



VILLAGE VOICE



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Holidays

Half Term - 23rd - 27th February 2026

Easter Holidays - 3rd - 17th April 2026

Half Term - 25th - 29th May 2026

****We finish for summer on Friday 17th July 2026****

Star of the Week

Leo - Nursery

Max - Reception

Zakariya - Year 1

Cruiz - Year 2

Hunter - Year 3

Ralphy-Reuben - Year 4

Scarlett - Year 5

Luca - Year 6

PD Days for 2025/26

Monday 1st June 2026

Monday 20th July 2026

Tuesday 21st July 2026



Mrs Connor

Mrs Connor our Nursery Teaching Assistant will be leaving our school next Friday.

We would like to thank Mrs Connor for all her hard work

and support.

I am sure you will join us in wishing Mrs Connor best wishes and good luck in her new job.

Thank you Mrs Connor, you will be missed.

Multiplication Dates— 2nd June & 8th June

Y1 Phonics— w/c 8th June

KS2 SATs 2026 Dates

Monday 11th May 2026

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar: Spelling - 20 mins
Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar: Punctuation and Grammar - 45 mins

Tuesday 12th May 2026

Reading - 60 mins

Wednesday 13th May 2026

Maths Paper 1: Arithmetic - 30 mins
Maths Paper 2: Reasoning - 40 mins

Thursday 14th May 2025

Maths Paper 3: Reasoning - 40 mins



Parents Evening

These will be taking place the week commencing 9th March.

More information will follow via ParentMail next week.

Pre-Loved Uniform

If you have any uniform in good condition that you no longer need please can you bring it into school.

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Nursery

What a lovely week we have had in nursery!

To celebrate Children's Mental Health Week 2026, we have been exploring this year's theme: "This is My Place." Throughout the week, we have been talking about what it means to feel like we belong.



We discussed how belonging is the feeling of being a valued part of the groups and places that are important to us. It means feeling cared for and comfortable to be ourselves. The children shared some beautiful ideas during circle time about where and who they belong to. We talked about belonging to our families, friends, clubs, pets, school, Thornaby, and our homes. It was wonderful to hear how these special places and people make the children feel happy, safe, loved and proud.

During our activities, the children created some fantastic mark making all about who they belong to. They were very thoughtful in their drawings and were excited to talk about the special people in their lives.

We have also been learning about how to keep our hearts healthy. The children shared brilliant ideas such as exercising, eating healthy foods, getting plenty of sleep and being kind. They enjoyed a cutting and sticking activity where they sorted pictures showing ways to keep our hearts strong and healthy.

It has been a week full of meaningful conversations, creativity and care for ourselves and others. We are so proud of the children for sharing their thoughts and feelings so confidently.

Well done everyone for a wonderful week!

Reception

This week in Reception we have been learning all about friendship and kindness, with Healthy Heart Day on Friday and Valentine's Day in mind. The children have enjoyed talking about what it means to be a good friend and how kindness helps keep our hearts happy and healthy. We made colourful friendship bracelets to give to someone special and discussed how our school rules help us to be the best friends we can be, by sharing, taking turns and caring for one another.



We are incredibly proud of our Reception children, who earlier this year entered the Young Artists competition with the theme "My Family." We are thrilled to share that nearly all of their wonderful artwork has been selected



for publication in a book that will be available in schools across the country! Their creativity, imagination and artistic talent truly shine through in their beautiful pieces. Well done to all of our amazing young artists — what a fantastic achievement!

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Year 1

This week in Year 1 we have finished writing our retell of the story Hermelin, The Mouse Detective. We are getting so much more confident at writing sentences independently using the sounds that we know. Our teachers are so impressed with the progress we've all made in English.

In Maths, we have continued working on place value within 20, working with number tracks to find missing numbers. In History, we used sources to help us work out what rooms in very old houses might have been used for. Did you know that toilets used to be outside! We all thought it would be far too cold to go outside on a night in our pyjamas.

It was Safer Internet Day on Tuesday and we read an e-book together and then discussed the scenarios that Smartie the Penguin had put himself in whilst playing on his tablet. Hopefully we now all know to ask our parents and carers to help us when things can get a little scary or confusing when we play games.



Year 2

This week, Year 2 have honed their understanding of multiplication and division, applied this knowledge to fact families and used it for fluency activities. In computing, Digital Safety was a focus on Internet Safety Day and we looked at the safe use of A.I. In writing, we continue to focus on the accuracy of our sentences and the use of appropriate punctuation and the application of phonics to our spelling.

The children have worked incredibly hard over a long half-term and I am proud of them all.



PE Kits

Please can you ensure that your child has their full PE kit in school. If you do not have a PE kit we have blue t-shirts and black shorts available to buy from the school which are £2 an item. You can purchase items via your ParentMail account.

PE kit is: Blue t-shirt, black shorts, plimsolls or trainers. A black hoody and plain black tracksuit bottoms can also be worn in the colder weather. Remember that no jewellery/earrings are to worn during PE sessions.

Thank you as always for your cooperation.

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Year 3

A busy week in Year 3. This week has been internet safety week, and the focus of many assemblies and Computing lessons has been staying safe online. The children started a new book in their English lessons called *In to The Forest*. They seem to be thoroughly enjoying it and I'm looking forward to seeing the work they produce. In Maths they have been working on statistics and interpreting graphs such as pictograms, tally charts and bar charts. Their ukulele lessons continue on a Wednesday, the children enjoy playing the instruments and are making excellent progress. Healthy heart day on Friday saw lots of rosy faces after a fitness session in the morning and a competition in creating a healthy heart leaflet in the afternoon.



MND Week - 23rd-27th March

Village Primary is joining forces with local schools to take part in MND Awareness Week. As part of this, on Friday 27th March, KS2 will be going on a sponsored walk around our local area and we would like everyone to place an 'MND Rock' somewhere on the walk. To do this, we are asking for donations of rocks that we can paint

and spread around Thornaby!

Our Wellbeing team will be leading the painting activity during the breaktimes of MND week, so we are asking for donations of rocks for our children to paint!

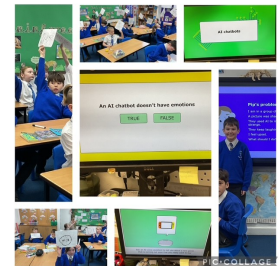
Thank you for your continued support.

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Year 4

It has been another amazing week of work from the children in Year 4. This week we have progressed further in fractions, looking at how to solve equivalent fraction problems. In English we have been planning and drafting our own outsider narrative, similar to our class text 'Leaf'. Outside of Maths and English, we have been developing History further by exploring different styles of Edwardian houses. In Science, we have explored our classroom, finding different things that were conductors and insulators of electricity. All the children have worked brilliantly in every aspect of the curriculum again this week and we are happy about the progress they are making.





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Year 5

Year 5 have had another fantastic and busy week of learning! In Maths, we have been building our understanding of equivalent fractions, mixed numbers and adding and subtracting fractions. We impressed our teachers by using this knowledge to work collaboratively in pairs to tackle tricky reasoning challenges, explaining our thinking clearly. In English, we have been drafting detailed report statements linked to The Hound of the Baskervilles, carefully choosing formal language and organising our ideas effectively. For Safer Internet Day, we had thoughtful discussions about how to keep ourselves and others safe online, sharing important advice about respectful and responsible use of technology. In Science, we carried out an investigation into electrical conductivity,



exploring which materials allow electricity to pass through them. Geography saw us comparing the climates of Athens and Thornaby, where we used our maths statistics skills to create line graphs to present and interpret climate data. In History, we were fascinated to learn about crime and punishment in Tudor times – the punishments were extremely strict! Did you know you could be put in the stocks just for not wearing a hat on a Sunday? What a week of brilliant learning!

Year 6

Everyone should be really proud of the progress they have made this week and everything they have achieved! Tackling challenges with maturity, resilience and a smile!

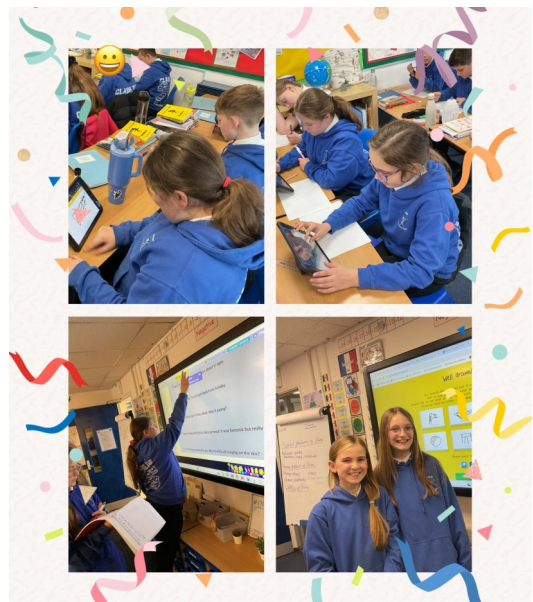
'We are writing a story about the birds. We watched a video clip and we have planned our writing.' Lydia

'In maths, we have learnt about algebra. We didn't realise we have already looked at algebra questions!' Nancy

'I liked using the torches to make shadows in science.' Aleigha

'In algebra, when you first look at it it looks hard but it's not. When you have a letter and a number next to each other it means times.' Abygail

'In PE we have been choreographing a dance. It was fun!' Seb



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Chess Event

25 children from Village School took on 25 children from Billingham South School to play in a set of 5 team chess matches. The children played very well throughout and showed great sportsmanship. One of the Village teams won, two of the teams drew and two of the teams lost narrowly. Special mentions for Holly, Bobby, Elliott, Isabelle, Aaron and Pip who all won both of their individual games, but especially well done to all of the 25 children who took part and represented the school so well.

A huge thank you to Chris Swales for organising this wonderful experience for our children.



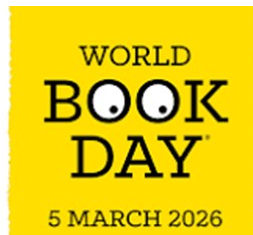
Children's Mental Health Week

On Monday, our Wellbeing Team led a wonderful assembly to start this important week! Their discussion focussed on the concept 'Belonging' and encouraged everyone to think about where they belong.



Competition—upload a photo to Seesaw to show where you feel like you 'Belong'. To be in with a chance of winning a prize, upload your photo before Friday 20th when the Wellbeing team will select some winners!

A big thank you to Mandale Mill Primary for bringing us gifts, 'Spreading Kindness and Joy!' in honour of Children's Mental Health Week.



World Book Day

This year we will be celebrating World Book Day on **Thursday, March 5th**, with a focus on reading for pleasure.

All children are invited to dress up as a book or character of their choice. We do not want to place any pressure or financial burden on families, so costumes can be simple and creative. Some easy ideas include:

Decorating a T-shirt as a favourite book

Wearing pyjamas and coming as a bedtime story

Wearing a colour linked to a favourite book or character

The day will be dedicated to enjoying reading. Children are welcome to bring in a favourite story from home to share with others if they wish.

We look forward to celebrating a love of reading together!

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