



Clarborough
Primary School

Be the best you can be!

Half-termly Newsletter

Friday 27th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had a truly wonderful spring term filled with learning, creativity and plenty of fun. As you read through this newsletter, I hope you enjoy seeing the wide range of activities and experiences the children have taken part in over the past half term.

Thank you for the continued support you show both your child and our school—whether that's attending parent consultations, cheering on our football team or celebrating our Easter bonnet parades in our Early Years unit. Your involvement makes such a positive difference.



It has also been an exciting term for sporting events at Retford Oaks, where our football teams have continued to flourish. Year 6 pupils took part in valuable CPR training with the Retford Lions, gaining important life skills along the way.

A special thank you goes to Helping Hands, our fantastic PTA. This term they have organised a lovely Mother's Day brunch, an Easter egg hunt, an Easter colouring competition, and even brightened our school with selling beautiful spring daffodils.

Wishing you all a peaceful and enjoyable Easter break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to Clarborough for the start of the summer term on Monday 13th April.

Thank you,
Mrs Holmes

Contacting us:

Calls can be made to school Monday to Thursday from 8:30am – 4:30pm and Friday 8:30am – 4:00pm on **01777 708065**. Please note the office will be closed from Monday 30th March until Monday 13th April.

Enquiries about admissions, school dinners and any other queries should be directed to:
office@clarborough.notts.sch.uk

Finance queries should be directed to: **finance@clarborough.notts.sch.uk**



Booking in Breakfast Club and Wraparound Club

Parentmail is now open for you to book your child's Breakfast Club and Wraparound place for the Summer Term 1, these must be booked one week in advance to allow us to ensure correct staffing.

Please note, Breakfast Club starts from 7.45am and children will not be allowed into school before this time.

As you are aware, the school currently refunds in full for any bookings of the Breakfast Club and Wraparound Club when pupils do not attend. However, if they do not attend an activity club (e.g. Sports Club; Crochet Club etc) there is no refund.

Unfortunately, an increasing number of parents are reserving places for every day, "just in case", knowing that they will be refunded if their child does not attend. This means that other parents are being turned away when school believes that it is at the maximum number of children allowed. Governors have reviewed the current practice and agreed that there will be no refund for non-attendance at Breakfast and Wraparound from the start of the Summer term on the 13th April 2026. Please therefore only book the sessions that you are confident your child will attend.

Attendance Matters!

'The lessons your child learns at school go far beyond academics. The friendships they build, the challenges they work through and the everyday experiences they have, teach them skills for life. We know it isn't always easy getting your child to school. But encouraging them to go, even during difficult moments, builds their resilience.'



School is where they develop social skills, build confidence, and learn that working through challenges can be rewarding. When children attend regularly, they are more likely to feel connected to their school community and their peers.' Attendance Information for Parents, Nottinghamshire County Council, 2026

Clarbrough Primary School recognises that positive behaviour and good attendance are essential in order for pupils to get the most of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing and wider life chances.

The law entitles every child of compulsory school age to an efficient, full-time education suitable to their age, aptitude, and any special educational need they may have. It is the legal responsibility of every parent to make sure their child receives that education either by attendance at a school or by education otherwise than at a school.

Where parents decide to have their child registered at school, they have an additional legal duty to ensure their child attends that school regularly, on time. This means their child must attend every day that the school is open, except in a small number of allowable circumstances such as being too ill to attend or being given permission for an absence in advance from the school.

For our children to gain the greatest benefit from their education it is vital that they attend regularly and be at school, on time, every day the school is open unless the reason for the absence is unavoidable. **It is a rule of this school that pupils must attend every day, unless there are exceptional circumstances, and it is the Headteacher not the parent, who can authorise the absence.**

Year 1: 94.9%
Year 2: 94.2%
Year 3: 94.8%
Year 4: 93.1%
Year 5: 93.2%
Year 6: 90.1%



Respect, Resilience and Learning Awards: Spring Term 2026

This term we have changed our 'Merit' and 'Courtesy' awards to fit better in line with our School Values: Respect, Resilience and Learning. Teachers will choose 3 children from each class to award them for their hard work and recognition of these values.

Congratulations to the following recipients:

Reception Respect: Polly
Y1 Respect: Theo
Y2 Respect: Charlie B
Y3 Respect: Chester
Y4 Respect: David
Y5 Respect: Harley
Y6 Respect: Holly

Reception Resilience: Lochlan
Y1 Resilience: Dougie
Y2 Resilience: Elsie
Y3 Resilience: Alice
Y4 Resilience: Jenson
Y5 Resilience: Monty
Y6 Resilience: Poppy

Reception Learning: Billy
Y1 Learning: Parker
Y2 Learning: Myles
Y3 Learning: Jasper W
Y4 Learning: Lola B
Y5 Learning: Katie
Y6 Learning: Ashton

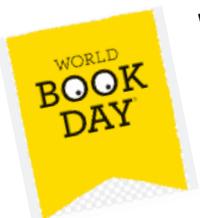
Well done everyone!



World Book Day

This year we celebrated World Book Day by wearing the costumes of our favourite book characters. It was great to see everyone taking part with such a variety of genres and characters throughout the school.

During the day the children took part in various activities related to reading including book scavenger hunts, live author presentations and time sharing their favorite stories with their friends. It was certainly another fantastic day!





Red Nose Day 2026

This year, we celebrated Comic Relief's Red Nose Day with a non-uniform day. We raised a fantastic **£167.78!** which all went to the charity. As always, we are so grateful for your generous support.

Year 6 DAaRT Graduation

Over the last ten weeks, Year 6 have taken part in a Life Skills Programme called DAaRT. This course taught the children how to continue to make safe and healthy choices as they develop into adulthood. The course concluded with a graduation assembly for families to attend within which the Year 6 children showcased all their knowledge in a fantastic presentation.

Well done Year 6 – we are so proud of you!



Team Clarborough Football Matches



Yet again, our KS2 Football Team have made us proud! This half term they have played 4 league games and 1 cup game.

Our first match was against Misterton and this was a cup game which we narrowly lost 2-1. The following game was again against Misterton and again lost 2-1 in a closely fought match. Our third game this term was against Gateford Park with another loss of 2-1. In the final game of the term the team played against Holy Family and wow, was it intense! The full-time result was 1-1, but it was an end-to-end match. This concludes

our time in the league for this season, but we are hoping to get the team a few friendly matches organised. We are so proud of the skills and maturity the team have shown in every game; win or lose they are a credit Clarborough. Thank you to all the staff and parents for your continued support of the team.

KS2 Girls' Football Team

This half term our Girls team played a league match against St Luke's, which ended in a 1-0 defeat. This is only one of the handful of times our newly formed girls' team have played together. We are so proud of them all of how far they have come and the resilience they have shown in the games they have played.

This concludes their season for this year. We are also looking at trying to arrange a few friendly matches moving forward. Amazing work, well done!

Inter-house PE Competitions



Our Inter-house PE competition this term was very close. Years 1 to 6 took part in an exciting game of hockey and orienteering event where they were able to demonstrate the skills they have learnt throughout their lessons.

The final scores were as follows...

- 1st Place: **Hawking** (1040 points)
- 2nd Place: **Attenborough** (982 points)
- 3rd Place: **Pankhurst** (899 points)
- 4th Place: **Wilberforce** (827 points)



Hawking



Attenborough



Pankhurst



Wilberforce

Nursery and 30hrs



What a lovely term this has been! The children have grown and developed in so many ways. Our 'Eggsciting Eggs' topic has been really popular and we have enjoyed learning about the different ways animals care for their young.

On World Book Day, our whole class dressed up as tigers to celebrate our favourite book *The Tiger Who Came to Tea*. I was absolutely thrilled to see the children overcoming their natural reticence and painting their own faces with tiger stripes. I think we will be doing it again!

The term finished with our Easter Bonnet Parade and the children behaved absolutely perfectly- showing their proud parents how we learn so much while we are singing simple songs and rhymes. We were beyond proud! Thank you to all the parents who made wonderful Easter bonnets. We hope this kicks off your Easter celebrations and you have a lovely break.

Next term, our topic is Everybody Works when we will be learning all about jobs that we do at home, school, and out and about. If anybody has a job that they would like to tell our youngest children about, please let us know! HAPPY EASTER!



Reception

This half-term the Reception topic has been 'Egg-sciting', and we have learnt about the different types of creatures that lay eggs.

We began by looking at creatures who lay eggs in water; finding out about the life cycle of frogs and how they hatch from frogspawn as tadpoles, then become froglets and finally grow to be adult frogs.

Next, we looked at creatures who lay their eggs on the ground, such as crocodiles, before learning about the life-cycle of butterflies and other minibeasts.

Finally, we learnt about birds, particularly owls and chickens, and how they incubate their eggs, keeping them warm until they hatch. We also discovered that baby birds (hatchlings) can't fly as they have down instead of feathers, and that when they begin to grow feathers and start to fly they are called fledglings. The children also learnt the ways in which creatures try to protect their eggs to stop predators eating them, such as butterflies laying their eggs on the underside of leaves.



We finished the term by talking about how and why Christians celebrate Easter, and held an Easter Bonnet Parade for our parents.

In Maths we have continued to make numbers in different ways and have begun to recognise 3d shapes, such as pyramids and spheres.

In English we have continued to introduce digraphs, and the children have loved focusing on particular stories to learn and use new vocabulary, such as 'adorable' and 'rummaged'.



Year 1

In Maths this half term, Year 1 have been learning to count within 50, order numbers to 50 and compare numbers to 50. The children have been learning to use a number line and estimate on a number line to 50. We have also looked at addition and subtraction, missing number problems and doubles. The children are also really enjoying completing their weekly Maths homework, something that started at the beginning of the term. Thank you for the continued support at home.

In Phonics, the children have continued to learn new GPCs and enjoy their daily shared reader sessions. We are beginning to recognise different punctuation marks when reading out loud.



This half term we have completed the topic on Our Local area. We have discussed the difference between urban and rural areas. Year 1 went on an adventure around our school grounds to spot all the features of our lovely school. The children have enjoyed going onto Google Earth to find their house and look around their local area.



In Science the children have been learning about the human body. The children have identified and labelled parts of the body. They have also learnt about their 5 senses and how each sense has its own job. They particularly enjoyed learning about how we hear different sounds and getting the instruments out to describe what we could hear. The final week focused on the sense of 'taste' as we tried different flavours and saw how our taste buds reacted!

In Art and Design, the children have enjoyed learning different techniques such as rolling paper tubes, shaping paper strips and constructing imaginative sculptures. For their final design the children were given a task to create a 3D spider sculpture out of newspaper.



Next Term:

Maths: Multiplication and division, counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, fractions, geometry, position and direction
Clarborough Curriculum (History): Kings and Queens – Look out for the creative homework project!

RE: How do we know that new babies are special?
 Computing: Digital Art Design
 PSHE: Economic wellbeing
 Music: Pitch – Superheroes
 PE: Netball/ Athletics
 Science: Exploring everyday materials



Year 2

In Maths this half term we have been learning about multiplication and division. We have been practising learning the 2-, 5- and 10-times tables. We have also learnt to divide by sharing and to use arrays to solve unknown multiplication questions. We have also revisited odd and even numbers and doubling and halving, thinking how this helps us with the 2 times tables and dividing by 2.

In English, we have been having a big focus on grammatical skills that will help enhance our writing. The children have enjoyed learning about adverbs, conjunctions and the possessive apostrophe and have written some fantastic sentences, both on their rainbow grammar cards and in their new English books.

This half term we have looked at where we are in the world. We began looking close to home and which village, town etc we live in, followed by our county, country and continent.

Next, we looked at the continents and oceans of the world and learnt to name them and locate them on world maps, beginning to use North, South, East and West to describe where they are. We will also look at the different features of different lands and their physical and human features.

The children's Science topic has been about plants this half term. They have learnt to: observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants and find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy. We will continue this work after half term and conduct an

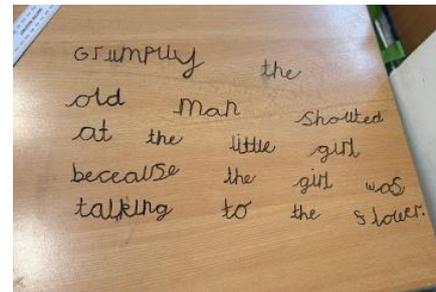
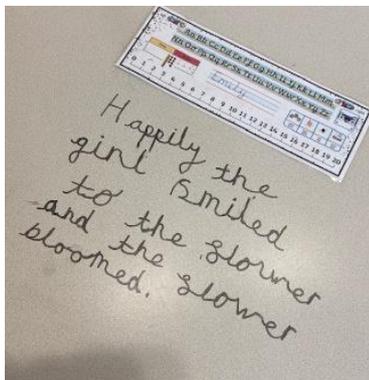


experiment to observe what happens when a plant does not have what it needs to stay healthy.

This half term in Design and Technology, the children have been learning about wheels and axles. They were set a challenge to use this knowledge to design and make a fairground wheel. They have got thoroughly stuck in with constructing the axle, wheel and frame and then adding the pods for the people to enjoy the ride.

In French, the children have learnt the names of seven animals - lion, elephant, leopard, monkey, hippo, snake and giraffe. They have also practised counting in French within this topic.

During our Computing sessions, we have been learning how to collect data and then show it in different ways using different programs. The children have shown data in a pictogram, pie chart and block graphs among others. I wonder if they could collect some data during the Easter holidays and produce their favourite chart to show the data. It could be family and friends favourite ice cream flavours or their favourite cartoon!



Next Term (Brief overview):

Our French topic next half term is based on nursery rhymes. The children will learn six traditional nursery rhymes. These can be practised on Language Angels.

As well as continuing some work on plants, the children will also start the new Science topic of living things and their habitats. We will learn to identify if objects are living, dead or have never been alive, find and design microhabitats and think about food chains.

We will be moving back to Art next half term and exploring clay. The children will look at how we can manipulate clay in certain ways, by using tools to create textures in the clay and eventually design and make their own clay house tile.

Year 3

In Maths, we started off the half term learning about fractions. In this unit, we plotted fractions on number lines and found equivalent fractions. More recently, we have been learning about mass and capacity. It has been great to see the children challenge their thinking when solving problems too.



Within English, the children have been learning to include the DADWAVERS techniques within their writing. They then went on to develop their narrative writing.

We have continued with our Ancient Egypt topic. The children enjoyed showing their creative homework projects to other classes as part of their exhibition.



Within Science, we have continued our topic on plants and expanding our knowledge around the biology that makes up a plant. As part of Art, we have been designing and creating an Egyptian scroll. The children have thoroughly enjoyed this project.



Year 4

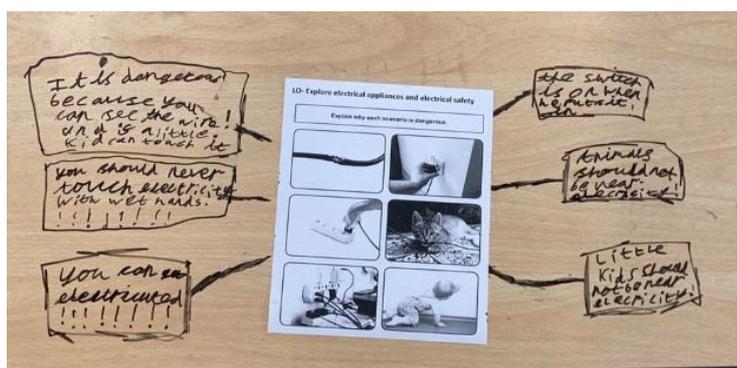
In Maths, this half term, Year 4 have been learning about fractions. During this unit, the children learnt to count beyond one and convert fractions. Since then, we have been learning about decimals and have started to develop our understanding of the relationship between fractions and decimals.

With the Year 4 Multiplication Check fast approaching, we have been doing a big focus on times tables. You will have noticed our weekly times tables challenge sheets coming home each week. A score of 60 means moving up to the next stage! Please continue to support your child learning their times tables, including division facts. Also, TT Rockstars forms part of their homework each week.

In English, we developed our knowledge of explanation texts before planning and writing our own about volcanoes. Recently, we have been focusing on sentence structure. We have used story starters to generate ideas and discuss language that might be included. We have developed our understanding of different punctuation and then applied it to our own independent writing. We are also working incredibly hard on our cursive handwriting and hope to have some more pen licences in the class soon!

Our History work this half term has been about the Anglo Saxons. We have started to identify who they were, using our historical enquiry skills to deduce information from sources. We have located where they settled in Britain and how they formed villages. We will be continuing with this topic after Easter.

In Science, this half term, we have been investigating electricity. This includes learning how to stay safe around electricity. We have also developed our understanding of circuits and components in a circuit.



We have really enjoyed our Forest School this half term, where we completed a range of activities to develop our knowledge and understanding of the world around us. Year 4 have spotted and identified trees, created rubbings of leaves and even enjoyed a campfire for their last session.

It was great to see the children's enthusiasm during a hockey session led by a professional coach earlier in the half term.



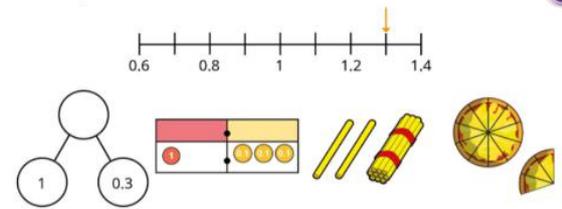
Next Term (Brief overview):

In Maths, we will be developing our knowledge of decimals. We will then be learning about money and time. In English our non-fiction work will be based on report writing. We will also be developing our story writing skills. Our Science topic will be about living things and their habitats. In History we will be developing our knowledge of the Anglo-Saxons and in Geography we are looking at trade links. In RE we are focusing on The Bible and Jesus. Our French work will include some new vocabulary linked to instruments and then vegetables. In PSHE we are finishing our work on Safety and the Changing Body and then moving on to Economic Wellbeing. Music will be focusing on Samba and Carnival Sounds. We will be making a slingshot car in DT and focusing on animation in Computing.

Year 5

In Maths the children have focused on decimals and percentages, following on from our unit on fractions. Once again, I have been extremely impressed and proud of the learning that has taken place and how pupils are able to apply their multiplication skills to working with fractions, decimals and percentages and beginning to solve more complex problems. We finish this half-term with a reminder of how to calculate perimeter and area of a variety of 2D regular and irregular shapes.

Which representation is the odd one out?



Explain your answer.

In English we watched the short film, 'Faded'. This was the focus for our writing this term, as well as learning how to use expanded noun phrases, fronted adverbials and emotive language for effect. The film represents themes of loss, searching, hope and emptiness and pupils have created some amazing setting descriptions.

In Geography we have been learning about rivers and this has encouraged the use of some complex vocabulary such as: erosion, deposition, meander and oxbow lake. Pupils have learned how rivers are formed, about the journey of a river, rivers in the UK and the longest rivers in the world.



During their Science lessons, pupils have learned about forces, specifically gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction. Pupils have engaged in practical investigations to explore the above and predict, measure, record and explain their findings.



In Art, pupils have developed their drawing skills, specifically using drawing, mark-making and printing to explore depth and emotion. Initially exploring how lines and gestures can capture movement, pupils moved on to how lines and marks can communicate emotion before planning, designing and creating their own prints.



In Computing, Digital Music Creation has been an enjoyable topic as pupils used BeepBox and GarageBand to create multi-track music using virtual smart instruments, then edit the tracks and add effects. During French, Year 5 have learned the names for a variety of food and beverage items that may be ordered in a café. They have formed sentences orally and in writing, showing significant improvement to their written French using learned vocabulary.

Next Term (Brief overview):

Maths: Shape, Position & Direction

Science: Living things & their Habitats

Geography: Locational Knowledge

Computing: Minecraft Education

French: In the Classroom

DT: Cooking & Nutrition

Year 6

In Maths, the children have been learning how to convert fractions, decimals and percentages. After the Easter break, they will be recapping the different methods needed to answer fraction questions and they will be recapping methods of how to solve reasoning and problem-solving questions.

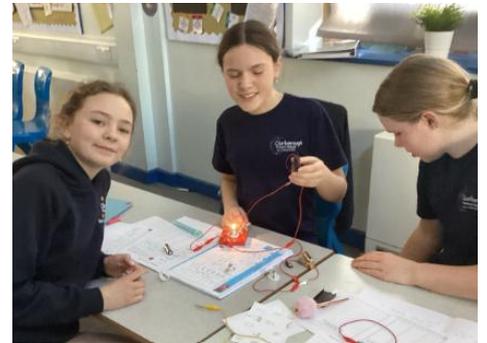
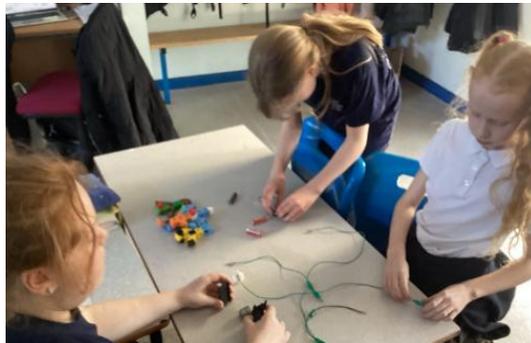
In English they have completed their alternative ending to Francis. They also enjoyed World Book Day. After the Easter break, the children will be continuing to identify different grammar and punctuation forms and spelling patterns.



In Science, they have completed their Animals including Humans topic where they learnt all about the function of the heart, veins and arteries. We also welcomed a visit from the Retford Lions who taught the children how to perform CPR and how to use a defibrillator.



They have also begun their electricity topic which they will continue with after the Easter break.



In History they have been learning about the Pilgrim Fathers and completed their 'Show me what you know' where they had to choose between boarding the Mayflower or the Speedwell with justifications of why. After the Easter break, they will be completing their final Geography unit on South America and the rainforest.

Year 6 also received their Leavers 2026 Hoodies this half term – you all look amazing!





Dates for Your Diary

Summer Term 1

Monday 13th April to Friday 22nd May 2026

Monday 13th April – First day of Summer Term 1 - Children return back to school

Monday 13th April to Friday 17th April – Parent Consultations for Nursery, Reception, Year 3 and Year 4 (Details to follow)

Wednesday 15th April – Year 4 Swimming resumes

Thursday 16th & Friday 17th April - Year 5 & 6 Art Club Rotary Competition (Details to follow)

Friday 17th April – Pop Up Uniform Table

Monday 27th April & Tuesday 28th April – Year 5 Bikeability Group 1 (Details to Follow)

Wednesday 29th April & Thursday 30th April – Year 5 Bikeability Group 2 (Details to Follow)

Friday 1st May – Pop Up Uniform Table

Monday 4th May – BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY – School closed to pupils

Sunday 10th May – Clarborough Village Fair

Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May – Year 6 SATS

Thursday 21st May – Census Lunch (Details to follow)

Friday 22nd May – Last day of term

Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May - Half Term Holiday

Monday 1st June – First day of Summer Term 2 – Children return back to school

Friday 5th June – Pop Up Uniform Shop

