

# STILLINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL BULLETIN



## Head of School

Good morning everyone,

We enjoyed welcoming all of our pupils back after the Christmas holidays and hearing all about their time over the break!

EYFS have loved exploring seasonal changes by experimenting with ice in their outdoor area this week! They continue to build upon their knowledge of changes within their daily learning and explained how water turns to ice. Great work EYFS!



Our KS1 pupils enjoyed learning about different colours in French this week and were able to name different colours confidently as well as recalling prior learning of introducing themselves to a friend! Well done KS1!

This week, KS2 produced some incredible posters about how to stay safe online. They recalled their prior knowledge and built upon this within the session and shared their learning with the rest of the class. Pupils used organisational devices to present their colourful and engaging posters. Amazing work KS2!

## Reception places 2025

Just a reminder that the deadline for reception places for September 2025 is the 15th of January. Even if your child is already at school with us, you will need to follow the link below to apply for a reception place.

Please find more information and how to apply with the following link: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-admissions/starting-primary-school-and-junior-school>

Have a lovely weekend everybody!

regards,  
Miss India Tordoff

Head of School

## Attendance - Make Every Day Count

As a school we aim for 95% attendance from all our pupils. We realise this is not always possible when your child is poorly, but we kindly ask that if possible all appointments are made out of school time, again we know this cannot always be the case. We are sure you will agree we all want our children to succeed and good attendance is proven to give children the maximum learning time possible.

We have seen an increase in requests for holidays and if a child is also off ill during a school year this is having a significant impact on children's learning.

With this in mind, we wanted to point out to you what taking 5 days holiday in term time looks like in our schools.

Maths – 5 hours missed – Maths builds on prior learning each year to help children create that deeper understanding. Although our teachers address gaps in children's learning, making 5 hours up within school is impossible and addressing gaps missed, means time out of foundation subjects.

English – 7 ½ hours missed – English centres around a text in all of our classes. When children miss days they can often miss key parts of the text or the build up to writing tasks or even the writing task itself which in some instances will not be built upon again until the following academic year.

Phonics/SPAG (Spelling/Punctuation/Grammar) – Nearly 2 hours missed – Phonics lessons at the early stages can teach a sound a day and 5 days can mean 5 new sounds missed, impacting both reading and writing. SPAG Lessons can often be linked to English and children can be given the opportunity to use what they have learnt that day in their writing.

Foundation Subjects – Missing a week in a foundation subject misses a stepping stone which are topics that are only covered sometime once in every four years. Practical sessions can be missed which for a lot of children can be very beneficial to their learning.



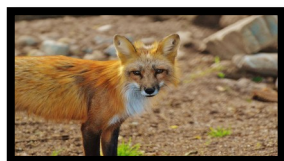
# Wow Work

**Miss Katie Allwood**      **Wow Work - KS1 = EYFS / YEAR 1 & 2**

We have really enjoyed having everyone back and we hope that you have had some time to rest this holidays. This half term the EYFS children will be looking at animals and their habitats. Specifically, woodland, rainforest and polar habitats. We will enjoy looking at the different environments around us and how they change through the seasons.



KS1 are looking at animals also but are focusing on the topic of animals including humans and staying healthy. They will look at the places that humans live in villages, towns or cities and will also look at what we need to do in order to keep our bodies healthy.



This half-term in PSHE, we will be looking at the topic me and my future across both key stages.

KS1 children will be looking at their place within their community and the different communities that they are part of. Through this, they will also look at the environment and how they can help protect it.

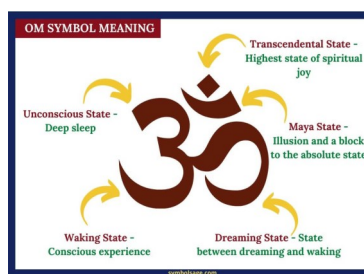
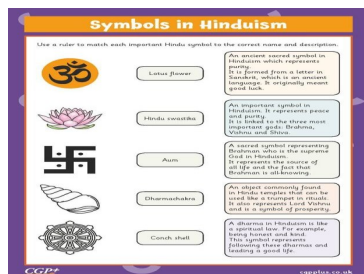
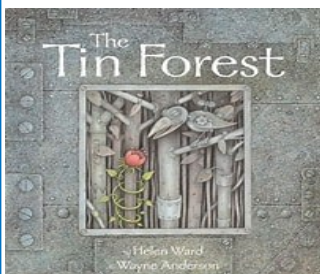
In year 3 and 4 ,the children will be learning about communities, their place within them and the way in which they learn from them. They will look at the ways in which they can help the environment through the 3 R's. Finally, they will be looking at human rights and why these are important.

In year 5 and 6, the children will also look at the environment and how it can be protected and how this is funded and facilitated across the country. The children also look at treating others within their lives with respect and what respect means. They learn that prejudice is an unfair feeling of dislike for a person or group because of race, sex, religion, etc and that discrimination is the unfair treatment of a person based on a certain personal characteristic.

If you have any questions about any of the content that is being covered then please do get in touch .

**Mrs Catherine Hunter**      **Wow Work KS2 / YEAR 3 TO 6**

It's been lovely welcoming the children back into school this week! It almost feels as though we've never been away. We've had a great time getting to grips with our new class text "The Tin Forest", in maths we've been learning more about the relationships between numbers, and we've also started to look at the Hindu religion in RE.



## Y6 SATS club

Our Y6 SATs club is starting on Thursday 9th January, and will run from 3:30 - 4:15 with Mrs Hunter in the KS2 classroom. I

Please note - there will be no SATS club on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January due to staff training. Sessions will re-start on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February.

## School Clubs application forms.

Please can I remind all parents to complete, sign and return the Clubs forms that were handed out last term.

Your child/ren may not use any of the School clubs at the moment, but there may be times in the future, maybe if you are running late at the end of the school day to collect your child/ren, if so they will join Miss Cole in clubs until you are able to get to school. So we are asking if ALL parents to complete the forms and we can then hold these on file for any future reference.

## Inourplace.

Inourplace is funded in our area to provide families with free access to expert learning about childhood development, wellbeing, brain changes, and much more to help you connect with your children and make sure they thrive. Please find more information here. [Emotional health and wellbeing for parents](#)



## Free Eye Tests for Children

Did you know that short sightedness is on the rise and has been linked to a range of factors including screen use. Help your child's eyes stay healthy by managing screen use and booking them in for a free eye test. Please see the leaflets attached for more information.



This leaflet provides important information on looking after your child's eyes and booking an eye test for children

Children in North Yorkshire should visit an optician for a free eye test

### When should you get your child a free eye test?

Ideally children should start having regular eye tests from the age of 4. But they can be tested at any age, even if they can't read or speak.

### How do you book a free child's eye test?

Please book your child an eye test at an opticians, even if you have no concerns about their vision. To do this contact your local opticians - use this link for local practices [Find an optician - NHS](#).

### What will it cost?

Children under 16 are entitled to NHS-funded (FREE) eye tests. If your child needs glasses, they will receive a voucher to help with the cost.

### Why should you get your child's eyes tested?

- ✓ Being able to see clearly will mean your child is able to learn and develop at school and socially.
- ✓ Eyes are still developing in early childhood. An eye test helps pick up and treat any problems. This can help to **avoid** or **prevent** longer-term eye problems.
- ✓ Even if you think your child has normal vision it is still important to get their eyes tested.
- ✓ They are no longer tested in school.

### How can you tell if your child has an eye problem?

Some eye problems don't show any signs, so it is always best to **take your child for an eye test**.

Signs of a possible eye problem can include:

- having one eye that turns in or out
- difficulty concentrating
- behavioural problems
- headaches
- rubbing their eyes a lot
- sitting too close to the TV
- screwing up/closing one or both eyes
- holding things close to them



An eye test is very **important** especially if there's a **history** of early glasses use, childhood **eye problems, squint or lazy eye**, in your family.

### Did you know?

Short-sightedness is on the rise and has been linked to a range of factors including **screen use**. Help your child's eyes stay healthy by **managing screen use** and encouraging them to **get outside often** (this helps their eyesight).

### More Information:

- NHS information: [nhs.uk/conditions/eye-tests-in-children/](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/eye-tests-in-children/)
- Find an optician: [Find an optician - NHS](#)
- Information on Vision/Eye tests [Humber and North Yorkshire ICB](#)
- Information on Vision/Eye tests for families in [Craven, West Yorkshire ICB](#)
- Looking After Your Children's Eyes - [College of Optometrists](#)
- Children's eye health - [Association of Optometrists](#)

# STILLINGTON PRIMARY DIARY DATES

<u>EVENTS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DETAILS</u>
Special Lunch Best of British	Thursday 16th January 2025	Chicken Pie Cheese & bean pasty (V) Mashed potato Medley of vegetables Syrup sponge & custard
Special Lunch Valentines	Friday 14th February 2025	Pizza Hub Chips Peas & sweetcorn Love heart biscuit
<b>Spring half –term</b>	<b>Friday 14th February 2025 (Last Day)</b> <b>Monday 24th February (First Day Back)</b>	
Special Lunch World Book Day	Thursday 6th March 2025	Magic meatballs Hufflepuff (V) Slytherin topped spuds Ollivanders wands Ravenclaw Slaw Goodwin’s chocolate extravaganza
Special Lunch Easter	Monday 31st March 2025	Roast chicken, Yorkshire pudding & gravy Veggie sausage (V) Potatoes Carrots & broccoli Easter chocolate nest
<b>Easter</b>	<b>Friday 4th April 2025 (Last Day)</b> <b>Wednesday 23rd April 2025 (First Day)</b>	
<b>May Day Bank Holiday</b>	<b>Friday 2nd May 2025 (Last Day)</b> <b>Tuesday 6th May 2025 (First Day)</b>	
Special Lunch Street food	Thursday 15th May 2025	Chicken nuggets Veggie nuggets (V) Skinny fries BBQ beans Doughnut muffin
<b>Summer Half—Term</b>	<b>Friday 23rd May 2025 (Last Day)</b> <b>Monday 2nd June 2025 (First Day Back)</b>	
<b>Summer</b>	<b>Friday 18th July 2025 (Last Day)</b>	

