

# Newsletter March 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

As we come to the end of our Spring Term, it's hard to believe there is only one more term left of the school year. When we pause to reflect, it becomes clear just how much has been achieved over these past months. There have been countless special moments—wonderful learning experiences, memorable events, outstanding achievements, and daily examples of hard work, kindness and determination. There is far more to celebrate than a single newsletter can capture, but one thing is certain: our pupils continue to make us incredibly proud every day.

Last week, several of our families celebrated the end of Ramadan and marked **Eid ul-Fitr** with gatherings of family, friends and community. It was a joy to hear the children speak so proudly about their celebrations and share their personal experiences with us. We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks for the generosity shown by those who prepared gift bags for the whole school as part of the festivities. Your kindness was deeply appreciated by both pupils and staff.

Many of you will be celebrating Easter with church services, family time and, of course, chocolate eggs! Whatever your plans are for the two week break from school, we hope you find time to relax, enjoy some fresh air - whether close to home or a little further afield - and spend quality time with those who are dear to you.

Our gates will open on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April ready for our Summer Term – please look at the 'Dates for your diary' in this newsletter.

Iona Mock  
Headteacher

## Diary Dates

### Sports Days

EYFS - Tuesday 16th June at 2pm

Year 1&2 - Wednesday 17th June at 9.30am

Year 3&4 - Tuesday 16th June at 9.30am

Year 5&6 - Thursday 25th June at 9:30am

Friday 12th June - Year 5&6 Look In On Learning

Friday 3rd July - New Class day

### Year 6 Performances

Tuesday 7th July at 6.30pm

Wednesday 8th July at 2pm

## House Points for this month

Badgers 2220

Deer 1919

Foxes 1593

Hedgehogs 2087

Well done to this month's winners!



**Badgers**

## EYFS – Welly Wednesday: Signs of Spring

This half-term, our EYFS children have been exploring the Signs of Spring. They have enjoyed searching the school grounds for shoots, blossom, tree buds and early spring flowers. The children have also been learning how to care for plants and have planted their very own magic beans. They will continue to look after them and observe their growth over the coming weeks.



## Year 1 Wheels and Axles

The children have been incredibly busy this half-term, getting stuck into their Design and Technology topic: 'Wheels and Axles'.

The classrooms were a hive of activity (with plenty of cardboard and masking tape!) as the children learned all about how these simple mechanisms help things move. After looking at different types of transport, the children became budding engineers and were tasked with designing their very own vehicles.

It was wonderful to see their ideas come to life. They worked so hard to construct their models, using plenty of problem-solving skills to figure out exactly how to attach the axles and make sure their wheels could actually spin!





## Year 2 Shine on Their Residential at Beaumanor Hall

Year 2 had a fantastic time on their residential visit to Beaumanor Hall. For many children, it was their first night away from home, and they showed wonderful confidence and independence throughout the trip.

One of the highlights was stepping back in time for a Victorian Day. Dressed as Victorian school pupils, the children experienced a traditional classroom lesson — complete with a very strict teacher! Fortunately, the canings and discipline were *all pretend*, but the experience gave everyone a real sense of what school life was like in the past.



The children also discovered the hard work involved in running a grand house like Beaumanor Hall. As Victorian maids, they rolled up their sleeves to wash clothes by hand. Pumping water and turning the mangle was certainly a challenge, but the children tackled it with enthusiasm. The adventure continued before bed. On the second day, the children threw themselves into outdoor activities such as den building and archery, showing brilliant teamwork, resilience and excitement from start to finish.



It truly was a special experience and we are incredibly proud of how beautifully the children represented our school.

### What the children said...

- *"I loved the Victorian school because I got caned... but we were only pretending!"* — **Willow**
- *"We loved the night walk with our torches."* — **Holli**
- *"I loved the cabins!"* — **Thomas**
- *"I liked Beaumanor because the food was tasty!"* — **Sindy**
- *"We had fun building dens."* — **Grayson**
- *"We got to stay up late!"* — **Wynn**



## 500 Words

We are extremely proud of Lydia in Year 5!

Her wonderful story made it all the way to the final of the BBC 500 Words competition -placing her among the top 25 writers in her age group, out of more than 5,000 entries.

As part of this incredible achievement, Lydia attended the BBC 500 Words final at Windsor Castle, where she met several well-known celebrities, caught a glimpse of Queen Camilla and enjoyed afternoon tea inside the spectacular royal residence. It was a truly unforgettable experience and a fantastic reward for her amazing creativity and hard work. Well done, Lydia!

Read Lydia's story here:

[Read a story from the 8-11 category from 500 Words 2025/26 - BBC Teach](#)



## British Science Week – ‘Curiosity: What’s Your Question?’

This year’s theme encouraged children across the school to ask questions and explore their curiosities. Investigations included:

*How do boats float? What kind of vehicle would work best on the moon? How do birds build their nests? Does height predict age in a Year 5 class?*

We were delighted to welcome Sarah Jones, a mechanical engineer and STEM Ambassador, who led exciting activities focused on water. Children investigated surface tension and discovered how water can prevent a balloon from bursting when near heat. Her visit inspired scientific thinking across the school.

In EYFS, we explored a range of colourful, hands-on experiments that brought science to life. We began with *magic milk*, watching vibrant colours burst and swirl as they reacted with soap. Next, we mixed ingredients to create fizzy potions, observing the exciting bubbles and foam that formed as the reactions took place. It was a fantastic week filled with curiosity, creativity and plenty of amazed faces!



Earlier in the term Jess Dale from Woodbrook Vale School worked with our Year 6 children on a penguin experiment!

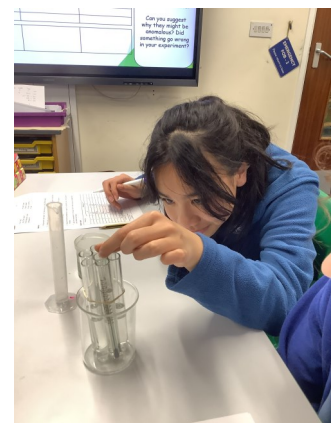
This is what some of the children said:

*She really does make us feel like scientists!*

Ms Dale brought in specialist equipment from her school and we had such a great



We learnt about different types of variables.



## Year 5 Visit to St Peter's Church – Life Expo

Year 5 enjoyed a wonderful trip to St Peter's Church to explore the Life Expo. This interactive exhibition taught the children about the life of Jesus and helped them understand Christian beliefs through stories, videos, music and hands-on activities. Volunteers from the church spent time answering questions and our pupils represented the school with maturity and respect. It was a memorable experience for all.



## Mountfields Lodge Choir Shines at the Big Sing

On Saturday 14th March, our Years 4–6 Mountfields Lodge choir had the wonderful opportunity to perform at De Montfort Hall as part of Fairfield Prep's Big Sing. This inspiring musical celebration brought together several local primary schools for a morning of exploration, collaboration and joyful performance.

The programme featured a selection of original songs composed by Fairfield Prep's Head of Prep, Mr Groom, with choreography created by former Mountfields Lodge pupil, Miss Harrison, all accompanied by a live band. Their combined talents helped shape a vibrant and memorable occasion for everyone involved.

Throughout the morning, the audience was taken on a captivating journey of discovery. The children performed songs celebrating remarkable scientific and historic achievements — from the brilliance of Sir Stephen Hawking, to the awe-inspiring first moon landing and the daring endeavours of explorers who crossed oceans in search of new lands and those who raced to reach the North Pole.

Our pupils represented Mountfields Lodge beautifully, singing with confidence, enthusiasm and pride. With more than 200 young voices united on stage, the event showcased the power of music to bring people together, inspire creativity and lift the spirits.



## World Book Day 2026 – A Truly Magical Celebration!



What an unforgettable World Book Day we enjoyed this year! Our school was transformed into a vibrant world of stories, imagination and creativity as children and staff arrived dressed as their favourite book characters. From classic heroes and whimsical creatures to daring adventurers and beloved villains, the corridors were bursting with colour, excitement and plenty of smiles. The effort put into every costume was nothing short of amazing—thank you to all the families who helped bring these characters to life!

### Create a Character Competition

This year, our Pupil Librarians launched a *Create a Book Character out of a Potato* competition - and, wow, did our pupils rise to the challenge! We received an incredible selection of entries, each showcasing brilliant imagination and artistic flair. Our judges had a very tricky job choosing the winners, but the creativity on display made us incredibly proud. A huge well done to everyone who took part!



### Scholastic Book Fair Success

We are thrilled to share that our Scholastic Book Fair was a tremendous success, raising more than £1,000! This fantastic achievement means we can purchase even more new books to enrich our school library. Thank you to all parents, carers and pupils who visited the fair - we truly appreciate your support in helping us foster a lifelong love of reading across our school community.

A Big Thank You



## **Geologist Visit – Bringing Rocks to Life!**

Year 3 and 4 rounded off their Rocks topic with an exciting visit from geologist Edd Lewis, who brought his passion for Earth science straight into our classrooms. He captivated pupils with stories of the fascinating processes involved in discovering, identifying and studying different types of rocks, as well as the incredible places his geological work has taken him around the world.

To make the experience even more memorable, Edd shared some of his specialist equipment, giving pupils the chance to explore real tools used in the field.

## **Big Walk and Wheel – Eco Warriors**

Our Big Walk and Wheel challenge began on 16th March and it has been wonderful to see so many children travelling to school in active ways!

The pupils have thrown themselves into the competition with great enthusiasm and our Eco Warriors have been doing a fantastic job monitoring and recording each class's progress.

So far, we have logged 1421 active journeys and our daily average score stands at 52%. We're hoping this continues to rise as the challenge goes on. Thank you to everyone who has got involved so far – together we can make a big difference!



## County Cross Country – Individual Bronze & Team Silvers



Twelve children proudly represented North Charnwood at the recent County Schools Championships at Rutland Water. This prestigious event brings together the strongest cross-country runners from across the county, and the high standard was clear from the very first race. Despite a course that was only gently undulating, the recent heavy rainfall created challenging conditions. Runners had to navigate slippery mud and even sections of standing water, but our pupils rose to the occasion brilliantly.

A standout performance came from **Vaila (Year 5 Girls)**, who ran superbly to finish **third**, earning a **bronze medal**. Her fantastic result means she will now go on to represent the County at the National Primary School Championships for Years 5 and 6. We wish her the very best of luck! She was strongly supported by her teammates **Grace, Elsie, Kamilla, and Kaysie**—well done, girls!

In the **Year 4 Girls** race, **Aoife (6th)** and **Ciada (7th)** delivered excellent performances, securing a **team silver medal**. A brilliant achievement—well done both!

Our **Year 6 Boys, Jack and Arthur**, also produced determined and consistent runs, earning themselves well-deserved **silver team medals**.

We were delighted to have **Abia** representing us in the **Year 6 Girls** race. She ran a calm and controlled race, steadily moving through the field with confidence.

Finally, our **Year 3 Girls, Zoe and Emily**, tackled their first County event with great maturity. Emily was even spotted smiling as she approached the finishing straight—a lovely moment!

A huge well done to every one of our representatives. We are extremely proud of your efforts, determination, and sportsmanship.

Vaila competed in the National event last week and achieved a fantastic 33<sup>rd</sup> and was part of the winning **Leicestershire Year 5 Girls team** – we are very proud of her!

## North Charnwood Cross Country League – Second Place Finish

In the final league race at Charnwood College, our KS2 runners delivered an outstanding team performance, securing **2nd place out of 13 schools** in the overall standings.

There were several impressive individual results, including:

- **Aoife** – 1st place, Year 4 Girls
- **Ciada** – 3rd place, Year 4 Girls
- **Vaila** – 1st place, Year 5 Girls
- **Grace** – 3rd place, Year 5 Girls
- **Hugo** – 4th place in his debut race

Every member of the team demonstrated exceptional determination, resilience and team spirit. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and the way they represented our school.

## Parallel Sportshall Athletics – Silver Medal Success

Our Parallel Athletics Team delivered an outstanding performance at the Coalville and Whitwick Leisure Centre, securing 2nd place overall in a highly competitive Sportshall Athletics event.

Pupils took part in a range of activities, including javelin, speed bounce, chest push, high-stepper, target throw and relay races. Each event showcased their determination, teamwork, and fantastic school spirit.

A huge congratulations to Seb, Jacob, Lillie-Mae, Emmy, Darragh, Crystal, Liam and Kacey for representing our school with such enthusiasm and effort. We are incredibly proud of their silver medal success!



## BEP Boys Football League

Our Year 5/6 boys' football team delivered a fantastic season, finishing **second in the league** and earning a well-deserved place in Finals Day.

The squad: Arlo G, Ralph G, Ashton W, Joseph M, Kaine S, Luca S, Marley B, Alfred P, Barnaby BW and Hugo B continued to impress during a recent round-robin tournament, showing excellent adaptability, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout each match.

We're incredibly proud of their achievements so far and look forward to hearing how they get on in the upcoming finals.

## BEP Girls Football League

After weeks of focused training, our girls' football team demonstrated real progress and determination in their league fixtures. Their hard work paid off with a superb 4–0 victory against Church Hill, followed by a spirited 0–0 draw against Highcliffe.

Their teamwork, confidence and commitment have truly shone through. We now await the league results to see whether they have progressed to the next stage — fingers crossed!



## County Gymnastics Finals – Bronze and Gold Success

Our gymnasts enjoyed an exceptional day at the County Gymnastics Finals at Oakham Gymnastics Academy.

Level 2 Team: Nya, Kamilla, Lettie and Osian earned bronze, with Kamilla receiving top ribbon marks and Lettie finishing 1st overall out of 40 gymnasts!

Level 3 Team: Zoe, Kaysie, Scarlett and Lydia won gold after outstanding routines, particularly in core skills.

Individual results included Kaysie (3rd), Scarlett and Zoe (joint 6th), and Lydia (12th). They now progress to the National Finals in Stoke, which is a first for our school.

