



Proud to be Me, Proud to be Westroyd, Proud to be Farsley

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new school term! I hope you and your families enjoyed a relaxing, restful break and made the most of the summer weather. It was fabulous to welcome our delightful pupils back to school last week and to meet our many new children and families.

A lot has happened in school over the holidays, with extensive work across both sites to install a new fire alarm system and complete a refurbishment of one of our rooms on the main site. Due to the height of our main school building, we even had extensive internal scaffolding and cranes - very exciting!

Although this letter is quite long, keeping everything in one place saves sending multiple updates. I want to share a few key reminders, some changes, and a few exciting events on the horizon. At the end of this letter, you will find our list of calendar dates so far. We have not yet received dates for sporting competitions or participation events from the organiser, but those will follow.

Key Reminders for the Start of Term

School Uniform: Please ensure your child attends school in full uniform. Wearing our uniform gives the children a sense of belonging, much like in the world of work! The red jumper, cardigan, or hoodie is very visual and important to the children. Please remember it does not need to be branded with the school logo; a plain red jumper, hoodie, or fleece is perfectly fine. Do make sure all uniform is named! We collect a large amount of lost property in school - mostly unnamed jumpers. If you are short on uniform, please ask and we will gladly share recycled items.

Punctuality & Attendance: The main site school gates open at 8:30 am, and staff come out onto the yard at 8:40 am to greet the children. The official start to the day is 8:45 am, finishing at 3:15 pm to ensure pupils complete the statutory 32.5 hours per week. In

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Reception, doors open at 8:45 am for an 8:50 am start, and Nursery hours are 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Please remember that parents are responsible for supervising their children on the yard before the start of the school day.

At home time in the KS1/Y3 yard, please try to stand in the area nearest to your child's class line. Numbers are marked on the yard where we line the children up before releasing them to you. We stagger our exit, but standing in the correct zone makes dismissal safer and easier (though we appreciate this can be tricky with siblings!).

Equipment & Water Bottles: Pupils should bring a labelled, reusable water bottle filled with water each day, along with their reading book and spelling book. Children are welcome to bring a healthy breaktime snack; guidance on acceptable options is available on our website's healthy snack chart.

Communication: We know how difficult it can be to juggle family, work, and daily life, so we aim to communicate as clearly and predictably as possible. All dates are published on the website calendar, which you can link to your family calendar. Each half-term we send home a larger newsletter containing dates for the year. In addition, Mr Popple writes a weekly newsletter every Friday highlighting upcoming events for the following week.

If we need to contact you directly, we will send a message via Arbor, so please ensure your notifications are turned on. If you wish to speak to a class teacher, please approach them at the end of the school day or contact the main office to request a callback or email. Quick messages can be passed on at the start of the day, but staff primary focus at line-up must be safely supervising children into class.

School Meals: This year we have moved to Bradford Catering, who offer an improved menu and direct parent support. Visual meal choices allow pupils to see what they are ordering rather than choosing from a menu name alone. The quality of the food served so far is superb, meals are well-balanced, and portion sizes have increased. Staff have tested the meals and strongly recommend giving them a try, especially as winter approaches. Remember, all Reception and KS1 children are entitled to Universal Free School Meals. If you need help with the app, please call or visit the office.

Free School Meals: Eligibility criteria for Free School Meals (FSM) in England expanded to include all families receiving Universal Credit. If you receive Universal Credit and have not yet applied for FSM, please apply as soon as possible via this link:

https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/apply-for-free-school-meals?utm_source=toolkit&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=free+school+meals+2026

It is vital that eligible families apply even if their child is in Early Years or KS1 and already receives universal free meals, as registration secures additional funding and benefits for your child and the school.

Homework: We maintain a consistent approach to homework across the school; details of expectations are listed on individual class web pages. Homework is designed as an

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opportunity for you to practise foundational skills with your child. All pupils are expected to read at least three times a week at home, practise their weekly spellings, and practise their number facts. Embedding basic skills is a whole-school focus this year.

Following parent feedback, children now have dedicated spelling books, with tests taking place on Mondays. For Maths practice, children should use:

- **Y1 & Y2:** NumBots (recommended 3 times a week)
- **Y3 & Y4:** Times Tables Rock Stars (recommended 3 times a week)
- **Y5 & Y6:** MathsWatch

Benedict's Law: Important new legislation came into force this month requiring all schools to maintain safe, effective procedures to prevent and respond to anaphylactic incidents. All staff have completed training, our updated Allergy Policy is available on the website, and emergency medication injectors are held on both sites. Please ensure your child's medical record on Arbor remains accurate and up to date. If your child has an allergy that could cause anaphylaxis, we require an official care plan from their medical team. Please ensure all water bottles are clearly labelled and explain to children that food must not be shared. If donating junk modelling materials to school, please ensure milk cartons, yoghurt pots, and similar items are thoroughly rinsed.

Volunteers in School: We are keen to recruit volunteers to hear pupils read and help build reading fluency. If you or someone you know can offer regular time, please get in touch. All volunteers require standard DBS safeguarding checks.

Mobile Phones: Department for Education guidance states that pupils should not have access to mobile phones during the school day. Our policy requires all phones to be switched off before entering school grounds. Pupils must hand their phones to class staff for safe storage until the end of the day. Guidance on keeping children safe online - including mobile phone safety and apps such as WhatsApp - is available on our website.

Walking Home: Pupils in Y5 and Y6 often feel ready to walk to and from school independently. We support this as a valuable confidence booster ahead of secondary school. Please ensure you have provided written permission via email before your child begins walking home alone. If arriving independently in the morning, please remind children that gates do not open until 8:30 am.

Behaviour Policy: We are currently updating our universal Behaviour Policy and welcome parent feedback on current practices and proposed updates. A survey link will be sent out shortly.

Farsley Community Project: We have been working together to ensure this year's Christmas Lights Switch-On parade and lantern display really sparkle! Several fun, family-focused fundraising events are planned:

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- **26th–27th September:** Farsley Scarecrow Hunt (Miss Connell and Miss Dennison are creating our sheep scarecrow!).
- **In-School Craft Sessions:** Pupils will build large lanterns for the parade (themed around *The Jolly Postman*, suggested by Miss Dennison).
- **25th September:** Non-uniform day (£1 donation).
- **25th September:** Cake-baking, jam-making, and vegetable-growing competitions judged at St John's Church.
- **25th September (3:30 pm – 5:30 pm):** Traditional Harvest Festival at St John's Church. Families are welcome to drop in; assembly song singalongs start at 4:30 pm alongside games, competitions, storytelling, and pizza. Tickets are available via the Grumpies website.
- **25th September (7:00 pm):** 'Drunk Assembly' adult fundraiser at St John's Church featuring school assembly classics with Farsley Pop Choir, Singo Bingo, pizza, and refreshments. Tickets are available via Eventbrite or Grumpy's website.

Thank you for taking the time to read this update. We look forward to another wonderful school year together!

Kind regards,

Jenny Pashley

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School Calendar 2026–2027

September 2026

Date	Event / Details
01/09/2026	School Closed (Training Day)
02/09/2026	School Opens for Autumn Term
21/09/2026	Y1 Seed Workshop at Westroyd Park
22/09/2026	Y3 Seed Workshop at Westroyd Park
24/09/2026	Open the Book Assembly
25/09/2026	Non-Uniform Day (£1 for Lantern Fundraiser)
25/09/2026	Community Harvest Festival @ St John's Church (3:30 pm – 5:30 pm; Singalong @ 4:30 pm)
25/09/2026	Adult Assembly Fundraiser @ St John's Church (7:00 pm)
26– 27/09/2026	Farsley Scarecrow Hunt

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October 2026

Date	Event / Details
01/10/2026	Black History Month: "Honouring Our Communities"
06/10/2026	Harvest Festival @ St John's Church (9:30 am)
06/10/2026	Open Session: Communication (Nursery @ 2:30 pm / Reception @ 2:45 pm)
07/10/2026	New to Reception 2027 School Tour (9:30 am)
07/10/2026	Welly Walk (Nursery to Y6) at Hainsworth Park
09/10/2026	Wear Yellow Day
12/10/2026	EYFS Mystery Reader Week
13/10/2026	Reception Autumn Walk
13/10/2026	Flu Immunisations
14/10/2026	Y4 Dye Workshop at Sunny Bank Mills
15/10/2026	Y3 Trip to Stump Cross Caverns
16/10/2026	New to Reception Tour (9:30 am)
16/10/2026	Y6 Sharing Assembly
19-21/10/2026	Y1 Cycle Training
21/10/2026	Halloween Disco

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Date	Event / Details
21/10/2026	Reception School Tour (1:30 pm)
22/10/2026	Recognition Assembly (9:00 am)
23/10/2026	School Closed (Training Day)
26–30/10/2026	School Closed (Half Term)

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November 2026

Date	Event / Details
02/11/2026	School Opens
04/11/2026	Y6 SATs & Robin Wood Information Meeting (6:00 pm)
11/11/2026	New Reception School Tour (9:30 am)
11/11/2026	Parents' Evening – In Person (3:30 pm – 6:30 pm)
12/11/2026	Parents' Evening – Online (3:30 pm – 5:30 pm)
13/11/2026	Children in Need Day
16– 20/11/2026	Anti-Bullying Week
16/11/2026	Odd Socks Day
19/11/2026	Reception School Tour (9:30 am)
19/11/2026	KS1 Family Craft Session
20/11/2026	School Closed (Training Day)
24/11/2026	EY Open Session: Phonics & Reading (Nursery @ 2:30 pm / Reception @ 2:45 pm)
25/11/2026	Farsley Light Switch-On (TBC)
26/11/2026	Movie Night

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Date	Event / Details
26– 27/11/2026	Y4 Cycle Training
27/11/2026	Non-Uniform Day (Chocolate donations)
30/11/2026	EYFS Mystery Reader Week
30/11/2026	Winter Voices

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December 2026

Date	Event / Details
02/12/2026	School Tour (1:30 pm)
03/12/2026	Y5 Sharing Assembly (2:00 pm)
03/12/2026	Reception Post Office Trip
03/12/2026	Christmas Enterprise Fair
09/12/2026	Nursery & Reception Christmas Concert (10:00 am)
09/12/2026	SEND Singalong
10/12/2026	Farsley Carol Sing
10/12/2026	KS1 Christmas Concert (1:30 pm)
10/12/2026	Santa's Food Drive
11/12/2026	Elf Run for Simon on the Streets
14–17/12/2026	Y4 Daily Swimming
15/12/2026	Y5 & Y6 Christmas Party
15/12/2026	KS2 Carol Concert (2:15 pm)
16/12/2026	Nursery & Reception Party Day
16/12/2026	Y4 Party (9:30 am – 11:30 am)

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Date	Event / Details
16/12/2026	Y3 Party
16–18/12/2026	Y6 Robin Wood Trip
18/12/2026	Sparkle Day
18/12/2026	Recognition Assembly
18/12/2026	Y1 & Y2 Party
21/12/26 – 01/01/27	School Closed (Christmas Holidays)

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January 2027

Date	Event / Details
04/01/2027	School Opens
07/01/2027	School Tour (9:30 am)
18/01/2027	Aspirations Week
29/01/2027	EY Open Session: Maths (Nursery @ 2:30 pm / Reception @ 2:45 pm)

February 2027

Date	Event / Details
05/02/2027	Y4 Sharing Assembly (2:00 pm)
09/02/2027	Safer Internet Day
10/02/2027	Valentine's Disco
15–19/02/2027	School Closed (Half Term)
22/02/2027	School Opens

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March 2027

Date	Event / Details
02/03/2027	EYFS Mystery Reader Week
03/03/2027	Afternoon Tea
04/03/2027	World Book Day
12/03/2027	Non-Uniform Day (Easter egg donations)
15/03/2027	Spring Concert
16/03/2027	Parents' Evening (3:30 pm – 5:30 pm)
17/03/2027	Parents' Evening – In Person (3:30 pm – 6:30 pm)
18/03/2027	EY Open Session: Writing & Physical Development (Nursery @ 2:30 pm / Reception @ 2:45 pm)
19/03/2027	Red Nose Day
22– 25/03/2027	Y4 Daily Swimming
22/03/2027	Egg Decorating Competition (Judging on 25/03)
22/03/2027	Practice SATs Week
24/03/2027	Movie Night
25/03/2027	Y3 Sharing Assembly

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Date	Event / Details
26– 29/03/2027	School Closed (Easter Weekend)
30/03/2027	Easter Egg Dip

April 2027

Date	Event / Details
02/04/2027	Recognition Assembly (9:00 am)
05–16/04/2027	School Closed (Easter Holidays)
19/04/2027	School Opens
20/04/2027	Y3 Visit to The Deep

May 2027

Date	Event / Details
03/05/2027	School Closed (Bank Holiday)
10/05/2027	EY Open Session: Maths (Nursery @ 2:30 pm / Reception @ 2:45 pm)
10/05/2027	Y6 SATs Week
14/05/2027	Reception Trip to Hesketh Farm (TBC)
14/05/2027	Y2 Sharing Assembly
21/05/2027	Recognition Assembly (9:00 am)
28/05/2027	School Closed (Training Day)

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Date	Event / Details
31/05 – 04/06/2027	School Closed (Half Term)

June 2027

Date	Event / Details
07/06/2027	School Opens
07/06/2027	Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) & Y1 Phonics Screening Week
10/06/2027	Afternoon Tea
11/06/2027	Non-Uniform Day (Summer Fair donations)
11/06/2027	Y3 Sleepover
16/06/2027	New to Reception/Nursery Meeting
18/06/2027	Y1 Sharing Assembly
21– 23/06/2027	Y6 Bikeability
22/06/2027	EY Open Session: PSED & Transition (Nursery @ 2:30 pm / Reception @ 2:45 pm)
29/06/2027	Leeds Concert Festival

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July 2027

Date	Event / Details
01/07/2027	Summer Fair
02/07/2027	School Closed (Training Day)
09/07/2027	Big SAMBA
12/07/2027	Be Safe, Be Healthy Week
12/07/2027	Y6 Show
14/07/2027	Sports Day (Nursery @ 10:45 am / R & KS1 @ 9:30 am / KS2 @ 1:30 pm)
19/07/2027	Summer Concert
20/07/2027	Y6 vs Staff Rounders
21/07/2027	Y6 Prom
21/07/2027	Early Years Beach Party
22/07/2027	Recognition Assembly (9:00 am)

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Date	Event / Details
23/07/2027	Y6 Leavers Assembly (2:00 pm)
26/07 – 03/09/2027	School Closed (Summer Holidays)

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