



# Newsletter

Positive Ambitious Nurturing

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,



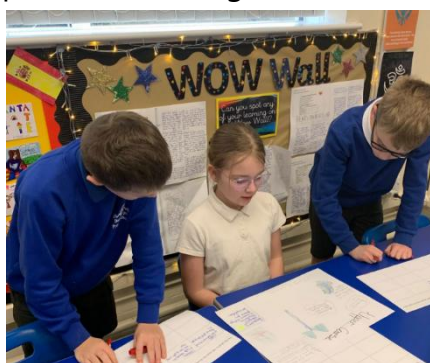
Last week we celebrated World Book Day – what a huge success! The children arrived in some fantastic costumes and clearly enjoyed sharing their love of books with each other. Our book swap was very popular, many children took part in the potato book character competition, and I would also like to thank all of the children (and parents) who entered the Sponsored Ready, Steady, Read challenge.

I was also incredibly proud to hear how brilliantly

six of our Year 6 children performed at Juniors Speak last week. Juniors Speak is an event where primary-aged children from local schools give short speeches on a topic of their choice to an audience of their peers and parents. Mrs Hughes and Mrs Farrell told me



how confident and articulate our children were. They really did shine on the evening and represented the school wonderfully, demonstrating The Donisthorpe Way as they always do.



I have also spent a lot of time in classrooms this week, checking in on learning and behaviour, and particularly enjoying joining in with Geography and History lessons. I have been very impressed by the engagement of the children, as well as the knowledge and vocabulary they are using in their discussions.

## **Reach More Parents by Weduc**

Thank you to all of our parents who have downloaded the Weduc app since we switched over to our new communication system. At the moment, families who have not yet set up the app are still receiving messages via email, so that no important information is missed.

A new enrolment email has recently been sent to parents who have not yet logged in. Please follow the instructions in this email to enter your enrolment code and complete the set-up process. **It is important that all parents have access to the app** as we continue to use it for

school communications and begin to make use of some of the other helpful features within Reach More Parents.

If you experience any difficulties setting up the app, please contact the school office or email [support@weduc.com](mailto:support@weduc.com)

### **Thank you!**

A big thank you to our PTFA for continuing to work so hard to raise funds for the benefit of our children. Books and Bakes last week was a huge success, and today's pop-up store has also been a real hit with the children.

I am very grateful for the time and effort our volunteers give to support the school and create these opportunities for our pupils. If you have a little time to spare and would like to get involved, please do consider joining the PTFA—new members and helpers are always very welcome.



### **Assemblies**

In assemblies this week, I spoke to all year groups about International Women's Day, which took place on Sunday 8th March. We discussed why the day exists and some of the struggles women have faced in their fight for equality in the past – and those that still exist today. We also had an interesting discussion about whether I should celebrate International Women's Day as a man, which prompted some thoughtful responses from the children.



In Key Stage 2 last week, we looked at the new autistic Barbie developed by Mattel. This led to a discussion about autism, the importance of representing disabilities, and some of the feedback autistic people had shared about the doll. The children were very curious and asked lots of thoughtful questions, both in assembly and later in the day on the playground. One of the key messages we discussed was that autism looks different for everyone, and that there is no single way of being autistic.



Children in Key Stage 1 heard a heart-warming story about a dog that "adopted" a litter of kittens and cared for them as if they were her own. This led to a discussion about the many different types of families that exist, and how families can look different but still provide love, care and support.

### **PTFA Spring Fair**

Our PTFA Spring Fair will take place on the **school playground after school on Thursday 30th April 3.15pm to 4.30 pm.**

There will be a variety of stalls and activities for families to enjoy. We hope you will be able to join us, bring a little money along, and help support the fantastic work our PTFA do to raise funds for the school and our children.

### **Punctuality Reminder**



Arriving on time is really important for children to start the day calmly and confidently. School **doors close at 8.45am**, so please ensure your child arrives before this time to avoid missing key learning activities at the start of the day.

While we always give latecomers a warm welcome, entering the classroom after everyone else can be unsettling for some children and can make the reception area very busy first thing in the morning.

**Pick-up is at 3.15pm**, so we kindly ask all parents and carers to be **on time** to collect their children. Thank you for helping your child begin and end the day smoothly and positively.

### **Year 6 to Year 7**

Congratulations to our Year 6 children who this week received their secondary school place offers!

With this in mind, I would like to remind parents to regularly check your child's Year 7 school website for upcoming dates and events. We will also be liaising closely with the high schools to ensure a smooth transition for our Year 6 children as they move on to the next stage of their education.

### **Reminder: Science Week Poster Competition**

As part of Science Week, children have the opportunity to take part in a poster competition.

Children are invited to design a science poster based on this year's theme: "Curiosity: What's your question?". The theme encourages children to think about the questions they have about the world and to explore possible answers. Curiosity is at the heart of STEM, driving research and innovation, and this competition is all about giving children the chance to start by simply asking a question. The question could relate to a traditional science topic, or it might be about another area of interest such as music, sport, technology or architecture.

A science medal will be awarded to the winning poster in each class. In addition, the best entries from our school will go forward to a Symphony Learning Trust competition, where prizes will be awarded for the overall winners in EYFS, KS1, Lower KS2 and Upper KS2.



Finished posters should be **handed to your child's class teacher by Monday 23rd March, with your child's name and year group clearly written on the back.**

**Reminder: Red Nose Day – Friday 20th March**

Red Nose Day takes place on Friday 20th March this year and as always, we would love to join in fundraising across the country. This year, children are encouraged to “**Dress to Make Us Laugh**” – wear silly clothes, crazy hairstyles, or fun accessories for a suggested donation of £1 (or more if you can spare it!).



We know this will not be all children’s idea of fun (and that’s ok!) so for children who prefer something more low-key, **comfortable non-uniform can also be worn** for a donation. I’m looking forward to seeing all the smiles and silliness while supporting this great cause.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jamie Williamson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jamie Williamson  
Headteacher