

Greenside Grapevine

Friday 13th February 2026

Dates for your Diary

Please also see the calendar page on our website
<https://www.greenside-sch.org/topic/news-and-events>

February

- 13th School closes to all pupils at 3.15pm**
- 23rd School reopens to all pupils at 8.40am**
- 25th Reception Story Bus Visit
- 25th Book Fayre (25th-2nd March)
- 27th Year 3 and 4 Brazilian Samba Drumming Workshop

March

- 5th World Book Day
- 11th FROGS Spring Disco (further information to follow)
- 12th Year 4 Skipping Festival
- 20th Red Nose Day (further information to follow)
- 25th Anacondas Class Assembly 9am (for parents/carers)

April

- 1st FROGS Break the Rules (further information to follow)
- 1st Parent/Carer Evening (further information to follow)
- 2nd Otters Class Assembly 9am (for parents/carers)
- 2nd Parent/Carer Evening (further information to follow)
- 2nd FROGS Bake Sale
- 2nd School closes to all pupils at 3.15pm**
- 20th School reopens to all pupils at 8.40am**
- 22nd Year 5 Whitby Residential (22nd-24th)
- 30th Year 1 Harlow Carr Visit (further information to follow)
- 30th Penguins Class Assembly 9am (for parents/carers)

May

- 4th May Day Bank Holiday - School closed**
- 7th Elephants Class Assembly 9am (for parents/carers)
- 11th Year 6 SATS (11th-14th)
- 21st Year 5 Whitby Assembly 9am (for parents/carers)
- 21st School closes to all pupils at 3.15pm**
- 22nd Inset Day - School Closed**

June

- 1st School reopens to all pupils at 8.40am**
- 4th Class Photographs
- 15th Year 6 Weardale Residential (15th-19th)
- 29th Foxes Class Assembly 9am (for parents/carers)

July

- 1st FROGS Summer Fayre
- 13th Year 6 Performance 2pm-3pm
- 15th Year 6 Performance 6pm-7pm
- 17th Year 6 Graduation 2pm-3pm
- 17th School closes to all pupils at 3.15pm**

This half term has flown by and has been an extremely productive one for our school community. Now that the children are well and truly settled into their new year groups, it has been wonderful to see their confidence grow and their progress shine through in so many different ways.

We have enjoyed a wide range of activities and opportunities, including:

- **Educational visits to York**, for our Year 5 and 6 pupils
- **A local walk**, for our Year 2 children
- **Young Voices in Sheffield**, where our Greenside Choir represented us brilliantly
- **Class assemblies**, showcasing learning and teamwork
- **Forest School sessions every Thursday**, which continue to be a highlight for many of our children
- **Cross Country Tournament**, congratulations to Anneliese in Year 6 and Zara in Year 4. At the Leeds Finals, Zara finished 10th and Anneliese finished 23rd in their respective races. As a result, they have qualified for the West Yorkshire Finals next month!

Following your helpful feedback last year, we have made sure you received more information about your child's progress through our summarised interim reports. We hope you found these useful and that they support you in understanding how your child is attaining and progressing in comparison to national expectations and how to help them with their learning at home.

It has certainly been the wettest half term we can remember, and we are all hoping for more spring like weather after the break. We are also looking forward to putting all our behind-the-scenes planning into action as we continue developing our OPAL (Outdoor Play And Learning) provision.

Finally, a huge thank you to all our parents and carers for your ongoing support. It makes such a difference, and we truly appreciate everything you do.

Wishing you a restful and enjoyable half term and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday the 23rd February at 8.40 am.

Important Reminders...

The Main Gate

While the gate closes and locks on the magnet, it closes slowly. Please can all parents/carers ensure that the gate closes fully, before sliding the bolt across. This will ensure all our children are safe and secure in school. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Arbor App

Thank you for your patience while we have migrated to Arbor. This half term, the office have made extra efforts to ensure parents/carers have seen the messages we have sent regarding their children. All parents/carers should now be logged into Arbor and be able to receive communications from school, including messages about celebration assemblies, trip updates, non-uniform days, etc. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to check messages regarding their child and ensure they do not miss out. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any support.

After School Clubs Spring Term 2026					
Clubs are run throughout the year but, unless otherwise informed, there are no clubs on the first week or last week of each full term. That is the week directly before and directly after the Christmas holidays, the Easter holidays and the Summer holidays.					

Day	Category	Club	Staff	Location	Time
Monday	Music	Keyboard	External Teacher	Panda Room	3pm-4pm (in 30 minute slots)
Monday	Sports	Karate Kids	External Teacher	School Hall	3.15pm-4.15pm
Monday	Music	Choir	Miss Morris/Miss Winkley/Miss Roberts rotating	Year 5/6 classroom	3.15pm-4.15pm
Tuesday	Reading	Early Bird Readers	Teaching Assistants	Classrooms	8.20am-8.40am
Tuesday	Art	Art and Crafts	Miss Gilbert	Year 2 Classroom	3.15pm-4.15pm
Tuesday	Art	Origami	Mr McKinney	Year 3/4 Classroom	Lunchtime
Tuesday	Music	Guitar	External Teacher	Panda Room	3pm-4pm (in 30 minutes slots)
Tuesday	Sports	KS1 Football (children are rotated each term)	External Teacher (Bradford City)	Outside (weather permitting)	3.15pm-4.15pm
Tuesday	Art	Art and Crafts	Miss Henson and Miss Gilbert	Year 1 Classroom	3.15pm-4.15pm
Wednesday	Sports	KS2 Girls Football (children are rotated each term)	External Teacher (Leeds United)	Outside (weather permitting)	3.15pm-4.15pm
Thursday	Reading	Early Bird Readers	Teaching Assistants	Classrooms	8.20am-8.40am
Thursday	Sports	Skipping club	Miss Jones	Outside (weather permitting)	3.15pm-4.15pm
Thursday	Sports	UKS2 Boys Football (children are rotated each term)	External Teacher (Bradford City)	Outside (weather permitting)	3.15pm-4.15pm
Friday	Homework	Homework	Miss Brooks	Year 5/6 Classroom	12.15pm-12.30pm

Clubs

Please see our website <https://www.greenside-sch.org/clubs-extra-curricular> for information on clubs that take place before, during and after the school day. If your child shows an interest in a club, you will be sent a permission form which also contains all the information about the club, including dates. Please retain this for your information.

Clubs run throughout the year but, unless otherwise informed, there are no clubs the first week or last week of each full term. This means either side of the Christmas holidays, either side of the Easter holidays and either side of the Summer holidays.

OPAL

Thank you for all your support so far, including completing the baseline surveys and contributing resources. Outgoing Otters completed their OPAL BINGO CARD and will receive 15 minutes extra play with the OPAL resources!

Thanks to your generous donations, we now have a good initial supply of books, board games and soft toys, so we no longer require these items. However, we are still in need of the following:

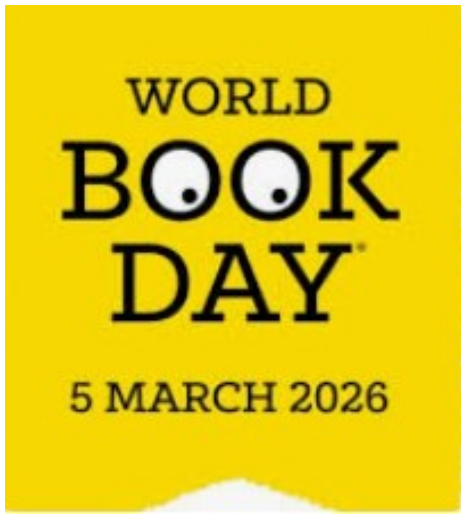
- Wheeled vehicles, such as scooters, prams and balance bikes (please no roller blades or large bikes)
- Small world toys
- Soft furnishings (cushions, bean bags, blankets)
- Digging/Mud Kitchen items (pots, pans, spoons, buckets, spades, garden tools)

In addition, we would really appreciate your support in collecting larger loose parts and helping us make connections with anyone who might be able to supply these items regularly. We are particularly looking for:

- Tyres
- Pallets
- Cotton/Wire reels
- Piping
- Crates
- Water coolers
- Rope
- Planters/Gardening tools
- Soil/Sand

If you know of a charity, business or organisation that may be able to help us improve our outdoor spaces—for example, by building a sandpit, pond, digging area or planting flowers—this would be a huge help. If you have any contacts or information, please email us at opal@greenside-sch.org with the name of the business, contact details and what they may be able to provide. Thank you again for your continued support.





World Book Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March with a focus on celebrating all different types of reading for pleasure, including: stories, fact books, graphic novels, comics, recipes and magazines.

On the day, your child may dress up as their favourite book character if they wish to, and bring in something they love to read. The pupil Reading Ambassadors will be judging the costumes during the day, with a winner being announced in each class.

During the day, we will be sharing our favourite books and author recommendations and taking part in lots of reading-related activities across school. Early Years and Key Stage 1 classes will be exploring the picture book All the Wonderful Ways to Read (by Laura Baker) whilst Key Stage 2 classes will be taking part in a World Book Day Live Lesson, encouraging children to find books they love.

We look forward to a day which will help to further promote a love of reading and a joy of discovering new books

Theme Lunch Menu

In line with World Book Day, we will be offering a themed lunch menu on Thursday 5th March 2026.

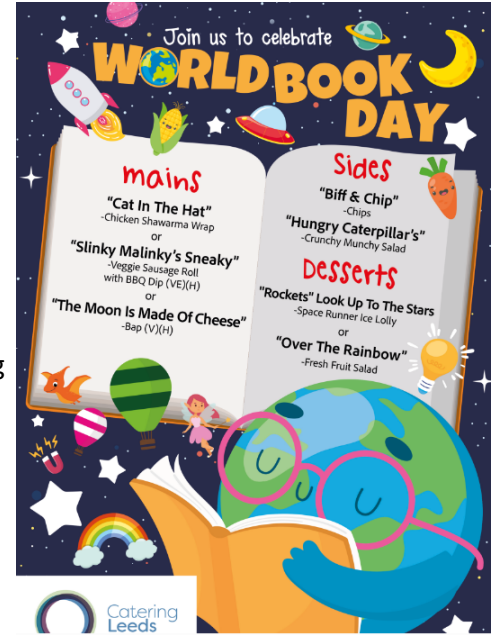
Book Fayre

The **Scholastic Travelling Book Fair** will be held in the school hall from **3:15pm to 3:45pm from Wednesday 25th February to Monday 2nd March inclusive**. Come along on one of the days, after you have collected your child, to choose from the fantastic selection of books and stationery on offer, with book prices starting at £2.99.

School receive an amount of money to spend on books based on sales made so please do support the event if you can. Last year, we earned £300 in rewards to enhance our school library book selection.

See the posters below and click on the link to browse the books which will be available at the fair. <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/travelling-books/parents>

Please note that this will be a cashless event and there will be a QR code at the fair to allow secure payment to be made online. World Book Day tokens will be given out the week of the fair and can be used to deduct £1 from the cost of a book (these do not apply to stationery).



SCHOLASTIC TRAVELLING BOOKS Every book you buy earns **FREE BOOKS** for our school!

COME TO OUR BOOK FAIR

AND FIND YOUR NEXT FAVOURITE READ!

DATE: 25th Feb-2nd March
TIME: 3:15pm-3:45pm
LOCATION: School Hall

GO ALL IN! National Year of 2026

Discover books from **£2.99**

MORE NEW BOOKS YOU'LL LOVE!

All books subject to availability. **DISCOVER MORE BOOKS ONLINE!**
www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases

Payment at our Book Fair

- You may pay by card at the Fair via card reader machines if your school has one or by using the online payment link at www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay and simply selecting your school from the drop down menu.
- Pre-paid gift vouchers are available in £5, £10, £15, £20 and £25. Go to www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers to buy vouchers for your child before the Fair.
- If you can't attend the Fair in person, your child can order books via a Wish List - please ask your school for details.

HELP EARN FREE BOOKS

Scholastic is one of the largest providers of free books to schools via our Reward scheme which helps to ensure that as many children as possible have access to books that support reading for pleasure. Every time you buy from the Book Fair, you help to make a difference by supporting literacy in your child's setting. Last year, with your help, we gave over £3.3m worth of free books to schools nationwide, which stocked school libraries and classrooms.

*Free books are subject to terms and conditions. Please contact your Book Fair Organizer or Scholastic Book Fairs for details. All books subject to availability. Book range may vary. *Warning: Not suitable for children under 3. Small parts.



Attendance

Our attendance target for this academic year remains at 98%. Our whole school attendance from the start of September is 95.36%.

98%

We would like to thank all our parents/carers for their support in ensuring their child(ren) attend school regularly, on time and ready to learn!

Attendance Emails

Our attendance emails are due out this week. If your child has below 97% attendance, you will receive an email via Arbor informing you of their percentage and offering support.

As a school, we always try to encourage all our pupils to be aware of the importance of attending school regularly. **We would love your support with this.**

While we appreciate that we are in flu season and your child may be too unwell for school, we would encourage all families to try to keep absence due to ill health to a minimum. We are always willing to support families who have brought children to school when they are a little under the weather and we will always phone home and inform you if your child deteriorates.

The attendance page on our website <https://www.greenside-sch.org/attendance-1/> has lots of links and guidance and we find the NHS website <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> very useful. Please do not hesitate to get in touch for support or further clarification.

Class Attendance so far this academic year:

- Friendly Foxes 95.53%
- Enthusiastic Elephants 94.98%
- Positive Penguins 96.91%
- Outgoing Otters 97.89%**
- Confident Chameleons 96.86%
- Adventurous Anacondas 93.41%
- Persevering Pumas 95.98%
- Tenacious Toucans 95.54%
- Dazzling Dolphins 92.78%
- Creative Caimans 94.63%

Well done Outgoing Otters!

REMEMBER
The class with the highest attendance each week will receive an extra playtime!

Punctuality

It is extremely important that our pupils arrive at school on time each day. **Doors open at 8.40am and close at 8.45am.**



Thank you for all your support with punctuality. We are still closely monitoring the amount of lateness and may contact you if we notice your child's punctuality is becoming a concern.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you feel we can support you in any way.

Punctuality is extremely important and ensures your child can start their day alongside their class friends. It also ensures they do not miss out on any important messages or learning summaries.

From the start of this half term (05.01.2026), classes have the following late marks on their registers. This includes both L marks (late after 8.45am) and U marks (late after 9.15am).

Friendly Foxes 2

- Enthusiastic Elephants 22
- Positive Penguins 11
- Outgoing Otters 21
- Confident Chameleons 5
- Adventurous Anacondas 46
- Persevering Pumas 40
- Tenacious Toucans 17
- Dazzling Dolphins 5
- Creative Caimans 29

Well done Friendly Foxes! And a big shout out to Chameleons and Dolphins who also have amazing class punctuality!

REMEMBER
The class with the least late marks each half term will receive an extra playtime!

Better late than never
But never late is better



Mindful Messages

This segment on our Grapevine is to support the wellbeing of our families and young people. Mrs Middleton, our Family Liaison Officer, is keen to share services and groups, both local and national.

If you would like any support, please do not hesitate to contact us via the school office or by our family support email address familysupport@greenside-sch.org.

You can also find lots of helpful information on our website <https://www.greenside-sch.org/support-for-families/>



In school, we encourage our young people to use grounding techniques if they are experiencing an uncomfortable emotion.

This helps to build their confidence that these feelings pass, and that we can overcome these challenging emotions.

Practising these skills when we are calm helps so that they become a useful tool at times of challenge.

If you feel that you or your child may need some support, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Middleton via the school office.

Keeping Calm

Calming or Grounding techniques are a good way to reduce our heart rate/blood pressure when feeling worried or anxious. It helps us refocus our attention and overcome those unpleasant feelings so we can feel better and do more.

5 4 3 2 1

Take notice of your senses by thinking of:
5 things you can see
4 things you can hear
3 things you can feel/touch
2 things you can smell
1 thing you can taste



Facts

Think about and name facts about what is going on right now. For example, think:
My age is...
My name is...
I am wearing...
The weather is...
I am in...



Room Search

Think of a category and search the room for it. For example, look for:
Everything that is a ... colour
Everything that is a ... shape
Things that feel of...
Things made of ...



By **thinking** about things to help us calm down we can then **do** the things we want/need to do and **feel** better and happier.