



Weekly Newsletter

Date: 18 September 2026

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a very busy week!

Our first Personal Development Day, focusing on Belonging and Democracy, was a great success. Pupils elected their class leaders, KS2 met Tom Gordon MP and all children took part in an Open Door Art workshop to create a map of Knaresborough for Fountains Hall. We also welcomed the Mayor and local councillors and asked for their support with the Wetherby Road crossing patrol.

Tom Gordon officially opened our new library, joined by our excellent Reading Ambassadors and representatives from Knaresborough Rotary and the Town Council, who helped fund it. Thank you parents for popping in to see the library.

We will also be Your Harrogate's School of the Week from 28 September. Listen out for our Reading Ambassadors on the breakfast show!

Next week:

Wednesday 23 September
Photo Day

Wednesday 23 September
8.30-9am Early Years and KS1 Parent Breakfast

Thursday 24 September
8.30-9am KS2 Parent Breakfast

Parent Breakfast is for parents to have a coffee and a pastry with friends after dropping the children off

Music Lessons

Music lessons can be booked via the link below through North Yorkshire Council:

[Epos: North Yorkshire Music Service](#)

Upcoming Dates

Mon 21 Sept

Y5 CSI Writing Workshop

Wed 23 Sept

Individual Photos

8.30am Welcome breakfast FS/FS1

Thurs 24 Sept

8.30am Welcome breakfast KS2

Fri 25 Sept

8.15am Choir

Sat 26 Sept

Teddy Bear's Picnic

Individual Photos

Our individual school photos with Tempest Photography are taking place on Wednesday 23rd September.

If you require a sibling to be in with your child please come to school from 8am and meet at the area to the rear of the office near year1. All children will be done in year order throughout the day.

School Website Updates

We've updated our class pages with information about what your child is being taught and homework. There are new Expectations documents for each year group, showing you the age-related learning expectations for that year.

Safeguarding

Understandably, I am getting emails from concerned parents about the unsafe ways some parents are parking around the school site. I write about this in the newsletter on a regular basis asking you all not to park dangerously but my messages are falling on deaf ears. So to be really clear:

Do not park in front of the barrier or on the drive
Do not double park in the nursery car park
Do not park on the zig zag lines
Do not block people's drives

The answer to the parking problems is to leave home 5 minutes earlier, park at Lidl and walk over.

Personal Development Days

We have worked hard as a staff team over the Summer Term to develop our Personal Development Curriculum ready for September. We looked at how we could enrich children's learning and provide opportunities to prepare them for their future as well as providing 'Pupil Leadership' opportunities.

As part of this, we have timetabled six Personal Development Days across the year where we will 'off timetable' for the day, welcome special visitors and attend workshops and themed assemblies.

Attendance

As you'll know, from the news, the government's and Ofsted's focus on school attendance has increased again. With this in mind, term time holidays for all pupils, including those with Special Educational Needs, will not be authorised. Regular school attendance is vital for pupils to make expected progress in learning.

Owls Club

Please check your weekly plans and ensure that you have booked Owls to avoid disappointment. The club is starting to get very busy and close to maximum capacity.

Opening/Closing Times

Breakfast Club - starts at 7.30am / Afterschool Club - closes at 6pm

Bookings to be made via MCAS

Community Notices and Adverts

These can now be found on our Website

<https://www.aspinparkacademy.org/>

under Parents, Newsletter