'Growing together in love and learning'

Sessay CE Primary School Monthly Newsletter

CE Primary School **February 2026…**

Another busy month of lots of exciting learning and events in school!

In early February we celebrated **Number Day 2026** and all children did a variety of different activities and games.

Child Mental Health Week 2026. As part of Children's Mental Health week, Byland children considered what 'belonging' meant and how it felt. They discussed what/where made them feel safe, loved and that they belonged and then they portrayed their ideas as an island. All children were able to explain the significance of each item drawn as we 'walked' around their islands, titled, 'This is my place'.

Bolton made soup and Rievaulx made wraps to consolidate their learning about healthy eating. They joined together to share the food and even invited Miss Bennett to join them! Everyone agreed that it was lovely to sit and share the food that they had made.

Byland trip to **Riverside Care Home**. Byland children enjoyed spreading their joy with their friends at Riverside. As always their singing was wonderful, the residents loved their beautiful friendship cards the children had made and given them and everyone enjoyed a game of Valentines Bingo!

FOSS School Disco A huge thanks to FOSS for organising another much loved school disco. The dancing was as always fantastic! The disco raised an amazing £500, it is fundraising events like these that have funded our new, replacement, much loved Adventure Wobbly Bridge that will be very much enjoyed by all our present and future Sessay children. Once again thankyou to all for supporting all our school FOSS fundraising events.

Safer Internet Day

This year's national theme, *"Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI,"* focuses on helping children understand how AI shapes the online tools they use every day and how to make informed, responsible choices when using smart technology. Across the country, Safer Internet Day encourages young people to think critically about the benefits and risks of AI—such as recognising misinformation, protecting personal data, and understanding how online content can be shaped by algorithms. All classes did an activity that helped pupils reflect on these ideas and consider how to stay safe, confident and respectful online. Rievaulx discussed possible uses of AI and considered what information was suitable and safe to be shared online. We talked about the possible benefits of using AI and also the limitations. Fountains discussed the different ways we can keep ourselves safe when using the internet. We talked about the importance of not sharing any of our personal details, and asking a trusted adult for help if we were unsure about anything whilst using the internet .

Friday 6th February Awards	
Byland, Mrs Tyrka and Mrs Fielding. **Sessay Acorn Award -** Ivy has been working hard in all areas this week. It is also good to see her applying phonics when reading and writing. Keep up the hard work Ivy, well done. **Headteacher's sticke**r **-** Struan is enthusiastic in all he does at school, and usually with a grin! He loves to access the challenge areas and can do so independently. Well done Struan. **Mathlete -** Lara is enjoying our work on ordering numbers and finding '1 more than' a number. Keep up your enthusiasm. Well done Lara. **Writer of the week -** Ollie is working hard to apply his phonics knowledge to our phonics and written work. Great work Ollie, keep it up!	**Fountains, Mrs Bennison.** **Sessay Acorn Award -** Billy always puts 100% into everything we ask of him and always with a cheerful smile. Well done Billy. **Headteacher's sticke**r **-** Fearne is always so enthusiastic with all her learning. She enjoyed our science investigation to see which material would be best for an umbrella, and she worked hard using a number line to subtract in maths. Well done Fearne. **Mathlete -** Jasper has worked hard with his maths this week in finding doubles and then subtracting using a number line to support him. Well done Jasper. **Writer of the week -** Alfie has written the most amazing story based on The Tale of the Two Bad Mice. He has worked hard with his presentation and his spellings. Well done Alfie.
Bolton, Mrs Sowray and Mr Houghton. **Sessay Acorn Award -** Fynnley for always trying hard with his spellings and homework this half term. **Headteacher's sticke**r **-** Charlie for some fantastic contributions in our English lessons this week – he really enjoyed the biography about Pickles the dog. **Mathlete -** Esme for trying hard with her measuring and times tables this week **Writer of the week -** Emily for creating a great timeline about Pickles the dog, everything was in chronological order.	**Rievaulx, Ms Gauder and Mr Chapman.** **Sessay Acorn Award -** Jack J for his unwavering cheerfulness and have-a-go attitude to all tasks. **Headteacher's sticke**r **-** William and Cora for displaying the school values when conducting a tour of the school. **Mathlete -** Alfie for working systematically in algebra. **Writer of the week -** Imogen for her wonderfully descriptive story opener to our independent writing this week.

Friday 13th February Awards	
Byland, Mrs Tyrka and Mrs Fielding. **Headteacher's sticke**r **- ALL of Byland class deserve a Headteacher's sticker!**	**Fountains, Mrs Bennison.** **Sessay Acorn Award -** Ted has had a super week. He has worked hard across all areas of the curriculum and he has

The children were an absolute delight on our visit to Riverside court Care Home this week. They were so confident and happy, spreading their joy with our friends at Riverside. The singing was wonderful, the cards they made were beautiful and the Valentines Bingo was great fun for all! Thank you and well done to you all for sharing the Sessay love. We are proud of you.	really focused on the presentation of his handwriting. Well done Ted. **Headteacher's sticke**r **-** Daisy for her super work with putting together a routine in gymnastics. Well done Daisy. **Mathlete -** James for persevering with his work on division this week. He found it tricky at times, but he never gave up. Well done James. **Writer of the week -** Olivia has written the most amazing non-fiction page all about cheetahs. Her work was organised with sub-headings, and her writing was super neat. Well done Olivia.
Bolton, Mrs Sowray and Mr Houghton. **Sessay Acorn Award -** Edith for a really positive attitude to her learning this week, keep up the good work after half term! **Headteacher's sticke**r **-** Stan for some great concentration in gymnastics this week whilst performing to the class, well done. **Mathlete -** Frankie for working hard finding the perimeter of different shapes this week. **Writer of the week -** Elkie has contributed well in lessons and has made a super start to planning her own biography of an 'animal that made history'.	**Rievaulx, Ms Gauder and Mr Chapman.** **Sessay Acorn Award –** Connie for her positive mental attitude in many curriculum areas, particularly P.E. **Headteacher's sticke**r **-** Olivia for her exciting fantasy story, successfully incorporating dialogue and correct punctuation. **Mathlete -** Mia has persevered with division this week and has completed her work with a fantastic can-do attitude. Well done! **Writer of the week -** Rosie for publishing her fantasy story based on Middleworld, in beautifully joined up cursive handwriting.

Friday 27th February Awards	
Byland, Mrs Tyrka and Mrs Fielding. **Sessay Acorn Award -** Lila has worked hard in phonics this week, using her phonics knowledge to write words and phrases. She has also improved her letter formation. Well done Lila. **Headteacher's sticke**r **-** Ollie really embraces all that school has to offer. He is keen to learn and shows a positive attitude in all areas of learning. Well, done Ollie. **Mathlete -** Struan has enjoyed our maths work and loves the parts where we use the Numberblocks to support our learning. He has been able to find '1 more than' a number up to 10. Keep up the positive attitude Struan. **Writer of the week -** Sienna enjoys writing activities and will often chose to do writing in the provision areas. It is great to see how independent she is becoming. Keep up the hard work Sienna.	**Fountains, Mrs Bennison.** **Sessay Acorn Award -** Henry has a super attitude to his learning and always puts in 100% into everything we ask of him. He has particularly impressed us with his super neat cursive handwriting. Keep up the great work Henry. **Headteacher's sticke**r **-** Genevieve has worked hard with her times tables work in maths and classifying animals in science. Well done Genevieve. **Mathlete -** Etta has worked accurately using a number line to support her with solving missing number problems this week. There were some tricky ones but she persevered. Well done Etta. **Writer of the week -** Jackson wrote his holiday news completely independently this week. He was super proud of himself and rightly so! Keep up the great work Jackson – we are all so proud of you.
Bolton, Mrs Sowray and Mr Houghton. **Sessay Acorn Award -** Emily for having such a positive attitude to her learning this week, some great work in RE and her biography about 'Snowy' the cat – Well done! **Headteacher's sticke**r **-** Poppie for some super science work yesterday identifying different food groups. **Mathlete -** Josephine for trying hard with her work on perimeter this week. **Writer of the week -** Stan for persevering with the presentation of his work, keep it up!	**Rievaulx, Ms Gauder and Mr Chapman.** **Sessay Acorn Award -** Rosie for her demonstration of our new collective worship value, responsibility, in the classroom. **Headteacher's sticke**r **-** All Y6 for their amazing efforts with Mock SATs week. Well done! **Mathlete -** Cora for her excellent attitude and application of knowledge in maths, particularly with rounding. **Writer of the week -** Mia for her research and poster to start out Alps topic.

For your information our Collective Worship Christian School Value this half term is Responsibility. Your child has received a school values sheet of ideas this week in their book bag, should you wish to explore their understanding of this value further at home.

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

Have a lovely weekend.

NOTICES:

- **WORLD BOOK DAY – Thursday 5th March 2026.**
  This week your child has brought home their National £1 World Book Day token in their book bag. A free £1 book is available in many book shops until 15 March. To celebrate world book day in school this year the children will be doing a world book day activity in class and if they would like to come dressed as a book character, they are very welcome too and this is optional for all children this year. Those who do not wish to dress up, please come in school uniform as normal. There will be a special World Book Day Dinner served on Thursday and a book voucher will be given out from North Yorkshire catering for the best costume. The winner will be automatically entered into the county competition to win an iPad.
- Shortly we will be moving from our Arbor app to a new app called **BROMCOM**. It will work in a very similar way to our current app, offering further opportunities of communication, services and at a much better cost. Further information will follow and support through this transition will be provided.
- **February online safety newsletter for parents.** Please see the February online safety newsletter to support you in providing your child with a safe online environment. As always we want to promote having a safe online environment for children both at school and at home.
- I would like to inform you that **Mrs Tyrka** is leaving at the end of this term due to new adventures in her family business. Mrs Tyrka has been at Sessay CE Primary School for more than 18 years and I know how much she has loved working with all the children and families at Sessay and how grateful and lucky we are to have had her as such a long standing member of staff. Continuity for all our Reception children is paramount and Mrs Fielding will be full time in Byland for the Summer term to ensure this. We will be very sad to say good bye but wish her and her family all the very best for the future.

SPRING TERM DIARY DATES:

1 – 4 March	Years 5 and 6 residential to Newby Wiske
2 March	Stay and Play, 9am
5 March	World Book Day Fountains, KS1 Fun Run
11 March	Curriculum Enrichment Day. STEM. Curiosity: What's your question?
12 March	D-evolution Band Performance, Sessay Village Hall. 6.30pm, tickets available on Arbor.
13 March	KS2 Climate Action poetry workshop.
16 March	PSHE/RSE Meeting for Federation parents- 4pm details to follow
20 March	Red Nose Day – organised by 'MoneyMakers' details to follow
24 & 26 March	Parents evenings
24 March	Decorated Egg Competition
27 March	Easter Egg Hunt 2.30pm Easter Service St Cuthbert's Church 3.15pm School closes for Easter Holidays
13 April	School opens for Summer Term 1

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