

February 2026 Newsletter

13th February 2026

Message from the Head

As usual we have had a very busy first half term of the year. Looking forward to next half term we will have an increasingly busy time with various clubs, trips, residentials and parents' evenings taking place – please see details and dates below.

Expedition Club

We will again be running Expedition Club for our Y6 pupils in the Summer term (more information for Y6 parents to follow after half term). We try to keep a stock of equipment in school that we can lend to children so they all have the chance to access this opportunity. If you have unused / rarely used, good quality waterproof jackets and trousers, walking boots, thick socks, hats, gloves, thermal base layers or rucksacks that you are not using, and would fit Y6 children, we would happily add them to our stock. (We have a good selection of smaller sizes, so ideally larger – Adult size small and medium – would be ideal.) Many thanks.

Policy on the Administration of Medicine

We have to follow very strict guidelines from our Health and Safety Advisor on the administering of all medication. Therefore, we ask that where possible medication timings are organised for outside of school time or where possible a parent/carer can drop into school to administer them.

We have been advised that prescribed medicine which needs to be taken “three times a day” should be done so outside of school hours. When it is necessary for children to have medication during the school day parents/carers will need to deliver the medication to the School Office in its original packaging. There will be a form to be completed before Office staff can administer this. **Medication must not be sent into school with a child or in a child's bag.** The medication must be collected from the School Office at the end of the day.



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Free School Meals

If you are entitled to certain benefits you may be able to claim 'Free School Meals and Clothing Vouchers' from the Local Authority.

Children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 are entitled to 'Universal Free School Meals' but this is different so please still apply. All schools receive extra funding for children entitled to 'Free School Meals and Clothing Vouchers'. The extra funding continues for the following six years and is called 'Pupil Premium'. There are advantages for children who are eligible, such as:

- The Local Authority provide a clothing voucher for each child
- School milk is provided free
- Financial help is given to parents when paying for school trips and residential visits
- Free uniform pack provided by school

If you think you may be eligible please click this link:

[Free School Meals & Clothing vouchers](#)

Have you seen our new look website?

[Ghyllside Primary School - Home](#)

Orian School Meals

Please remember to order school meals for your child in advance, the cut off is 9.30am on the day. We will need to call parents/carers and ask them to provide a packed lunch for their child when a meal is not ordered. Also, if your child is absent or they decide to have a packed lunch, please remember to cancel the pre-ordered meal. Thank you.

Nursery Places

Our Nursery still has places available for September 2026.

Did you know that...

- We offer care for children from the age of three
- Our hours are flexible to suit you and your family
- All our staff are highly qualified and experienced
 - We can offer wrap around care too

If you would like to arrange a visit please contact the school office. We look forward to meeting you soon!

Community News



Dates for the diary

Monday 23 rd February:	School starts
Friday 27 th February:	PTA costume/book sale, after school
Tuesday 3 rd March:	Parents evening
Wednesday 4 th March:	Parents evening
Thursday 5 th March:	World Book Day, PTA best dressed costume competition
Thursday 5 th March:	Parents evening
Monday 9 th – Wednesday 11 th March:	Y5 Hawse End residential
Wednesday 11 th March:	Y4 Midday concert, Town Hall, am
Saturday 14 th March:	Swimathon, Leisure Centre, 4.15pm
Thursday 19 th March:	Y2 and Y5, Ben Soffa, Jewish speaker
Monday 23 rd – Wednesday 25 th March:	Y6 York residential
Monday 23 rd March:	Y5 Moving up evening, KKS, 5.15pm
Tuesday 24 th March:	Y4 Buddhist Centre trip
Friday 27 th March:	Term ends, 2pm

Monday 13 th April:	Summer term begins
Monday 13 th April:	Y3 Waterpark trip
Tuesday 14 th April:	Y2 Waterpark trip
Tuesday 21 st – Wednesday 22 nd April:	Y4 Brathay Residential

Monday 4 th May:	May bank holiday
Monday 18 th – Tuesday 19 th May:	Y3 Roman residential
Friday 22 nd May:	School finishes for half term, 3.20pm
Monday 1st June:	School starts
Tuesday 9 th June:	Class photographs
Monday 15 th June:	Dominic Kelly, storyteller in school
Friday 10 th July:	Y6 Leavers Ceilidh, 6 - 8.30pm
Friday 17 th July:	Y6 Leavers assembly, 9 -10am
Friday 17 th July:	Term ends, 2pm

As usual, if you have any questions about the content of this letter, or anything else, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Our Mission: Ghyllside Primary School – Growing Hearts and Minds
Our Values: Inspiring Healthy Inclusive Nurturing Experiences

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