



Edition 21: 13th February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are now officially at the mid-point of the academic year and it is a great opportunity to look back and reflect on all we have achieved so far. Not only did we have a very successful SIAMS inspection but we have had many successes at various extra-curricular events (see below for our latest triumph!) We have many exciting things planned for Spring 2, including the arrival of our chicks and our EYFS special lunch for mums and grandmas. The booking link is now on ParentPay so please pay for your meal if you would like to come (the price is a very reasonable £2.95). We also have the final of Downham's Got Talent coming up, World Book Day AND Red Nose Day! We are also hoping to be able to confirm the timeframe for the works to begin on our KS1 and KS2 playgrounds very soon. There is a real sense of joy, optimism and positivity in school. We wish you all a safe and restful half-term.

Ms Walker, Executive Headteacher (NPQEL) &
Miss Bailey, Executive Deputy Headteacher (NPQH)

CONGRATULATIONS!

Well done to Ada and Johnny in Year 2 for winning the KS1 Spelling Bee! They competed against all the other schools in the Berlesduna Academy Trust. Johnny said, "It was a bit tricky!" and Ada declared, "It was fun AND exciting!" Well done also to Arabella and Christiana for representing KS2!



RED NOSE DAY 2026

Please make a note in your diary that on Friday 20th March, we will have a non-uniform day where we will all try to wear something red, in return for a donation to Comic Relief!



IMPORTANT DATES:

- 23 Feb: First day of Spring 2
- 4 March: Y3/4 Girls Football at William De Ferrers (selected pupils)
- 5 March: KS1 Cross Country at Mayflower School (selected pupils)
- 5 March: Y4 Mighty Oak workshop
- 5 March: Downham's Got Talent (after school)
- 6 March: World Book Day
- 11 March: Forest School session for new EYFS intake 9-10am
- 12 March: Cross Country Race 4
- 13 March: EYFS Invitation lunch for mums/grandmas

COMMUNITY NEWS

"As you are aware Church Road will be closed from the 16th February to the 6th of March. I know that this will cause a lot of disturbance for us all. Please can you add to your weekly email/newsletter that the parents can not park in the village hall car park for dropping their children or picking them up as we will not have enough room for our parents to be able to park at drop off and pick up times and this car park is hired by us at these times. The council have informed me that they can use the Tennis courts car park and walk up or the pub car park in the mornings. If the car park was bigger there wouldn't be an issue. I hope that you understand." Kind Regards, Katharine Waite, Preschool Manager

OUR DOWNHAM 5C AWARD WINNERS FOR THIS WEEK:

- EYFS** - Ayaan for Challenge
- Year 1** - Ronnie for Creativity
- Year 2** - Johnny and Ada W. for Courage and Collaboration
- Year 3** - Jimmy for Creativity
- Year 4** - Rubie-Rae for Courage
- Year 5** - Xander for using all the 5Cs in his topic homework this half-term
- Year 6** - Mollie-Mai for Creativity and Challenge



HEADTEACHER'S AWARD:

This week's Headteacher's Award goes to Miley. Miley is always kind and considerate and thoughtful to children in her class and younger children on the playground. Well done!

