



CE Primary School 'Growing together in love and learning'

Sessay CE Primary School Monthly Newsletter

September 2025...

A busy start to the academic year!

Pupil Voice Groups.

All children have had their first meeting of the year, staff introduced the children to their new groups and welcomed new members by explaining the concept of Pupil Voice. They also outlined the types of planning each group will be involved in throughout the year. They then split into groups to plan out the year ahead.

Epic Improvers joined forces with *SEGG* (Sessay Eco Gardening Group) and started to tidy the garden area after the summer months in preparation for Autumn and Winter. Children weeded the beds and dug them over for planting. The large wildflower area is still in full bloom so that will be a job for another day! Several children cleared away rotten apples from the floor, but lots were picked from the tree to eat!

The *Healthy School* Team began by thinking about what we can grow in the grounds of our school, such as berries, potatoes and pumpkins. The intention is so each class can then use the produce to make and bake fresh food to eat.

Money Makers planned the MacMillan Cancer fundraising event in school today and they designed some super posters which have been displayed around school for the last couple of weeks; I'm sure everyone will enjoy their 'green' biscuits!

William N and Cora our Year 6 Collective Worship Spiritual Leaders attended the second workshop of the Elevate MAT Church Schools Collective Worship group at South Kilvington Academy. They discussed the definition of worship – thinking about beliefs, praying, singing, talking together about school values and listening to stories with a moral. The definition of collective is so important to all of our school community – being together, everyone in the school and believing (mostly) the same thing. We look forward to the Collective Worship challenges that they have been set to carry out back in our school. Watch this space...



Thank you to all Byland parents who attended the Phonics / Early Literacy Little Wandle evening last week with Mrs Tyrka. We hope you found it useful and that you are now more aware of how the children learn their phonics in school and how you can support them further at home.

Years 1 and 2 Multi Skills. A huge well done to the children from Fountains Class who visited Thirsk High School for the cluster Multi Skills event. They worked on their throwing, catching and balancing skills before participating in team games and races. One of the favourites was the space hopper race!



A huge congratulations to our Year 5/6 Quicksticks hockey team who took part in a cluster competition at Thirsk High School yesterday. They played seven local schools in our Thirsk cluster and won every match! The skill, teamwork and sportsmanship was phenomenal and all players were rightly so proud of their gold medals.

NSPCC Speak Out Stay Safe whole school presentation.

This week our school has taken part in the launch of the NSPCC campaign, 'SPEAK OUT STAY SAFE'. The children from Year 1 to 6 all watched an engaging video, introduced by Ant and Dec about the campaign and the importance of standing up for yourself and speaking out. No child should ever have to face any kind of harm or abuse, and through the valuable work of the NSPCC and all that we do in school, we hope to equip our children with the tools to speak out if something does not feel right. The children in Years 2/5/6 will be taking part in workshops led by NSPCC volunteers on Wednesday 8th October and we look forward to their visit.



Today is **European languages day**. 'Languages open hearts and minds'. We encourage children to appreciate the rich variety of languages and cultures from around Europe. Today, as well as learning fun facts and undertaking different activities in class, the children are having an inspiring dance workshop, led by Natalie from Dance Days, inspired by different European countries, with the focus on France and Spain.



Also today we once again are supporting Macmillan. Money Makers have organised a fantastic first event, they have made some fabulous green biscuits and invited the school to wear something green and to donate buns, which the children then donated £1 to buy and enjoy! The school so far has raised a wonderful £90: remember, donations can still be made online via our JustGiving page. https://www.justgiving.com/page/husthwaite-and-sessay-federation-7?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

Friday 12th September Awards

Byland, Mrs Tyrka and Mrs Fielding.

Sessay Acorn Award – Lucy has made a super start to school. She is keen to engage in learning activities, especially with an adult. Well done Lucy, it is great to see you enjoying school.

Headteacher's sticker - Struan is so keen to come into school each day with a cheerful smile and a happy good morning. He engages well with the challenge areas set up in the classroom. What a superstar!

Mathlete- William and Ollie have both been fabulous mathematicians this week. It was wonderful to hear them counting, ordering and writing numbers. Keep up the great work!

Writer of the week – Lara loves to do mark making in a variety of different ways, but her favourite is definitely paint! She is developing the skills for writing using a range of tools. Well done Lara.

Fountains, Mrs Bennison.

Sessay Acorn Award – Alfie always puts in 100% effort into everything that we ask of him. He is enthusiastic in lessons and always contributes his lovely ideas to our class discussions. You are a pleasure to teach Alfie. Well done.

Headteacher's sticker – Well done to Rosalie! Rosalie has impressed us with her lovely, neat writing this week, and her accurate work with place value in maths. Well done.

Mathlete – Ralph has worked hard with representing numbers in a tens frame this week and then recording the numbers used. Fabulous maths Ralph!

Writer of the week – Jessica loves writing! She has got on with all her writing tasks independently and her handwriting is lovely and neat with all her letters sitting neatly on the lines. Well done Jessica.

Bolton, Mrs Sowray and Mr Houghton.

Rievaulx, Ms Gauder and Mr Chapman.

Sessay Acorn Award – Poppie for her wonderful enthusiasm in class, she has settled into Bolton really well. Headteacher's sticker – Stanley for some great teamwork in PE this week with Mr Shimwell. Mathlete – Teddy for his work on 1000 more or less than a given number, he has been really focused with his work, keep it up! Writer of the week – Lily for her diary entry from the point of view of a child in the story, she described the feelings of the child in detail, well done!	Sessay Acorn Award – Ellie for her fantastic French, recalling vocabulary and grammar structures from previous years. Bravo! Headteacher's sticker - Olivia for her timing, precision and enthusiasm in band. Mathlete - Henry for his precision in mathematical drawings and presentation of ideas. Writer of the week – Farrah for her editing of her formal letter.
---	--

Friday 19th September Awards

Byland, Mrs Tyrka and Mrs Fielding. Sessay Acorn Award - Sienna has made a super start to school. She comes into school ready to explore the areas of learning. Sienna listens well and is very well behaved. Well done! Headteacher's sticker - Ivy is a delight to have in class! She is kind and helpful to her friends and teachers which is lovely to see. Keep it up Ivy! Mathlete - Gilbert really enjoys our maths sessions, including counting songs. He can count, order and recognise numbers to 10 and beyond. Keep up the great work. Writer of the week - Lila has worked really hard forming the letters in our phonics sessions. She has also enjoyed our reading groups this week. Well done Lila!	Fountains, Mrs Bennison. Sessay Acorn Award – Elsie has settled into Fountains really well and always put in 100% effort into everything we ask of her. Well done Elsie. Headteacher's sticker – Billy has made a super start to Year 1. He listens carefully and he is always keen to share his lovely ideas in class. Great work Billy. Mathlete – Martha has worked hard this week with partitioning numbers to 100 into tens and ones. Super maths Martha. Writer of the week - Gege has produced some lovely writing this week based on our class text Dogger. She used a range of conjunctions and sentence openers. Well done Gege.
Bolton, Mrs Sowray and Mr Houghton. Sessay Acorn Award - Lily for her fabulous attitude to all her work, she is a super role model in class, keep up the great work! Headteacher's sticker - Alfie for his contributions in science and for working hard on his electricity safety poster. Mathlete - Sebastian for his understanding of ordering numbers and converting numbers into words and vice versa. Writer of the week – Esme has worked incredibly hard on drafting her story about feelings. She has thought hard about her sentence structure and her descriptive language – I look forward to the finished piece next week!	Rievaulx, Ms Gauder and Mr Chapman. Sessay Acorn Award - Imogen for her consistent effort with her writing this week. She has produced a well written narrative based on our class text. Her cursive handwriting is beautiful. Headteacher's sticker - Jack J. for his informative and well-presented work on Anglo Saxons, finding out how buildings were constructed with wattle and daub. Mathlete - Harriet for persevering with her work on rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. Writer of the week - Rosie for her descriptive narrative; she used adverbials, adjectives and varied punctuation in her work based on 'Boy at the back of the Class'.

Friday 26th September Awards

Byland, Mrs Tyrka and Mrs Fielding. Sessay Acorn Award - William absolutely loves school and it's clear to see how engaged and happy he is, not least by seeing his beaming smile each day! Well done William, keep it up! Headteacher's sticker - Sienna is a superstar in class. She is always ready to learn each new sound in phonics and use them to make words. Great attitude Sienna! Mathlete - Lucy has shown a super understanding of sorting objects this week in maths. She can sort them in	Fountains, Mrs Bennison. Sessay Acorn Award – Finlay has a super attitude to his learning and always puts in 100% into everything we ask of him. He is also a kind and caring friend to others in the class. Well done Finlay. Headteacher's sticker – Alexander has settled into Fountains Class really well and is working hard with both his reading and writing. Keep up the great work Alexander. Mathlete – Emmie has been working hard with comparing
--	--

several ways including colour, size or type. Well done Lucy! Writer of the week - Gilbert enjoys our phonics sessions, he knows a number of sounds now and can confidently blend them to make words. Keep up the hard work Gilly!	numbers to 100 this week using the inequality symbols accurately. Super work Emmie. Writer of the week - Una has produced some super writing this week when writing her own story of Dogger. She has used capital letters and adjectives independently. Well done Una.
Bolton, Mrs Sowray and Mr Houghton. Sessay Acorn Award - Wilf has really impressed Mr Houghton with his sense of rhythm and timing in music over the last couple of weeks, keep up the good work! Headteacher's sticker - Stanley for his enthusiasm in both PE and forest schools so far this half term, well done. Mathlete – Edith has really challenged herself in maths this week; she has shown she can round numbers to the nearest multiple of 10. Writer of the week – Cameron has loved testing materials that conduct electricity this week, he made predictions and recorded his results accurately – keep up the good work!	Rievaulx, Ms Gauder and Mr Chapman. Sessay Acorn Award - Alfie for his effort, behaviour, enjoyment and everything in between in Forest Schools. Well done Alfie! Headteacher's sticker - Alice for confidently explaining and discussing the features of a Mandir and how they differ from St Cuthberts Church. Mathlete - Jacob for his perseverance learning the rules of divisibility, he now knows an easy way to divide a larger number by 3 and 9. Writer of the week - Denver for the fullness of his written responses during reading practice.

This afternoon you are warmly welcome to **Friday Celebration Collective Worship** at St Cuthbert's Church at 2.45pm, this afternoon hosted by Miss Bennett.

Have a lovely weekend.

NOTICES:

- We have been asked by North Yorkshire to make you aware of their new app - **REPORT STREET HARASSMENT ANYTIME, ANYDAY**. Residents and visitors in York & North Yorkshire can now report street harassment using the Stop Hate UK **Start Safe Stay Safe** 24HR Helpline app. Please see [attached information](#)
- As you know Mr Chapman is our Assistant Headteacher working across both schools in the Federation. Mr Chapman / our senior teachers are in charge in my absence on site at Sessay, please don't hesitate to contact them if they can be of any assistance.
- Being the beginning of the academic year please can we remind all of our school uniform.

School uniform: - Navy sweater/cardigan - White/sky blue polo shirt - Grey or black skirt, trousers or shorts - Grey/white socks or tights - Black sensible shoes.	PE Kit: Plain sky blue / white t-shirt Navy/black shorts Tracksuit bottoms and sweatshirt (for outdoor PE) Plimsolls / trainers
Hair: Children with hair below the shoulder must have their hair tied back. Jewellery:- For safety reasons, jewellery should not be worn in school. If a watch is worn, it is at your own risk. Plain stud type earrings may be worn with pierced ears but must be removed (independently) during PE sessions. This is in line with North Yorkshire County Council's policy. No nail varnish or makeup.	

We do have some good quality second hand uniform in school for those families that might need this assistance. Please don't hesitate to speak to Mrs Lawson in the school office.

- Playtime snack** Please can we remind all we constantly promote healthy eating and being a healthy school. All EYFS and KS1 children are given a free piece of fruit / vegetable at playtime which we encourage all to take advantage of. Please can we ask that any playtime snacks brought in from home are of a healthy variety. Water bottles are for water only, no juice please.
- School Drop Off** Please can we remind everyone that **school starts at/registration is at 8.45am**. The wooden gates are officially opened at 8.35am and locked at 8.45am/after all school buses have arrived. Any child arriving after 8.45am is recorded as late (L) and if arrives after registration is closed at 9am, is recorded as unauthorised (U).
- If you are interested in your child starting individual or small group music lessons, please use the following link: <https://northyorks.eepos.fi/#/forms/1>

Please remember that if your child is currently in receipt of FSM, support with music tuition cost is available.

- FOSS (Friends of Sessay School) will soon be advertising the date for their first meeting of the academic year and will be warmly inviting everyone, old and new parents and carers. It is very much appreciated however much or little time you can give.
- Please can we remind all parents and carers that holidays during term time will be unauthorised unless they meet the NYCC exceptional circumstances criteria. Please be aware unauthorised absences can result in penalty fines from NYCC.

- **Communication.**

Dojo, school admin email and open door policy. As you know we encourage strong communication between school and home. If you need to contact your child's class teacher please Dojo them a private message, see them before or after school or contact the school office through email or telephone. Staff will respond as soon as possible within school opening hours, 8.30 – 3.30pm.

- **Federation Local Committee.**

PARENT COMMITTEE MEMBER VACANCY – WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND BECOME A FEDERATION PARENT COMMITTEE MEMBER?

MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO YOUR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY.

DEVELOP YOUR OWN PROFESSIONAL SKILLS.

HELP SHAPE EXPERIENCES FOR THE NEXT GENERATION.

No in-depth knowledge of the education system is needed, you bring with you skills and workplace knowledge that will help positively impact young lives. For more details please don't hesitate to contact Miss Bennett.

WE WILL BE HAVING OUR PARENT COMMITTEE MEMBER ELECTIONS LATER THIS TERM

What is it like to be a Committee member?

'Having been a School Governor since November 2023, I wanted to share some of my experiences and explain a bit more about what it is like to be a member of the Husthwaite and Sessay Local Governing Body.

Being a Governor is a great way to understand more about how the School's operate and support staff to improve the lives and education of the children and communities they serve. As a Governor, your role is to provide oversight of the School budget, curriculum, policies (including safeguarding), property and staff and act as a local voice to the trustees of the Elevate Multi-Academy Trust that we are now part of.

The Governing Body meets 3 times a year (once per term) for a couple of hours and Governor's should aim to visit at least one of the School's each term to maintain familiarity with the school and staff and discuss an area of school governance that you will have been assigned (known as a Link Governor). You do not need any specific skills or qualifications to be a Governor - however interest and experience in one of the areas listed above would be a great addition to our small group.

If you are interested to know more about being a Governor/Committee member then please contact Miss Bennett.'
(P White – Parent Governor at Husthwaite)

AUTUMN TERM DIARY DATES:

Saturday 27 September	Open Morning at Sessay CE Primary School 10.30-11.30am.
2 October	Byland and Fountains EYFS and KS1 Cluster Fun Run at Husthwaite.
7 October	Parent Evening (Fountains, Bolton and Rievaulx)
8 October	Elevate SEND parent drop in session 9am. Parent Evening (Fountains)
9 October	Fountains Preston Park Educational Visit Parent Evening (Byland, Bolton and Rievaulx)
10 October	Byland Harlow Carr Federation Trip World Mental Health Day – Hello Yellow Day!
13 October	Harvest Festival at St Cuthbert's Church 2.30pm.
20 October	FOSS PTA Meeting 9am in school
22 October	FOSS Disco
23 October	FOSS Pumpkin carving competition.
23 October	<i>School breaks up for half term.</i>
24 October	<i>Training Day</i>
3 November	<i>Training Day</i>
4 November	<i>School open for Autumn term 2.</i>
10-14 November	Anti-Bullying week 'Power For Good'

11 November	Remembrance Day.
13 November	Curriculum Enrichment Day – PSHE. Whole school open afternoon 1.15-2.30pm.
14 November	MoneyMakers – Children In Need.
17-21 November	Road Safety week
17 November	Years 5 and 6 Crucial Crew.
21 November	Non uniform day.
24 November (Amended date)	Individual School Photographs Year 6 SATs meeting for parents, 5pm on Teams.
5 December	Sessay Christmas Jumper Day. Christmas Fair 3-4pm.
12 December	Autumn term Mini Report Cards.
15 December	Byland and Fountains Nativity
19 December	Christingle Service at St Cuthbert's Church 1.30pm <i>2.30pm School breaks up for Christmas holiday.</i>

www.sessayprimaryschool.org