

Mrs Wolfe's Weekly Update

2nd October 2026

Autumn Term Dates

8th Oct - Phonics Parent Information Meeting
wb 12th Oct - Parent Consultation Meetings (Teachers will inform parents of which days these will be held)
14th Oct - Year 5/6 Netball Tournament @ Outwood Academy (TBC)
21st Oct - Y3/4 Dodgeball Tournament @ Outwood Academy
26th-30th October - Half Term Break
2nd Nov - Teacher Training Day
3rd Nov - Children to return to school
4th Nov - Climate Change Pupil Event for Ambassadors & School Council @ RHS Harlow Carr (TBC)
25th Nov - Year 5/6 Football @ Outwood Academy (TBC)
9th Dec - Owl Class Nativity @ Burton Leonard Village Hall
10th Dec - Christmas Lunch
10th Dec - Christmas Jumper Day - Save the Children
11th Dec - Owl Class Postal Museum Workshop
12th Dec - KS2 Royal Hall Christmas Concert
14th Dec - Kite Class Christmas Party
15th Dec - Whole-school Theatre Trip to see Peter Pan at Bradford Alhambra
16th Dec - Merlin Class Christmas Party
17th Dec - Owl Class Christmas Party
18th Dec - End of Term Christmas Service 2pm @ St Leonards Church
21st - 1st Jan - Christmas Break
4th Jan - Teacher Training Day
5th Jan - Children return to school

Weekly Enrichment

Mondays

After-school Times Table Club with Mr Doohan

Tuesdays

After-school Sports Club with Miss M
After-school SATS Club with Mr Doohan

Wednesdays

Lunchtime Library Club with our Reading Ambassadors & Library Grannies
After-school Knitting Club with Granny Lesley

Thursdays

Forest School with Outdoor Adventures

Y1 - 10th Sept

Y2 - 17th Sept

Y3 - 1st Oct

Y4 - 8th Oct

Y5 - 15th Oct

Reception & Y6 - 22nd Oct

Mandarin Club with Mrs Cummings

Friday

Before School Provision from

8am Mon-Fri

After-school Provision from

3:30-6pm Mon-Thurs

Vision & Values

Our Vision - To love our neighbour, enabling everyone to shine and make a difference in the world.

'Love your neighbour as yourself'

Luke 10:27 Parable of the Good Samaritan

Our Values - Courage, Love, Resilience & Service

Our 3Rs - Be Ready, Be Responsible & Be Respectful

Attendance

Our average whole school attendance so far this year is 98.3% We've dropped slightly this week - please do read our attendance section further down below on why attendance is so important for every child.

Well done to Year 2 & 3 for achieving 100% attendance this week!

This Week's News

Harvest

This week, we came together as a school community to celebrate Harvest at St Leonard's Church. Led by our Collective Worship Committee, the service explored the theme of "The Flowers of Harvest", encouraging us all to reflect on the qualities that help communities flourish, including love, kindness, generosity, service and thankfulness. Children shared readings, prayers and thoughtful learning topics, while families joined us in giving thanks for the many blessings we enjoy. We were also joined by Rev'd Anna Boyce, who shared powerful harvest messages with us. Rooted in our school vision of "Love your neighbour as yourself," the service challenged us to consider how we can support those in need through acts of compassion and service. Thank you to everyone who attended and to those who contributed donations; together we demonstrated the true spirit of Harvest.

Re-scheduled date for Dodgeball

This week's Y3/4 dodgeball tournament was unfortunately cancelled, due to the weather. We have re-scheduled for 21st October. Mrs Corrin will send out information regarding this nearer the time.

Healthy Packed Lunches and Snacks Reminder

As part of our commitment to keeping all children safe and healthy, we would like to offer a gentle reminder about packed lunches and snacks brought into school.

We encourage families to provide a balanced packed lunch and healthy snack choices, helping children to stay energised and ready for learning throughout the day. Please remember that some foods can present a choking risk, particularly for younger children, and should be prepared carefully before being sent to school.

Foods that should always be cut up:

- Cherry tomatoes
- Grapes
- Small plum tomatoes

These items should be cut into quarters lengthways to reduce the risk of choking.

Other foods that may require preparation:

- Large blueberries should be halved.
- Sausages should be sliced lengthways.
- Round or cylindrical foods should be cut into smaller, safer pieces.

We would also ask parents not to include popcorn in packed lunches or snacks, as this is considered a choking hazard and can become lodged in a child's airway.

In addition, as we have children in school with nut allergies, nuts and products containing nuts should not be brought into school. This includes packets of nuts and nut-based spreads such as peanut butter. We appreciate your support in helping us maintain a safe environment for all members of our school community.

Thank you for your cooperation and support in keeping our children safe, healthy and ready to learn. If you wish to find out more about suitable lunchbox or snack options, please click here to visit our [Healthy Eating page](#) on our website, which features lots of ideas and helpful information.

Year 6 SATs Information Meeting

Thank you to all the parents who attended our recent SATs Information Meeting led by Mr Doohan. It was wonderful to see so many families there, and particularly lovely to welcome some of our pupils too.

The session provided a helpful introduction to SATs, explaining what the assessments involve and how our curriculum supports children in developing the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to succeed. Mr Doohan also shared lots of practical tips for supporting learning every day, helping children to make steady progress throughout the year.

Most importantly, the meeting highlighted that SATs are just one part of a child's educational journey. Preparing for SATs helps children to develop valuable life skills that will support them far beyond primary school, including resilience, perseverance, organisation, time management and the confidence to approach challenges positively.

These skills will serve our pupils well as they move on to secondary school and encounter future examinations, assessments and other opportunities to demonstrate their learning.

Thank you to everyone who attended and for your continued support in helping our children to flourish and achieve their very best. For those who were unable to attend, Mr Doohan will be sending out the Power Point information for you to read at your convenience.

Reading Ambassadors

On Thursday I had the first meeting of the academic year with our Reading Ambassadors and was thoroughly impressed by their enthusiasm, creativity and commitment to promoting a love of reading across the school. The children shared a range of exciting ideas, including a book sale, book café, mystery books, and opportunities for pupils to share and recommend their favourite reads with others. Their passion for reading was evident throughout our discussion, and they have many more exciting initiatives planned for the coming months. We look forward to sharing these with you and seeing even more children inspired to discover the joy of reading. We are very excited about the forthcoming opening of the library and the children have lots of ideas to help build our reading materials and fundraising alongside the wonderful work the FOBLs have planned. Watch out for further news about the FOBLs Readathon, as well as our Reading Ambassador 'Donate a Book and Leave a Lasting Legacy' plans.

School Council Update

Today, I had the pleasure of meeting with our School Council to hear their views about life at school. The representatives did a fantastic job of gathering feedback from their classmates and sharing both the things that children enjoy most about our school and areas where they feel improvements could be made.

The meeting was full of thoughtful discussion, with council members confidently presenting ideas and suggestions on behalf of their peers – improving our grounds, Y6 readiness for Year 7 and lots of other enriching ideas to make school even more fun! I was particularly impressed by the maturity, honesty and enthusiasm shown by the children, who demonstrated a genuine desire to make our school the very best it can be.

Wellies in School

As the weather becomes wetter, we encourage all children to keep a pair of named wellies in school. Having wellies available means that children can continue to enjoy our field and outdoor learning spaces throughout the year, making the most of the fresh air, exercise and opportunities to explore the natural environment. We value outdoor play and learning as an important part of children's wellbeing and development. A pair of wellies in school helps ensure that children can take part comfortably, whatever the weather. If your child does not currently have a pair of wellies in school, we would be grateful if you could send some in.

Learning Across the School This Week

It has been another busy and exciting week of learning across school, with children demonstrating curiosity, creativity and perseverance in all areas of the curriculum.

Owl Class have been working hard in mathematics, with Reception children exploring numbers to 10 and Year 1 children practising counting forwards and backwards. In Drawing Club, the children have thoroughly enjoyed the book *Baddies*, using it as inspiration for their imaginative discussions and creative work. In science, they have been exploring their five senses, investigating different smells including coffee, cinnamon and other familiar scents. Owl Class have also been learning (for Y1 revisiting) the NSPCC's PANTS rule, helping children understand important messages about personal safety in an age-appropriate way.

Merlin Class have been developing their geographical knowledge by learning about the Equator and identifying the world's continents. In science, they have been exploring the characteristics of living things and discussing what makes something alive. Their English work has seen them retelling and rewriting the traditional tale of Goldilocks and the Three Bears, producing some wonderful pieces of writing.

Year 4 have immersed themselves in their class text, Shackleton's Journey, writing telegrams in role to family members as they prepared to set sail aboard the *Endurance*. In spelling, they have been investigating the phonetic code with the Year 3s and deepening their understanding of spelling patterns. Mathematics for both year groups has involved exploring patterns in numbers to 1,000 and beyond, using "Always, Sometimes, Never" statements to justify their thinking and prove their mathematical reasoning.

Kite Class have been captivated by their class guided reading novel, *The Good Thieves*. In science, they have been learning about teeth and animal jaws, investigating how different animals are adapted to their diets. In English, they have written both formal and informal letters, including thoughtful letters to the government highlighting the importance of caring for our planet and protecting the environment.

This half term, across the school, all children have begun an exciting new Spanish learning journey with Mrs Cummings. They have been learning basic greetings such as *Hola!* and *Buenas tardes!* introducing themselves, as well as developing their understanding of numbers in Spanish. It has been wonderful to hear children enthusiastically practising their new language skills around school!

Attendance, Safeguarding & Health & Safety Updates & Reminders

Winter Illness Reminder (typically October–March in the UK)

As we move into the winter months, we would like to remind families that, in line with NHS guidance, children can usually continue to attend school if they have common cold symptoms such as a sore throat, runny nose or cough. Children should stay at home if they have a high temperature and can return to school once they no longer have a fever and are well enough to take part in normal activities. If you are unsure whether your child is well enough to attend, please check the NHS page [here](#) and let us know as soon as possible if your child needs to remain at home. Working together helps us to support both children's learning and wellbeing.

We understand that on occasions medical and other important appointments cannot be avoided during school hours. If you have to request time out of school hours, it's important your child attends school before and after the appointment.

Is my child too ill for school?



Does your child have a high temperature (38°C or more)?

YES Keep them off school until it goes away.

NO Follow the guidance below.

Your child can usually go to school with a mild cough or cold if they are otherwise well. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day and give them the reason.

Should go in	Should go in (let the school know)	Seek treatment before returning to school	Keep them off (at first)
A cough, cold or sore throat Fine with slight cough or common cold symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat or headache, as long as they're otherwise well and do not have a high temperature. Threadworms Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.	Cold sores Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels. Conjunctivitis Fine unless they are feeling very unwell. Seek advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly. Head lice & nits You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP. Hand, foot & mouth disease If they seem well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly. Slapped cheek syndrome Once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious. Let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.	Impetigo They'll need treatment from a pharmacist or GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment. Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups with other children at school. Ringworm See your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment. Scarlet fever They'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics. Chickenpox Keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.	Ear infection If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away. Measles They'll need to see a GP. Call the GP surgery before you go in, as measles can spread to others easily. Keep your child off school for at least 4 days from when the rash first appears. They should also avoid close contact with babies and anyone who is pregnant or has a weakened immune system. Vomiting & diarrhoea Stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea due to illness for at least 2 days (48 hours).

Feeling worried or anxious: It's normal for any of us to feel worried sometimes. We may get a tummy ache or headache, or have problems eating or sleeping. Avoiding school can sometimes make a child's worries about going to school worse. If your child is struggling, please speak to school as soon as possible to explore available help. If your child is still struggling and it's affecting their everyday life, you should contact GP or school nurse.

To find out more, search www.NHS.uk for the specific illness or infection, or 'Is my child too ill for school?'

A Prompt Start to the School Day

We encourage all children to make the most of our Early Bird activities, which begin when school opens at 8:45am. Children should arrive and be ready to start learning by 8:55am at the latest.

With Collective Worship now taking place in the afternoon, our mornings begin straight away with important learning opportunities. Arriving on time ensures that children are present for key instructions, lesson introductions and the chance to settle positively into the day alongside their classmates. Thank you for your continued support in helping children arrive promptly, prepared and ready to make the most of every learning opportunity.

Supporting Children with School Drop-Offs

It is not unusual for children to go through periods where they feel worried or upset about coming to school. If your child is finding mornings difficult, try to keep routines calm and consistent, talk positively about the school day ahead, and maintain a confident and reassuring farewell. Although it can be hard, a brief goodbye is often more helpful than a prolonged one. If your child is experiencing ongoing difficulties, please do speak to us. We are here to work in partnership with families and can provide support to help children feel happy, safe and ready to learn.

Attendance Matters

At Burton Leonard, we believe that every school day is an opportunity for children to learn, grow and flourish. Regular attendance plays a vital role in children's academic achievement, wellbeing and social development. Being in school each day helps children build strong relationships, develop confidence and fully engage in the rich experiences and opportunities that make school life so rewarding.

Our vision, "Love your neighbour, enabling everyone to shine and make a difference in the world," encourages us to recognise the value of every member of our school community. When children attend school consistently, they are able to participate fully in class life, contribute to their learning community and make the most of every chance to develop their knowledge, skills and character.

We appreciate that there will be occasions when children are unable to attend due to illness or other exceptional circumstances. However, we ask families to support good attendance wherever possible and to avoid arranging holidays during term time. In line with national guidance, requests for leave during term time can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

One of our key teaching principles at Burton Leonard is "Keep Up, Not Catch Up." Learning is carefully sequenced, and children make the best progress when they take part in lessons alongside their classmates every day. Even short absences can mean that important learning is missed. Where absence does occur, staff will do all they can to help children reconnect with key learning and continue to move forward with confidence.

If a child's attendance or absence begins to have an impact on their learning, their class teacher may invite parents to meet and discuss how best to provide support. By working together, we can identify any challenges, put the right help in place and ensure that every child has the opportunity to thrive, achieve and shine.

Looking to the Week Ahead...

Parent/Teacher Consultation Meetings available to book on Arbor

Wednesday

- Library Club. Our Library Club takes place every Wednesday with our wonderful Reading Ambassadors and Library Grannies, supporting a love of reading across the school. Library Grannies are also in school to change children's library books.

Thursday

- Year 4 Forest School with Outdoor Adventures
- After-school Phonics Information session for parents & carers. Please contact Mrs Heys for further information.

Friday

- Celebration 9:15 @St Leonard's Church. All are welcome!
- Swimming will take place for Y2 and selected swimmers until further notice. Please ensure swimming kits are brought into school.



House Cup

This week's team with the
most house points is
Seacole Yellows



Mrs Wolfe's RECOMMENDED PICTURE BOOK READ OF THE WEEK...

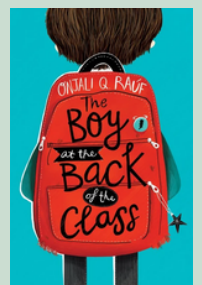


Autumn Feast is a beautifully illustrated picture book that celebrates the wonders of autumn through the eyes of the animals and wildlife preparing for the colder months ahead. As the seasons change, readers follow a variety of creatures as they search for food, gather supplies and make the most of nature's autumn abundance.

This engaging book combines a simple, rhythmic story with fascinating facts about the natural world, making it an excellent choice for curious young readers. The rich illustrations capture the colours and beauty of autumn, while encouraging children to notice the changes happening in their own local environment.

Autumn Feast helps children develop an appreciation for nature, seasonal change and the interconnectedness of living things. It is an ideal read for families looking to enjoy the sights, sounds and discoveries of autumn together.

Mrs Wolfe's RECOMMENDED CHAPTER BOOK READ OF THE HALF TERM...



My chapter book recommendation this half term is *The Boy at the Back of the Class* by Onjali Q. Raúf. This powerful and heartwarming story follows a group of children who befriend a new classmate, Ahmet, a refugee who has experienced many challenges in his journey to safety. The book beautifully reflects our school vision of "Love your neighbour, enabling everyone to shine and make a difference in the world." Through themes of kindness, empathy, courage and friendship, it encourages children to think about how their actions can positively impact others and reminds us of the importance of welcoming, supporting and standing up for those around us. A thoughtful and inspiring read for children and adults alike, it provides many opportunities for discussion about compassion, inclusion and what it truly means to make a difference in the world.

School, FOBLs, Community & National News



"Get ready for a jam-packed day at the Yorkshire Baby & Toddler Show! After an amazing autumn event, we're back and bigger than ever this spring, bringing you the best local and national businesses, from award-winning baby wear to expert photographers, household names and more, all showcasing fantastic products for you and your little one.

But it's not just about shopping (though there's plenty of that too!). This is your chance to connect with midwives, pregnancy experts, and baby specialists who are here to offer advice, reassurance, and all the support you need. Learn life-saving child first aid, hear from inspiring speakers on all things parenting, and let your little ones dive into free, fun activities designed to spark their imagination.

The Yorkshire Baby & Toddler Show isn't just an event - it's a community, a celebration, and a day to remember. Come along, make memories, and give your baby the best start in life. We can't wait to welcome you!"

Free ticket link can be accessed via the email sent out on Arbor earlier in the week.

Our aims:

- We encourage our siblings to be independent, confident and unapologetically themselves.
- Experience the outside world via group trips by public transport.
- To create friendships with those of similar age and circumstance, and develop a community.

To sign up your child contact us

Contact info
hannah@thesiblinggroup.org
www.thesiblinggroup.org
 Find us on facebook and Instagram too

The sibling group

See for your self!

About us:

The Sibling Group was founded by our CEO Grace, Grace who was born in Harrogate, North Yorkshire had two siblings an elder sister and younger brother Oscar. Oscar was diagnosed with severe learning disabilities and Autism at the age of 3. At this time like many others, Grace's family were unsure what this meant for their future. Grace and her elder sister struggled with the many challenges of having a sibling with SEN and felt isolated and misunderstood by the world around them. They felt lucky to have each other to talk to but wished they could have known others in similar positions as them, as they didn't want to burden their parents with their concerns and feelings surrounding their brother's needs. Grace and her sister feel that siblings of SEN children are often overlooked or discredited as they are not the ones with the needs so therefore are expected to be fine. Often children take on the worries or concerns surrounding the welfare of their SEN sibling which can lead to their own mental health issues.

Grace went on to gain a first degree in Special Education and a distinction in her PGCE & qualified teaching status and worked as a SEN teacher in London. She is currently studying her masters in Autism and Inclusion. Whilst writing her dissertation she based it on the effect a child with special needs has on their sibling, to which she found herself interviewing her sister and revisiting their shared experience growing up with a sibling with special needs and the emotional effects this had on them. Reminding her of their lack of support.

These events inspired the creation of The Sibling Group Charity.

What we do

We run groups for children aged 5-11 years old who have a sibling with additional needs but do not have these needs themselves. Our groups allow children to meet others of similar age and circumstance encouraging them to create friendships and build support networks to last a life time. Our groups take place in Harrogate.

Some things we do at our groups:

- Games
- Crafts
- Cooking/baking
- Themed days
- Trips
- Lots of fun!

North Yorkshire families: Build everyday emotional resilience!

Your free online learning. Big feelings, how the brain works, and relationship ideas for happier lives.

North Yorkshire Council

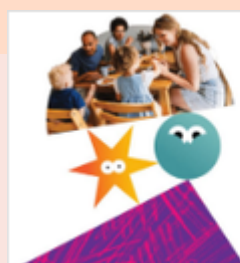
gives families free access to Togetherness resources to support wellbeing. For parents, carers, grandparents, and young people.

Learn from NHS clinical psychologists, practitioners, and other parents. The pathways will help you and your family understand and manage emotions in everyday life.

Browse pathways

Use the exclusive access code:

NYFAMILIES



Pathways library

Home > Learn > Pathway library Emotional health learning
 Big feelings, how the brain works, and relationship ideas for happier lives. Togetherness pathways for parents, carers,...

Togetherness