Weekly Newsletter

Friday 27th November 2026

Dear Parents & Carers,

Thank you to everyone who has already completed our parent survey. If you haven't had a chance yet, there's still time. Please complete it by Monday 14th December, as your feedback really does help us shape how we support your children.

We're also looking forward to our online session on Monday 30th November at 5pm to help families support their children in a digital world. We'll send the Zoom link out before the meeting, so please keep an eye on your inbox.

We love hearing about everything our pupils get up to outside school, too. Whether it's a sports medal, a music exam, a swimming badge or a kind act in the community, please send in photos of your child's achievements so we can celebrate them together as a school.

Finally, we are looking for someone with a background in finance to join our governing body. Governors play a vital role in supporting the school and shaping its future, and no previous experience as a governor is needed. If you're interested, or know someone who might be, please get in touch with the school office to find out more.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Swinbank





Kells Lane
PRIMARY SCHOOL

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Could you be our next School Governor?

We're looking for someone with a **finance background** to join our governing body.

- Use your finance skills to help local children
- **No need** to be a parent or have family at the school

Know someone? Please share!
Tag a friend or colleague who'd be great

Find out more: email **kellslane@klps.org.uk** for the attention of Mr Dave Henderson

Find your Remarkable

Christmas @KLPS 2026

★ = parents & carers invited

30TH NOV
★ NURSERY (APPLE) STAY & PLAY

1ST DEC
ALL: KINDNESS ADVENT & ADVENT STORYTELLING

2ND DEC
★ RECEPTION (CEDAR) NATIVITY 2.30PM

3RD DEC
★ RECEPTION (HOLLY) NATIVITY 2.30PM
★ NURSERY (BLOSSOM) STAY & PLAY

7TH DEC
★ Y1 (POPLAR) CRAFTERNOON 2.30–3.30PM

8TH DEC
★ Y1 (JUNIPER) CRAFTERNOON 2.30–3.30PM
ALL: CHRISTMAS DANCEATHON

9TH DEC
ALL: CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY
Y3 & Y5: PANTO AT THE LITTLE THEATRE
Y1 & Y2: 'TINSEL TALLY' PANTO IN SCHOOL
★ Y2 (BEECH) CRAFTERNOON 2.30–3.30PM
CHOIR: PERFORMANCE AT DRYDEN COURT

10TH DEC
ELFRIDGES CHRISTMAS SALE OPENS IN SCHOOL
Y4 (FIR): CAROLS AT A RESIDENTIAL HOME

Christmas @KLPS 2026

★ = parents & carers invited

10TH DEC
- EARLY YEARS: 'THE LITTLEST ELF' PANTO IN SCHOOL
- ★ Y2 (ROWAN) CRAFTERNOON 2.30–3.30PM

11TH DEC
- ★ ORCHESTRA: CHRISTMAS CONCERT (AM)
- ELFRIDGES CHRISTMAS SALE IN SCHOOL

14TH DEC
- KS2: CHURCH SERVICE AT ST HELEN'S
- RECEPTION & Y4: CHRISTMAS PARTIES

15TH DEC
- Y1 & Y5: CHRISTMAS PARTIES
- Y4 (HAZEL): CAROLS AT A RESIDENTIAL HOME

16TH DEC
- NURSERY & Y3: CHRISTMAS PARTIES
- WHOLE SCHOOL: CHRISTMAS LUNCH
- Y4 & Y6: PANTO AT THE LITTLE THEATRE
- KS1: CHURCH SERVICE AT WESLEY CHURCH

17TH DEC
- Y2 & Y6: CHRISTMAS PARTIES

18TH DEC
- WHOLE SCHOOL: TOY DAY & NON-UNIFORM (£1 DONATION)

https://kellslaneschool.co.uk

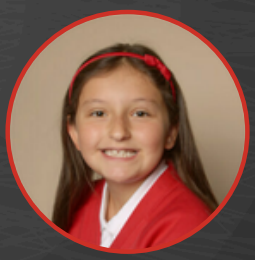
Character Development

Brave Curious Resilient Empowered Ambitious Find your Remarkable

Emerald	Sapphire	Ruby	Amber
4800	5200	6400	4300

Hope everyone has a good weekend. Christmas is officially in place in Kells Lane as we have put the KS1 and KS2 Christmas trees up. Well done Ruby for winning the most team points. We hope everyone has their advent calendars ready for December 1st. A special thanks to some amazing Y6 girls who have kindly decorated some of the windows in Mrs Swinbank's room.





Head Boy & Girl

Focus Value

Resilient

See more from the past week here -

Click Here

Toy Appeal

Salvation Army

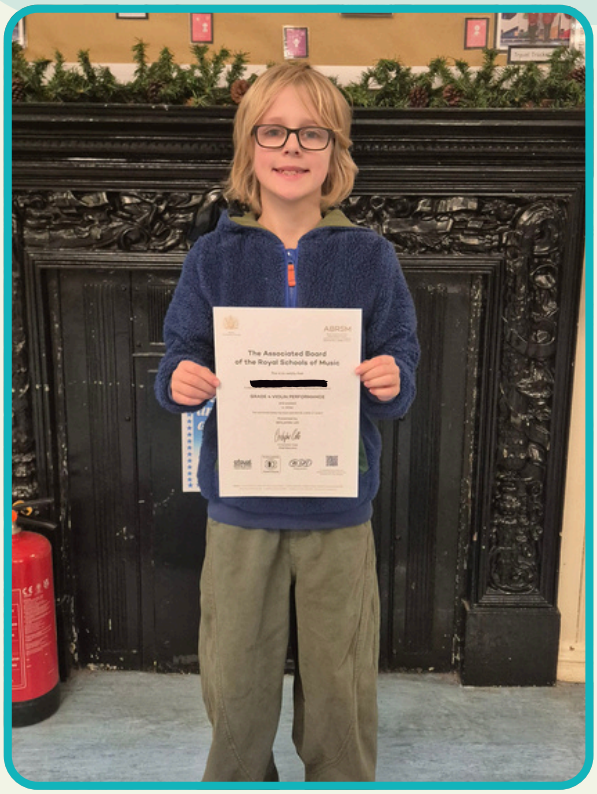
Thanks For Your Help

We are proud to support The Salvation Army's Christmas Present Appeal. If you would like to donate a gift for a child in Gateshead, please bring it to school by **December 11th.**

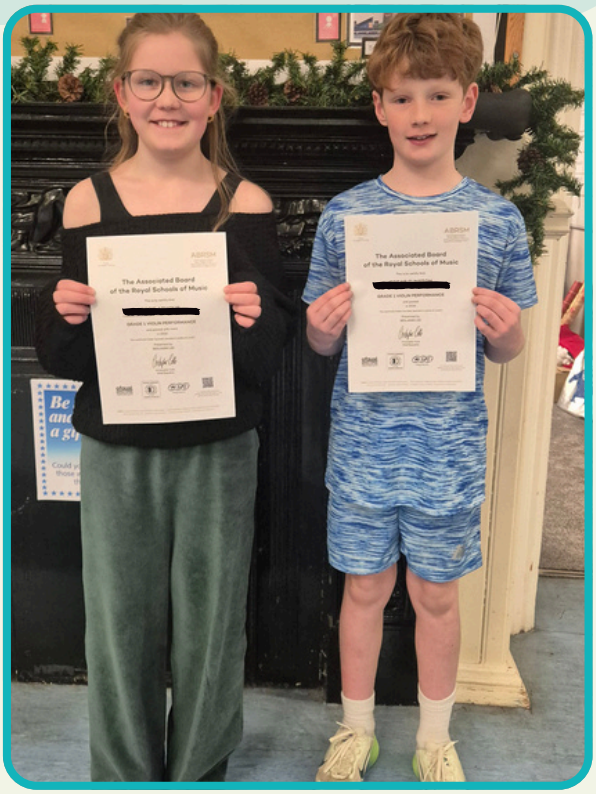
Please note: Gifts must be new and cannot be second-hand or homemade items. Thank you for your generosity.



Achievements Outside of School



Well done to this Y5 pupil for passing his Grade 4 violin exam.

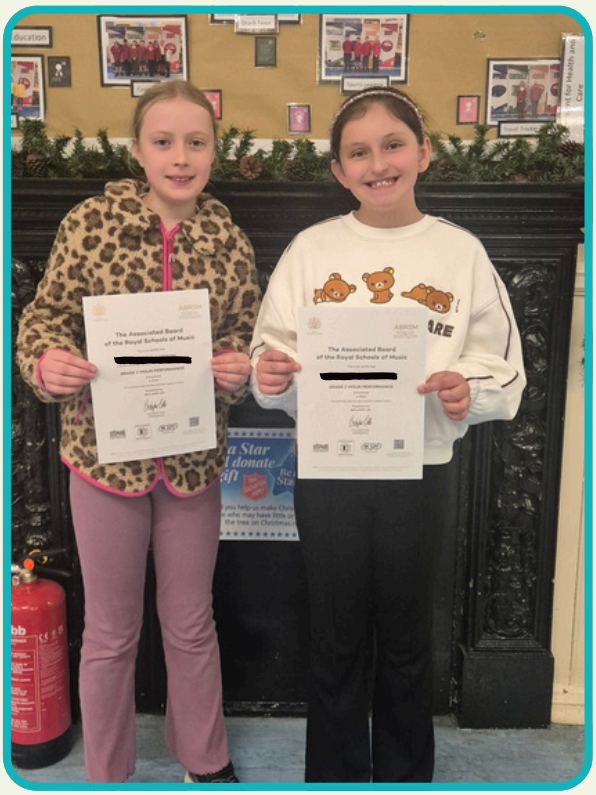


Congratulations to these two Y5 pupils for passing their Grade 1 violin exam.

Find your Remarkable



A huge well done to these Year 3 pupils who won the U8's Future Legends Trophy with their team at the weekend.



Well done to these two Year 6 pupils for achieving their Grade 2 violin certificate.

Nursery Curriculum









We have had a very busy week in Nursery this week, which began with great excitement as we got the opportunity to play with our brand new STEM toy - the Air Toobz set, generously fundraised for by our wonderful Nursery families and friends!

It was a real challenge for our early engineering skills, as we explored different ways to build the set, then worked together to try and collect and catch all of the balls. A great way to develop our visual tracking skills and strengthen our shoulder muscles!

We had a visit from the Police this week, along with their police van as we learned about their job role within our community and how they help us.

We couldn't contain our excitement any longer, so decided to put up our Christmas tree and decorations a little earlier this year! The children are looking forward to next week when they will all become honorary Christmas Elves and begin some Christmas challenges!

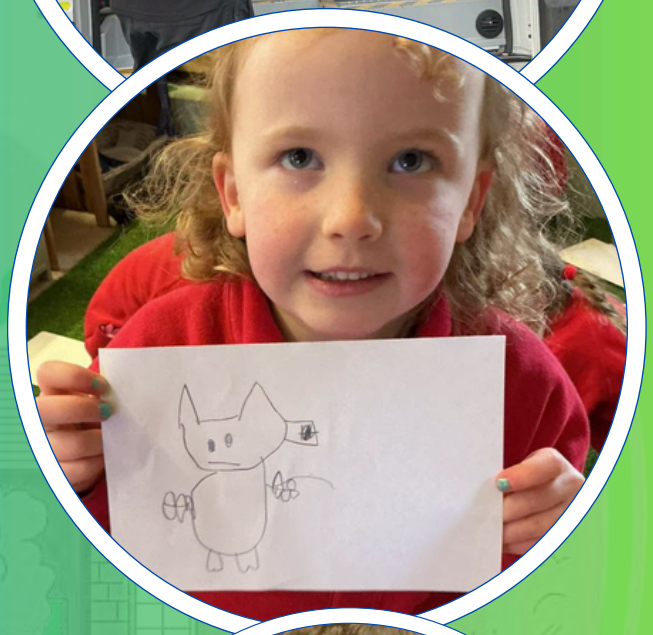
In English, we have been learning the story of the Three Little Pigs off by heart, as one of our core books.



Reception

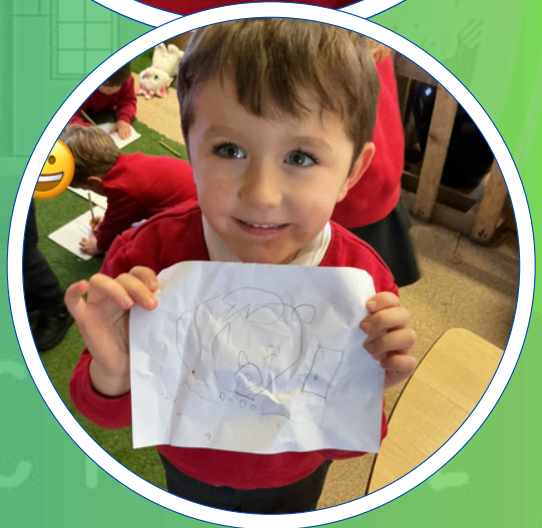


This week, Reception have been busy getting ready for their Nativity. The children have loved singing their songs, practising their lines and learning their parts. They are so excited for their performance next week.



We have also been learning all about the people in our community who help us. We have been talking about the different shops in our local area and exploring a map of Low Fell.

One of the highlights of our week was a very exciting visit from the police! The children were thrilled to meet the police officers and have a look at their van.



In **Maths** we have been exploring the composition of 8 and 9.

In **English** we have completed lots of mark making, drawing and writing activities around the story, The Three Little Pigs.

Curriculum



Y1



In **English**, we have been writing questions that Beegu might ask the children, using question marks, and a letter from Beegu to her friends on Earth.



In **Maths** we have been looking at different ways to make 20. We've then completed one more and one less activities showing great fluency skills.



In **Computing**, the children followed algorithms to predict where a Bee-Bot would finish, then programmed it to test their predictions.

In **Science**, the class named and grouped animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores.

Curriculum



Y2



In **English**, we have been exploring Tom's feelings in The Night Pirates and planning a character account. We also practised adding the suffixes -s and -es.



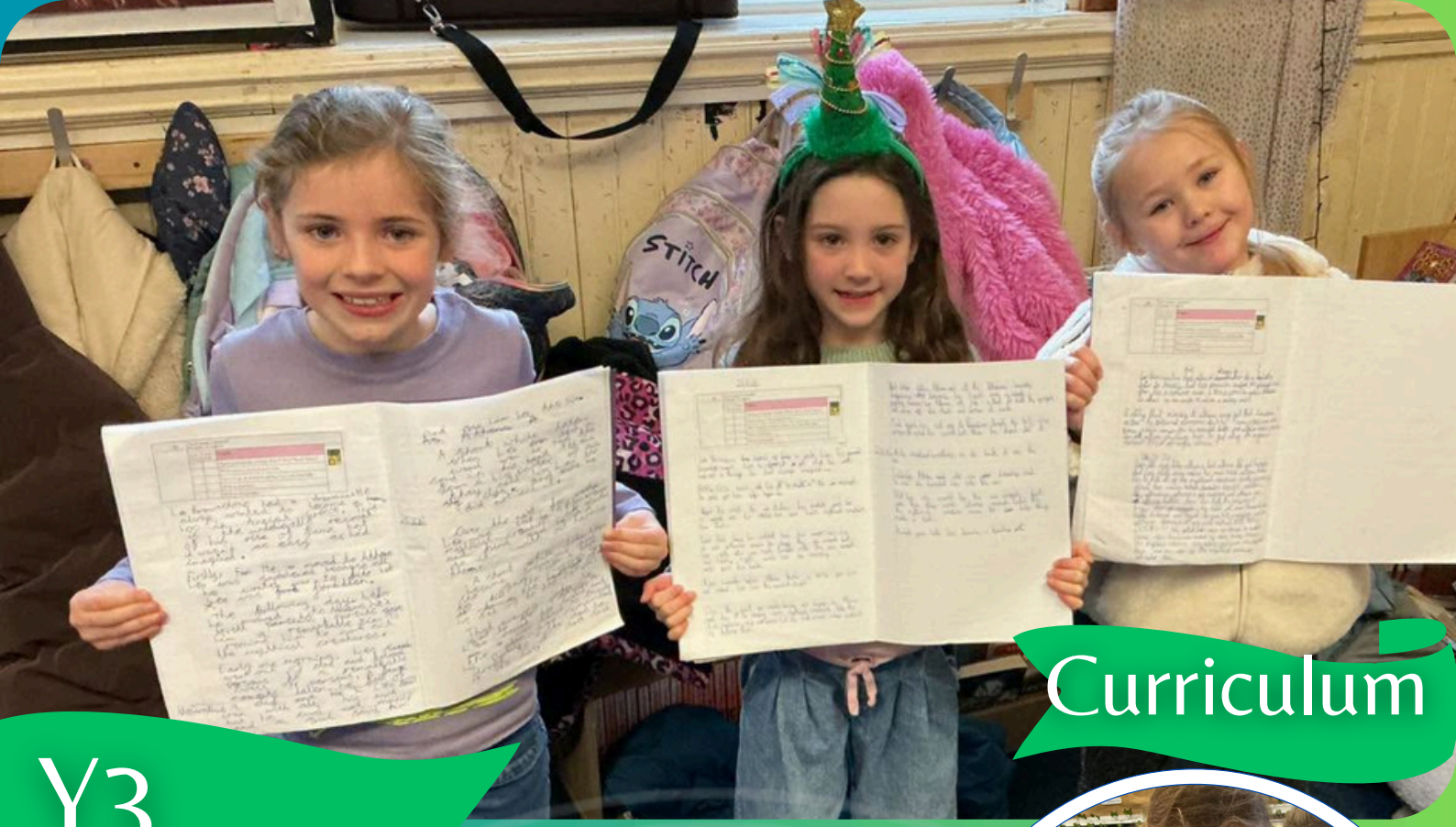
In **Maths** we have identified lines of symmetry and drawn reflections with 2d shapes. We have then identified properties of 3d shapes.

In **RE**, our class learnt the story of Holi, the Hindu spring festival, and thought about its deeper meanings.



In **Geography**, we found out how plastic pollution harms ocean habitats and how we can help protect our coast.

In **Science**, the children learnt that offspring don't always look like their parents.



Curriculum

Y3

In **English**, we have been planning and writing a recount of Leo and the Gorgon's Curse, using adverbials of time to put the events in order.



In **Maths,** we have been multiplying and dividing by 4 and looking at representations of the 4 x tables.



In **History**, the children explored the legacy of Ancient Greece, such as democracy and the Olympic Games, and how it still shapes our lives today.

In **Science**, our class described the next part of food's journey through the digestive system.

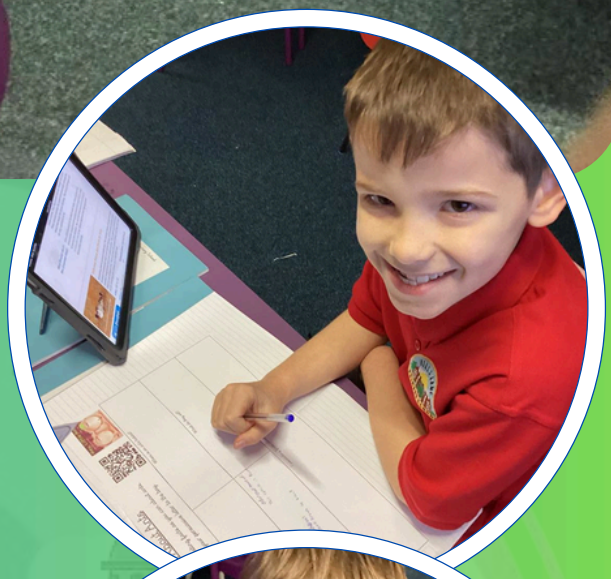


In **RE**, we used data to explore how people celebrate Christmas in the UK.

Curriculum



Y4



In **English**, we have been spelling words ending in -able, using apostrophes to show possession for singular and plural nouns, and revising word classes.



In **Math,** we have been looking at how to represent multiples of 9, and using the multiplication facts to efficiently multiply and divide.

In **Science**, the children used classification keys to identify plants.



In **RE**, we learnt the story of Krishna and Govardhan Mountain, and how many Hindus see caring for the Earth as an act of love for all living things.

In **Music**, the children sang a round from the opera Hansel and Gretel, using their voices and bodies to show how the characters feel.

Curriculum



Y5



In **English**, we have been using fronted adverbials of time to plan and write our own Roman-themed versions of Theseus and the Minotaur.



In **Science**, the children learnt how sieves and filters separate insoluble solids from liquids.

In **DT**, the class used Tinkercad to add features such as columns and pools to their Roman villa designs.



In **History**, we learnt about Boudicca and her revolt against the Romans.

In **Maths** we have been ordering, comparing, adding and subtracting fractions.

We thoroughly enjoyed watching a production of Annie at Grace College this week.



Y6



In **English** we have been learning to spell words with the prefixes in- and im-, which mean 'not', such as incorrect, inactive and impossible.

In **History**, our class explored why conflicts happen today and how the United Nations works to keep peace.



In **Art**, the children measured, cut and joined materials to build scaled-down models of their chair designs.

In **Science**, the class grouped micro-organisms such as bacteria, viruses and fungi, and learnt that some are helpful and some harmful.



In **Maths** we have been ordering, comparing, adding and subtracting fractions. We have then applied this knowldge to some difficult problems.

INCLUSION & SEND

CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES 23

TUNE INTO YOU

North East Music Therapy

Music therapy uses music to support emotional wellbeing, communication and self-expression.



Benefits of music therapy

- **Emotional wellbeing**
- **Communication**
- **Social connection**
- **Mental health**
- **Identity & self-expression**

GET IN TOUCH

Informal enquiries welcome — no pressure to commit.

Pricing and more information available on my website.

Email tuneinto.you@outlook.com

Phone 07344 335481

Website https://tuneintoyou.wixsite.com/tiymt

HCPC Registered Music Therapist

#BRIGHTENTHEDAY

Brighten The Day for SEND families - Launches on 2nd Dec 2025

Has your child been sent one of these vouchers due to being in receipt of benefits-related Free School Meals?



Then here is selection of what is on offer for you to book this winter:

- **A relaxed performance of The Snowman at Northern Stage**
- **A relaxed performance of Beauty and the Beast**
- **A relaxed skating session at Life**
- **Cinema visits**
- **Adventure golf**
- **Ten- pin bowling**

You will be able to book these sessions from **Tuesday 2nd December 2025**
Simply click the link on your e-voucher

You can use the filter to choose '**SEN Specific**' from the Accessibility menu option. Please be mindful of other families and only book the activities you know you can attend.

For more information, including help on how to book, please visit **www.gateshead.gov.uk/BrightenTheDay**

Gateshead Council

7765/PS/2025

SAFEGUARDING



You may have seen publicity about the new game Grand Theft Auto VI (GTA 6). We want to remind you that **GTA 6 is rated for adults** and is not suitable for primary-age children. The game contains strong violence, sexual content, offensive language, drug use, gambling-style mechanics and online interactions with other players.

Please check what your child is playing and consider using parental controls or age restrictions on consoles and devices.

DIARY DATES

Any changes/updates will be highlighted in green

Autumn Term	
Monday 2nd November	Inset day – no children in school
Tuesday 3rd November	First day of term
Tuesday 3rd November	**Y5** visit to Segedunum
Monday 16th November	**Odd Socks Day** – all children invited to wear odd socks to mark anti-bullying week
Friday 13th November - change of date	**Children in Need**- children are invited to wear pyjamas to school to raise money for the charity
17th, 18th & 19th November	Parents Evenings
Wednesday 25th November	**Choir** Christmas Tree Light Switch On
Friday 27th November	Non-Uniform day - *Chocolate or bottle donation for Christmas trail tombola*
Sunday 29th November (change of date)	KLSF Christmas trail
Monday 30th November	Online safety parent workshop - 5pm *Online meeting link will be sent out day before*
Wednesday 2nd December	**Reception (Cedar)** Nativity performance for Cedar parents/carers (3 tickets per child) 2.30pm
Thursday 3rd December	**Reception (Holly)** Nativity performance for Holly parents/carers (3 tickets per child) 2.30pm
Monday 7th December	**Y1 Poplar** Christmas Crafternoon – 1 parent per child 2.30-3.30
Monday 7th December	**Flu Immunisations**
Tuesday 8th December	**Y1 Juniper** Christmas Crafternoon – 1 parent per child 2.30-3.30
Wednesday 9th December	**Y3 & Y5** watching pantomime performance at The Little Theatre
Wednesday 9th December	**Y2 Beech** Christmas Crafternoon – 1 parent per child 2.30-3.30
Wednesday 9th December	**Year 1 & Year 2** watching Christmas performance of Tinsel Tally in school
Wednesday 9th December	Christmas jumper day
Thursday 10th December	**Y2 Rowan** Christmas Crafternoon – 1 parent per child 2.30-3.30
Thursday 10th/Friday 11th December	Elfridges Christmas Sale for children (information will follow)
Thursday 10th December	**Reception** watching Christmas performance of The Littlest Elf in school
Monday 14th December	**Reception & Y4** Christmas Parties. *Children come to school in party clothes*
Tuesday 15th December	**Y1 & Y5** Christmas Parties. *Children come to school in party clothes*

Find your Remarkable

Wednesday 16th December	**Y4 & Y6** watching pantomime performance at The Little Theatre
Wednesday 16th December	**Nursery & Y3** Christmas Parties. *Children come to school in party clothes*
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas Dinner day
Thursday 17th December	**Y2 & Y6** Christmas Parties. *Children come to school in party clothes*
Friday 18th December	Last day of term – non uniform day *(1 donation per family please)*
Spring Term	
Monday 4th January	First day of term
Tuesday 12th January	**Y1** Phonics screening information session for parents 5pm
Wednesday 13th January	**Y6** – SATS meeting for parents (no children to attend) 5pm
Wednesday 20th 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 21st January	**Reception Holly** Stay & Play session (1 parent per child) 1.30-2.00pm early maths information session 2.00-3.15pm Stay & Play
Thursday 21st January	**Y5 & Y6** visit from Northeast Bikers Against Bullies
Friday 15th January	Reception Application Closing Date
Friday 12th February	**Last day of term** – non uniform day *(1 donation per family please)*
Half Term (Monday 15th – Friday 19th February)	
Monday 22nd February	First day of term
Friday 5th March	World Book Day – *children to dress as their favourite book character*
Wednesday 10th March	Y3 & Y4 Easter Disco
Thursday 11th March	Y5 & Y6 Easter Disco
16th, 17th,18th March	Parents Evenings
Sunday 21st March	KLSF Easter trail
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 24th March	**Y2** Egg Decorating (1 parent per child) @2.30pm
Thursday 25th March	Last day of term – non uniform day *(1 donation per family please)*
Summer Term	

Monday 12th April	First day of term
Monday 19th April	**Y5** Spring Showcase for parents @2.45pm *2 parents per child*
Tuesday 20th April	**Y4** Spring Showcase for parents @2.45pm *2 parents per child*
Wednesday 21st April	**Y3** Spring Showcase for parents @2.45pm *2 parents per child*
Thursday 22nd April	**Y1** Spring Showcase for parents @2.45pm *2 parents per child*
W/c Monday 10th May	**Y6 SATS week**
Tuesday 18th May	**Y4 Robinwood Residential meeting for parents 5pm**
Wednesday 19th May	**Y6 London Residential meeting for parents 5pm**
Friday 28th May	**Last day of term** – non uniform day *(chocolate or bottle donation for summer fair tombola)*
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 9th June	New Nursery Parents Welcome Meeting @5pm
W/c Monday 14th June	**Y1** Phonics Screening Check week
Monday 7th June SPORTS WEEK *Children should come to school in PE kit all week (please wear team colours)*	**Sports Day – 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
Wednesday 16th June	New Reception Parents Welcome Meeting @5pm
Monday 14th – Wednesday 16th June	**Y4** Residential to Robinwood
Monday 14th – Thursday 17th June	**Y6** Residential to London
W/c Monday 28th June	Whole school transition week
Wednesday 30th June	Y2 & Y3 Summer Disco
Thursday 1st July	Y4 & Y5 Summer Disco
Friday 2nd July	Parents to meet new class teachers @2.45pm (1 parent per child)
W/c Monday 5th July	End of Year Reports to be sent home
Wednesday 7th July	**Y2 (Rowan)** End of Year Production performance for Rowan parents/carers *(3 tickets per child)* 2.45pm
Thursday 8th July	**Y2 (Beech)** End of Year Production performance for Beech parents/carers *(3 tickets per child)* 2.45pm
Friday 9th July	**Summer Fair**
Date to be confirmed	**Y6** End of Year Production @ 5.15pm
Wednesday 14th July	**Reception** graduation @ 2.45pm
Thursday 15th July	**Y6** Leavers Assembly @ 5pm

Friday 16th July	**Last day of term** – children to wear school uniform. *Children may bring a toy (not electronic)*