



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

MARCH 2026

Spotlight on The More You Read, The Smarter You Get!



Celebrating World Book Day

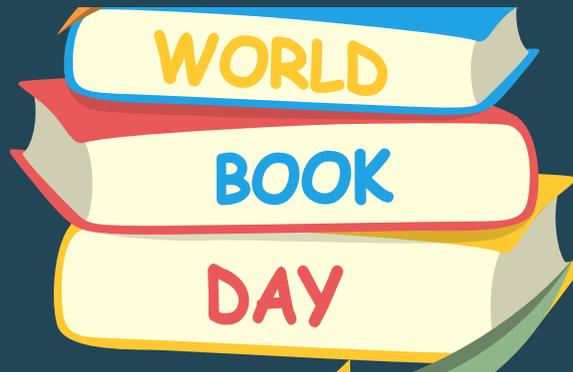
Reading is at the heart of everything we do at Northowram. With our wonderful school library now fully in use, there has never been a better time to celebrate our love of books.

World Book Day was a joyful occasion filled with creativity and enthusiasm. The costumes were absolutely fantastic, and it was a delight to see children so excited about their favourite characters and stories.

A special thank you to our English Leader, Mrs Boyle, for organising such engaging activities throughout the day. We are also incredibly grateful to our school kitchen team for preparing a magical Alice in Wonderland-themed lunch, which added an extra sprinkle of wonder to the celebrations.

Jane Gardifield

Keep reading, everyone – every page counts!





Safety Tips

Children and Phone Safety - NSPCC



When to let your child have a mobile phone is a question many parents face. The NSPCC's guidance on children, mobile phones and online safety is a useful resource. It addresses one of the most common questions schools are asked: when is a child ready for a phone, and how can families manage the risks?

The guide offers balanced, practical advice on readiness, boundary-setting, parental controls, and ongoing conversations about safe and responsible use.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/children-phones-online-safety/>



Calderdale Safeguarding Team

Calderdale Safeguarding Team offer a wide range of services and advice for anyone who may be struggling. There is advice from Safer Sleep to Bullying, Keeping Children Safe Online and Domestic Abuse. There are also links for you to follow should you be concerned about a child. [Parents and carers - Safeguarding Calderdale](#)

Attendance and Appointments

We understand that sometimes getting an appointment out of school hours is unavoidable. However, we are finding an increasing number of people taking appointments within school time.

Going forwards, we may ask to see evidence of these appointments, please have these readily available to show upon request.

Thank you for your support with this.





Year 6 have been developing their woodworking skills during Forest School sessions, crafting their very own wooden mallets. This project required careful measuring, perseverance, concentration and resilience – and the results have been impressive.

The teamwork, craftsmanship and determination shown by our pupils has been outstanding. Well done, Year 6 – true Forest School experts in the making!



Crossing Patrol (Lollipop) Consultation Update



We were very disappointed to learn that, despite our very best efforts, the local authority has decided not to reinstate a crossing patrol at Northowram following their recent consultation.

Data collected from our school – including monitoring of vehicle speeds, accident reports, stakeholder feedback and observations during drop-off and pick-up times – did not meet the local authority's current criteria on this occasion.

We will be formally expressing our disappointment at this outcome and will continue to work closely with local councillors and the local authority to do everything we can to promote safe arrival and departure for all members of our school community. In the meantime, we thank parents and carers for continuing to park considerately and model safe road behaviour for our children.



Sports News Football Success

We were thrilled to celebrate Northowram Rams Under 11s' fantastic 4-1 semi-final victory in our recent assemblies.

The team demonstrated exceptional teamwork, friendship and determination – qualities we are immensely proud of.

Next stop.....the finals! We will be cheering you all the way!

Congratulations to Alex K, Elliot W, Thomas Q, Ollie H, William G, Nial B, William F, Hugo B and Ted H.





Cross Country Finals

On Tuesday, 13 children proudly represented our school in the prestigious West Yorkshire Cross Country Finals at Temple Newsome in Leeds.

Congratulations to Isla C who came first in West Yorkshire – what an amazing achievement! Very well done to Frankie R, Tilly D, Hettie B, Eleanor P, Walter H, Charlie G, Jasper G, Reuben D, Layton G, Paisley-Kaye C, Robson B, Nancy-Mae M, Tilly S, Alex K and Thomas Q – brilliant running from all of you!

Reaching the finals is a tremendous achievement – we are incredibly proud of you all.



WELL DONE!





School Visits

At Northowram, we firmly believe that school trips and educational visits are a vital and enriching part of our curriculum. They bring learning to life, spark curiosity and create lasting memories.

Whether exploring a museum, watching a live performance or experiencing a new city, these opportunities broaden our pupils' horizons and build cultural capital in meaningful and memorable ways.

Trips also provide wonderful opportunities for children to strengthen friendships and develop independence, resilience and teamwork as they share new experiences together.

We are always looking ahead to plan exciting visits, and we are delighted to share some of our upcoming events:

Year 5 Residential to London (June) – Our Year 5 pupils will enjoy an unforgettable residential visit to London. Highlights include sightseeing, a tour of the Houses of Parliament and a thrilling West End theatre show.

Year 4 Theatre Visit (June) – Year 4 will visit the Bradford Alhambra to watch a stage adaptation of *The Boy at the Back of the Class*, a book they have thoroughly enjoyed studying in class. (More Info to follow).

All school trips rely on voluntary parental contributions to go ahead. Without your continued generosity and support, these valuable experiences simply would not be possible.

Thank you, as always, for helping us provide such wonderful opportunities for our children.



Dream Big Careers Week

A huge thank you to our parents and families who volunteered their time to support our "Dream Big" Careers Week (9th-13th March).

We were overwhelmed by your generosity and are pleased to say that all speaking slots were quickly filled.

Throughout the week, children will take part in activities (including special sessions for Year 2 and Year 6) and hear inspiring talks from parents working in a wide range of professions, including cabin crew, sports physiotherapy, dance teaching and farming. By hearing directly from members of our own community, we hope to inspire our children to think ambitiously about their futures and understand the many exciting pathways open to them.



EASTER EVENTS

We have a busy and exciting run-up to Easter with lots of fundraising activities planned:

Friday 13th March – Dress Down Day

Please bring an item of chocolate for our Easter chocolate tombola. Every child will receive a chocolate treat on the final day of term.

Friday 20th March – Red Nose Day

Bring £1 and wear a red nose or red accessory to support this fantastic cause.

Spring Discos (3:30–4:30pm)

Wednesday 11th – Years 3 & 4

Tuesday 17th – Years 5 & 6

Wednesday 18th – Years 1 & 2

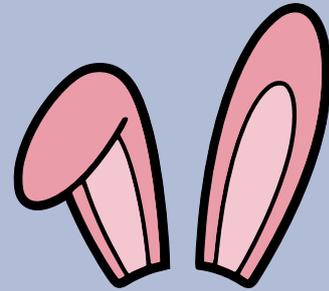
(EYFS disco will take place during the school day.)

Easter Hamper Raffle

Raffle tickets will be on sale outside school from Monday 16th March.

Easter Colouring Competition & “Guess the Eggs in the Jar”

Available from the front reception desk from Monday 16th March.



Easter Parade – Friday 27th March

A much-loved Northowram tradition!

Children are invited to design and create their own Easter hats or bonnets at home and wear them for our parade.

Parents and carers are warmly invited to join us on the front and side playgrounds from 2:30pm.

We look forward to celebrating together as a school community.



*Happy
Easter!*

House News

Congratulations to Emerald House, who won the honour of wearing their house colours during the final week of last half term! Children earn house points through excellent conduct, positive attitudes and exemplary manners.

The competition is now back on – which house will claim victory this half term?

On the final Friday before half term, our Year 5 and 6 pupils participated in a thrilling “Scholar Quiz” in the school hall. Questions tested their knowledge across the curriculum, with topics ranging from World Wars to Renaissance Art.

Well done to all the courageous pupils who represented their houses so impressively.

Congratulations to the winning house this half term! We are excited to build on the success of this event and hope to introduce a future version where parents can join in the excitement – watch this space!



JOB VACANCIES

WE CURRENTLY HAVE THE FOLLOWING VACANCIES AVAILABLE IN SCHOOL:

CLEANER
MIDDAY SUPERVISOR

IF YOU OR ANYONE YOU KNOW MAY BE INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE

