

## Thirsk Community Primary

JULY 2025

## Welcome to our end of Year Newsletter

As we come to the end of another wonderful school year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the many achievements of our school community. Our core values – **Be Ambitious**, **Be Compassionate**, **Be Inclusive** – have shone brightly in everything we have done. Throughout the year, our children have embraced exciting learning opportunities across the curriculum. From exploring amazing picture books and novels to enjoying learning to read with prosody, reading and books have been at the heart of what we do and our love of reading has continued to grow. It has been a joy to see our pupils discussing books, sharing recommendations, and becoming confident, thoughtful learners.

This year has also been full of enriching events and memorable trips. Whether visiting local museums, taking part in sports tournaments, attending Young Voices, trips to the seaside or enjoying residentials, our children have shown curiosity, teamwork and enthusiasm and I have been exceptionally proud of them when representing our school. Events such as World Book Day, our reading raffle winners taking a trip on the train to York or PE enrichment week, have seen the opportunities we offer our children expand and grow. This is something we will continue to develop next year as we expand what we can offer.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our dedicated staff. Their commitment, passion, and belief in every child has made this year a success. Their tireless work inspires our children daily and truly brings our school values to life.

Not only are we saying goodbye to our Year 6 children, we are also saying goodbye to two members of staff. Mrs Cooke, who has spent twenty-one years at the school as a teaching assistant is moving on to the next stage in her life. As I said in our assembly, she is part of the furniture and will be greatly missed. I want to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Cooke for all her hard work and commitment to the school, we will miss you.

We are also saying goodbye to Miss Dalby, one of our amazing teachers. Miss Dalby started her teaching career at TCP and after three years, she is ready for her next challenge. We wish her all the best and good luck. I would like to thank Miss Dalby for her tireless ambition and the compassion she has shown during her time here; you will be dearly missed.

Finally, thank you to all our parents and carers for your continued support. Your encouragement, involvement and belief in our school make a huge difference, and we are so grateful to work in partnership with you.

If you feel you need support over the summer holiday, there is an extensive list of contacts in the display board outside the main school entrance, which you can access. There is no shame in asking for help.

I hope you have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Kind regards,

Mr J. Harrison Headteacher



### **Nursery**

What a busy and exciting half term we've had in EYFS! One of our favourite days was our wonderful trip to Piglets Adventure Farm. The children were thrilled to meet the animals up close — from fluffy sheep to muddy pigs! We wandered through the magical fairy walk, spotting tiny fairy houses and woodland creatures, and had a fantastic time climbing, sliding and playing in the huge adventure area.

Back in the classroom, we've been showing off our design and creative skills by making our own farmland pictures. We explored a range of textures and used a mix of materials like straw, paint, fabric, and paper to create our scenes. The children really enjoyed choosing how to represent their ideas and worked carefully and creatively.

We've also been learning about animal habitats. We explored questions like "Why do polar bears live in cold places?" and "What makes a farm a good home for a cow?" Through stories, videos and class discussions, the children have started to understand how animals live in different environments and what they need to survive.

Phonics has been a big focus this term too. The children have been working hard on recognising their initial sounds and learning to blend them orally to hear whole words. We've used sound talking to help them break words down into separate sounds and then push the sounds together to hear what the word is. It's been brilliant to see their listening skills grow, and their confidence is building every day!

Outdoors, we've made the most of the lovely weather and spent lots of time using our brand-new water trays. The children enjoyed splashing, pouring, and working together, developing important problem-solving and teamwork skills. Indoors, our home corner was transformed into a school, giving the children a chance to role-play teachers and pupils and explore the idea of moving on to the next stage of their learning.

We've also had fun learning about shadows — discovering how they're made, when they appear, and how they change throughout the day. The children loved experimenting with torches and different objects to see how shadows move and grow.

Our learning about the world around us continued as we thought about our wonderful planet and how we can help to take care of it. We talked about recycling, protecting nature, and being kind to animals and each other.

Our stories this half term have focused on journeys and adventures, reflecting the children's own transition into Reception. Books like Emma Jane's Aeroplane and You Can't Take an Elephant on the Bus helped us explore exciting places and characters, while supporting children's understanding of change and movement.

We've introduced and used lots of ambitious vocabulary this term too. Words like transition, journey, and future have sparked some fantastic conversations and it's been wonderful to hear the children using these big ideas in their own play and talk.

Finally, we've been thinking about what it means to be ambitious. We've encouraged the children to keep trying, even when things feel tricky. They've shown brilliant perseverance and resilience — and we couldn't be prouder of their efforts!

## **Reception - The Early Years**

This half term and the beautiful weather has meant one thing for our youngest children – lots of exploring and investigating outdoors! Our children have been digging, mixing, weighing, measuring, and balancing! They have been experimenting with water; how they can change the flow, how they can affect the texture, as well as comparing volume and mass, and floating and sinking. They have been exploring shadow and shade, whilst at the same time learning all about how to keep themselves safe in the sun.

#### **Mrs Wall**





### KS1 – End of Year Newsletter

What a fantastic term we've had in KS1! It's been full of exciting learning, creative projects, and brilliant adventures.

This term, our focus has been all about saving the environment. The children have thrown themselves into this topic with real passion! We've looked after our outdoor area, created bird feeders to care for local wildlife, and explored the importance of recycling. The children were so inspired that they wrote persuasive letters to Mr Harrison, urging him to take recycling more seriously – a brilliant effort in helping to make our school even greener!

In history, we've been learning about monarchs, with a special focus on William the Conqueror. The class has really impressed us with their knowledge of castles – from moats to battlements, they can tell you exactly what it takes to protect a monarch! We even designed and built our own castles, showing off some fantastic teamwork and creativity.

We were lucky to enjoy two wonderful school trips this year – one to Duncombe Park, where we explored nature and the outdoors, and another to Saltburn Beach, where we experienced the seaside and had lots of fun playing and learning together.

As we wrap up the year, we're incredibly proud of all that KS1 has achieved. Thank you for your continued support – we wish you all a happy and restful summer break!

Miss D	alby
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#### YEAR 3

Year 3 have had a wonderful summer term. We have absolutely loved diving into the books of E.B White. While reading Charlotte's Web, they have produced some beautiful writing for a range of different purposes. They particularly enjoyed attending and playing fairground games at our own "County Fair" and wrote some wonderful persuasive posters advertising the fair. In maths, they have deepened their understanding of money and can now use a range of coins to solve problems, including finding change.

Swimming has also been a highlight for our class. The progress of each individual has been truly inspiring, and I hope that some of our emerging swimmers continue to visit the pool over the summer!

Across the curriculum, our Year 3s and 4s have loved looking at teeth and the digestive system. They can recall key facts brilliantly - we definitely have some future dentists in the making! In geography, they have also loved studying Thirsk, and comparing what they know about Thirsk today, through the use of maps and digital photos, to maps of old Thirsk.

#### **Mrs Kirkman**

#### YEAR 4

This term Tear 4 have read the class novel 'The Witches' which kept the suspense held over their heads!

In writing, they continued to work their socks off, creating superb character descriptions which were put into AI to create their 'scary and creepy' animals—what fun we had.

IN maths, we completed our times tables checks where everyone tried their hardest (WELL DONE), continued to expand their knowledge on fractions, Statistics and basic number fractions,

What a year we have had, I'm going to miss them all so much

#### Mrs Kaufman

#### YEAR 5

What a busy term we have had! We had a lovely day at the High School for our enrichment. While we were there, we did PE, English, Geography and Science lessons. They all got stuck in and enjoyed the sessions. The children behaved incredibly well and made the adults so proud!

In reading, we have read 'City of Ember'. We have loved this book and watched the film in the final week. In our DEAL time, the children have loved listening to 'The Soup Movement' and 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. We have also been very busy in our maths, looking at shapes and angles. In writing, we have written some fantastic setting descriptions and diary entries. We have included a lot of drama this term, which the children love. Year 5 demonstrated all the skills they have learnt this year, and their writing was amazing!

In the afternoons, Year 4 and 5 have been working very hard! In History, we have been learning about children's lives and how much they have changed over time. They loved learning about how children have worked and played and how this has changed. In Geography, we have learned about different settlements. We have looked at our local area and how this has changed, and then also comparing Thirsk to other places around the world. In Science, we have learned about the Digestive System and also Food Chains. We have also spent some time talking about changes and transition, leading up to the new school year.

We have had a fantastic school year, and the class have been an absolute joy to have!

#### Miss Scholes

#### YEAR 6

Year 6 have had a jam packed and memorable final term! They worked their socks off learning lines, song lyrics, dance moves and stage directions in preparation for their production. They absolutely wowed us all with their incredible leavers' production of *The Wrong Way Round* — a fantastic performance full of slime, energy, humour, and talent that made everyone proud. They showcased how there are so many stars in the making! Earlier in the term, they made lasting memories at Peat Rigg, showing bravery and teamwork as they tackled canoeing, ziplines, archery, tree climbing and abseiling off a 50ft bridge. The sun shone, they made their beds and got stuck into all the fun of the Year 6 residential.

In May, they gave their all during SATs week, showing great determination and resilience. More recently, they've taken part in their secondary school transition week, getting a taste of what's to come in Year 7 and beginning to look ahead to the exciting adventures that lie beyond primary school. There was lots of excited chatter upon their return of science experiments, PE challenges, history investigations, amazing art opportunities and more importantly...fab food at lunch (and break) time! They are definitely Year 7 ready.

What a brilliant end to their time at Thirsk Community Primary! Good luck Year 7!

#### **Love Mrs Collier**



### **Wraparound Care News**

This term we have been delighted to welcome new faces to both Breakfast and After School Club as well as our existing pupils.

Reminder that our Breakfast Club is open from 7.30am and After School Club closes at 6pm. We have noticed a slight increase in numbers now that the hours have increased and still have spaces available for both clubs.

We have been inside the hut where the children were very good with creative play. They were dressing up alot and playing with peers (imaginations were great to hear, we had many superheroes, a few wizards/witches and princesses among them).

The military toys have been well played with , again with many different scenarios and lots of different outcomes. This has been great to see and hear the children socialise between all ages.

We love making WAC an enjoyable and exciting place to attend, whilst still making sure the children follow our school values, one stand out compassion moment this term is when one of our KS2 pupils had built a Lego house within Breakfast Club and when they came to After School Club on the same day they had left this house on one of our shelves ... However when they had gone to grab it, they had caught it and it broke on them. One of our KS1 pupils had witnessed this and had noticed this pupil upset and so the following day this KS1 pupil had rebuilt the Lego house how they remembered it and then showed the KS2 pupil what they had done and this pupil was so made up by this wonderful gesture.

After going through our toys, we noticed we needed some more for our younger regular attendees and so we kindly asked Mr Harrison, who kindly said "Yes". We have purchased some new toys as below which are being loved and played with a lot from all our children and again is helping our younger children socialise.

Mrs Mountford, Mrs Almond and Miss Cooke

## Mrs Kennedy's Gardening Club









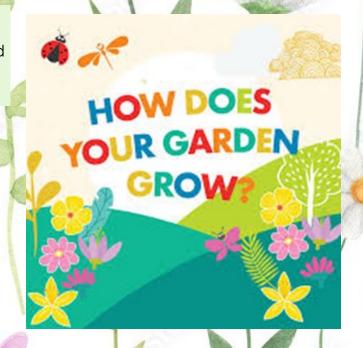






Our amazing gardening club grew a smorgasbord of vegetables and then cooked them to feed to Mr Harrison!!!!





## **Dynamo Cricket Year 5**



**Dynamo Crickey Team Year 3/4** 









# KEY STEPS GYM COMPETITION

## Medals galore!!!!!!

## <u>Year 1-2</u>

1st —Anna

2nd—Georgie

3rd Addy

## <u>Year 3-4</u>

1st—Isla

## <u>Year 5-6</u>

1st Yasmin

3rd Kaleessi



# Nursery Graduation



CLASS of 2025

Nursery to reception

# <u>Duncombe Park visit—Year 1 and 2</u>

















































## **MINI POLICE**

A big thank you to North Yorkshire Police for visiting us for their workshop with year 5.

These are our new Mini Police recruits, ready for

action!



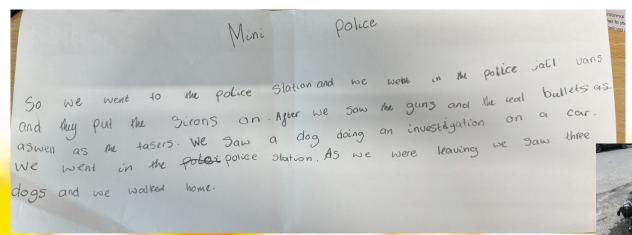












## **PTA Bouncing Bonanza Summer Fayre**

A COLOSSAL THANK YOU to everyone who joined us for the Bouncing Bonanza

A ginormous shout-out to our incredible staff and volunteers who make everything possible. Whether you were folding tickets with the precision of a ninja, cooking up mouth-watering delights, manning a stall or guarding the inflatables

you're the real MVPs! We couldn't have done it without you!

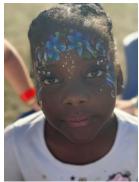


















Raised over £2K



















## Leavers Assembly and Y6 SPORTS DAY























## **NURSERY Trip to Piglets Farm**

(A day full of fun, fluff, fairy doors... and fabulous behaviour!)

What a moo-velous day we had on our trip to the farm!

We started the day with big smiles and excitement as we climbed aboard the bus. There were giggles, songs, and even a few "are we there yet?" questions before we'd even turned the corner!

When we arrived, our first stop was the petting barn, where we met some very cute and fluffy new friends. There was a twitchy-nosed rabbit, a cuddly guinea pig, some cheepy chicks, and a gentle little lamb called Lavender. She was woolly lovely!

The children were amazing—they were so gentle and kind with the animals. They used quiet voices, calm hands, and showed such care. One of the farm staff even told us how brilliantly behaved everyone was and how kind and respectful they were. That really made us feel as proud as pigs in a puddle!

After lots of gentle strokes and animal cuddles, we wandered around the farm and saw even more animals. There were pigs (who were very busy in the mud), horses and donkeys, plus some very stylish llamas and alpacas with the fluffiest hairdos you've ever seen. The children asked great questions, and nobody even flinched when the pigs did a big snort!

Next, we went on the magical Fairy Walk. We explored the trees, found tiny fairy doors, and pressed their doorbells to find out who lived inside. We even spotted a few cheeky trolls (but don't worry—they were more tickly than scary!). We looked at all the wonderful plants and trees and imagined what fairy life might be like.

Then it was time for a toilet stop and a lovely lunch—a chance to rest our legs and fill our tummies. The children ate beautifully and chatted happily about their favourite animals (and who had the crunchiest crisps!).

After lunch came the tractor ride—bumpity bump! We climbed on board and set off. Everyone held on tight and enjoyed the ride with big smiles and a few "wheee!"s along the way.

The tractor took us to the soft play, where we climbed, slid, and zoomed for half an hour of high-energy fun. Then, it was back on the tractor to visit the playground, where we played in the sand, climbed on all the equipment, and squeezed in one last adventure before heading home.

By the time we got back on the bus, there were some very sleepy eyes and quiet yawns... a sign of a truly wonderful day!

We're so proud of all the children—they were kind, respectful, and full of joy all day long. The farm staff said how beautifully they behaved and how lovely it was to see such gentle hands with the animals. They really did us proud!





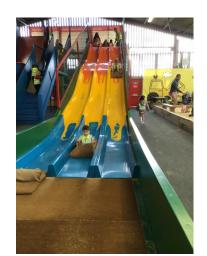








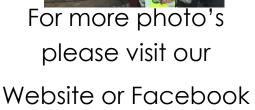






























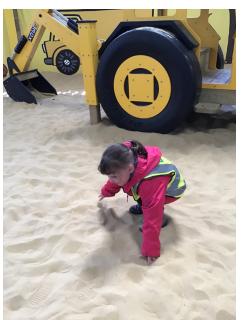
































Saltburn Trip R, Y1, Y2

Oh I do like to be beside the seaside'. Our Reception, year 1 and 2 classes have a splashing time at Saltburn.





































## **PE Enrichment Week**

Another fun packed and diverse enrichment week.

This time we have danced, skipped, hopped and jumped our way through the week.

It started with Team Rubison taking Scootability and Skateboarding to a whole new level as pupils whizzed around the playground and learned some new tricks and skills !!!

The Climbing wall was back for another year, this always creates excitement as we all held our breathe waiting to see who would reach the top!

On Tuesday Some of our pupils learned wheelchair basketball. Wheelchair basketball is a style of basketball played using a sports wheelchair.

Carl from kidzfit brought so much information to us about leading a healthy lifestyle including nutrition, fitness and some very interesting facts about the body and energy. He played some fab music and games with us all.

We styled it up with Danny on Wednesday, they taught us some street and hip hop dance moves and our year 3 pupils had their final swimming fun Session at Thirsk Swimming pool

Dave from Skip to Be fFt is a regular here at TCP and the vibe is always very loud, fun and energetic! Skip2bfit skipping workshops use specially designed counting skipping ropes to incorporate numeracy whilst promoting fitness and healthy living.

This year Dave did Box to Be Fit with the year 6 leavers and they thoroughly loved it!

Finally our Ks2 pupils engaged in a fencing workshop! This offered a unique opportunity for students to engage in a fun, physical activity that also develops valuable skills like agility, concentration, and hand-eye coordination

## Street and Hip Hop Dance



































Wheelchair basketball

# Skip and Box to be fit

































## **KIDZFIT**











# **Skateboarding and Scootability**













































# **Climbing Wall**









# **Fencing**



















## Reading Raffle winners trip to York

Six of our children have had the most amazing experience shopping for books in York. They visited three different book shops, and selected £200 worth of new books for the school library. This was their reward for showing commitment and ambition towards reading at home. The children enjoyed snacks at York Minster and lunch in Museum Gardens. They headed back to do a special assembly to the whole school. We look forward to running this reward again next school year!!!





















# PEAT RIGG 2005











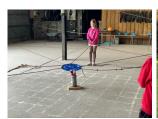














































## Canoeing and water fun!



































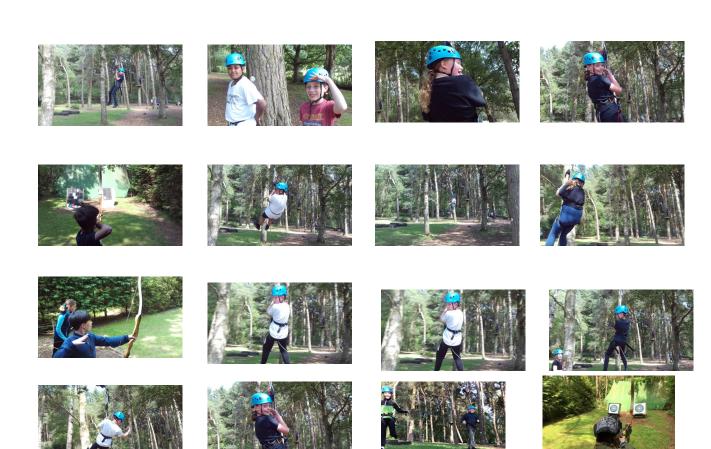




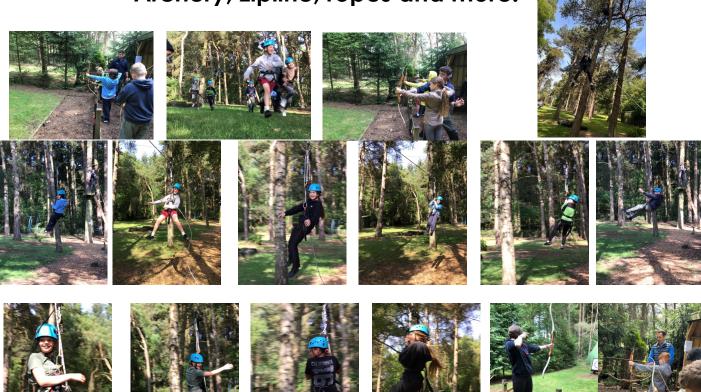






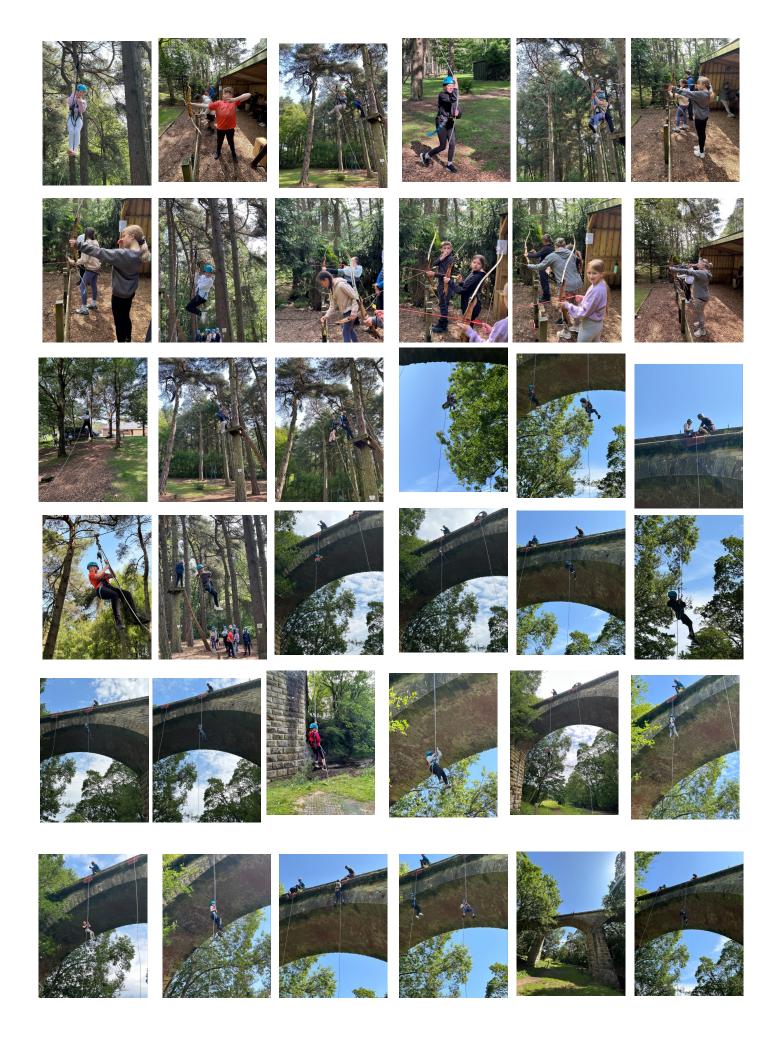


## Archery, zipline, ropes and more!





For more photo's please visit our Website or Facebook page.



# Year 6 Leavers show





A Massive thank you to Mrs Collier and Mr Challenger for putting together such an epic production and their undeniable dedication to year 6.

The show was such a blast. Some budding actors in the making and the casting was on point!!







































## CLASS OF 2025



We bid a fond farewell to our Year 6 leavers who will be heading to the high school in September!

You are super duper, talented, amazing go getters, let nothing ever stand in your way!!

"A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step."



#### **North Yorkshire Council**

School term dates 2025- 2026 Academic year

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A reminder that there is still availability to attend Young Voices January 30th 2026.

For Year 4, 5 and 6.

Please ask at the office for a form and payment can be made on Arbor

## **Autumn Term 1 After School Clubs**

Clubs can be paid for via Arbor or via the school office, we also need the consent form returning to us

	Monday	Tues	Wednes- day	Thursday	Friday
Within School		Mrs Kaufman running club at lunchtime To be confirmed	Girls football (Mrs Kaufman) Year 5&6 10th Sept-8th Oct 5 wks 3.20 - 4.20	Key- board & Guitar lessons	Swimming Year 6 9.15– 9.45 5th Sept to 24th Oct
	Autumn term 2 GLEE CLUB (Mrs Collier) 3.20 4.20 For Young Voices Pupils 10th Nov—26th Jan 3.20 - 4.20 YV is 30th January		Quick- sticks hockey (Miss Wood) Year 3&4 3rd Sept—15th Oct 7 3.20 - 4.20		
			Multi Skills (Mr Steel) Year 1 & 2 10th Sept- 22nd Oct 7 wks 3.20 - 4.20		

### <u>Dates for your Diary—Autumn term 1</u>

Monday 2nd Sept Staff training day

Tues 3rd Sept Staff training day

Wed 4th Sept School opens for Autumn Term 1

Quicksticks after school club starts

Friday 5th Sept Year 6 swimming lessons start

Wed 10th Sept Girls football club and multi skills start

Thursday 18th Sept Multi Skills Y 1 and 2 tournament

Thursday 25th Sept Quicksticks tournament Y 5 and 6 team

Thursday 2nd Oct Quicksticks tournament Y3/4 team

Thursday 9th Oct Year 5 and 6 Girl's football tournament (select pupils)

Thursday 16th October Year 5/6 football tournament (select pupils)

Friday 24th October Break up for half term (normal time)

#### North Yorkshire Council

School term dates 2025- 2026 Academic year

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A	40	75	
Autumn	35	/5	
Carina	30	55	195
Spring	25	55	190
Summer	29	65	
Summer	36	00	



These term dates are for Community and Voluntary Controlled schools in North Yorkshire Council
Three recommended professional development (PD) days for teaching staff have been identified
Schools can identify 2 PD days when the school will be closed to pupils.



# Redeem your vouchers for free holiday activities with food this summer

We have issued FEAST vouchers to all families whose children/ young people receive benefits-related free school meals. These vouchers entitle your child to free places on FEAST activities this summer holiday, where they'll also receive a free heathy meal. You should have received this voucher via email or text, from a platform called HolidayActivities. Follow the link to redeem your voucher and book your child's place on some of the fantastic activities on offer in our area.

If you believe your child is eligible and you have not yet received your voucher, or you have lost it, please contact the school office.

To learn more about FEAST, and for information on activities, eligibility and how to manage your bookings, visit the website.

# Does your child want to start playing netball?

Thirsk Junior Netball Club are looking for juniors in school years 6,7 & 8



**Where: Thirsk High School** 

When: Tuesdays 5.15pm-6.45pm (term time only)

If you would like more information please email: thirskjuniorsecretary@gmail.com



We were lucky to have James from Thirsk Rugby Club attend to do some taster sessions with our school, so we highly recommend this taster morning!!











IN THE JULY ISSUE OF KEEP IT LOCAL THIRSK ALSO FOR UP TO DATE INFO VISIT OUR **FACEBOOK OR WEBSITE** 

WWW.THIRSKSOWERBYFESTIVAL.CO.UK





# FREE EVENT FOR ALL THE FAMILY

## THIRSK & SOWERBY ON THE FLATTS

#### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS THIRSK FESTIVAL 2025

10:00 am - Opening Ceremony from the Mayor of Thirsk @ Y01 stage

10:15am - Fun Run (Main Arena)

(Reminder - Dog Agility and Nerf Guys are running all day)

10:30am - Childrens Welly Toss (Main Arena)

11:00am - Tail Waggers (Main Arena)

II:00am - Monk Park Farm (On Stage)

(Reminder - Don't forget to try our Hook a Duck Stall)

11:30am - Adults Welly Toss (Main Arena)

12:00pm - Magician Show I (On Stage)

12:30pm - Owl Adventures Flying Show (Main Arena)

12:30pm - Air Guitar Dance by Public (On Stage)

(REMINDER - DON'T FORGET TO BUY YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS FOR THIRSK AND SOWERBY FESTIVAL'S MEGA DRAW. TICKETS CAN BE BOUGHT AT THE INFORMATION TENT)

13:00 pm - Tail Waggers (Main Arena)

13:00 pm - Yorkshire Voices Choir Singing (Picnic Area)

13:30pm - Children's Tug of War (Main Arena)

14:00 pm - Blind Man's Bluff Chicken Run (Main Arena)

14:00 pm - Magician Show 2 (On Stage)

14:30pm - Owl Adventures Flying Show (Main Arena)

14:30pm - Air Guitar Dance by Public Final (On Stage)

14:45 pm - Monk Park Farm (On Stage)

15:00 pm - Adults Inflatable Fun Run (Main Arena)

15:30pm - Live Tribute (On Stage)

16:30pm - Childrens Inflatable Fun Run (Main Arena)

16:45 pm - Raffles Drawn and Event closes with

thanks and mentions (On Stage)

#### THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SPONSORS:

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Beechwood Leisure

Foxes Mouldings

Pearsons Ices

Hillsprint

Thirsk Town Council

Sowerby Parish Council

Dufftons

**THIRSK TOWN COUNCIL** 

www.thirsk-tc.gov.uk

SOWERBY PARISH COUNCIL

www.sowerbyparishcouncil.org.uk





Take a look in the July issue of Keep it Local for this years map or on our website

www.thirsksowerbyfestival.co.uk

Events on the day are correct at the time of printing.

Please visit the Facebook page for all the latest information about the festival.

Thirsk and Sowerby Festival on the Flatts

