



Friday 6 March 2026

## Principal's Message

It has been a busy week but with the welcome addition of some lovely sunshine.

Year 2 went to visit The Deep on Wednesday and had a wonderful time. They are learning about the sea and what creatures live there.

Reception visited Tropical World on Tuesday and were so enthusiastic about the animals seen. They all wrote some fabulous sentences and words independently to tell everyone what they had seen.

Year 6 visited the Woodkirk musical production. It was amazing to see and I know they made us proud!

Thank you for your ongoing support  
Mrs Julie Coulson

## Important

### Dates:

Training days: 2025/2026

Friday 22 May

Monday 20 July

Tuesday 21 July

### Dates for your Diary

#### Trips/Events

18 March Year 1-Temple Newsam.

25 March Year 4-Yorkshire Wildlife.

Starting w/c 4 March for 5 weeks Family Cooker Club - See more information in Newsletter.

Science afternoon in school - Date to be rescheduled.

Friday 20 March Class photographs

#### EY & Y1 Stay and Play

Friday 13 March - Mothering Sunday

#### Summer

Monday 8 June - Fathers Day

Wednesday 17 June - Inventions

Thursday 25 June - Writing

Monday 13 July - Teddy Bears Picnic

## Notices

### Easter Fair

We would love for you to join us on 1 April from 3.30pm, straight after school, at our Easter Fair.

There will be games, crafts, refreshments and lots of fun!



# Ducklings

This week Ducklings have been exploring pancakes following on from the pancake themed stay and play. The children have loved the messy flour pancake tray with all of the photos of the ingredients. We've been mixing and pouring, building upon our fine motor skills.



The children have also been enjoying the sunny weather; we've been playing outside with all of the bikes and pushchairs. The children have loved this time outdoors.



We also have said goodbye to Miss Taylor this week and want to wish her a good maternity. Ducklings are excited to see pictures of the baby.



# Nursery



This week in Nursery the children have had so much fun decorating (and then eating!) their own pancake with a choice of delicious toppings and taking part in pancake races across our playground. There were smiles and laughs all around!

The children have also been learning about Chinese New Year and have been busy building their own bridges for the animals to cross the river as well as competing in running races as one of the animals! Next week the children will bring home the Chinese drums that they have created.



# Robins

We all had a fantastic day at Tropical World.

We walked through the beautiful gardens and into Tropical World followed by lunch and a workshop

where we travelled around the world with Mango the Meerkat.

The children behaved impeccably!

Don't forget to check out all the photos of our day on Tapestry!



# Doves

Doves have truly impressed me this week as they completed their very first Year 1 assessments. They tackled their maths and spelling papers with such maturity and confidence that they absolutely blew me away! We are now looking forward to their reading paper next week, which they are already feeling excited about. World Book Day was also a huge success - it was wonderful to see all the children's fantastic costumes and to watch them immerse themselves in the activities, celebrating their love of reading.



# Penguins

Year 2 had a fantastic trip to The Deep on Wednesday. We saw a variety of fish, sharks and fossils. Some of the children couldn't believe how big the sharks were and we even got to see 2 scuba divers feeding the sharks! We finished the afternoon off with a workshop called 'All around the world' which looked at the 7 continents, 5 oceans with the different animals and habitats that live there. All the children really enjoyed themselves.



# Nightingales

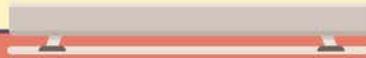
**Year 3 have had a very exciting day making Egyptian Mahlab bread. Everyone worked hard and in their teams worked very well. A big thank you to Mrs Wade, the bread expert, who taught everyone how to knead bread! The bread smelt and tasted delicious!**



# Ravens



In PE this week, Ravens have been developing their gymnastics skills. We have been working on balancing on one leg and posing with our legs and arms straight. The children also had time to explore moving across beams and climbing up to platforms to pose and perform a jump off the equipment. The children are also developing their skills in Netball on Friday afternoons too.





# Falcons

Year 5 have shown incredible resilience this week when tackling their spring term assessments. They have all worked so hard and tried their very best. We finished off the week of hard work with some fun activities to celebrate world book day. We redesigned our favorite book covers, we used a generator to write ridiculous stories and enjoyed a hot chocolate in 'Starbooks'.



# Hawks

Year 6 have had a fantastic week and have been working really hard. On Thursday, they enjoyed their visit to Woodkirk to watch Bring It On; the children loved the performance and behaved beautifully throughout the day. On Wednesday, the class took part in an anxiety workshop where they learned what anxiety is and explored different strategies to support themselves when they experience it. Finally, a reminder that Madame Boome will be holding the spelling bee next Thursday at 11:00, the children taking part have all been sent a letter 😊



# Headteacher Star of the week

Week ending 06.03.2026



# Stars of the week

Week ending 06.03.2026



WELL DONE!



# Stars of the week

Week ending 06.03.2026



Congratulations to all of our Stars

# Easter Appeal 2026!

Following your amazing support in previous years, we are asking for your continued generosity in supporting the WF3 Kindness Easter Trail.

WF3 Kindness are only able to continue running events like these due to the support of people like you!

If you feel you can donate an Easter Egg this year or can turn your hand to knit a chick or two to house a small chocolate egg treat, these would be gratefully received.

We will be collecting donations across the Leodis Academies Trust schools until Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Friday March.

Head to the WF3 Kindness social accounts to look out for updates on the annual Easter Trail!

**Leodis Academies Trust**



Our new website is now live please take a look at

[www.blackgates.org.uk](http://www.blackgates.org.uk)

We are also on Social media please search for us and give us a follow and like.



# COULD YOU SPOT A LOAN SHARK?

A loan shark may pretend to be a friend but can become aggressive if you miss payments

They can charge high interest and don't give paperwork

They may threaten or bully you or your family

If you need help, contact

**Stop Loan Sharks**

in confidence

**0300 555 2222**  
**stoploansharks.co.uk**



@SLSEngland @StopLoanSharksEngland  
#SLSEngland #StopLoanSharksEngland

**STOPLOANSHARKS**  
Intervention . Support . Education

# LEEDS LOCAL OFFER

## LIVE 2026



The Leeds Local Offer has information about services that help children and young people with SEND. It also helps parents and carers find support in one place.

Leeds Local Offer Live is an event where you can meet different SEND services and learn what they do.

This year, the workshops are about Supported Internships. Come along to find out more about this pathway.



Wednesday 25 March 2026 

10am till 3pm (Drop in) 

Pudsey Civic Hall, LS28 5TA 

**BOOK YOUR PLACE** 

[Complete the booking form here](#) 





# SEND parent drop in Sessions

Dedicated support to families navigating the challenges of raising children and young people with diagnosed or emerging neurodiverse needs.

This support may include tailored advice, signposting to relevant services, and access to helpful resources. It may include help around (but not limited to) the following:

- ADHD
- Autism
- Dyslexia, Dyscalculia, Dyspraxia
- Dysregulation
- Food/Eating
- Home Support Ideas
- Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA)
- Reasonable Adjustments
- School Advice - Primary
- School Advice - Secondary
- Sensory Needs

With a combined 20 years of teaching experience across a broad spectrum of needs, as well as extensive safeguarding and family support knowledge we bring both expertise and empathy to every interaction.

**Sarah Oxley SEND Coordinator (inner south hub) Kim Corson SEND Coordinator (outer south hub)**

### Upcoming dates:

- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April (Dewsbury Road Hub)
- Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May (Dewsbury Road Hub)
- Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June (Rothwell Hub)
- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July (Rothwell Hub)

### To book your place



#### Email:

[Family.hubs@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Family.hubs@leeds.gov.uk)

Please reference

**'Inner and Outer South SEND family drop in'**

in your email with your name and preferred date/s



#### Call:

0113 5350185

Family Hub central line

When you make a booking, you will be allocated a time slot between **10:00am-12pm**



## SEND PARENT CARER INFORMATION D

Date	Time	Venue
Wed 11th March	10.30 till 12.30	The Welcome Centre, Belle Isle Rd, Belle Isle, LS10 3DN

### Services in attendance:

- Leeds Local Offer
- SENDIASS
- Carers Leeds
- Child Health and Disability Team (CHAD)
- Leeds Parent Carer Forum
- Little Hiccups
- Speech and Language Therapy Service
- SEND Coordinators, Family Hubs

**Let us know if you will be attending the drop in**

<https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/InfoDropIn/>



**If you would like more information about the drop in session  
LLO@leeds.gov.uk**





**Blackgates  
Primary Academy**

a member of Leeds Academies Trust

Principal: Mrs J Coulson

Dear parent/guardian,

As you may be aware your child's school has a milk scheme, administered by Cool Milk. Mid-morning milk provides a much-needed nutritional boost and keeps children hydrated between breakfast and lunch. Children receive free milk until the age of 5. After that, they can continue to reap the benefits of fresh mid-morning milk at a subsidised\* cost.

If you'd like to opt in and have not already done so, simply register your child at [www.coolmilk.com/register](http://www.coolmilk.com/register). Your child(ren) will continue to receive free milk whilst under the age of 5 and Cool Milk will get in touch with further information by email shortly before their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday.

For children who are already over 5, it's not too late – our scheme is flexible! As well as being able to register and make payment straight away, you can join and cancel the scheme at any time. We offer yearly, termly and half termly payment periods and a recurring payment option to give you one less thing to remember.

If you already have an online Cool Milk account for a sibling, you can manage your account, make payment and add extra children by logging in at [www.coolmilk.com/parents](http://www.coolmilk.com/parents).

Should you have any questions or need any help, send us a message at [www.coolmilk.com/contact](http://www.coolmilk.com/contact) or give us a call on the number listed below – we're here to help!

Kind regards,

**Cool Milk**

☎: 0800 321 3248  
🌐: [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com)



SCAN TO REGISTER

\*Milk for under-5s is fully funded by DHSC via the Nursery Milk Scheme. Milk for over-5s is subsidised by Delta via the School Milk Scheme.

Cool Milk at School Ltd | Cool Milk House | Kingsley Park | Kingsley Road | Leeds | LS6 3TA | ☎ 0800 321 3248 | 🌐 [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com)



**Blackgates  
Primary Academy**  
a member of Leeds Academies Trust

Principal: Mrs J Coulson

Dear Parent

Find below the term dates for the 2026/27 academic year for the Leodis Academies Trust schools.

	First day of the term	Last day of the term
Autumn Half Term 1	Tuesday 1 September 2026	Friday 23 October 2026
Autumn Half Term 2	Monday 2 November 2026	Friday 18 December 2026
Spring Half Term 1	Monday 4 January 2027	Friday 12 February 2027
Spring Half Term 2	Monday 22 February 2027	Thursday 25 March 2027
Summer Half Term 1	Monday 12 April 2027	Friday 28 May 2027
Summer Half Term 2	Monday 7 June 2027	Friday 16 July 2027

Please note:

- The August Bank Holiday falls on Monday 31 August 2026. This means the first day of the academic year is Tuesday 1 September 2026. All of the Leodis Academies Trust schools will use Tuesday 1 September as a staff training day, with the term for pupils and students starting from Wednesday 2 September.
- The dates of the two week Easter break are different to those being used by schools following the Leeds City Council term dates. Leodis Academies Trust usually follows the Leeds City Council term dates but for the 2026/27 academic year, it is believed that adopting the amended calendar will lead to better continuity and quality of education around the Easter weekend and two week holiday.
- Usual expectations regarding pupil and student attendance will be in place. Holidays may be granted in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the Principal of the school. If parents have already arranged holidays according to Leeds City Council's Easter break, they should contact the school with evidence of the date that the booking was made, which will precede the date of this letter, so that consideration can be given as to whether it will be granted as exceptional.
- Monday 19-21 July 2027 are staff training days and schools will be closed to pupils and students. Any additional training days that will take place throughout the year will be communicated in due course.



We've chosen Arbor to help us manage our

### school

Arbor is a simple, smart and cloud-based MIS (Management Information System), which helps us work faster, smarter and more collaboratively as a school. The Parent App and Parent Portal mean we can keep you informed about your child's life at school in a much more accessible way. Log into Arbor to see and update your child's information, get live updates and make payments or bookings on the go!

The Parent Portal works on Google Chrome (computer or laptop) and you can download the Parent App from the App Store or Google Play Store on your phone (Android 5.0; iOS 10.0 and upwards).

### How to get started

1. Wait for your welcome email from us telling you Arbor is ready - you won't be able to log in before
2. Click the link in your welcome email to set up your password
3. Go to the App or Google Play Store on your phone and search 'Arbor'
  - Click 'Install' on Android or 'Get' on iPhone then open the App
4. Enter your email, select the school, then enter your password
5. Accept the Terms & Conditions and enter your child's birthday



### Need help using Arbor?

Contact the school office if you have questions about Arbor, the App or Parent Portal. Tell us the type and model of your phone, e.g. an iPhone SE, and include screenshots or screen recordings. To safeguard student data in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), Arbor only works directly with schools.

#### Some tips to try:

1. Ensure your username is the email address you use for Arbor. Ask us to check the email address linked to your account.
2. Reset your password from the login page, or ask us to do this.
3. If the login email was sent to you more than 96 hours ago, the password link will have expired - Ask us to send it again.
4. Ask the school office to check that your email address has not been used twice - e.g. on another guardian or child's profile.
5. Enter the birthday of one of your children to log in.
6. Only relatives who are Primary Guardians of a child can access the Arbor App. Ask us to check you can access Arbor.



## Absences



If you do need to take your child out of school for any reason please can you either show proof of a medical appointment to reception or for a longer absence please fill out a leave of absence form so that we know where they are. It is our legal responsibility to follow up on absences and if we know in advance it saves us from having to contact you.





**BLACKGATES PRIMARY ACADEMY**  
**ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-26**

Holiday	The Academy Closes	The Academy Opens
Summer		Monday 1 September 2025*
Autumn mid term	Friday 24 October 2025	Monday 3 November 2025
Christmas	Friday 19 December 2025	Monday 5 January 2026
Spring mid term	Friday 13 February 2026	Monday 23 February 2026
Easter break	Thursday 2 April 2026	Monday 20 April 2026
May Bank Holiday	Friday 1 May 2026	Tuesday 5 May 2026
Summer mid term	Thursday 21 May 2026*	Monday 1 June 2026
Summer break	Wednesday 22 July 2026*	

**Training Days**

- 1 Monday 1 September**
- 2 Monday 1 December**
- 3 Friday 22 May**
- 4 Monday 20 July\***
- 5 Tuesday 21 July\***