Staynor Hall Newsletter

"Excellence, Belonging, Opportunity & Respect"

Friday 20th November 2026 Issue 10

Weekly Attendance

School Attendance up to 20th November 2026

	Last Week	This Week
Year 1 - 6	**97.71%**	**97.67%**
Reception - Year 6	**97.81%**	**97.69%**

Weekly Attendance by Team 16th- 20th November 2026

Tiny Steps	98.57%
Esk	94.30%
Nidd	92.20%
Swale	93.75%
Aire	97.54%
Wharfe	91.15%
Ouse	97.76%
Dove	97.24%
Derwent	96.70%
Foss	98.57%
Loxley	97.78%
Calder	99.25%
Humber	98.62%



A Message from Miss Towler

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reflecting on the last ten weeks of school since we returned in September we really have achieved such a lot. With fantastic trips to Stump Cross Caverns, Eden Camp, the Remembrance Service in Selby the Everybody Dance event at York Theatre Royal and exciting learning going on including the recent Learn through Weeks we are all very much blessed to be part of Team Staynor.

The incredible commitment from our staff team, the fundraising efforts of FOSHA and the drive of our school governing body have a significant impact on the success of our school. With supportive Parents and Carers and of course the best children in the world (we are very biased!) we have the ingredients for a fantastic school.

I am sure some of the prospective new families who have visited our school in recent weeks won't mind me sharing how complimentary they have been about our school after visiting Team Staynor as they certainly recognised the uniqueness of our school ethos and values.

On Wednesday afternoon I had the pleasure of joining children from Year Five at the Everybody Dance event which was held at York Theatre Royal. The children were an absolute credit and made Mr Lazenby, Mrs Jamieson, Mrs Mora, our Chair of Governors, and myself very proud. They performed brilliantly and I am sure the parents and carers who came to watch loved every minute of it! Goosebumps moments aplenty!

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Best wishes,
Caroline Towler
Headteacher









Important Dates

25th - 27th November
School Council Voting

27th November
Opern Classrooms - 2:45pm - 3:15pm

3rd December
Tiny Steps/Nursery Session B & EYFS Christmas Performance - 2pm

4th December
Rock Steady Christmas Concert - 2pm

7th December
KS2 Carols at Selby Abbey - 2pm

8th December
KS2 Pantomime Trip

8th December
Tiny Steps/Nursery Session A & EYFS Christmas Performance - 9:30am

8th December
KS1 Christmas Performance - 2pm

10th December
KS1 Christmas Performance 9:30am

11th December
Christmas Jumper and Dinner Day

14th - 16th December
Year 6 Residential to Peat Rigg

14th December
EYFS Christmas Party - PM

14th December
Tiny Steps/Nursery Session A Christmas Party - PM

15th December
KS1 Christmas Party - PM

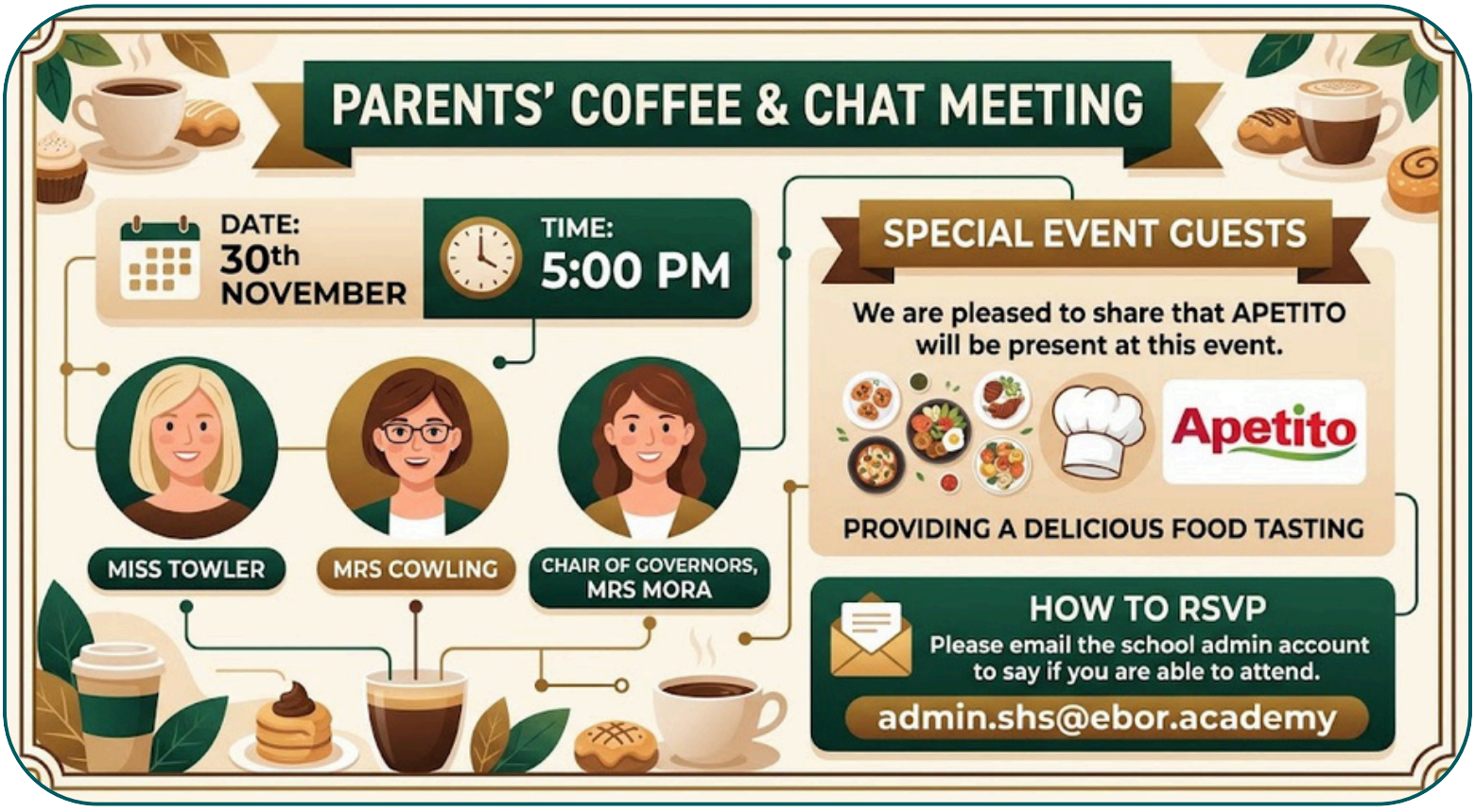
16th December
Year 3 & 4 Christmas Party - PM (No Swimming)

16th December
Tiny Steps/Nursery Session B Christmas Party - PM

17th December
Year 5 & 6 Christmas Party - PM

18th December
Last Day of Term - No After School Club

21st December - 1st January
Christmas Holidays



Celebration

20th November 2026

Class	Star of the Week	Pride in Presentation
Nidd	/	/
Swale	/	/
Aire	Saeid	George
Wharfe		
Ouse	Marta	Oliver S
Dove	Jacob	Scarlett
Derwent	Mia	Emily
Foss	Dakota	Jonah
Loxley	Summer	Evie
Calder	Jagoda	Eleanor
Humber	Keylan	Jack
Inclusion	Team Derwent - Dawn	
Spanish	Team Aire - Reggie	
Cook School	Team Foss - Alexander L	

WELL DONE

Vacancies at Staynor Hall

Cleaner - Apply Here

10 hours per week / £13.28 per hour

Learning Mentor (2 Positions Available) - Apply Here

30 hours per week / Monday - Friday 8:45am - 3:15pm / £19,442 - £20,728

Teaching Assistant Level 2 - Apply Here

18 hours per week / Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:45am - 3:15pm / £11,125 - £11,482

High Level Teaching Assistant - Apply Here

32.5 hours per week / Monday - Friday 8:30am - 3:30pm/ £23,575 - £25,521





12 Days of Christmas

We are thrilled to announce the return of the attendance incentive:

12 Days of Christmas!

We are passionate about ensuring every single child grabs every amazing teaching and learning opportunity available, and the best way to do that is to be here every single day!

Get ready for the 12 Days of Christmas Attendance initiative running from the 3rd to 18th December 2026.

While your child should be in School every day (the Government standard is 96%, and we're currently at 97%) we encourage you to make every effort for 100% attendance during this festive period.

Thank you so much for your continuing support in helping your child achieve the excellence they deserve.

Let the countdown begin!



Attendance

Every Day Counts!

140 children are **Attendance Heroes** with 100% attendance!

Year-to-Date Class Attendance Leaderboard



Most Improved Teams
(Attendance from Last Week)

1. Esk – 5.59% improvement
2. Tiny Steps – 2.08% improvement
3. Calder – 1.59% improvement

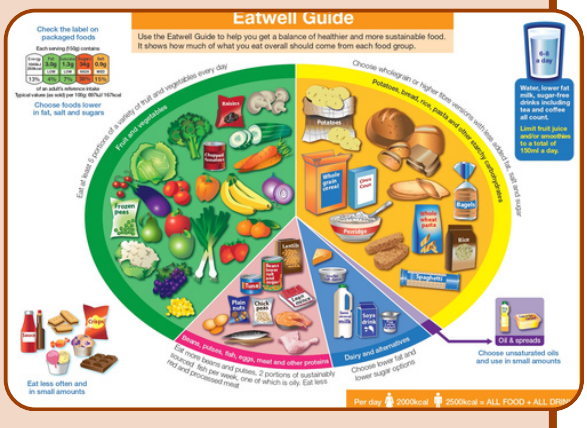
Whole School Attendance 96.40%

National Average 95.20%

Arrived at School on Time 97.28%

285 children attended every day this week!

What's Cooking?



This week I have been cooking with Team Dove They have been making Chicken Stew. The children had the opportunity to practise their peeling and cutting skills. They also had the opportunity to safely use the hob to cook (boil and simmer) their stew.

The children were involved in many discussions relating to the ingredients and they were able to place them correctly on the EatWell Guide. We also chatted about seasonality and keeping ourselves safe when we are cooking with raw meat. In addition to this, we chatted about fruits and vegetables and how we eat either the root, stem, leaves or flowers of these plants/trees.

Well done to all the children that have visited cook school this week, your stews looked amazing and I hope you enjoyed eating them.

I will continue to cook with Team Dove next week

Tiny Steps

This Week's Learning: Exploring Patterns

This week, we will be introducing the concept of patterns through fun, creative and hands-on activities.
The children will have the opportunity to explore making prints using Lego blocks and playdough cutters dipped in paint. They will experiment with different shapes, colours and repeated prints, discovering how patterns can be created.

Through this playful activity, the children will be encouraged to:

- Explore different shapes and textures.
- Experiment with colours and printing techniques.
- Notice similarities, differences and repetition.
- Begin to recognise and create simple patterns.
- Develop their creativity, curiosity and fine motor skills.

Most importantly, we will encourage the children to explore freely, experiment and enjoy the process of creating their own unique patterns!

This Week's Topic: Exploring Winter

This week, following on from exploring the four seasons: spring, summer, autumn and winter. We will discover the changes that happen during winter, explore the weather, learn about winter clothing and investigate the wonderful things we see during this season.

Through stories, discussions, creative activities and exploring our surroundings, we will explore:

- Winter weather: Snow, frost, ice and cold temperatures.
- Winter clothing: Coats, scarves, hats, gloves and boots.
- Nature in winter: Bare trees, evergreen plants and winter landscapes.
- Winter animals: How animals adapt to the cold weather.
- Winter fun: Snowmen, snowflakes and winter activities.

Each day, the children will also have the opportunity to enjoy a variety of songs and rhymes, supporting their language development, listening skills and learning through music.
As Christmas is fast approaching the children have begun to learn the song and actions to 'I'm a little snowman', which can be found on YouTube if your child would like to practice at home. We are also learning the songs and actions for 'The Nativity' which is our EYFS nativity this year.

Nursery – Team Esk



Phonics - Sound of the Week: p

For the rest of the school year, the children will be learning a new sound each week as part of our phonics learning, following the Little Wandle phonics scheme.
We will be focusing on listening to the sound each letter makes and beginning to apply this knowledge by segmenting (breaking words into individual sounds) and blending (putting sounds together) to read simple words.
This week's sound is p.
You can support your child at home by encouraging them to listen for the /t/ sound in words, practise saying the sound, and spot things around them that begin with p, such as pen, pig, pot.
Little and often is a great way to help your child build confidence with their phonics!

Maths

Exploring Patterns

We will begin to explore patterns in our everyday environment and think about what makes something a pattern. We will encourage children to look for patterns in the things around them, such as patterned socks, designs on their shirts and dresses and patterns on wrapping paper, curtains and cushions.
At home you can support your child by going on a little pattern hunt together. Talk about the colours, shapes and repeated designs you can see. You could also have fun making simple patterns using toys, building blocks or everyday objects.

Topic

We will continue practising for our Christmas performance of The Nativity. The children have been busy learning the songs and becoming familiar with their parts. We will also be joining the rest of Early Years in the hall to practise together and get ready for our special performance.

We are looking forward to sharing this special occasion with you all and can't wait to see you there!

Reception – Nidd & Swale



What a lovely, busy week we have had in Reception!



The children have loved learning all about Diwali and how it is celebrated. We have made Diwa lamps out of clay and will be painting them next week. Thank you to everyone who shared photos of your celebrations on Tapestry – it has been wonderful to see and share these special moments with the children.

Maths: This week, we have been learning about part-part-whole, exploring how numbers can be made up of two or more parts.

Home Learning: Please check Tapestry for this week's home learning activities and phonics.

We hope you all have a lovely, restful weekend!



Key Stage 1 – Aire, Wharfe & Ouse

We have had a lovely week celebrating Anti-Bullying Week! It was wonderful to see all the children wearing their odd socks on Monday. We are also looking forward to welcoming you into school on Friday for our Open Doors Day! As you will have seen, a separate letter has been sent out about our upcoming Christmas Celebration, including the dates and what the children will need to wear. We are really looking forward to it!





Writing

We have been looking at non-chronological reports, and next week the children will have the opportunity to create their very own 'All About Me' booklets! They will be writing about their families, what they look like, their favourite things and lots more. We are so excited for the children to share their booklets so we can all learn a little more about each other!

Year 1

Next week, we will be exploring different ways to partition numbers using part-part-whole models and bar models. We will learn that numbers can be partitioned in different ways whilst still making the same whole.

Year 2

Next week in Maths, Year 2 will be focusing on adding and subtracting. We will be exploring number patterns, finding 10 more and 10 less, and using the inverse to check our calculations. Children will also be solving problems to help build their confidence with these skills.

Homework

Thank you for listening to your child read three times at home each week. Regular reading makes such a difference to their confidence and progress. A gentle reminder to please return your child's reading book so that they can receive a new one.

We will also be sending home some phonics sheets or spelling sheets. These are to give you an idea of what we have been focusing on during the week and to encourage a little extra learning at home.

Lower Key Stage 2 – Dove, Derwent & Foss

This week the children had a go at their first information text in English. They wrote a leaflet about the Staynor Hall Estate. They were trying to include the correct use of proper nouns and command sentences as some new language features we have learnt. In Maths, the children have been using the formal column method when using addition and subtraction. In Science, we looked at the skeleton and its functions. The children enjoyed learning different names for their bones and we learnt about vertebrates and invertebrates as a way to classify animals.

The children also had the opportunity to listen to the speeches of their team's school council candidates! Candidates have done a fantastic job campaigning - there are some brilliant posters and have been some thoughtful speeches! Voting will happen at the end of next week.

Coming up next week:

Creative Curriculum: We will be looking at 'What positives are there in Staynor Hall?'. Here we will think about the amenities and facilities available in our local area whilst also looking into the pros and cons of using AI.
English: We will be editing our first information text, practicing using the correct determiner for our sentences (a/an) and planning our independent information leaflet about school!
Maths: We will continue looking at column subtraction with exchanging: practising exchanging in different columns, through zero and in multiple columns and using our knowledge of addition and subtraction to solve multistep word problems.
Y3 PSHE: To know that, sometimes, we make assumptions based on what people look like.
Y4 PSHE: To recognise when I feel uncomfortable and to know I must do something about it.





Homework:

Children have had the opportunity to change their reading books today and should have a new book if needed.
Reading records will be checked on a Friday but please can children bring their reading book and reading record into school with them each day (their reading records have their logins in so they might need to use them in the classroom).



Maths homework: Children have until next Thursday to complete Workout 3. We will mark them on a Thursday. Please only complete the 'Workout' task stated on the newsletter so the whole class is able to stay in sync with each other.

Upper Key Stage 2 – Loxley , Calder & Humber

It has been a very busy week across Years 5 and 6! A huge well done to our Year 6 children for sitting another set of challenge papers this week. You are making us so proud with your hard work, effort and resilience. Team Year 5 have been working incredibly hard on their independent writing which has been a pleasure to read! Our Year 5 children, who represented Staynor Hall at the Everybody Dance Festival on Wednesday, danced brilliantly on the stage at the Theatre Royal.





PE:

Children need to come dressed in PE kit for the whole day. Children need to wear a pair of plain black or navy blue jogging bottoms or shorts, a plain white t-shirt and a plain black or navy blue hoodie. Children need to wear suitable shoes for PE (trainers or plimsolls). Please can we remind parents and carers that children need to be able to either remove their earrings or bring plasters to cover them over for our P.E lessons.
Please note - Team Loxley and Team Calder's P.E will continue to be on a Wednesday and Friday. Team Humber's P.E will continue to be on Thursday and Friday.



Homework:

Please encourage your child to read at least three times each week and sign their reading record. Books will be changed and reading records will be signed every Friday.

Please can your child complete Autumn term: Workout 3 in their Arithmetic Homework books.
Please encourage your child to return their maths booklet to school every Friday morning as we will mark them as a class.

Community News







