



9th October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE – 9TH OCTOBER 2024

I hope this update finds you well. First, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your patience and understanding during our recent cyber attack, which affected our usual communication channels for 10 days. I'm pleased to inform you that our IT team is working diligently to restore the remaining issue with class emails and social media posts within the next two weeks, and we will keep you updated on the progress.

Despite these challenges, we have several exciting developments to share:

School Infrastructure Updates

The substation at the front of school is currently being upgraded by Northern Power, with completion expected before Christmas. This will enable our ground source heating system to become fully operational.

We're delighted to announce that our Community Cosy Cove will be completed this week, following some final planting work by our children. This space will provide an excellent area for mindfulness and calm activities, both during and outside school hours.

The Trust has approved a significant £800,000 roof renovation project focusing on the most crucial areas requiring attention. Work is expected to commence after Christmas, and we will keep you informed of developments.

Academic Achievement

We're proud to share that Mr Lodge's leadership in writing development has gained national recognition. His pupils' work has been published as part of the Opening Doors writing development project, which our school has been involved with over the past two years. Mr Lodge was invited to speak at a prestigious event in London about his leadership in this area, and his personal reflection on this development has been published as part of the project - a remarkable achievement for both him and our school.

Important Dates and Events

Please find attached the detailed schedule for various upcoming events, including:

- Parents' Evenings
- School Photographs
- Half Term Dates
- Christmas Performances
- Various Fundraising Events



Parents' Evenings for pupils in Reception to Year 6:

Our Parents' Evenings will be taking place on Wednesday 6th November and Thursday 7th November:

- **Face to Face Appointments in school will be held on Wednesday 6th November from 3.30-6.00pm**
- **Telephone Appointments will take place on Thursday 7th November from 3.30-4.30pm**

Nursery Parents' Evenings:

As our Nursery is nearly a full cohort of over 50 children, it is necessary for Miss Challinor to offer appointments over a longer time period.

- **Nursery Face to Face Appointments in school are available at various times during w/c 4th November and w/c 11th November**
- **Nursery Telephone Appointments will take place on Thursday 7th November from 3.30-4.30pm**

The booking system to make an appointment (for all pupils Nursery to Year 6) will be **open** from **5.00pm on Wednesday 16th October** and will **close** at **12.00 noon on Monday 4th November**. Please log on to your Arbor Parent Portal to make your booking. When the system opens, we would advise completing any bookings as soon as possible as office staff are term time only and will be unavailable during the half term break if you experience any difficulties.

Please see the attached guide for booking a parents' evening appointment.

Arrangements for all face to face Parents' Evening appointments in school

Please enter/exit school via the main school entrance. You will be directed to your child's year group where one of the classrooms will be an allocated area to look through your child's work, before being invited into the adjoining classroom for your appointment at your allocated time.

Please note:- Nursery - please follow the directions to the waiting area when arriving in the Foundation area.

Parents who have appointments in more than one year group can access other areas internally.

SEND Review Week – w/c 11th November – parents of pupils with a SENd Support Plan will be contacted by their child's class teacher to make a separate appointment. During this appointment you will have the first part discussing your child's parents' evening then lead into the review of your child's support plan. **You do not need to book an appointment via the Arbor Parent Portal.**

Teacher Led Tuition:

From week commencing 18th November 2024 staff will be resuming our successful teacher led tuition sessions for identified pupils. You will be notified during parents' evening if your child is selected for these sessions and be given details of the day and timings, either before or after school, when the weekly sessions will be held.

Wear Red Day 2024:

On **Friday 18th October** pupils are invited to come to school wearing something red (non-uniform) as part of Show Racism the Red Card day. It is not possible for us to make a whole school donation to this anti-racism charity, but if you would like to make a donation directly yourself, please go to their website to check out the details. **<https://www.theredcard.org/wear-red-day/>**



Children In Need:

On **Friday 15th November** pupils are invited to come into school in non-uniform - and to mark Odd Socks day as part of Anti-bullying week, why not add some odd socks too! The option to make a donation to Children in Need will appear on your ParentPay account shortly, we will then send it on to Children in Need as a whole school donation.

Please note this is a different arrangement from the recent Macmillan Fundraiser, on that occasion cash was accepted as there was a combined cost to buy a cupcake and then make a donation which we could send to the charity.

Macmillan Cancer Support Fundraiser:

Thank you to everyone who made a donation to the Macmillan Cancer Support Fund – this year we raised a fantastic £214.45

School Photographs:

The School Photographer will be in school on Wednesday 6th November to take individual and siblings' photographs. Please note it is not possible to include any additional siblings who are not pupils at Richmond Hill.

Reception Admissions 2025/2026:

A reminder to current nursery parents/carers – Doncaster Council's application process for your child's place in Reception starting September 2025 will be open soon. **Closing date 15th January 2025.**

Please keep checking Doncaster Council Admissions website - in previous years we have been over subscribed in Reception, so please complete your application form as quickly as you are able to once the system is live.

Secondary School Admissions 2025/2026:

A reminder to current Y6 parents – the **closing date** for applications for your child's secondary school place is **31st October 2024**. Please go to Doncaster Council Admissions to complete your application form.

October Half Term:

School closes	3.15pm on Friday 25th October
Half Term	Monday 28th October-Friday 1st November inc
Training Day 2	Monday 4 th November - school closed to pupils
School re-opens	Tuesday 5 th November

Christmas Performances:

To ensure parents have the details about this year's Christmas Performances, please see the Parents' Diary at the end of this update. Performances should last about 45 minutes each. Further details about all our Christmas activities will be announced at a later date.

Yours sincerely



Debbie Secker
Principal



**PARENTS' DIARY DATES
OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2024**

DAY	DATE	EVENT
Tuesday	15 th October	Y1 School Nursing Team Keeping Children Safe Session
Thursday	17 th October	Flu Vaccination Session for Reception to Y6 pupils (for pupils with parental consent)
Friday	18 th October	Wear it Red Day – non-uniform day
Wednesday	23 rd October	Doncaster Council Adult, Family and Community Learning – Autumn Craft Session (limited places available for parents of Reception/Y1/Y2 pupils)
Wednesday	23 rd October	Y3 Visit to York Birds of Prey Centre
w/c Monday	28 th October-1 st November inc	October Half Term
Thursday	31 st October	Deadline for Secondary School applications (2025/2026) to Doncaster Council
Monday	4 th November	Training Day 2 – school closed to pupils
Tuesday	5 th November	School Re-opens to pupils
Wednesday	6 th November	School Photographer in school – individual and siblings' photographs
Wednesday	6 th November	Parents' Evening – Face to Face Appointments
Thursday	7 th November	Parents' Evening – Telephone Appointments
Friday	8 th November	Y5 Puberty Talk with School Nursing Team
Monday	11 th November	Remembrance Assembly for Pupils
Tuesday	12 th November	Flu Catch Up Vaccination Session (for pupils with parental consent who were absent from school on 17 th October)
Wednesday	13 th November	Y5 Visit to Pontefract Castle
Friday	15 th November	Children In Need – non-uniform day
Thursday	5 th December	Y1 & Y2 Visit to the Cast Theatre – Jack & the Beanstalk
Thursday	5 th December	Y4 Visit into school – History Van
Monday	9 th December	Richmond Hill Choir Concert at the Dome
Reception Autumn Visit to be confirmed		
CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES DECEMBER 2024 – MAIN SCHOOL HALL		
Tuesday	10 th December	Year 2 9.00am Reception 10.30am Year 4 1.00pm Year 6 2.15pm
Wednesday	11 th December	Year 3 9.00am Nursery 10.30am Year 1 1.00pm Year 5 2.15pm

