Newsletter

Autumn Term

wb 23rd November 2026

It has been a very busy term in school and there's plenty more to come with the build up to Christmas! This afternoon, the children have all been contributing to decorating the school for Christmas, making decorations, paper chains and even drawing on the windows in Hawthorn. A big thank you goes to the Job family, who kindly donated some wooden baubles for us to decorate! Ash and Willow class are making great progress with their nativity, for which tickets will be released early next week, and we're gearing up for the best Christingle service ever based on our rehearsals so far! Please check the dates page as we have two new additions: a festive film night organized by FoBs and a charity "Reindeer Rush" to raise money for St Leonard's Hospice!

Miss Walker

Notices:

- Please come and check our lost property before the end of term as we have accrued a lot of unnamed items and we aren't able to store these so they will be donated or disposed of over the holidays.
- We have streamlined our P.E days so that the first half term in Autumn, Spring and Summer are the same and the second half are the same. These are all on our class pages on the website!

Pupdate!

Indy has now been with us in school for 3 months and has settled in well to school life. As he's now nearly 7 months old, he is coming to the end of his teething and is responding really well to training. He loves seeing the children from a distance and has had some controlled playground visits, which have gone really well!

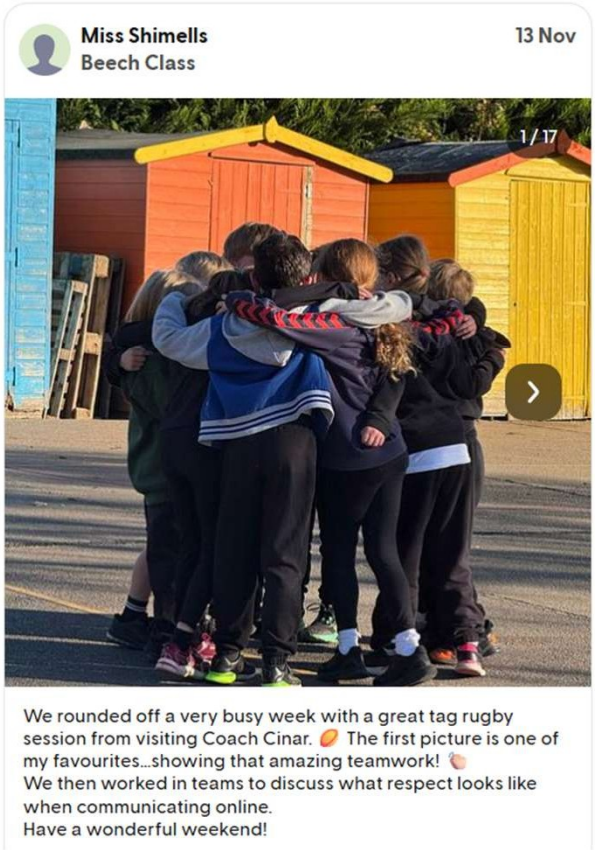


We're hopeful that we will be able to start some short sessions where he supports children in emotional literacy sessions, gets used to reading sessions from afar and motivates children as part of our attendance strategy. We will add a permission option to Arbor for when he is ready for children to physically interact with him but this will always be in close supervision of an adult. Our dog policy has now been finalised and will be uploaded to our website. I know that the children have been (some not so patiently!) waiting for the chance to interact fully so hopefully this will start after the holidays!

Class Dojo Update

Many of you will already be familiar with Class Dojo, which we introduced earlier this term. Over the past month, staff have been using the platform to recognise positive behaviour, award behaviour points and celebrate children's achievements.

We hope families have enjoyed seeing some of the many successes and special moments that take place in school each day. As well as supporting our behaviour system, Class Dojo is becoming our primary platform for sharing updates, photographs and class news directly with families.



Last year, we asked parents for their views on whether the school should create a social media presence. While there was support for this idea, recent concerns around the use of children's images on public social media platforms, alongside the rapid development of artificial intelligence, have encouraged us to take a more cautious approach. Rather than creating a public social media page, we have chosen to develop our use of Class Dojo. This provides a secure, closed platform where photographs, celebrations and school updates can be shared directly with our families instead of being posted publicly online.

We would like to remind parents and carers that, although Class Dojo includes a messaging feature, this is not intended to be used as a routine communication channel between home and school. Staff do not regularly monitor or respond to messages sent through the platform. If you need to contact the school, report an absence, share important information or discuss a concern, please continue to use our usual communication channels:

- Telephone the school office
- Email the school office
- Speak to staff at the classroom door
- Arrange an appointment through the office if a longer discussion is required

By using Class Dojo in this way, we hope to provide families with a secure and engaging window into school life while ensuring that important communications continue to be managed through established school procedures.

Reindeer Rush!

We have been asked by St Leonard's Hospice to take part in their Reindeer Rush this year to help raise money for the important work that they do to support families going through unimaginable difficulties so on Friday 18th December in the morning, children will wear a pair of reindeer antlers kindly supplied by St Leonard's and take part in a sponsored walk or run on the field outside. Next Wednesday, we will have an assembly lead by a representative from St Leonard's to explain what we're doing and why and then the children will bring home sponsorship forms – every little helps someone in need!

How does it work?

Our Reindeer Rush is a sponsored run or walk for schools and nurseries across our community. You can choose the date, distance and any location available to you, whether that's a playground, school hall, field or even your local park! Once you've decided, we'll supply you with everything you need to get ready for your big day.

Seaside trip

We wanted to say a huge thank you to the East Riding Changing Coastlines team for providing a grant that made our trip to Flamborough Head and the Bridlington coastline possible. We had a fantastic time learning about the challenges facing our coast, exploring the different effects of coastal erosion and what teams are doing to support and lessen the effects.









DIWALI CELEBRATION





On Tuesday 3rd November, we had another visit from Sunita to learn about how she celebrates Diwali with her family. Everyone took part in an amazing dance workshop and had the chance to cook some delicious Indian food, from chapatis to mango lassi!



Peat Rigg

Year 5 and 6 had a brilliant time at Peat Rigg for our annual residential, taking to the treetops in the zipwire, testing their bow and arrow skills during archery and even jumping into the freezing lake after canoeing! As ever, we were so impressed by their resilience and teamwork. Our school was praised by the instructors, who loved our "get stuck in" attitude to all of the activities!











Next year:

Due to our increased numbers next year, instead of our usual November week, we will be going to Peat Rigg from **14th-16th February 2028** so that we have use of the whole site. We will send out letters as usual next year so that families have time to plan and budget but just note the later date!

Sports Partnership Update

We had a fantastic time during our cross country event last Thursday, with over 45 children from our school staying to race! We had some atmospheric fairy lights and music to keep us motivated and it was a race against the disappearing light, as well as each other. We've had some lovely messages from the staff at Eastrington and Barmby Primary schools and we hope this will be an annual event moving forward!



<u>Upcoming fixtures:</u>

- A bench ball tournament at Eastrington Primary 26th November - Year 4/5/6 - 4pm start
- A Dodgeball Tournament at Eastrington Primary 19th January - Year 3/4 - 4pm start
- A Year 5/6 Netball tournament at Eastrington Primary - 2nd March – 4pm start
- A Tennis competition at the Bubwith Leisure Centre – Date tbc in Summer term
- A Cricket Festival at Eastrington Cricket Club - Date tbc in Summer term

We will send individual letters out about the events to gauge interest and will work with children in school to prepare.

Autumn 2 Term Dates (so far!)

Date	Details	Family involvement
Tuesday 3rd November	Diwali Day *Following the great success last year, this will be a day of discovery and fun activities to learn more about Diwali.*	Children are invited to come in dressed in bright/party clothes if they wish.
Wednesday 4th-Friday 6th November	Year 5 and 6 residential trip to Peat Rigg	Please see kit list for everything children need to bring.
Thursday 5th November	Year 3 and 4 trip to Howsham Mill	Please see the trip letter for further details. Forest school activities so dress for all weather!
Wb 9th November	Year 5 children will be selling poppies for Remembrance Day	Children can bring in money for a poppy if they wish.
Monday 16th November	Anti-bullying week	Monday – Children can wear odd socks Friday – Children can wear yellow or spots in exchange for £1 for charity
Friday 20th November	Natalie Sinderson from the Family Help team will be in school in the morning for individual appointments with families	Please see the flyer for further information and speak to class teachers or the office to book a slot.
Friday 4th December	Badger house own clothes day for winning our house points last half term!	Children in badger house (ask children or check for the letter after their name on Class Dojo) can wear own clothes.
Thursday 10th December	9.30am Rocksteady concert for families whose children do Rocksteady lessons	Families can attend the concert in the hall.
Thursday 10th December	Christmas jumper and Christmas dinner day	Children can wear a Christmas jumper in exchange for £1 for Save the Children. Please book a dinner on Arbor if your child would like a Christmas dinner.
Wednesday 9th December	2.30pm Ash and Willow class nativity performance	Families can buy a ticket on the Arbor app.
Friday 11th December	9.30am Ash and Willow class nativity performance	



Autumn 2 Term Dates (so far!)

Date	Details	Family involvement
Tuesday 15th December	EYFS/KS1 Christmas parties	Children can wear party clothes
Wednesday 16th December	Whole school trip to the Pantomime to see Peter Pan at York Grand Opera House	Please see the trip letter for further detail
Thursday 17th December	KS2 Christmas parties	Children can wear party clothes
Thursday 17th December	FoBs festive film night! It's back for another fun-filled evening with snacks and a Christmas film.	FoBs will send out ticket information shortly and PG film permissions are on the Arbor app for parents to give consent so we have a wide range of films to choose from.
Friday 18th December	In the morning, we will be taking part in the Reindeer Rush challenge to support St Leonard's Hospice.	Children will bring home sponsorship forms and will take part in a sponsored walk or run on the field!
Friday 18th December	Christingle Service in the church at 1.30pm	Families are invited to attend to watch our Christingle service in church. If the service finishes before 3.30, parents can choose to take children home after we return to school or they can stay until 3.30.
Tuesday 5th January	Monday 4th is an INSET day so Tuesday 5th is the first day back for children	

