



Weekly Newsletter

Date: 11 September 2026

Headteacher's Message

A very warm welcome back to all our families and a special welcome to all our new Foundation children and their families. We've had a fantastic first week back. Everyone is settled into their new classes and raring to go for the year. Welcome to our new teaching staff, Miss Pearson, Mrs Evans and Mrs Thomas who are all wonderful additions to our team.

We've planned lots of new and exciting events this year to further enhance our curriculum and enrichment experiences. You'll find dates in the parent data sheet but here's some further information about what's coming up soon.

Thursday 17th September - Library Grand Opening!

In the morning, we are officially opening our new library. Tom Gordon MP will do the honours and representatives who donated to the fundraising from Knaresborough Rotary and the town council will attend to. Of course, our PTA who coordinated all the fundraising will be there too. Thank you again for your hard work in making this happen. Your Harrogate will be covering the event too.

Watch out for information on our Autumn Sponsored Read as part of the National Year of Reading, which will help us bring new and exciting books to our school.

If you'd like to see the library, it will be open after school on Thursday 17th from 3.15 - 3.45 for you to pop in and have a look.

Personal Development Day 1: Belonging & Democracy 17th September

This year, we're introducing Personal Development days across the year, each with a different focus. These are Belonging & Democracy day, Diversity day, Community day, Aspirations day and Safety day. On each day, we will work as a whole school on joint projects, have visiting speakers and special events. For Belonging & Democracy

Day next week we are:

working with Open Art again to make a map of Knaresborough for Fountains hall

KS2 are meeting Tom Gordon MP to hear about how democracy works first hand

Electing pupil leadership roles in their classes

holding debates about our school rules (!)

making shield crests to represent their Owl teams and their values

Pupil Leadership roles

We've expanded our leadership roles so that all pupils have the opportunity to be leaders, to learn how to use their voice to influence decision making for the communal good. We've talked to the children about the roles they can put themselves forward for and given them forms to complete at home. During Democracy day, prospective leaders will need to tell their class why they should vote for them.

Parent Breakfast - Foundation/KS1 - 8.30-9.00am, 23rd September. KS2 - 8.30-9.00am 24th September

We thought it might be nice to try a parent cafe in Abbey hall just after you've dropped off the children. We'll provide free tea, coffee and pastries made by our lovely cook, Mrs Greenwood, in Abbey hall. This is also a chance to have a look at the library. There's no agenda, just a chance to have a few minutes to catch up with friends and for our new families to make connections.

Have a great weekend,

Mrs Meadus

Upcoming Dates

Thurs 17 Sept

Personal Development Day in School
Belonging & Democracy

An email has been sent out with the Autumn Dates Sheet for Parents. This sets out the key dates between now and Christmas. You can also find a copy on our Website under Term Dates.

Health Care Plans

New copies of Health Care Plans have been sent out for children with existing medical conditions. Please return the forms as soon as possible. If your child no longer needs a HCP, please sign and return the letter and we will remove them from our system. If your child has developed a new condition, please ask for a form from the office or find it on our website.

Many thanks
Mrs Klippel

Allergen Awareness

All staff have completed Allergen & Anaphylaxis training that complies with Benedict's Law, which came into effect for schools in September 2026. We also carry spare auto-injectors in case of emergency.

We have quite a number of children in school with serious allergies, some of which are reactions to air-borne particles. Whilst we cannot claim to be a completely 'nut-free' school, we do endeavour to be as 'allergy aware' as possible. Please do not send any snacks or packed lunches containing nuts or sesame into school and check ingredients on packaging.

Thank you

Labelling of bottles, pots and lunch boxes

Please make sure all water bottles, snack pots and lunch boxes are labelled! It is difficult to return lost property when it is unnamed and in the case of food containers, I'm afraid they will be disposed of if we don't know who they belong to. Teachers are armed with Sharpies if they are needed!

Tea towels!

Thank you to everyone who ordered tea towels and merchandise before summer. We raised an amazing total of £380! The order should be delivered this week and we will get everything out to you as soon as we can.

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