



Clarborough  
Primary School

*Be the best you can be!*

## Half-termly Newsletter

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As a very sunny final week of the spring term draws to a close, please take a read of this term's edition of our newsletter.

Your child has brought home a letter regarding their attendance for the school year to date. As you know, attendance is monitored carefully in school and your child's attendance is reported to you three times over the year. We greatly appreciate you supporting your child's learning through attending school every day they can and reporting their absences to us when they are not able to. Absences can be reported to the school office via phone and through our Parentmail app.



I would like to remind parents and carers about how to make bookings for our Breakfast Club and Wraparound provisions. Following a review of school finance, we can only accept bookings made through the Parentmail app. (We will, of course, take bookings in emergency situations). Please ensure that your child is booked in for any breakfast clubs or wraparound services required next term this way.

I would also like to remind parents of our uniform policy. This has been sent out previously and is available on our school website. As the weather changes I wanted to remind parents of this so that pupils can come to school in appropriate uniform in the summer term. Our policy also explains the expectations of our PE kit policy and I would appreciate your support in ensuring pupils come to school every day in the correct uniform.

I am really excited to announce that there is some construction work planned that should hopefully be completed over the Easter holidays. Further details – and photos – will follow!

I wish you all a peaceful and very happy Easter with your families and look forward to welcoming you back to school on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

Thank you,  
Mrs Cowell-Clark

### Contacting us:

Calls can be made to school Monday to Thursday from 8:30am – 4.30pm and Friday 8.30am - 4pm on **01777 708065** Please note the office will be closed from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2025.

Enquiries about admissions, school dinners and any other query should be directed to [office@clarborough.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@clarborough.notts.sch.uk)

Finance queries should be directed to: [finance@clarborough.notts.sch.uk](mailto:finance@clarborough.notts.sch.uk)



## Booking in Lunches, Breakfast Club and Wraparound Club

Parentmail is now open for you to book your child's lunches, Breakfast club and Wraparound places for the Summer Term 1. Please note, these must be booked one week in advance to allow us to ensure correct staffing and meals etc.

Please also note that Breakfast club starts from 7.45am and children will not be allowed into school before this time. Thank you.

## Merit and Courtesy Awards: Spring Term 2025

Congratulations to this term's recipients:

Y1 Merit: Thea

Y2 Merit: Fern

Y3 Merit: Archie

Y4 Merit: Katie

Y5 Merit: Scarlett

Y6 Merit: Henry

Y1 Courtesy: Charlie

Y2 Courtesy: Bobby

Y3 Courtesy: Chloe

Y4 Courtesy: Jacob

Y5 Courtesy: Holly

Y6 Courtesy: Bess

Well done everyone!

## Always, Always Tea Party

Mrs Cowell-Clark was joined by this half-term's 'Always, Always' pupils for a treat or two and a chat. Congratulations to Bess, Ishe, Joely, Harrison, Thomas and Emily B!

## Easter Raffle

We had a fantastic response to our Easter Raffle this term. The staff brought in some wonderful prizes - we had over 20 prizes in total! Well done to all the lucky pupils who won. All the proceeds from the Easter Raffle will go towards our Year 6 Leavers activities. We were yet again overwhelmed with the response from you all and in total we raised an amazing £299.10! Thank you so much! It really does mean a lot to the pupils and staff for all your support.



## World Book Day



To celebrate World Book Day this year we asked all the children and staff to come to school dressed as their favorite book characters. It was great to see everyone taking part. The children took part in various activities related to reading and got the opportunity to show and talk to their class about their favorite chosen stories. Everybody had made such an effort and looked amazing!

Winners of Golden Tickets were:

Nursery – Oakley  
Reception – Coen  
Year 1 – Emily B  
Year 2 – Jasper W  
Year 3 – Seb  
Year 4 – Lorelai  
Year 5 – Noah  
Year 6 - Paige



## Year 6 DART Graduation



Over the last ten weeks, the Year 6 Class have taken part in a Life Skills Programme called DAaRT. The course educated the children on how to make safe and healthy choices needed to develop into adulthood. The course concluded with a Graduation assembly for their parents and guardians. The Year 6 children showcased their knowledge and understanding in a presentation and were amazing. Well done Year 6 – you have worked so hard!





## Swimathon 2025

Once again, some of the KS2 pupils took part in a sponsored swimathon this year. The charity event consisted of the participants swimming as many lengths as they could in 13 minutes. The event, hosted by the Rotary Club Retford, was raising money for Focus and Bassetlaw Hospice, and the charity of our choice: Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals Charity & Sheffield Children's Hospital.

Team Clarborough raised around £2,600 from the event and, approximately £15,000 was raised in total! Amazing work #TeamClarborough! Very impressive swimming from everyone who took part and you should all be very proud of yourselves.



## Boys Football Matches

Yet again, our KS2 Clarborough Boys football team have played some amazing matches. The final game this term was played against Harworth and wow, was it intense! The full-time result was 1-1 but as this was a cup game the final result came down to penalties. With great efforts from the goalkeeper and the boys who came up to take shots, Clarborough won the shootout 10-9!! Absolutely amazing. The boys have shown skills and maturity in every game they have played this term, win or lose and are a credit to Clarborough. Thank you to all the staff and parents for your continued support of the team.

**27<sup>th</sup> February vs Gamston - lost 2-3**

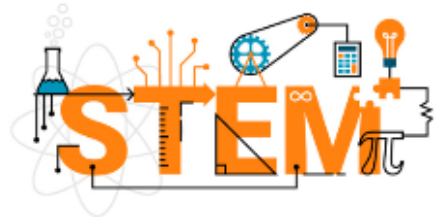
**13<sup>th</sup> March vs Ranskill - won**

**26<sup>th</sup> March vs Harworth - 7-6 (won on penalties)**

## Stem Trip



In March, a selection of pupils from Years 1 to 6 went on a visit to Queen Elizabeth's High School, to take part in a STEM fair. The children were able to take part in lots of Science and Technology experiments and experiences, as well as watching some brilliant demonstrations. The children really enjoyed their morning.





## TT- Rock Stars Day

On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February, Team Clarbrough had a fantastic day and “rocked out” whilst learning their times tables. The children and staff looked amazing in their outfits and fully immersed themselves into the rock and roll energy. The day ended with times tables battles. The children in each class played head to head in front of the whole school. A special mention goes to Luca who was awarded the Ultimate TT Champion. Well Done!



## ELS Library Bus

On Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March, we said goodbye to a much-loved feature of our school. The ELS library bus has been visiting Clarbrough and other schools in the area for many years and I’m sure most of you will have stepped on board the bus at some point. It was very sad to learn that this was their last visit as the service is no longer visiting schools across Nottinghamshire. The staff and children prepared a very special send off for Chris and the Education Library Service. They were always so helpful and kind and will certainly be missed.





## Year 6 Cake Sale

On Thursday 20th and Friday 21st March we held a cake sale during morning break, to raise money towards the Year 6 leavers activities. We were once again overwhelmed with how generous everyone had been with their donations, this was definitely one of the biggest sales we have had to date! The Year 6 pupils helped out during break selling cakes for 50p and £1 and everyone had a great morning!

We are pleased to announce that the money raised from the sale came to a fantastic total of £453.44!



This means that our Year 6 pupils now have a huge donation towards their activities during their last week of summer term to make their time at Clarborough extra special and create amazing memories for them. Thank you so much again for all your donations and support, it really means a lot to the Year 6 pupils and staff!

## Intra House PE Competitions!



Our Intra house PE competition was a very close one this term! Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 took part in a game of Hockey - there was certainly a lot of competition between teams!

The final scores were as follows...

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Attenborough (321 points)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Hawking (240 points)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Pankhurst (204 points)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Wilberforce (203 points)

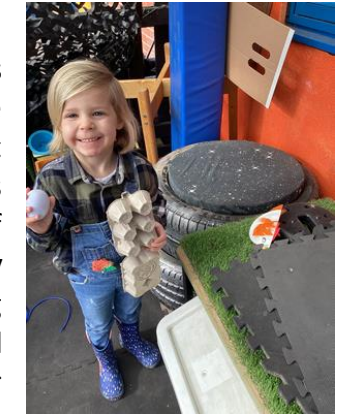
Well done to everyone!





## Nursery and 30hrs

What a lot we have packed in to a very short half term! World Book Day, Farmers Day, Shrove Tuesday, Mother's Day, Easter..... it has been a whirl of excitement! The joy of teaching young children is that everything is a learning opportunity, whether it is using the brushes to help tidy up outside, choosing fillings and making sandwiches to take out on the field on Farmers Day, creating large models, like tractors out of cardboard boxes, pretending to be a hairdresser, doctor or a nurse in our role-play areas, and just learning to be part of a group with all the joys and stresses of making friends and sharing toys! The children are doing so well and developing rapidly - all we can do is enjoy every minute of their young lives. We would like to thank our wonderful parents for the way they jump on board with all our mad ideas! Happy Easter Everyone!!



## Reception

This half-term, Canada class has been learning all about animals. We began by learning about animals that live in hot countries, such as giraffes, lions and elephants, and learnt lots of facts, such as only male lions have manes and elephants use mud to protect their skin from the sun! We also identified the warmest places on the globe before going on to find out about the coldest places on the globe and the animals that live there. The children noticed that lots of animals who live in cold places are white and decided that this was to help them stay camouflaged.

We had lots of fun driving the tractors we had made during farming week, and learnt what a farmer's job is and how they look after their different animals.

Next, we talked about extinct animals such as dinosaurs, mammoths and sabre-tooth cats, and learnt that we know what we do about them





because of the fossils they left behind (we also had a big discussion about why we don't have any photos of dinosaurs!).

We went on to learn about our pets and understood why it is important for us to care for them correctly, before finishing with looking at the wild animals who live in our country.

As part of our learning for British Science Week we looked more closely at the different ways that animals camouflage themselves, and how they have adapted to their environments. In Maths, we have continued to look at all the different ways we can make numbers to 10 and have begun identifying and naming 3D shapes, such as cylinders and cubes.



Finally, we have learnt about Easter; what it is and why it's important to Christians, before finishing the term with an Easter Bonnet Parade and an Easter Egg Hunt!

Next half-term, we will be learning about important buildings and places, and what happens in them.

## Year 1

In Maths this half term, Year 1 have been learning to count within 20, order numbers to 20 and compare numbers to 20. The children have been learning to use a number line and estimate on a number line to 20. We have also looked at addition and subtraction, missing number problems and doubles.



In English, Year 1 have studied a short film clip this half term called 'The Ugly Sharkling' and based their learning around this. The children have enjoyed ordering the events of the story and writing a postcard. The children have learnt about adjectives and worked in small groups to describe the ugly sharkling.

In Clarborough Curriculum, we have completed the topic on Our Local area. We have discussed the differences between urban and rural areas. The children then went on an adventure around our school grounds to spot all the features of our lovely school. The children have enjoyed looking on Google Earth to find their house and have a 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.





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, in Maths, we will be looking at place value within 50, length and height and, weight and volume. In English, the children will be looking at Zahra (a film unit) and in Clarborough Curriculum; a significant British Monarch.

## Year 2

In Year 2 Maths, we have been learning about multiplication and division and in particular learning our 2-, 3-, 5- and 10-times tables and division facts.

In English, we have been focusing our learning around a video clip called 'embarked'. The children really enjoyed watching the clip and have been very interested in our learning around it.

We have identified nouns and adjectives to describe the treehouse in the clip, and used expanded noun phrases in our descriptions. We have spent time looking and discussing how the characters in the clip felt and how we know how they are feeling because of their actions and appearance. Part of the clip is based in the countryside and the other is based in the city so we compared the different locations and used conjunctions to join sentences together. Then we wrote some narrative pieces of writing to incorporate all the elements we had been learning. The children then had an opportunity to design their own treehouse, writing detailed labels on their design.



In our History element of Clarborough Curriculum, we have looked at significant explorers from Ibn Battuta, who explored many different countries in and around the middle east over 700 years ago, through to Matthew Henson and Felicity Aston who explored the Arctic and Antarctic as well Neil Armstrong who went to outer space and became the first man to land on the moon. We have talked about the similarities and differences between their journeys, why we remember them and why some of them were not so well remembered at some points in the past.

In Computing, Year 2 have been learning about data handling and presenting data on different apps and programs on the computers/iPads. The children enjoyed collecting data from their friends in the class and then using the iPads to present their data through different charts, graphs and pictograms.

In Geography, the children completed their work on continents and oceans. They were able to name and locate the Earth's continents and oceans using world maps. The children then learnt about the differences

between human and physical features. There has been some great team work identifying human and physical features from all seven continents.

Our Science topic has been 'plants' this half term. The children 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.



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.

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

In Geography, the children will be comparing and contrasting their locality to a non-European country. They will learn about life in Mugurameno, Zambia and consider how it differs to life in this country.

As well as continuing their 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

### Year 3

In Maths this half term, the children have been learning how to compare and order unit fractions, understand fractions on a number line, counting in fractions and equivalent fractions. They have also been learning about mass and capacity and how to read scales. Year 3 have measured in grams and kilograms, compared different masses, added and subtracted mass and learnt how to measure capacity and volume in litres and millilitres.



In English the children loved our fiction unit called 'Spy Fox'. Their learning began with a short animation that led to them becoming part of a spy team where they had to follow secret missions. Throughout this, they looked at features of an explanation text, developed and extended sentences and paragraphs and used a variety of word

classes when describing their evil character. They also read a letter from Agent H (The chief spy hidden within the school staff) and had to write a letter of persuasion as part of the recruitment process to be part of the spy team. They also enjoyed designing new and innovative secret weapons. The children really enjoyed this term's English!





The children have also learnt about a 'balanced argument' where they had to decide if they were 'for' or 'against' certain statements and had to discuss both sides of an argument.

In Clarborough Curriculum, the children began by outlining a map and identifying features of coasts. They explored physical and human features of the seaside as well as writing their own fact file about an animal that would live there. They explored what life would be like at the seaside and wrote a postcard home, many of them drawing on their own experience of visiting a seaside town.



In Science, children explored the 5 key food groups, learnt about nutrition in the food we eat and what makes a balanced diet. They enjoyed learning about the different types of skeletons including the human skeleton and explored the roles that muscles have in our body.

In Art, the children have developed their design and craft skills, taking inspiration from the Ancient Egyptians as they had so much fun learning about this last half term. They planned and created their own scrolls as well as making their very own papyrus paper!



During Computing lessons, through comic creation, the children learnt how to add, resize and organise colour or picture backgrounds, characters/objects to different panels.

#### Next Term (Brief overview):

Maths: Money/ Fractions

Clarborough Curriculum: The Victorians

Science: Light

RE: Why is water symbolic?

PE: Athletics/ Cricket

Computing: Document editing and creation/ E-Safety

French: Fruits/ Ice-Cream

PSHE: It's my body (health and wellbeing)

Art/DT: Structures – constructing a castle

## Year 4

In Maths, the pupils learned about measuring in m & km; how to find the perimeter of a shape and how to calculate missing lengths in the perimeter of a shape. Pupils also learned to understand one whole before partitioning, comparing and ordering mixed numbers. They learned about improper fractions and how to convert improper fractions to mixed numbers.

In English this term we have looked at:

### Fiction – Joe's Hooded Hawk

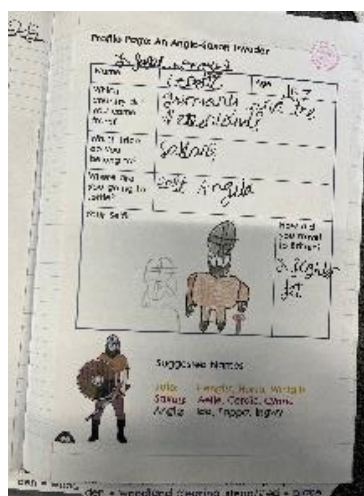
Children used the story *Joe's Hooded Hawk* to inspire their own story about the dangers of electricity. They planned their stories in five parts: introduction, build-up, problem, resolution and ending.

### Non-Fiction – Report

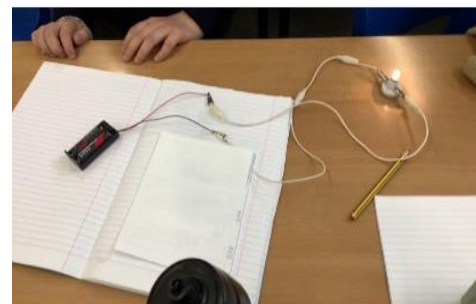
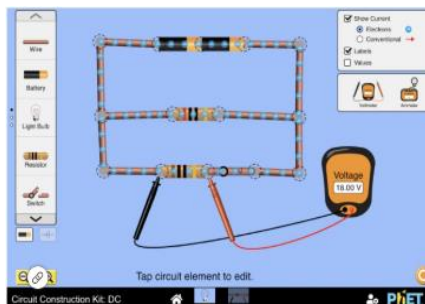
After reading the non-fiction report, *Who Do You Think You Are?* combined with learning about how Anglo-Saxon place names were derived, in History, pupils investigated local places names and discussed how they may have originated in Anglo-Saxon times.

ton = settlement  
ing = meeting place  
ham = settlement  
den = woodland clearing  
ford = river crossing  
bury = fortified place  
folk = people  
stead/sted = place

In our History-based unit, pupils learned: where the Anglo-Saxons originated, some of the reasons they wanted to settle in Britain, about the settlements, clothing and kingdoms as well as learning about Alfred the Great.



In our Science unit of work, pupils learned how to: identify common appliances that run on electricity; construct a simple series electrical circuit, identified and named basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers. Children also learned how to: recognise that a switch opens and closes a circuit and associate this with whether or not a lamp lights in a simple series circuit; and finally, recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors.







In our DT unit, pupils learned how to: build a car chassis, design a shape that reduces air resistance, make, test and assess different model cars. They thoroughly enjoyed combining their creative, problem-solving and engineering skills using a variety of simple resources such as lollypop sticks, straws, card wheels, dowelling, straws, rubber bands and masking tape.

In Computing, pupils learned to use the [Tinker CAD website](#) to create 3D models using different shapes and skills.



Next term, our topic is entitled 'Raiders & Traders' and will focus on the Vikings as well as how we use trade links today. In French, pupils will learn how to say the names of 10 familiar instruments.

## Year 5

At the start of the half term, Year 5 learned about decimals and percentages before moving onto area, perimeter and statistics. Our TT Rockstars Day was a highlight for the children and they put lots of hard work into their times table practice too.



In English the children enjoyed using the 'Faded' music video as a stimulus for learning about the features of a journal. Through looking at the thoughts and feelings of the character, they created their own journal pages. More recently, we have been looking at persuasive texts. The children have learned to use modal verbs and parenthesis within their writing too.

In Clarborough Curriculum, our topic this half term has been about rivers. Year 5 enjoyed looking at erosion and deposition using sugar and coffee to see how material moves within a meander. In addition, they had fun watching the erosion of waterfalls using sugar cubes.



In Science, we covered the topic of forces. We have investigated the effects of air resistance, water resistance and created our own pulley systems. In Art, the children have been creating their own futuristic art pieces using collagraph printing techniques and in Computing, they have created their own e-books by changing the background colour, inserting images and using hyperlinks. Finally, in French, we have enjoyed learning about food and drink.

Next Term, in Maths, we will look at decimals, position, direction and shape. In English, we will be creating a sports commentary and looking at the features of an explanation text.

## Year 6



In Maths, Year 6 have been learning about area, perimeter and shape as well as consolidating their fraction knowledge. The children also really enjoyed dressing up for TTRS day and participating in numerous mathematical activities.

In English, they have been writing at length and have completed some fantastic setting descriptions, which included active and passive voice, based on the Literacy shed film Francis. They have also written formal letters posing as law enforcers to the islanders, ensuring they included the subjunctive form, based on the book *The Island* by Armin Greder.



Year 6 also enjoyed dressing up for World Book day!



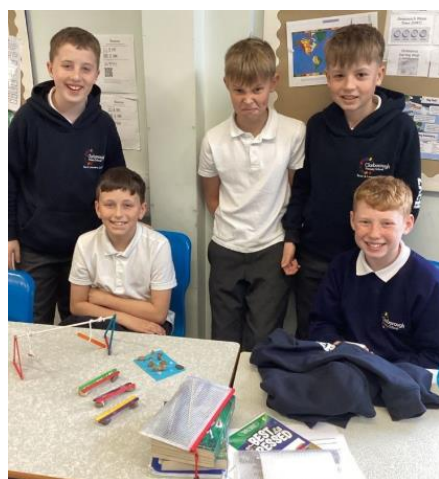
The children also enjoyed the opportunity to visit Year 1 to promote their love of reading by reading to and listening to the Year 1 children read.





In Geography, the children have been exploring biomes and vegetation belts around the world.

In Science, they carried out numerous investigations to see how the flow of electricity is affected when volts are increased or decreased and how the inclusion of resistors can be beneficial. In Design Technology, the children have made different playground equipment using natural materials. They used hacksaws, glue guns and hand drills.

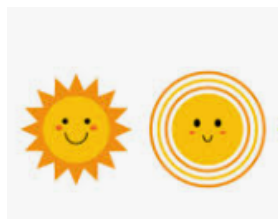


In Computing the children have been learning how to code using HTML and in French, they have been learning how to say and read the date. In PSHE, they have completed their 10-week DAaRT programme. The children celebrated with a graduation where they showcased their learning to their parents and guardians.

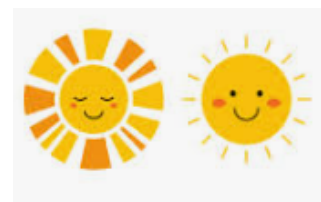
Next term in English, they will be writing narratives. In Maths, they will be recapping and consolidating their learning. In History, they will be learning about Vikings and Anglo-Saxons and in Science, they will be exploring evolution and inheritance. The children will also be completing their Statutory Assessment Tests.

**Merit Award:** Henry - for your phenomenal English work. You have made careful conscious choices about the grammar and punctuation you choose to include, as well as allowing your own natural creative flare to shine through. Well done Henry!

**Courtesy Award:** Bess - for consistently being the 'Best you can be!'. You are always kind, caring and considerate towards others and this radiates from you. You set the most impeccable standard towards others throughout school and are incredibly helpful to all staff and pupils here at Clarborough Primary school. Well done Bess!



**Dates for Your Diary**  
**Summer Term 1**  
**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025**



**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April** – First day of Summer Term 1 - Children return back to school

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April & Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April** – Year 5 Bikeability Group 1

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April & Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April** – Year 5 Bikeability Group 2

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May** – Pop Up Uniform Shop

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May** – BANK HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSED

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May** – VE Day Celebrations

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May** – Year 6 SATS

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May** – Census Lunch (Details to Follow)

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May** – Class Photos & Year 6 Leavers Photos

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May** – Last day of term

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**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May** - Half Term Holiday

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June** – INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** – Pupils Return to School – Start of Summer Term 2

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June** – Pop Up Uniform Shop



Breakfast club, wraparound care, 30hours and lunches need to be booked in and paid for at least one week in advance on Parentmail. Breakfast is served daily until 8:20 am. If you have any questions or queries relating to Breakfast club, Wraparound and lunches please email Mrs Hardie on [office@clarborough.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@clarborough.notts.sch.uk)