



NEWSLETTER

23/05/2025



Dear Families and Friends,

Miss Searle

We are sorry to announce that Miss (Helen) Searle will be leaving us at the academic year, as she looks to relocate to Devon for family and work reasons. It has been our pleasure having Miss Searle as part of the team for just over a year. She has supported a range of pupils, as well as led several of our after-school clubs – she will be a big loss.

However, we are pleased to say that with Miss Searle's departure we have the opportunity to retain Mrs (Kristi) Jasper to our staff team for the next academic year. Mrs Jasper was due to leave us at the end of this academic year with her current position coming to an end, however she will now assume Miss Searle's role from September, with plenty of time to handover in the Summer Term.

PTFA Meeting – Tuesday 3rd June (3.30pm)

The PTFA will be meeting on Tuesday 3rd June (3.30pm) in school. All are welcome to join, new members and existing, to discuss upcoming events and how the group can raise funds to support children's activities and learning.

After-School Wraparound Club

Our new after-school wraparound club service starts after half-term. Please ensure you book your sessions in plenty of time via MCAS. If you are unable to book online, please contact the office directly. We usually require 24 hours' notice for session bookings, however you can contact the office directly to arrange short-notice sessions.

For those using the club regularly, we want to understand what, if any, snacks/food you would like providing for your children (if they stay after 4.30pm). This food will be provided as part of the cost of the club (£2 per hour). Please complete this simple online form to indicate what you would like provided: <https://forms.office.com/e/ZBDFXNKRqe>

Year 6 Edinburgh Trip Zoom Meeting

It was lovely to see several of our Year 6 families from across the Trust on Tuesday evening for our pre-Edinburgh Zoom meeting. We hope you found this informative. For those unable to attend, a link has been sent out separately, so you can access the recording. We have also sent out an online form which asks for children's meal options – please complete as soon as possible, so we can order with our various providers.

Acorns Visit to Danby Moors Centre

During our visit to Danby Moors Centre Acorns had a great opportunity to develop their geography skills, knowledge and understanding through outdoor learning and hands on experiences. We used maps and compasses to navigate and complete a treasure hunt, inspired by Nick Butterworth's book 'The Treasure Hunt.' Then we continued to develop our map skills, learning how to use a key and coordinates accurately. We also explored different animals that live in the surrounding area and thought about how we can help to protect their habitats. It was lovely to see Acorns so enthusiastic, knowledgeable and passionate about our local area. A great day of fun and learning!

Cricket Engagement Day

On Wednesday we welcomed Owen back into school to deliver some more cricket coaching for the children. Each class enjoyed a fun filled cricket session and only managed to lose 4 of Owen's cricket balls! We cannot wait to welcome him back in the Autumn term.



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Gospel Choir Workshop and Performances

It was an absolute pleasure to welcome the EAGA Gospel Choir (BBC Gospel Choir of the Year; Britain's Got Talent Semi-Finalists) to Castleton this week. The children enjoyed workshops with some of the Choir members before they got the chance to perform alongside them at a community event at Joan of Arc Hall, Botton. I am sure you will all agree that the event was nothing short of exceptional (barring the teachers' dancing!) and that so much credit must go to those involved. A huge amount of credit must also go to those involved in planning the event, none less than Miss Wilson who has worked tirelessly to arrange the workshop and event. A big thank you must also go to the PTFA that supported the event, as well as any volunteers that helped support with the raffle, catering and refreshments. A final thank you, too, must go to Off the Scale, Castleton, for supporting us with ticket sales in the community.

The proceeds of the event go to support the EAGA Choir and a community-based church in their local city of Leicester, as well as the school's PTFA.

Forest School

Forest School sessions will recommence after half-term, with Year 3/4 and Acorns having a session in the first week back. See the diary dates section below for future dates. Please ensure children arrive in suitable, weather-appropriate clothing for these sessions. As a reminder, our site, in the summer months, often has long grass and nettles, so we request that longer trousers are worn for all sessions. Please also note that, like other active/PE activities, pupils should avoid wearing loose jewellery (e.g. bracelets) which could become caught during climbing activities.

Year 1 Phonics Screening and Year 4 Multiplication Check

After half-term, our Year 1s and Year 4s have some low-key assessments.

Year 1 children complete their national phonics screening assessment which checks their understanding and acquisition of phonics. This takes place in the week commencing 9th June, with children completing their assessment of reading 40 unseen words alongside their teacher. For more information on what this assessment entails, please follow this link: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/676e908e517edf5c74c83728/Phonics_screening_check_information_for_parents.pdf

Year 4 children will be completing the national multiplication tables check, testing their knowledge of multiplication facts. They will complete this on a computer alongside a teacher, answering 25 times table questions. This will be completed in the first two weeks of the new half-term. For more information on what this assessment entails, please follow this link: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6724ae64c053e87b6a0a81e4/Information_for_parents_multiplication_tables_check.pdf

Tour of Britain – 5th June

We are hoping to catch the Women's Tour of Britain which passes through our village on Thursday 5th June. The route the competitors take leads them directly past school, so we hope to cheer them on!

Farndale Trail

Farndale Estate has kindly donated each child in school a Spring Trail sheet for FREE. You should find one in your child's book bag. These are usually £2 as, when you've completed the trail, you can take your sheet to the shop in Farndale and receive a prize. So why not have a trip over there this half term and get out in nature.



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Music Lessons

After half term music lessons will continue on a Thursday, with the exception of the first two weeks back. In the first week there will be no music lessons, then in the second week lessons will take place on Monday 9th. For the remaining 5 weeks of term lessons will return to Thursdays as normal. Therefore, the MCAS payment window for this half term (Summer Half Term 2) will only be for 6 lessons rather than 7.

End of Half-Term

We are now closed for the half-term break. School will reopen on Monday 2nd June.

Have a great bank holiday weekend,

Mr Cooper
Executive Headteacher

Attendance:

Our attendance this week was: 94.9%

Our attendance this year: 96.9%

National average for this year: 94.8%

Year Group winners: Year 5 - 100%, Well Done!

We are currently ranked 97th out of 294 schools in North Yorkshire.

Last week's reading winners

Oaks – Martha P

Acorns – Archie, Gabriel, Grace and Miles

Stars of the week

Acorns: Alfie - for great enthusiasm and contributions during our visit to Danby Moors Centre. Super learning behaviour!

Barnaby - for participating so well in our music workshop and performances with the Gospel Choir. Super singing!

Oaks: Scott – for an incredible week of Maths and decimal work as well as always bringing a smile into the classroom.

Safeguarding Statement

Yorkshire Endeavour Academy Trust and Castleton School are committed to ensuring the safety and welfare of all children. If you have any concerns regarding this, please contact one of our designated safeguarding leads (listed below). For significant and immediate concerns, please contact the police on 999. For concerns that are not immediate, please contact the North Yorkshire Council Emergency Duty Team: 0300 131 2 131.

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mr Olly Cooper (01947 897218 or 01287 660496 or headteacher.cg@yeat.co.uk)

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Nicola Wardell (01287 660496 or nwardell.castleton@yeat.co.uk)

Safeguarding Governor: Mrs Jo Kevan (01287 660496 or jkevan@yeat.co.uk)



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Next Week's Events (after half-term)

- Monday** Year 3/4 Forest School please arrive in appropriate kit and footwear
Drama Club with Miss Searle and Mrs Moore
- Tuesday** Art Club for Acorns with Mrs Smith
Swimming for all pupils please arrive with swimwear/towels in separate bag
PTFA Meeting (3.30pm – in school)
- Wednesday** Acorns Forest School please arrive in appropriate kit and footwear
Signing Club with Katie
- Thursday** Choir Club
No Music Lessons with Mrs Lillie
- Friday** Oaks PE please arrive in appropriate kit and footwear

Headteacher Timetable		
	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	Castleton	Glaisdale
Tuesday	Castleton	
Wednesday	Castleton	Glaisdale
Thursday	West Cliff	
Friday	Castleton	Glaisdale



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Future Diary Dates

Please note: some of these events may still need to be confirmed.

June

02/06-13/06: Y4 Multiplication Check
02/06: Year 3/4 Forest School
04/06: Acorns Forest School
09/06: Year 5/6 Forest School
09/06-13/06: Year 1 phonics screening
11/06: School photos
12/06: Acorns Quad Kids event
16/06: Year 3/4 Forest School
17-18/06: Year 6 Edinburgh Trip
18/06: Acorns Forest School
20/06: Cycling Event for selected pupils
23/06: Year 5/6 Forest School
25/06: Oaks Summer Performance (Evening)

26/06: Oaks Summer Performance (Afternoon)
30/06: Sports Day (confirmed)

July

02/07: Acorns Forest School
02/07: Oaks Author Visit (TBC)
07/07: Year 3/4 Forest School
08 – 10/07: Whitby School Transition Week
14/07: Whole school beach day
16/07: Acorns Forest School
16/07: Year 6 Crucial Crew (TBC)
17/07: Library Van
18/07: Leavers' Assembly
21/07: Final day of school year
22/07: Staff training day

Remaining Term Dates 2024/25

- Half Term - Monday 26th May to Friday 30th 2025
 - Last day of Summer Term - Monday 21st July 2025
 - Staff Training Day – Tuesday 22nd July 2025
- Please avoid booking term time holidays, especially during assessment weeks.*

Term Dates 2025/2026

- Staff Training Day – Monday 1st September 2025
 - Staff Training Day – Tuesday 2nd September 2025
 - First day of Autumn Term – Wednesday 3rd September 2025
 - Half-term – Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October 2025
 - End of Autumn Term – Friday 19th December 2025
 - Training Day – Monday 5th January 2026
 - Half-term – Monday Half Term - Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February 2026
 - Staff Training Day - Friday 13th March 2026
 - Last day of Spring Term - Friday 27th March 2026
 - First day of Summer Term – Monday 13th April 2026
 - Bank Holiday – Monday 4th May 2026
 - Half Term - Monday 25th May to Friday 29th 2026
 - Last day of Summer Term – Friday 17th July 2026
 - Staff Training Day – Monday 20th July 2026
- Please avoid booking term time holidays, especially during assessment weeks.*



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