Newsletter –6/11/2026

Dear Parents

Welcome back to half term 2 which promises to be full of exciting trips, events and learning in the lead up to Christmas! On the Friday before we broke up, staff attended a training day on OPAL (outdoor play and learning) which left us inspired and excited for the coming months. We have already seen a big difference in the small change of opening up the field in the soggy season -just a reminder to send in wellies if you have not done so yet. The children have been filling in their playtime surveys and item requests (one of which includes a portal to another world) and the week after next we have our OPAL mentor in school observing playtimes ahead of their suggested changes.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Barnett

Collective Worship



This week we started a new theme 'respect' which is one of our LEH values. We learned the definition of respect and in particular the importance of self-respect. On Thursday, Marcus from the Bramham Benefice taught us a fun new song with actions and we also celebrated the children who have been making great efforts with their reading.



Remembrance

On Wednesday 11th November, we will be visiting the Thorp Arch War Memorial with all the children to conduct a two-minute silence and pay our respects for Remembrance Day. As usual, we would like to invite any parents who wish to join us in our short service of Remembrance which is usually around 15 minutes.

Any parents that are available are more than welcome to join us and walk with us from school; we will be leaving at approximately 10:40am.

Poppies will be on sale in School from Monday-Wednesday for a minimum donation of 50p?

Children in Need - Friday 13th



To fundraise for Children in Need the children may come to school in non-uniform, for a suggested donation of a £1. Before school, official Children in Need wrist bands will be on sale, for £1.
Cash donations only please. During the day, the School Council will also be offering **all children** the chance to enter a 'Guess Pudsey's favourite food' competition, for the chance to win a Pudsey teddy bear (no additional donation required.)





FoS Update –
Christmas Magic is Coming!

🎅 Santa's Grotto – Tickets ON SALE!

🗓️ **Saturday 12th December**

LEH families get **one week of priority booking** before tickets go on general sale — so grab yours first!

🎟️ **Just £12 per child**, including:

🎅 A magical visit with Santa and a special gift to take home!
📖 Storytime with our Chief Elf
🍪 Cookie decorating with Mrs Claus
🦌 Meet our two very special reindeer!

Plus, enjoy a family photoshoot opportunity, inflatable snow dome, fully licensed bar, Big Red carvery, candyfloss and festive stalls!

The perfect way to spend a magical Christmas afternoon! ✨

🎟️ **Book your tickets here**

🎬 Movie Night – Coming Soon!

🗓️ **Thursday 19th November**

PJs, cosy cuddly toys and a film with friends, straight after school! 🍿

Tickets include a snack and drink and go on sale **early next week**.

📽️ **Watch this space for the film reveal and tickets!**

♡ Thank you for supporting FoS and helping us make magical memories for our children!

A big thank you to Winter and Barney who raised £40 for FOS by selling the pumpkins they have grown. We really appreciate it!



Basketball Competition

On Tuesday this week, a group of Year 6 children took part in a basketball competition at Boston Spa Academy alongside other local primary schools. Our team didn't win the competition, but we were so proud of the effort, courage, determination and sportsmanship they demonstrated. Well done to all who took part.





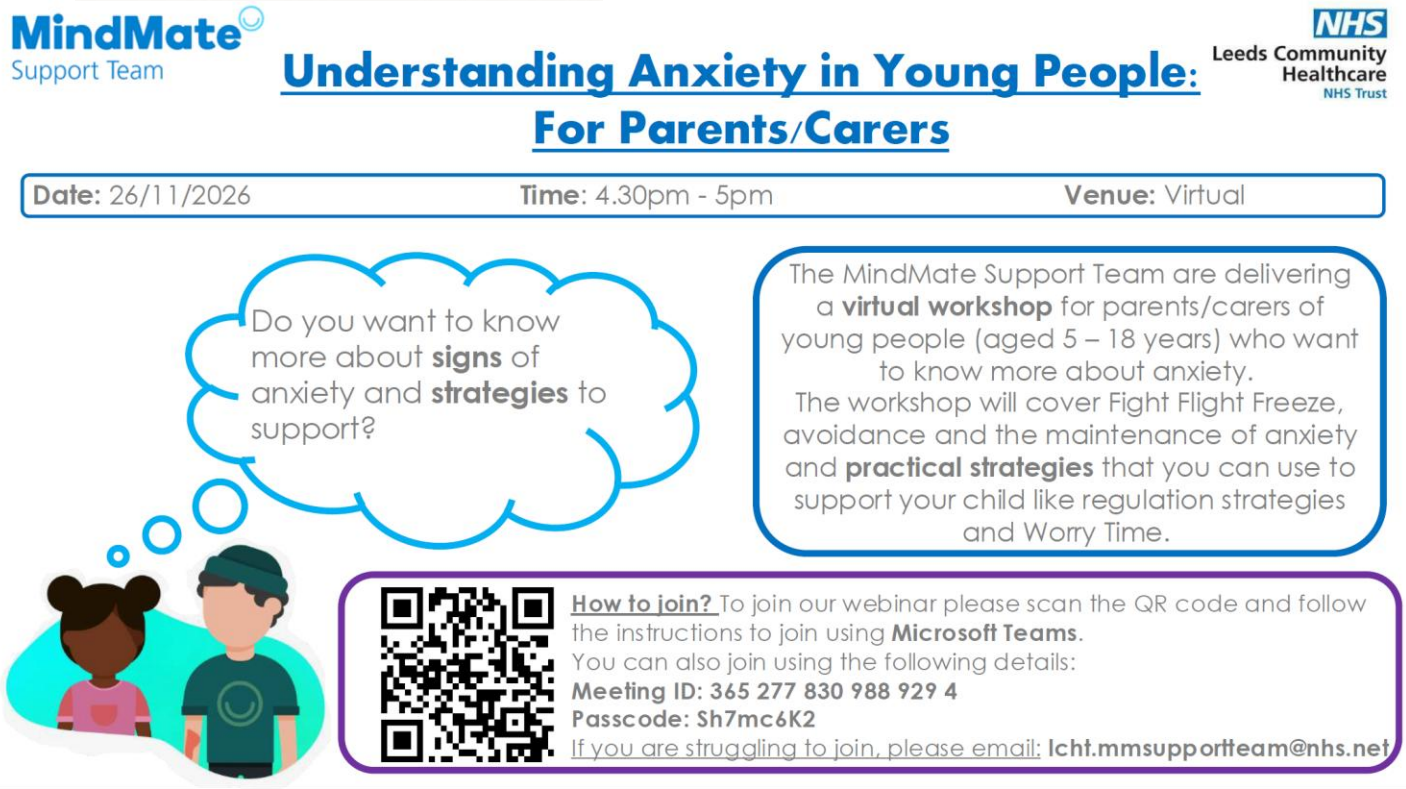


Parent Workshops.

Here are couple of our mindmate/ cluster workshops coming up over the next month or so…







A snapshot of this week's learning…

Forest School

Class 1 had a fantastic time at Forest School in their forest session of the year. They got creative making their very own firework sand a leaf man, went on a bug hunt to see what little creatures they could discover and practised their balancing skills. There was also plenty of fun swinging on the tree swing. A lovely morning of exploring, learning and discovering the great outdoors.







Class 1



This week in PE, Reception and Year 1 have been moving their bodies to music inspired by fireworks! The children practised jumping up and down, focusing on landing safely on both feet with bent knees. We also explored how using our arms can help us jump further. The children had lots of fun moving like fireworks bursting into the sky!

We have been creating our own firework displays using pretend sparklers (ribbon sticks). The children danced and made big movements in the air, including zigzags, circles, waves and swirls. We then used our Read Write Inc. letter rhymes to practise

forming our curly caterpillar letters caod to firework music. The children did a fantastic job of attempting to form these letters using chalk on black paper.



In literacy this week our learning objective this week has been to identify words that rhyme and create our own rhyming sentences. We enjoyed listening to lots of rhyming words in our story of the week, *Oi Frog!* The children had great fun completing a rhyming picture jigsaw together and spotting words that sound the same at the end. Year 1 took their learning a step further by choosing different animals and objects, matching pictures that rhyme and then using their chosen words to create their own rhyming sentences.





Class 2

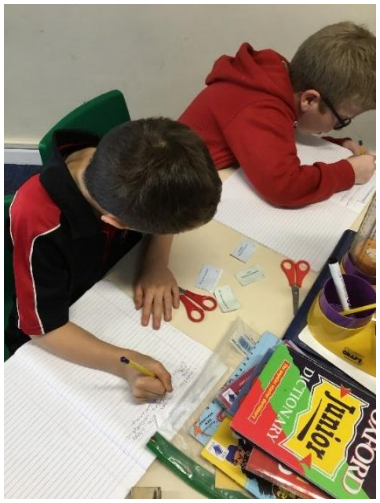
It has been another busy week in Class 2! In English, we have started reading *The Egyptian Cinderella* and writing complex sentences using subordinating conjunctions. In Handwriting, we have continued practising the 'hill' join.

In Maths, Year 3 have been subtracting across 10 and 100, while Year 2 have been adding three 1-digit numbers and adding to the next 10. In Science, Year 3 have been learning about the human skeleton and Year 2 have been exploring why exercise is good for us.

In RE, we have been thinking about what a week might look like for a Christian child. In Spanish, we have started learning some simple classroom instructions.

In PE, we began gymnastics on Tuesday, exploring different movements and positions, and started our net and wall games unit on Thursday by learning about the 'ready position'.







Class 3

We have had a lovely first we back after half-term! We have had Vicar in to answer all our questions based around our topic 'Why is Jesus inspiring to some people?'. The children asked such interesting things and showed such a super attitude in front of our visitor. I was so proud of them!



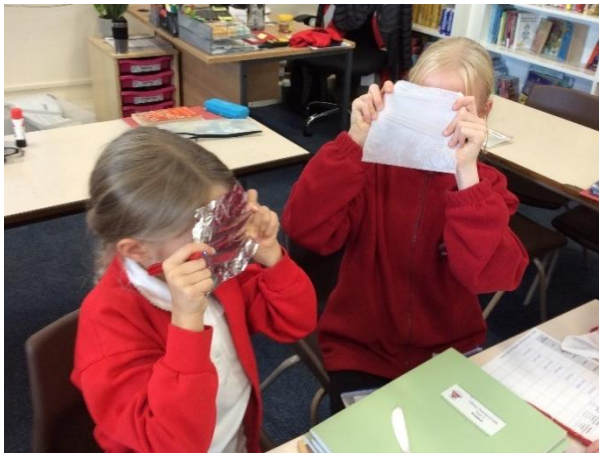


In gymnastics this week, we have been learning about symmetrical and asymmetrical shapes. The children enjoyed practising these and putting together a small sequence of them.





Class 4



In Class 4's first week after the half-term break, we have been focusing on building suspense for our readers in our narrative writing. We have used deliberate short sentences, dialogue from characters, and purposeful word choices to build the tension. In maths, we have continued to work on division, using the long division method to divide by 2-digit numbers – the children have done well picking up this complex method.

In History, we have begun learning about the ancient Shang Dynasty, while in PSHE we focused on migration and the challenges someone might face when having to move to a new area or country. In Science, we are learning about properties of materials and

spent our first lesson testing different materials for properties such as permeability, transparency, magnetism and electrical conductivity.

In RE we have begun a new unit of work all about pilgrimage, as well as a new project in DT where we will use cams to create moving components.









Refresh Parents Cafe

Thursdays Term time 1pm to 2:30pm

The Parish Room at

St Mary's Church Boston Spa



Refreshments and childrens activities. Donations welcome but not required.



Parents of all aged children come and take a breather.

For more information contact

Jo Davies : 07783336436

beneficeconnectionsminister@gmail.com

Facebook: bramhambenefice

The Bramham Benefice

School Calendar

Autumn Term 2026	
Saturday 7th November	Thorp Arch Bonfire (FOS Candy Floss Stall)
Monday 9th November	National Child Measurement Years R and Y6
Wednesday 18th November	Open Evening for prospective parents 2027 (Y6 tour guides)
Thursday 19th November	Movie Night FOS
Wednesday 25th November	Class 4 Worship (Mr Hesketh) parents welcome @2.45pm
Tuesday 1st December	Open Morning for prospective parents 2027
Wednesday 9th December	Class 1 Nativity (Reception/Y1) 10am and 2pm
Thursday 10th December	All pupils pantomime @Harrogate Theatre – Sleeping Beauty
Saturday 12th December	Santa's Grotto
Thursday 17th December	Christmas Service in Church - parents welcome@9.45am
Friday 18th December	School closes at the end of the school day
Spring Term 2027	
Monday 4th January	School open to all pupils
Wednesday 10th February	Class 3 Worship (Mrs Hope/ Tait) parents welcome @2.45pm
Friday 12th February	School closes for half term at the end of the school day
Monday 22nd February	School open to all pupils
Thursday 25th March	Easter Service in Church - parents welcome@9.45am
Friday 26th March	Easter Bank Holiday – school closed to pupils
Monday 29th March	Easter Bank Holiday – school closed to pupils
Friday 2nd April	School closes at the end of the school day
Summer Term 2027	
Monday 19th April	School open to all pupils
Wednesday 26th May	Class 2 Worship (Mrs Stather) parents welcome @2.45pm
Thursday 27th May	School closes for half term at the end of the school day
Friday 28th May	Staff INSET Day (School closed to pupils)
Monday 7th June	Staff INSET Day (School closed to pupils)
Tuesday 8th June	School open to all pupils
Wednesday 9th June	Year 6 Residential to Bewerley Park
Friday 18th June	Sports Day – Parents invited from 1.15pm
Wednesday 30th June	Class 1 Worship (Mrs Bell/ Hardcastle) parents welcome @2.45pm
Tuesday 20th July	Y6 Leavers Service in School – 9.15am
Wednesday 21st July	School closes at the end of the school day

Thursday 22nd July	Staff INSET Day (School closed to pupils)