

# Youlgrave, All-Saints' Primary

## School Newsletter



Dear Parents, Carers and Families

As we approach half term, we are all reflecting on the stunning start to the year and how well everyone is engaging with their learning. In this newsletter we bring you the first of our 'Roving Reporter' articles. This time Isla and Toby in Class 2 have taken up the challenge to be journalists and tell us about school from their perspective. They have done an amazing job setting the standard and have given us some helpful insights about their experience in school. The Roving Reporter section will be a regular feature going forward.

Pupil Voice is an important part of a successful school, so we're also delighted to have a new school council and eco council which are made up of children from every year group, voted for by their peers. These councils will meet with me regularly so that children's voices and opinions are heard and pupil voice is genuinely part of decision making. We look forward to hearing reports from them throughout the year too.

If you haven't had chance to look at our beautiful prayer tree in the reception area, please pop in to take a look. Children and staff have used the tree to talk about their aspirations for learning for this year. They make lovely reading. As we approach Harvest, we will be adding more leaves filled with reflections and prayers about gratitude and our WE CARE values. Parents are welcome to add their leaves too – just take one from near the display and fill it in.

Thank you very much for all the ways you support school and remember we have an open-door policy. If you have any concerns, questions or points to raise, big or small, please pop in for a chat.

Best wishes  
Teresa Nicholls

### ***A Prayer for Thankfulness***

***Dear God,***

*Thank you for the many blessings in our lives — for the people who care for us, the beauty of your creation, and the joy of learning together.*

*Help us to be grateful each day, to notice the good around us, and to share what we have with others.*

*May our hearts be full of thankfulness and our actions full of kindness.*

***Amen***

### Dates for your diary:

- Monday 13th October link to register for the flu vaccination.
- Friday 17th October Go Pink day including a visit by Ashley Bear in aid of Ashgate Hospice
- Monday 20th October, Parent consultation evening (details to follow)
- Tuesday 21st October, Parent consultation evening (details to follow)
- Friday 24th October - Break up for half term holiday
- Monday 3rd November— Inset day
- Tuesday 4th November- All Saints Day
- Wednesday 5th November—Bikeability Year 6
- Thursday 6th November— Tag Rugby and Dodgeball
- Tuesday 11th Remembrance service 2pm and Flu Vaccines
- Wednesday 12th November—PCSO Boswell 'Stranger Danger'

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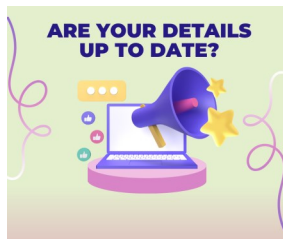
**Welcoming all Community Achievement Respect Encouragement**



Being in school is important to your child's academic achievement, wellbeing, and wider development. We believe regular school attendance is crucial in preparing children for successful transition to adulthood and supporting their longer term economic and social participation in society. We promote the development of positive peer relationships which also contribute to good mental health and wellbeing in children.

Thank you for your support in managing the recent scarlet fever outbreak and lets hope everyone feels better soon. Please remember if your child arrives after the register has been taken, it will count as an absence for that morning's mark. School is open from 8.50am, and gates are closed at 9.00am when the registers are taken in classes.

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
95.51%	94.86%	98.12%	97.44%	98.29%	94.16%	97.90%



We have successfully migrated to the new pupil management information system replacing Integris with Arbor. Thank you to everyone for getting their forms back to us. We will be making sure all the information now in Arbor is correct over the coming weeks along with exploring the functionality in more detail.

#### Safeguarding:

We are aware children can face many worrying issues at the moment from the world around them. We are running a series of four workshops with Compass for Class 3 about dealing with emotions and worries which the children are finding very enjoyable and useful.

It can be hard to have conversations with children about difficult topics. Here is a link to the NSPCC website which gives helpful advice to parents and you may find useful:

[How to talk to children about difficult topics | NSPCC](#)

And a page for children:

[Worries about the world | Childline](#)

#### Secondary School Admissions

The admissions window is open for Y6 parents/carers to apply for their child/children's place at their chosen Secondary School.

Please remember the deadline for doing so is 31st October. Your child should have brought a leaflet home explaining the process, or you can visit DCC website for more information. <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/school-places/secondary-admissions/secondary-school-admissions.aspx>

#### School Photographs

The School photographer has been re-scheduled to Friday 7th November.

If your child has a sibling that isn't in school, you are welcome to bring them from 8.00am onwards to have their photo take.

As always, please ensure children are in school uniform this day.

Thank you.



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Please ensure to book children in online using School Money. If you have any difficulty please contact the school office on 01629 636289. Please book your sessions as soon as possible so we can ensure appropriate levels of staffing are in place.

### INSET Days 2025/2026

November 3rd  
January 5th  
July 23rd

### School uniform

Thank you to everyone that has sent their child/ children to school in full uniform. The children look really smart!!

### A quick reminder on some important items :

- Long hair must be tied back at all times
- Make up, nail varnish/tips are not permitted
- Bracelets, necklaces, rings and earrings are not allowed during either PE or Swimming.
- Please speak to your child(ren)'s class teacher if they have particular sensory needs in relation to clothing which may impact their ability to wear the agreed school uniform.

A polite reminder that the school and it's grounds are smoke and vape free at all times.



## flu: 5 reasons to vaccinate your child

The Flu Immunisation team will be in school early November this year. You will be receiving information on how to log online and give your consent for your child to receive this next week. The NHS recommend that all children receive this vaccination and **the NHS cannot give the vaccine without your explicit consent.**



- 1. Protect your child**  
The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia
- 2. Protect you, your family and friends**  
Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable friends and family
- 3. No injection needed**  
The nasal spray is painless and easy to have
- 4. It's better than having flu**  
The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record
- 5. Avoid costs**  
If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare

For more information visit  
[www.nhs.uk/child-flu](http://www.nhs.uk/child-flu)

Flu mmunisation  
Helping to protect children, every winter

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## Collective Worship - Thankfulness:

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This month in Collective Worship, our theme has been **Thankfulness** — a beautiful opportunity to reflect on all the blessings in our lives and to express gratitude to God and to one another.

We've explored thankfulness in many ways:

- **Thanking God for those who help us in school** — from teachers and support staff to our friends who brighten each day.
- **Thanking God for the wonder of creation** — appreciating the beauty of the world around us and learning how we can care for it.
- **Counting our blessings** — taking time to notice and celebrate the good things, big and small, in our lives.

### Thanking God for the Harvest

#### Harvest Celebration in Church

We were delighted to celebrate **Harvest Festival** in church with **Rev Geoff Clay**, who led a joyful and thoughtful service. The children sang with great enthusiasm:

- *Big Red Combine Harvester*
  - *Harvest Samba*
- He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*

The focus of our Harvest celebration was on Gleaning — the biblical practice of gathering leftover crops to help those in need. We reflected on how we can share what we have with others, especially those less fortunate. A heartfelt thank you to all the families who generously donated food and toiletries. Your kindness will make a real difference to those in our community who need support.

#### Looking Ahead: All Saints' Day – 4th November

We're excited to announce that we will be celebrating All Saints' Day with a special Collective Worship on Tuesday 4th November. Children are invited to dress up as a saint — this could be a well-known saint from Christian tradition or someone they feel has shown saintly qualities in their life.

Here are some simple and fun suggestions for saint-themed costumes:

- **St Francis of Assisi** – brown robe or hoodie, toy animals
- **St George** – knight costume or shield
- **St Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa)** – white outfit with blue stripes
- **St David** – Welsh symbols like a daffodil or leek
- **St Joan of Arc** – armour-style costume or tunic

**Modern-day saints** – dress as someone who shows kindness, courage, or service (e.g. nurse, helper, peace-maker)

Costumes should be homemade and simple — we encourage creativity and comfort!

We are so proud of how the children have embraced this theme with open hearts and thoughtful minds. Thank you for your continued support in helping us nurture a spirit of gratitude and generosity.

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## Derby Faith Trail—A Journey of Discovery

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As part of our commitment to broadening children’s understanding of different cultures and beliefs, our pupils recently took part in the Derby Faith Trail—a unique educational experience that brings learning about world religions to life.

The children had the opportunity to visit two significant places of worship in Derby: a mosque and a Hindu temple. These visits were not only informative but also deeply enriching, helping the children to appreciate the diversity of faiths within our community.

At the mosque, the children were warmly welcomed and introduced to the key features of Islamic worship. They learned about the importance of prayer in Muslim life, observed the prayer hall, and were shown how Muslims prepare for prayer through wudu (ritual washing). The visit helped to demystify Islamic practices and encouraged respectful curiosity and understanding. They also learned about key Islamic festivals such as Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha, and how these celebrations share similarities with Christian festivals—such as coming together with family, giving to others, and sharing special meals.

The next stop was the Hindu temple, where the children were captivated by the vibrant colours, intricate carvings, and the peaceful atmosphere. They learned about Hindu deities, rituals, and the significance of offerings and festivals. The children were especially fascinated by the stories behind the statues and the rhythmic sounds of the temple bells.

In addition to visiting places of worship, the children took part in cultural dress workshops, where they had the chance to try on traditional clothing from both Islamic and Hindu cultures. This hands-on experience helped them appreciate the beauty and meaning behind different styles of dress.

They also enjoyed a food tasting session, sampling a variety of traditional foods associated with both faiths. This was a highlight for many, as they explored new flavours and learned how food plays an important role in religious and cultural celebrations.

Throughout the day, the children asked thoughtful questions, showed great respect, and demonstrated a genuine interest in learning about others. The Faith Trail was a powerful reminder of the shared values across different religions—such as kindness, community, and celebration—and helped to build empathy and understanding.

We are incredibly proud of how the children represented our school and are confident that this experience will leave a lasting impression on their hearts and minds.

Mrs Houghton

## Roving Reporters—Pupil Voice

**Welcome to the first report from our roving reporters!**

**Our first roving reporters from class 2 (Isla and Toby) have been talking to the children about school life and what is important to them and this is what they had to say:**

Class 2 have had lots of visitors including Natalie, PCSO Boswell and Mr Hyde. Mr Hyde was the best out of all of them because he showed us Mammoth bones and Sheep bones. The class used their science knowledge to identify different bones, Daniel says *"Bones are the best!"*

*"Thank you Mr Hyde you can come back again!! . Although we think Mrs Houghton enjoyed it the most"*

We have some amazing teachers! Our main teacher is Mrs Houghton and the TA's are Mrs Collier and Mrs Oldfield. We get to do loads of things including:

**Swimming:** We finish our Tuesday lunch break early so we can go swimming at Bakewell Swimming pool. There are three groups, the lower group, the middle group and the higher group.

**PE:** Lots of children want more PE with Miss Tonks and want better football nets. Frankie says *"I love PE and dodging balls in dodgeball!"*.

**Art:** In class time we do paintings and drawings. We also make things out of clay. *"Toby says he loves art!"*

**Reading:** Class 2 are on their fourth book this term and we are currently reading Live like a hunter gatherer. Piper says *"I love story time!"*.

Break time is really fun, we get loads of equipment and like playing with it. *We all love break time!!!"*

Lots of children have asked the school council for some plants in the playground, so Mrs Houghton has bought 100 daffodil bulbs for class 2 to plant and watch grow over the year. *"Rose wants real grass for the playground"* and we are going to ask the school council for monkey bars, more tennis balls, friendship benches and better bathroom door locks

Class 2 have lots of amazing students! and all the teachers love them. Our school value is we care and all of the students definitely show that, *well some of them.*

*We love our school!*

*Isla and Toby (age 8 and 9)*

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## Messages from the classroom:

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### **Class 1: Welcome back, what a fantastic start to the school year you have all had!**

As we come to the end of the first half term in school, the class are now very well settled in a day-to-day routine at school. The children have been very busy learning lots of new things.

Reception children have been working very hard in phonics learning the first set 1 sounds and playing games with Fred the Frog. They have enjoyed literacy-based activities linked to the books 'Farmer Duck' and 'The Little Red Hen' and began to use their mathematical skills to match, sort and compare numbers and objects.

Year 1 and Year 2 have also been very busy doing phonics, literacy, maths and lots of topic-based learning. The children have enjoyed writing character descriptions and a diary entry- all linked to the book 'Farmer duck'. In maths the children have been busy using their reasoning skills to solve tricky place value maths problems.

The whole class has enjoyed learning about being healthy and how to be healthy in PSHE lessons and learning about the pulse, rhythm and beat in Charanga music lessons! We have some very eager musicians in the class who love to sing and perform!

PE lessons have been enjoyed by all, where the children have been learning football-based ball skills- the progress being showcased at their first football school sports competition where year 1 and 2 came first and second in the mini tournament!

As we come up to the October holiday, could I please kindly encourage you to hear your children read at least 3 times a week at home as we can't always hear the children read as often as we would like in class. It doesn't have to just be their school book you can pick any book you think they will enjoy.

Thank you for your support and a huge well done to your children for a fantastic half term!

Miss Hulme

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## **Class 2: Prehistoric Adventures – October Learning Update**

It's been a busy and exciting month in Class 2, full of creativity, discovery, and a journey back in time!

In English, we've been exploring the captivating story *Stone Age Boy*. The children have been learning how to use expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials to add detail and flair to their writing. They've used these new skills to retell the story in their own words, creating vivid and engaging narratives.

The highlight of our writing unit was when the children imagined their own version of the story – this time with Om, a Stone Age girl, travelling forward in time to visit Youlgrave School! The children had great fun imagining Om's amazement at modern life – from interactive whiteboards and colourful displays to flushing toilets and electric lights. Their stories were full of humour, creativity, and brilliant descriptive language.

In Science, we've been learning about Animals Including Humans, focusing on the human skeleton and how it compares to other animals. This learning came to life when we welcomed Mr Hyde into school, who brought in his personal collection of real mammoth and sheep bones! The children were fascinated as they examined the bones up close and compared them to our own classroom skeleton. It was a brilliant opportunity to explore how bones support and protect our bodies, and to link our science learning with our History topic Through the Ages.

In Art, we've been exploring colour and texture, inspired by prehistoric art. The children created their own cave paintings, using earthy tones and natural materials to replicate the style of early humans. They also had the chance to work with clay, designing and shaping their own prehistoric-style pots. These creative projects helped the children understand how people in the past expressed themselves through art and craft, and they loved getting hands-on with the materials.

It's been a fantastic month of cross-curricular learning, and we're so proud of the enthusiasm and imagination Class 2 have shown. Well done, everyone!

Mrs Houghton

### **Class 3:**

This week we have been looking at formal and informal language to help us write letters and emails.

During our topic lessons, learning about Mayans, we have been looking at the jobs that they would have done and how important farming was.

The children then had the opportunity to write up their own menus for a Mayan restaurant.

They have all been working hard in maths, looking at place value and addition and subtractions using the column method to add and subtract numbers in the millions.

This week, in science, the class had the opportunity to look at what happens when yeast grows. They talked about the reaction taking place and observed the yeast releasing gas into a balloon which blew up as the yeast expanded.

We have also held the second workshop on emotions, how to recognise them and building resilience through developing strategies to cope. Thank you to colleagues from compass for the quality of the workshops held. The children have engaged really well and we look forward to the third workshop out of four next week.

Finally, in PE, class 3 are really focussing on their Tag rugby skills, ready for the tournament and games after-noon. Myself and Miss Tonks spend the lesson shouting from the sidelines "run forward, pass backwards". The children are making great progress with their skills .

Miss Hemmingway