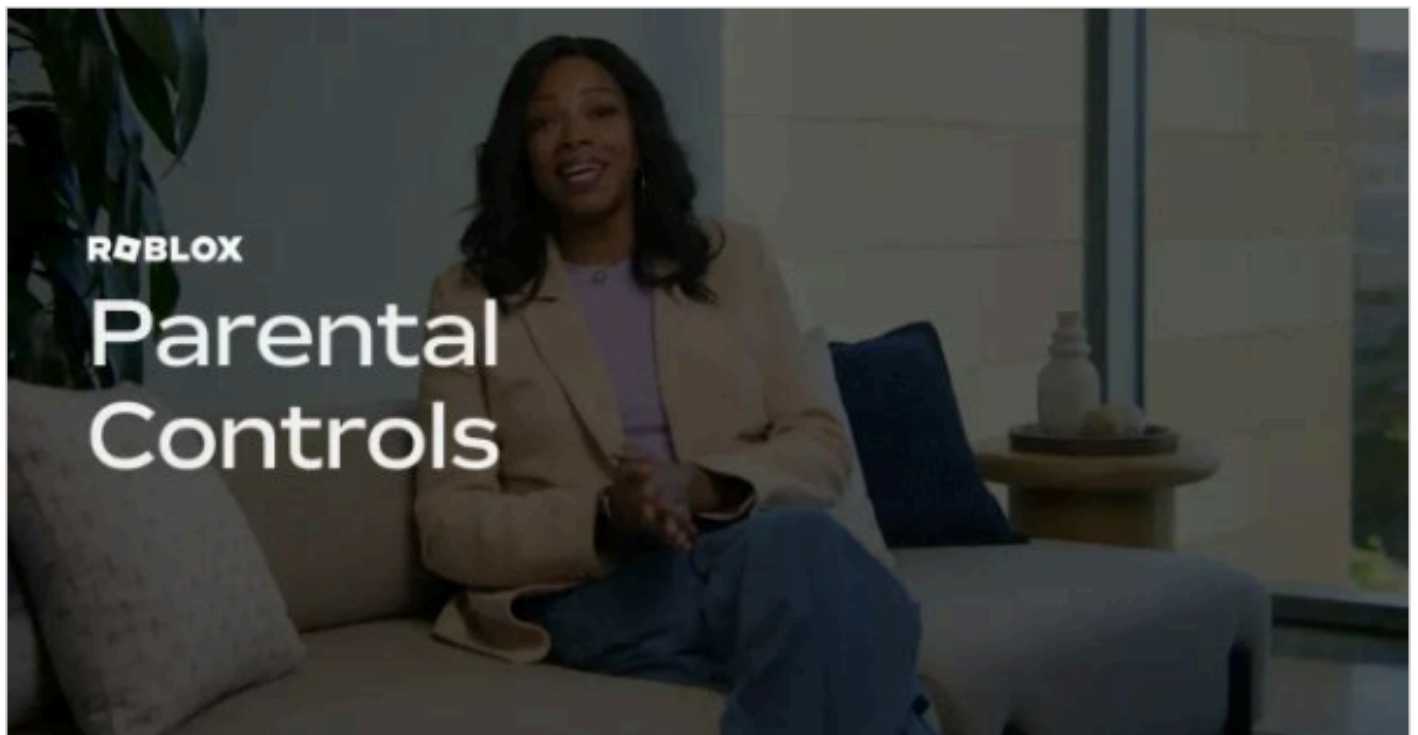
- a young person's needs
- interventions that have worked and those that have not
- ways of working and building on the current and future provision ensuring continuity and consistency of approach
- effective ways of sharing information

Thus, supporting effective transition and giving confidence to families and young people that their needs are fully understood.

SEND Thresholds

**A brief overview for Parents and Carers
2024**

SAFEGUARDING



Parental Controls

Learn how to set up parental controls. Manage your child's spending, content filters, screen time, Connections, and more.



DIARY DATES

Any changes/updates will be highlighted in green

Autumn Term	
Tuesday 1 st September	Inset day – no children in school
Wednesday 2 nd September	Start of new term for children
W/c Monday 7 th September	Y6 Elm Bikeability week
W/c Monday 14 th September	Y6 Larch Bikeability week
Wednesday 16 th September	EYFS/Year 1 – Animals About Town (rearranged visit from summer term)
Wednesday 16 th September	Year 2 – Reading in Year 2 -session for parents 5pm
Thursday 17 th & 23 rd September (info to follow)	Photographer in school – individual and sibling photos
Wednesday 7 th October	Y5 visit to the Centre for Life
Thursday 8 th October	Y3 visit to Beamish Museum
Wednesday 14 th October	Reception Stay & Play (1 parent per child) Early reading session for parents 1.45-2.15pm Stay & Play session 2.15 - 3.15pm Sign up information to be sent out
Thursday 15 th October	Reception Stay & Play (1 parent per child) Early reading session for parents 1.45-2.15pm Stay & Play session 2.15 - 3.15pm Sign up information to be sent out
Friday 23 rd October	Last day of term – non uniform day (1 donation per family please)
Half Term (Monday 26 th – Friday 30 th October)	
31 st October – deadline for secondary school applications	
Monday 2 nd November	Inset day – no children in school
Tuesday 3 rd November	First day of term
Tuesday 3 rd November	Y5 visit to Segedunum
Monday 16 th November	Odd Socks Day – all children invited to wear odd socks to mark anti-bullying week
17 th , 18 th & 19 th November	Parents Evenings
Friday 20 th November	Children in Need- children are invited to wear pyjamas to school to raise money for the charity
Wednesday 25 th November	Choir Christmas Tree Light Switch On
Wednesday 2 nd December	Reception (Cedar) Nativity performance for Cedar parents/carers (3 tickets per child) 2.30pm
Thursday 3 rd December	Reception (Holly) Nativity performance for Holly parents/carers (3 tickets per child) 2.30pm
Monday 7 th December	Y1 Poplar Christmas Crafternoon – 1 parent per child 2.30-3.30
Monday 7 th December	Flu Immunisations

Tuesday 8 th December	Y1 Juniper Christmas Crafternoon – 1 parent per child 2.30-3.30
Wednesday 9 th December	Y3 & Y5 watching pantomime performance at The Little Theatre
Wednesday 9 th December	Y2 Beech Christmas Crafternoon – 1 parent per child 2.30-3.30
Wednesday 9 th December	Year 1 & Year 2 watching Christmas performance of Tinsel Tally in school
Wednesday 9 th December	Christmas jumper day
Thursday 10 th December	Y2 Rowan Christmas Crafternoon – 1 parent per child 2.30-3.30
Thursday 10 th December	Reception watching Christmas performance of The Littlest Elf in school
Monday 14 th December	Reception & Y4 Christmas Parties. <i>Children come to school in party clothes</i>
Tuesday 15 th December	Y1 & Y5 Christmas Parties. <i>Children come to school in party clothes</i>
Wednesday 16 th December	Y4 & Y6 watching pantomime performance at The Little Theatre
Wednesday 16 th December	Nursery & Y3 Christmas Parties. <i>Children come to school in party clothes</i>
Wednesday 16 th December	Christmas Dinner day
Thursday 17 th December	Y2 & Y6 Christmas Parties. <i>Children come to school in party clothes</i>
Friday 18 th December	Last day of term – non uniform day (1 donation per family please)
Spring Term	
Monday 4 th January	First day of term
Tuesday 12 th January	Y1 Phonics screening information session for parents 5pm
Wednesday 13 th January	Y6 – SATS meeting for parents (no children to attend) 5pm
Wednesday 20 th January	Reception Cedar Stay & Play session (1 parent per child) 1.30-2.00pm early maths information session 2.00-3.15pm Stay & Play
Thursday 21 st January	Reception Holly Stay & Play session (1 parent per child) 1.30-2.00pm early maths information session 2.00-3.15pm Stay & Play
Friday 15th January	Reception Application Closing Date
Friday 12 th February	Last day of term – non uniform day (1 donation per family please)
Half Term (Monday 15th – Friday 19th February)	
Monday 22 nd February	First day of term
Friday 5 th March	World Book Day – <i>children to dress as their favourite book character</i>
16 th , 17 th , 18 th March	Parents Evenings

Monday 22nd March	Reception & Apple Egg Decorating (1 parent per child) @2.15pm
Tuesday 23rd March	Y1 Egg Decorating (1 parent per child) @2.30pm
Wednesday 24th March	Blossom Egg Decorating (1 parent per child) @2.15pm
Wednesday 24 th March	Y2 Egg Decorating (1 parent per child) @2.30pm
Thursday 25 th March	Last day of term – non uniform day (<i>1 donation per family please</i>)
Summer Term	
Monday 12 th April	First day of term
Monday 19 th April	Y5 Spring Showcase for parents @2.45pm <i>2 parents per child</i>
Tuesday 20 th April	Y4 Spring Showcase for parents @2.45pm <i>2 parents per child</i>
Wednesday 21 st April	Y3 Spring Showcase for parents @2.45pm <i>2 parents per child</i>
Thursday 22 nd April	Y1 Spring Showcase for parents @2.45pm <i>2 parents per child</i>
W/c Monday 10 th May	Y6 SATS week
Tuesday 18 th May	Y4 Robinwood Residential meeting for parents 5pm
Wednesday 19 th May	Y6 London Residential meeting for parents 5pm
Friday 28 th May	Last day of term – non uniform day (<i>chocolate or bottle donation for summer fair tombola</i>)
Half Term (Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June)	
Monday 7th June	First day of term
W/c Monday 7th June	Y4 Multiplication Check week
Wednesday 9 th June	New Nursery Parents Welcome Meeting @5pm
W/c Monday 14 th June	Y1 Phonics Screening Check week
Monday 7 th June	Sports Day – Date to be confirmed 9:30-10:40 - Year 3 and 4 11:00-12:10 - Year 5 and 6 12:30-13:40 - Year 1 and 2 14:00- 15:10- Reception
SPORTS WEEK <i>Children should come to school in PE kit all week (please wear team colours)</i>	
Wednesday 16 th June	New Reception Parents Welcome Meeting @5pm
Monday 14 th – Wednesday 16 th June	Y4 Residential to Robinwood
Monday 14 th – Thursday 17 th June	Y6 Residential to London
W/c Monday 28 th June	Whole school transition week
Friday 2 nd July	Parents to meet new class teachers @2.45pm (1 parent per child)
W/c Monday 5 th July	End of Year Reports to be sent home
Wednesday 7 th July	Y2 (Rowan) End of Year Production performance for Rowan parents/carers (<i>3 tickets per child</i>) 2.45pm

Thursday 8 th July	Y2 (Beech) End of Year Production performance for Beech parents/carers (<i>3 tickets per child</i>) 2.45pm
Friday 9 th July	Summer Fair TBC
Date to be confirmed	Y6 End of Year Production @ 5.15pm
Wednesday 14 th July	Reception graduation @ 2.45pm
Thursday 15 th July	Y6 Leavers Assembly @ 5pm
Friday 16 th July	Last day of term – children to wear school uniform. <i>Children may bring a toy (not electronic)</i>