

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

*To strive for respect, enjoyment and excellence for all!*

26.02.26

Dear Parents and Carers,

In Collective Worship, we shall be focusing on Forgiveness – wiping the slate clean (Colossians 3:13).. Our Music genre is Reggae this week.

#### Sharing/Celebration Assemblies

There isn't a sharing assembly this week. Next week (6<sup>th</sup> March) our Year 4 class will be sharing.

#### Reminder - Educational Psychologist Drop In 9am 3<sup>rd</sup> March

For all help regarding any area of SEND, our allocated EP is available for a parent drop in on 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 9am. All are welcome.



#### Enterprise Week

Please can I say a huge thank you to everyone who attended our Enterprise event during the week before half term. We do have a winner who will be announced on Friday here at school. The winning class won by £1.25 so every penny made a difference. Thank you to staff and our children who made the event such a success.



#### World Book Day – 5<sup>th</sup> March

To celebrate World Book Day, this year we are focusing on poetry culminating in a Poetry Celebration on 5<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30pm. Children have been encouraged to dress up in clothes that reflect the poem that they will be performing; please see the letter that Mr Worsley distributed earlier this week. Paul Cookson will be performing in our assembly on 4<sup>th</sup> March at 9am. All are invited.

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## Department For Education White Paper – ‘Every Child Achieving and Thriving’, SEND consultation

On Monday, the DFE published the White Paper ‘Every Child Achieving and Thriving’. Below is the information shared with schools to distribute to parents, detailing what parents can expect from the reforms:

### SCHOOLS WHITE PAPER

Every child achieving and thriving



#### What every parent can expect from our reforms

We want to build on support at home with stretching, enriching and inclusive school experiences, so children have what they need to get on in life.

This means a high standard education that sets children up with essential skills – reading, writing, maths, alongside financial literacy, communication and problem solving – and early, high-quality extra support which is easily available when children need it.

#### A broader, richer education

We’re reforming the curriculum. From September 2028, your child will experience a curriculum that is:

- Knowledge-rich – building relevant knowledge and skills in every subject
- Broader – with strengthened arts, music and PE alongside reading, writing and maths
- Future-focused – embedding speaking skills, digital literacy and financial literacy

These changes are still being shaped, and we want to hear from you. Parents, teachers and others will have the chance to share their views later this year in a formal consultation.

#### Enrichment for all

Every school should offer enrichment opportunities with activities like:

- arts and culture
- sport and physical activities
- nature, outdoor and adventure experiences
- life skills development
- civic engagement

Currently, more than a third of secondary pupils say they don’t participate in any enrichment activities at school. We want this to change, because enrichment isn’t a nice-to-have – it’s linked to better results at school and better outcomes in adulthood.

#### Stronger home-to-school partnerships

A third of primary school parents and half of secondary school parents say they don’t get enough information on how to support their child’s learning. That’s why we’re introducing minimum expectations for home-to-school partnerships.

What you can expect from schools:

1

### SCHOOLS WHITE PAPER

Every child achieving and thriving



- Clear, timely communication about attendance, behaviour, progress and events
- Information on how to support your child’s learning at home
- Support during transitions between schools and key stages
- Regular opportunities to be part of school life

#### New tools for parents

- School Profiles: a rounded picture of your child’s education, presenting the latest useful information about schools together in one place.
- Online Family Support: a one-stop shop for age-appropriate guidance on supporting your child.
- Screen time guidance: new advice for under-fives by April 2026, and for ages 5 to 16.
- Improved complaints system: when things go wrong, a clearer, more effective process will help resolve issues fairly.

#### Belonging, wellbeing and mental health

Every child deserves to feel that they belong at school — not just that they are present, but that they are seen, valued and connected to those around them. We know that when children feel this way, they attend more, engage more fully with learning, and go on to achieve more.

- A school culture where every child feels like they belong
- Dedicated Mental Health Support Teams — we’re expanding Mental Health Support Teams to every school and college by 2029 to 2030, so children get timely support when they need it
- A new Pupil Engagement Framework, giving schools the tools to measure how children are engaging and experiencing and act on what they find

#### Calm, safe schools

What schools will provide:

- High expectations for all children
- A support first approach that includes all children and addresses root causes
- Calm and caring learning environments, with consistently high expectations and standards of behaviour for all children
- Mobile phone-free environments

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This is a shared responsibility between schools and families. New national guidance on behaviour will ensure this approach is consistent across all schools.

#### Smoothen transitions

- Between early years and school: funded partnerships between early years settings and schools to share best practice and support your child's move into Reception
- Between primary and secondary: improved curriculum sequencing so learning builds logically. Plus, a new KS3 Alliance, covering years 7 to 9, to support innovation and share best practice on making strong starts in secondary school
- Into post-16: every child will have a planned destination before leaving school and be supported to transition successfully into their next step. Good careers guidance and two weeks' worth of work experience during secondary

#### Better attendance

Attendance is key to your child's success. In summer of 2024 around 1.5 million children were missing a day or more every fortnight.

Our support first approach means schools need to understand the barriers that stop children from attending school and put plans in place to help overcome them. Schools should work with families and other local services like the NHS or family support to identify what's getting in the way and provide the right support.

What's being done:

- Every school will have a personalised attendance improvement target
- Spreading best practice with 90 hub schools supporting over 4,000 schools each year
- 10,000 persistently absent children are receiving one-to-one mentoring
- Better data tools are helping schools identify children at risk earlier. These tools will help at key moments in your child's school journey, such as the transition from primary to secondary school, so the right support can be provided from the start

The target: 20 million more days of attendance per year by 2029. That's the equivalent of every single child attending school for an extra two days per year.

At primary school, children who attend nearly every day in Year 6 (95 to 100% attendance) have 30% higher odds of reaching the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared to similar pupils who attend 90 to 95% of the time.

The link is even stronger at secondary school. Year 11 pupils with near-perfect attendance have almost double the odds of achieving grade 5 in English and Maths GCSE compared to similar

pupils attending 90 to 95% of the time. In other words, missing just 10 days can make a lot of difference.

Attendance is a shared responsibility. Schools will take a support first approach, but the expectation is clear: your child should be in school every day unless genuinely unwell.

#### Inclusion at the heart of education

Schools will deliver a universal offer – high-quality, inclusive teaching and support, for every child in every school, driving up standards for all. This will be backed by extra investment every year for the next three years, so schools have the resources to train teachers and build this support.

For children with additional needs, we're introducing a new layered model – targeted, targeted plus, and specialist – so children and young people get help earlier, without parents having to fight for it. This sits with a strong universal offer of high-quality, inclusive teaching and support for all.

If you'd like to know more, we have a guide to SEND reforms for parents and factsheets on specific areas of SEND reform.

#### Find out more

Visit [gov.uk/dfesend-reform](https://www.gov.uk/dfesend-reform)

- [Every Child Achieving and Thriving Schools White Paper](#)
- [SEND Consultation](#)
- [Further information and fact sheets](#)

Alongside this, the DFE published '*SEND Reform: Putting Children and Young People First*' (<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/send-reform-putting-children-and-young-people-first/send-reform-putting-children-and-young-people-first-html-version>)

with an opportunity for everyone to have their say regarding the proposed reforms here:

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/send-strategy-division/send-reform-putting-children-and-young-people-first/>

The consultation closes on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2026. The consultation is for everyone – not just schools or families with children/young people with SEND. I encourage everyone to have their voice heard.

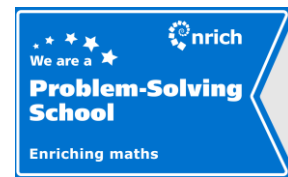
Here at school, our Governing Board and school staff are carefully reviewing the recent proposals set out in the Department for Education (DfE) White Paper and the accompanying Department for Education SEND consultation to ensure we fully understand the potential implications for our pupils, families, and staff. We want to reassure parents that we are taking a measured and informed approach,

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analysing the detail of the reforms, engaging with professional networks, and seeking clarification where needed so that we are well-prepared for any changes that may follow. Our priority remains the same: to secure high-quality provision, inclusive practice, and the right support for every child, including those with special educational needs and disabilities. We have robust systems in place, strong partnerships with families and external agencies, and a clear strategic plan, so please be assured that we have everything in hand and will continue to keep you updated as the national picture develops.

### Maths Problem of the Fortnight – Year 1, 2



## Biscuit Decorations

Andrew decorated 20 biscuits to take to a party.

He lined them up and put icing on every second biscuit.

Then he put a cherry on every third biscuit.

Then he put a chocolate button on every fourth biscuit.

So there was nothing on the first biscuit.

How many other biscuits had no decoration? Did any biscuits get all three decorations?








































### Maths Problem of the Fortnight – Year 3, 4, 5, 6



## Shapes Times Shape

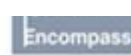
The coloured shapes stand for eleven of the numbers from 0 to 12. Each shape is a different number.

Can you work out what they are from the multiplications below?

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God bless,  
Mrs Bladen-Kay  
Head Teacher

Spring Term 2026 Key Dates	
February	
23.02	Children back in
March	
03.03	Educational Psychologist Drop In session for parents
04.03	Paul Cookson in school
05.03	World Book Day 2pm Poetry Presentation
06.03	Y4 sharing Assembly
09.03	Bikeability Week
10.03	Y6 Crucial Crew (morning)
13.03	Y1 Sharing Assembly Own Clothes Day for the Spring Raffle
18.03	Nursery Class Prayer Assembly
19.03	Thursday Y6 Prayer Assembly TBC
20.03	Clubs Finish Eid?
23.03	Eid?
24.03	Buildings & Finance Committee meeting
26.03	Y1 Trip Wriggly Roadshow (EYFS) in school
27.03	Reception & KS1 Music Celebration
30.03, 31.03	Parents Evenings
April	
01.04	St Andrews Got Talent Final + Raffle Standards & Welfare Committee
02.04- 20.04	Easter Break
20.04	Children Back In

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