

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Thursday 5th February 2026

Spring 1 Term

Hello everyone

It has been another wonderfully busy and inspiring fortnight at Leavening, and I am incredibly proud of everything our children and staff have achieved.

One of the absolute highlights has been our visit to Young Voices. This is always such a special experience for our pupils, performing as part of something so big, building confidence, teamwork and a real love of music.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to all of the staff who supported the visit, and particularly to Mrs Stockill for the time, care and dedication she puts into preparing the children. Opportunities like this really do create memories that last a lifetime.

We have also celebrated sporting success with our Year 3 and 4 dodgeball team, who represented the school brilliantly at their recent tournament, winning 5 out of 8 games. We are so proud of their teamwork, resilience and sportsmanship, they were fantastic ambassadors for our school.

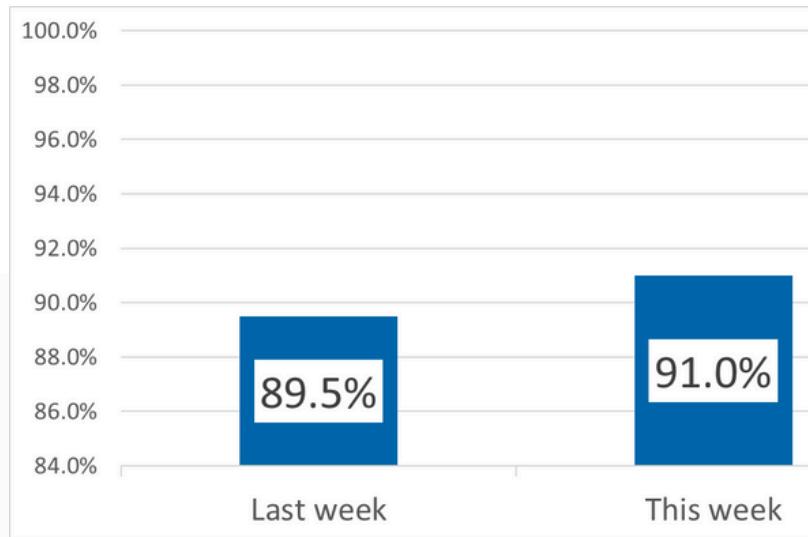
As we move into the final week of half term, we are really looking forward to a number of special events. Our whole school visit will mark the finale of our Memory Box topic, bringing together the learning, reflection and shared experiences the children have explored. Alongside this, we will be embracing Children's Mental Health Week, with lots of learning and activities to support wellbeing across the school. We are also excited for the Big Sing at Malton School for Oak Trees — another wonderful opportunity for our children to shine.

Finally, we will be saying goodbye to Chris Peel at the end of this half term. Chris has given so much to our school community, and we are incredibly grateful for everything she has done for our children, families and staff.

I know you will join me in wishing her every success and happiness in her next chapter. Thank you, as always, for your continued support

With my best wishes. Mrs Mitchell

School Attendance



DIARY DATES

FEBRUARY

Mon 9th-note the date change

Landing of topic: Visit to York
(Conkers & Oak Trees)

Thurs 12th

FOLS Valentines Disco

5.15-6.30pm (Conkers&Oak Trees)

Fri 13th

Big Sing Event 12-5.30pm at
Malton School (Oak Trees)

End of term

W/C 16th Feb

Half term break

Mon 23rd

Spring term 2 begins.

MARCH

Mon 2nd

Books to be brought into school
for book swap (taking place Thurs)

Thurs 5th

World Book Day. Wear comfy
clothes/pyjamas. Bring a book!

W/C 16th

Parent/Teacher Consultations

Thurs 19th

Non-uniform day in exchange for
donations for FOLS Chocolate
Bingo Night (same day 4-5.30pm)

Fri 20th

Comic Relief

Dress in red/home clothes

Tues 24th

Rock Steady Concert 2pm

Fri 27th Last day of term

APRIL

Mon 13th Training day

Tues 14th Summer Term 1 begins

Pop-Up Library Dates:

5/3, 26/3, 30/4, 21/5, 11/6,

Sports Fixtures/Tournaments:

4/3: Dodgeball (Conkers)

11/3: Football (Y5&6)

Please clear ParentPay

balances before the end of term

Our Safeguarding Team at Leavening CP School:

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is: **Mrs Mitchell**

Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is: **Mrs Bennett** | Our Safeguarding Governor is: **Mrs Isaacs**

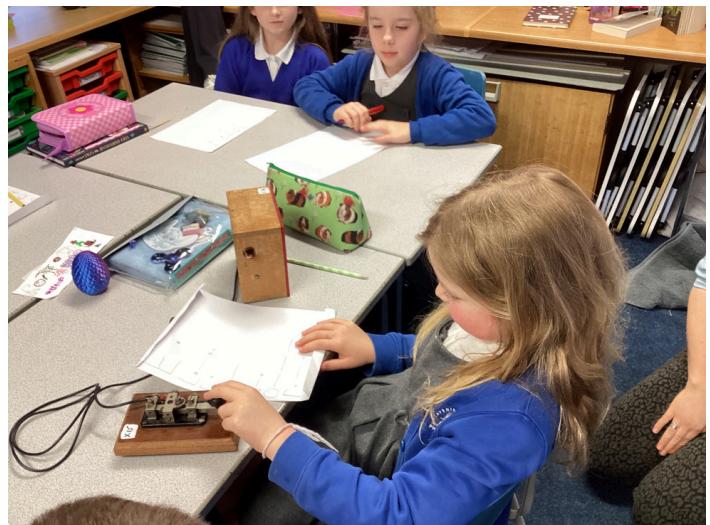


POPPY APPEAL

Thank you to everyone who bought poppies and merchandise at school in support of the recent Poppy Appeal. We are proud to announce that we raised **£61.95 for the Royal British Legion**. Your generosity makes a real difference to those in the Armed Forces community. To find out more about how your donation helps, please visit: <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/>

MORSE CODE AND COMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP IN OAK TREES CLASS

We would like to say a big thank you to Ken for running a fantastic workshop on Morse code and code-breaking skills. The session was extremely interesting, and the children thoroughly enjoyed taking part. They were especially fascinated by the spy briefcase filled with secret communications, similar to those used during the war. Thank you again to Ken for giving his time and sharing such a memorable experience with the pupils.



Year 3 and 4 Dodgeball Tournament

Year 3 and 4 participated in the dodgeball tournament at Malton Sports Centre on Wednesday 28th January.

They showed excellent teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the event and performed very well. Isaac and Merry even managed to catch some opposing players out! Well done to everyone involved and a huge thank you to our volunteer drivers who helped on the day.

Leavening School came a very respectable 3rd place overall!



Other School Information, Reminders & Events

World Book Day - Thursday 5th March

We are excited to be celebrating World Book Day with a day of activities designed to inspire a love of reading across our school.

At Leavening, we believe reading opens doors to imagination, learning and opportunity — and we are looking forward to celebrating this together as a community.

Children are invited to come to school in **comfy clothes or pyjamas** to reinforce the idea that reading is relaxing, enjoyable and something to treasure. They are welcome to bring **their favourite book** and a favourite **book belonging to a parent, carer or family member**.

We will also be running a Book Swap, where children can bring in old books they are happy to swap.

EYFS 'Stay and Read' Session – Nursery & Reception Families

To support our drive to build strong reading communities in EYFS, we are inviting Nursery and Reception parents/carers to a 'Stay and Read' session at the start of the school day on Thursday 5th March.

This will give families the chance to read with their child and see how we support early reading

If you would like to attend, please email the school to sign up.

Please bring books in for the Swap Shop on Monday 2nd March

The Book Swap itself will take place at school on World Book Day on the Thursday.

Children will **choose a new book to keep and take home**

This is a lovely way to recycle books and help children discover something new to enjoy.

Thank you for supporting our commitment to reading and helping us inspire children to become lifelong readers. Together, we can build a strong reading culture in our school — Together We Can.



Non Uniform/FOLS Chocolate Bingo Event: Thursday 19th March

3.30pm-5.30pm Eyes down at 4pm! | Adult: £5/each Child: £3/each.

Tickets will be on sale from the office soon!

This year, the event will take place soon after school, so families are welcome to stay after pick-up. We will be running a '**donation bar**' (**available from 3.30pm**) with **various refreshments and snacks** on offer, in return for donations.

Please can we ask children to each bring in a **chocolate donation** (which will be the prizes for the bingo) in exchange for **non uniform day on the same day** as this event (19/03/26).

Comic Relief: Friday 20th March

We are asking children to come to school '**red to toe**' (**dressed in red or home clothes**). If you would like to support, please make a donation via **your child's ParentPay account**.

Thank you in advance for your support 😊



For more information about Comic Relief and how your donations are used, please visit the official Comic Relief website: [Comic Relief – A just world free from poverty \(official site\)](https://www.comicrelief.com/rednoseday/). On their site you can find details about their mission, how funds are allocated to support people facing poverty and injustice in the UK and around the world, and answers to common questions about donating, including how donations are managed and spent

<https://www.comicrelief.com/rednoseday/>

Young Voices Concert

Oak Trees class had a fantastic time at the Young Voices concert at Sheffield Arena on 30th January. A huge thank you to Mrs Stockill for organising the event, as well as to Miss Templeman, Miss Mitchelmore and Mrs Peel for their accompanying support on the day.

Everyone had a wonderful and very memorable evening, as always.

We are already looking forward to the next one!

What some Year 5 and 6 pupils had to say:

"It was a very inclusive show where both adults and children had lots of fun. There was so much positive energy, with a wide range of people taking part. Urban Strides, the dance act, performed a brilliant routine, and the solo singers were really impressive.

It was such an enjoyable experience. The lights were beautiful. We had the best night ever!"



Donation Plea!

We Would Love Your Donations!

Mrs Raines is giving the Conkers home corner a fantastic makeover to make it even more fun and engaging for the children. Any indoor plants will also be used in Nursery and across school, so everyone can enjoy them!

In addition, Miss Templeman is also in need of various Forest School items for Oak Trees class.

HERE'S WHAT WE'RE HOPING FOR:

- dolls wooden highchair
- fascinators
- dress hats
- ties & bow ties
- beaded jewellery (preferably on elastic)
- hair bands
- glasses (reading or sunglasses- lenses will be taken out)
- hairbrushes
- loose buttons
- small handbags
- baskets
- indoor plants
- fake plants
- old tarpaulin sheets
- spare Forest School overalls/items
- KS2-size wellies

DROP OFF LOCATION: MAIN SCHOOL OFFICE

**THANK YOU IN
ADVANCE FOR YOUR
GENEROSITY!** 😊



FOLS VALENTINES DISCO

Price includes a drink and a snack.

Party games and prizes to be won!

**Children in Conkers and Oak Trees
classes are welcome to join**

**Due to space and capacity in the school hall,
we would encourage parents/carers to drop their child
off and return to school at the end of the event.**

Thank you for your support! 😊

5.15pm-6.30pm | Thursday 12th February 2026

Parents/carers of Reception children should stay with their child at the disco.

**If any parents/carers would like to help at the event,
please contact the office.**



Ryedale Parent Carer Groups and Talks Spring 2026

In partnership with Ryedale Special Families

Ryan Swain - You, Me & ADHD talk

Wednesday 11th February

Heidi Ridgewell Workshop

Feeling frustrated by your child's behaviour and looking for support? Join our Parent & Carer Workshop to explore where behaviour comes from, learn strategies to calm difficult situations, and discover new ways to support your child. You'll leave with practical ideas, inspiration, and tools to try at home.

Wednesday 11th March

Helen Arnold-Jenkins Talk

Helen is a SEND Governor & Vice Chair Helmsley, Kirkbymoorside & Slinnington Primary Cluster, Arete Learning Trust. Helen will share about her role and how she can support Parent Carers.

Wednesday 15th April

All Sessions held at Kirkbymoorside Community Hub YO62 6AG, 9.00am to 11.00am



RECENT HIGHLIGHTS FROM OAK TREES

Daffodil Dissection

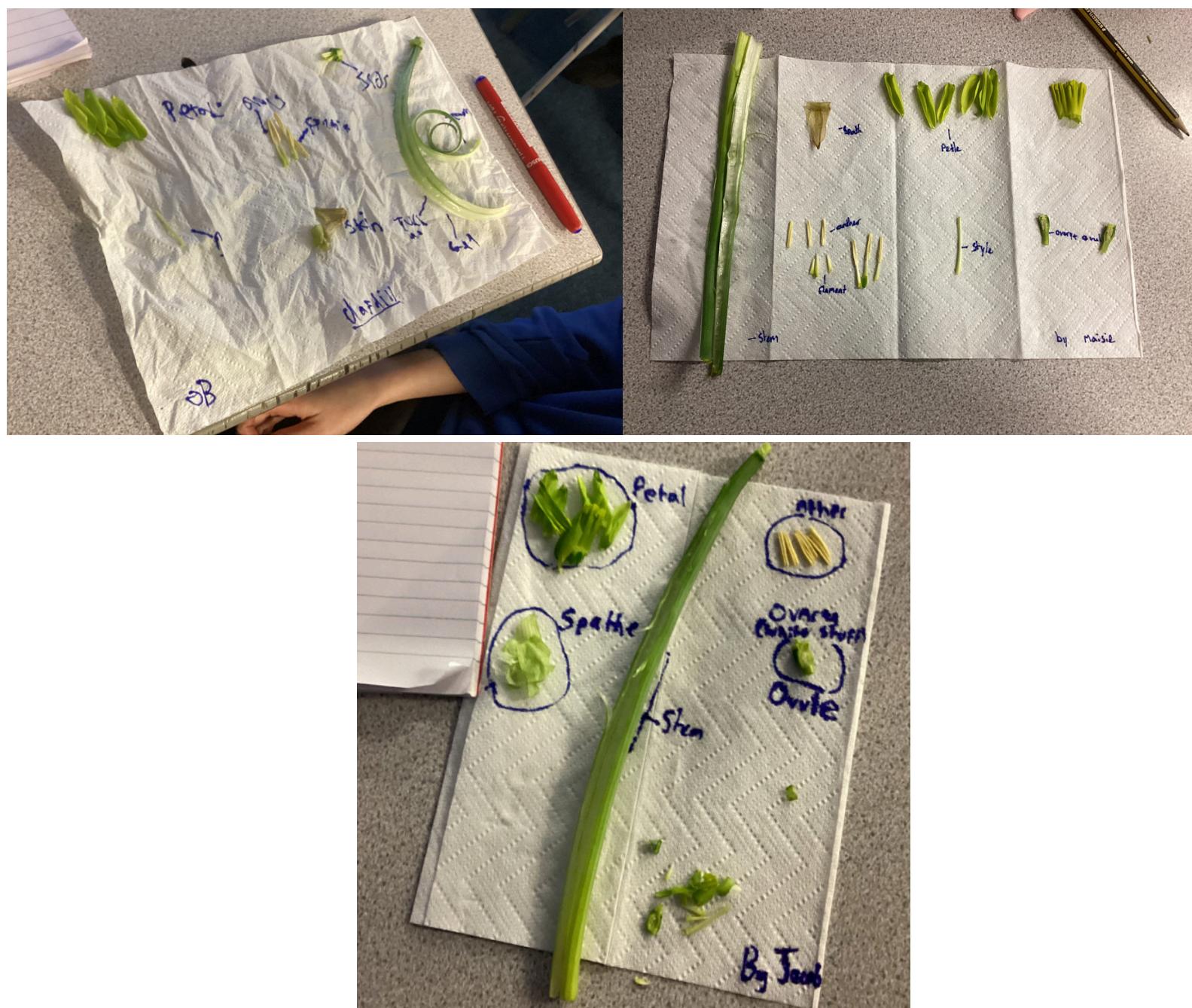
"We took a daffodil and carefully split it into its main parts. There were the petals, the stigma, the stamen, and several other parts.

We laid everything out on a paper towel, and some of us labelled them.

It was really interesting and fun to learn about plants. One of the coolest things was seeing tiny water bubbles of different sizes inside the stem when we split it in half.

Everyone in the class enjoyed the lesson because we could explore at our own pace and ask lots of questions. We are really looking forward to doing something like this again soon!"

-Merry (Year 4)





Dear Parents/Carers,

myHappymind

We have introduced a program to all year groups at school called myHappymind. myHappymind is all based around helping children to understand how their brain works and to support them in developing positive skills and habits to be their very best selves!

myHappymind is delivered in schools by class teachers through a series of interactive lessons and then the children apply these learnings throughout the day.

To further embed this learning, myHappymind has developed a Parent App. These resources can be accessed online on your computer, or through an app on your phone. The Parent App will support you as a parent in understanding what your child is learning, activities for you to do together at home and also a Kids Zone featuring myHappymind Games plus much more!

To access these materials just go to

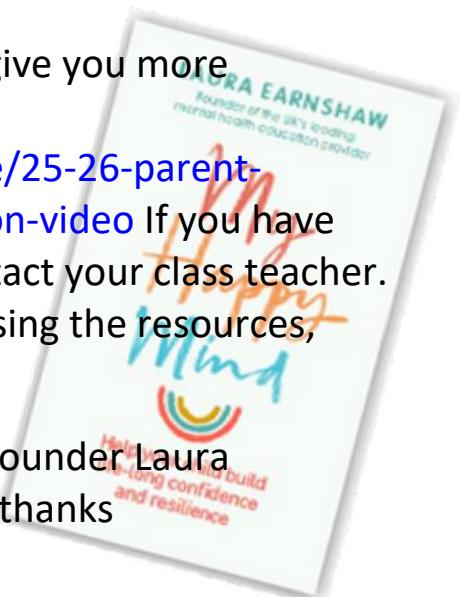
<https://myhappymind.org/parent-resources> to create your free account. You will need to enter your name, email, and authentication code. Your authentication code is 121453

Replace the X's with your school's 6-digit URN Or simply scan this QR code to sign up Once you have created your account, you will receive an email with the next steps on downloading the app. We really encourage you to make use of this free content so that you can support your child in getting the best out of the curriculum.

There is a really useful video to watch that will give you more information- follow this link

<https://courses.myhappymind.org/courses/take/25-26-parent-resources/lessons/66597715-parent-introduction-video> If you have any questions about myHappymind, please contact your class teacher. If you have any technical questions about accessing the resources, please contact hello@myHappymind.org

Want to learn more? Check out myHappymind founder Laura Earnshaw's best selling book on [Amazon](#). Many thanks



North Yorkshire and York Music Hub

VOCAL PROJECT DAYS



Love to sing?

Want to perform with others?

Come and be part of our new Vocal Groups

A fun and inspiring space for young and aspiring singers from across North Yorkshire and York to rehearse, learn, and grow together.

For more details, email:
Countyhall.Music@northyorks.gov.uk



North Yorkshire and York Music Hub

ENSEMBLES PROJECT DAYS



Play an instrument?

Love making music with others?

Come and be part of our Instrumental Ensemble Days

A fantastic opportunity to rehearse, perform, and develop your ensemble skills with other musicians from across North Yorkshire and York in a supportive and welcoming environment.

For more details, email:
Countyhall.Music@northyorks.gov.uk



**7 March
18 April
16 May
20 June**

10am - 3pm



Escrick C of E
Primary School
Carr Lane
YO19 6JQ

Vocal Project Days are **FREE**, & open to all children and young people from North Yorkshire and York in Years 4 to 13

**15 March
19 April
14 June
20 June**

10am - 3pm



The Regen
Centre
Landing Lane
YO19 6PW

Ensemble Project Days are **FREE**, & open to all children and young people from North Yorkshire and York above grade 2 on their instrument.