

# Kirkby & Great Broughton CE School

Friday 27th March

Here we are at the end of another term! Although short, it has been a busy one filled with hard work and so many enriching experiences – from STEM, art, cooking and sports clubs, to a fantastic range of visitors including STEM ambassadors, Teesside University, the Wildlife Trust, Northern Gas Network, Stokesley School, PC Atkinson, and our special WW2 and industry guests. Children have taken part in cluster sports events, enjoyed visits to Stokesley Library for World Book Day, met an author at Yarm School, and our Y5/6 pupils have explored industry first-hand at Alpek. A huge thankyou to our amazing community and fabulous teachers who enable our children to have these opportunities.



Our special child-led service at St Augustine's Church on Monday was a lovely way to end the term. One member of the congregation said: "It filled my heart with joy," which is exactly what Easter is about and so we wish all our children and families a joyful and hope-filled Easter. As we celebrate the risen Jesus—*"He is not here; he has risen!"* (Luke 24:6)—we're reminded of the light and hope that Easter brings.

May this season inspire every child in our school to continue to shine like stars in the sky! Looking forward to seeing you all back on Tuesday 14th April.



## Cooking Club

## House Stars

Congratulations to **Antares**, who have won this term's House Competition! Each week, children earn pom-poms for their house through kindness, effort and hardwork, and the house with the

most at the end of term enjoys a special hot chocolate with the Headteacher.

Well done to all our pupils for their enthusiasm and teamwork throughout the term. You've been true shining stars.



## Easter Fun

This week our classrooms have been full of Easter excitement as children took part in egg-decorating fun. From superheroes and storybook characters to beautifully painted spring scenes, it was wonderful to see such a fantastic range of ideas brought to life.

The children approached the challenge with enthusiasm and some fantastic inventive ideas.

A big well done to everyone who took part and to the parents for help in the planning process.



## Walk or Wheel News

We are thrilled to share that our school is currently 4th in the whole of North Yorkshire for Walk or Wheel to School participation !

Years 1 and 2 are still leading the way with brilliant enthusiasm, but Year 3 are catching up quickly. It's wonderful to see so many children choosing active, healthy and eco-friendly ways to travel each morning.

Today over 103 children gained their first badge! Amazing work.

Well done to everyone taking part and for parents for your brilliant support— keep walking and wheeling!



# Comic Relief

Last Friday we all had a really cosy time in our PJs as we celebrated Comic Relief in true Kirkby & Great Broughton style. Children arrived in their comfiest pyjamas, with some wonderfully wacky hairstyles too!

Earlier in the week, some of our pupils and staff walked to Bay Horse to cheer on Greg James during his *Longest Ride* challenge. Greg stopped to chat with the children, showing real appreciation for their support. It was a brilliant opportunity for our pupils to be part of something national and inspiring.

Thanks to the generosity of our families, we raised **£260** for Comic Relief – a fantastic achievement that will help support children and communities across the UK and beyond!



## More Shining Sport Stars

### Netball

Our Year 5 and 6 pupils had a fantastic time at the Stokesley School netball tournament this week. The children played with great teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout every match.

Every child was an absolute pleasure to be with: encouraging one another, showing resilience and representing our school beautifully. They were true shining stars from start to finish.

Well done, Y5/6 – we are so proud of you.



### Year 3 take part in Change 4 Life Multisports

On Tuesday, some of our Year 3 children took part in a multi-sport challenge event. They threw themselves into a wide range of activities and represented our school brilliantly. They were excellent ambassadors throughout and had so much fun taking part.



## Years 4 and 5 meet an Author

Our Year 5 and 6 pupils visited Yarm Auditorium last week, where they met Joseph Coelho, the current Waterstones Children's Laureate. Joseph is a poet, playwright and author known for bringing words to life through rhythm, humour and storytelling.

The children listened brilliantly as Joseph shared poems, stories and insights into how he writes. Many pupils were thrilled to have their books personally signed, creating a special memory to treasure and a real spark for their love of books.

It was wonderful to see how engaged and inspired the children were reminding us how powerful books can be in helping every child shine.



## Children in Industry Challenge

Over the last half term, our Year 5 and 6 pupils have been incredibly lucky to take part in the Children Challenging Industry programme – a brilliant opportunity that brings real-life science into the classroom and helps children see how STEM shapes the world around them.

We have been delighted to welcome Mrs Millar, who has worked with the children throughout the project. She introduced them to a range of hands-on investigations linked to plastics and materials, encouraging them to think like scientists: predicting, testing, observing and evaluating.

One of the children's favourite activities was "buying" different types of wrapping to protect an egg, which Mrs Millar then posted! Our postie thought this was brilliant as he returned the eggs although sadly some of them had 'apology' labels from Royal Mail :)

The excitement yesterday as they opened the parcels to see which eggs had survived was wonderful to watch.

## Today's Visit to Alpek

To complete the project, the children visited Alpek today – an amazing chance to see industry in action and understand how science, engineering and teamwork come together in real workplaces.

We are incredibly grateful to Mrs Ronsano for organising this experience for our pupils. Josh and Stan loved the control room, Ed loved climbing the tower!

This project has sparked curiosity, confidence and a real enthusiasm for STEM. A huge well done to all our Y5 and Y6 scientists – you approached every challenge with energy, imagination and determination.



## *Thinking about becoming a Teaching Assistant?*

Our school is part of the Swaledale Alliance, and we are delighted to offer a sponsored placement for someone interested in beginning their journey towards becoming a Teaching Assistant.

If you are aged 18 or over and would love to support children in a school setting, this could be a wonderful opportunity. The Swaledale Alliance offers the NCFE CACHE Level 3 Certificate in Supporting Teaching and Learning – a nationally recognised qualification that combines high-quality training with hands-on experience in school.

This is a fantastic chance to gain new skills, make a difference locally, and take the first step into a rewarding career in education.

Please do share this opportunity with friends, family, or anyone who might be interested.

For more information, please use the email address on the flyer.

# TEACHING ASSISTANT QUALIFICATION

## Support your local school

Are you 18 or over, have some spare time and would love to work with children?

Be a volunteer in your local school and gain a Teaching Assistant qualification too!

### Interested?

If so, the **NCFE CACHE Level 3 Certificate in Supporting Teaching and Learning** could be the perfect course for you.

### Why train with the Swaledale Alliance.

- ✓ Support children in your local school.
- ✓ Gain a nationally recognised qualification.
- ✓ Full support as you embark on a new career.

**APPLY NOW FOR  
SEPTEMBER 2026**

### MORE INFORMATION

Email: [info@swaledalealliance.org](mailto:info@swaledalealliance.org)  
Visit: [www.swaledalealliance.org](http://www.swaledalealliance.org)

**NCFE  
CACHE**



## Holiday Camp - J L Lofthouse

As always JL football will be running the very popular holiday camp over the Easter holidays. 6 days are available starting on Monday 30th April, with the final day on Thursday 9th April 2026.

The cost is £20 per day or £54 if you book all 3 days in the same week.

I have attached a flyer with all the details including a QR code for parents to book on. I have added the booking link below as well.

<https://james-lofthouse-football.classforkids.io/camp/28>



**JL Football Easter Holiday Camp 26 (3).pdf**

**Download**

1.8 MB

## Online Safety Newsletter – April

This issue gives parents a quick, helpful guide to keeping children safe online. It covers game age ratings, safe BBC iPlayer use, important information about AI and deepfakes, understanding harmful online ideologies, and new parental controls on apps like ChatGPT and WhatsApp.

### Why It's Worth Reading

It's packed with practical tips that make it easier to guide children's online choices, protect them from inappropriate content, and start important conversations at home—all in one easy, supportive update.



**Online Safety Newsletter Primary April 2026\_1 Kirkby and Gre at Broughton**

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609.2 KB



**Online Safety Newsletter March 2026**

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**Online Safety Newsletter Primary Dec 2025**

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## *Dates for Diaries*

**Tuesday 14th April** Children return to school

**22nd April** Parents' meetings

**Weds 15 April** Sats/ Residential meeting for Year 6 parents

11-14th May Year 6 Sats week

1-5th June Year 6 residential

15th July 11am Leavers' Service in church all welcome



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*fell in love with it.*

*Free Eye Tests for Children*

# Has your child had their eyes tested yet?



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 **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](#)

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**Emma McCormick**

Emma is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters