

Reeth and Gunnerside Schools

Newsletter 2 Summer Term 2025



STEPPING UP

This week our Y6 pupils have visited their secondary schools and all pupils have spent time in their new classes as part of our transition arrangements for the new school year. Preparing pupils for the next step of their education is really important and is a core aspect of our vision:

'We all work together to make a better school, make connections and to prepare for our future.'

We've enjoyed singing our school song, *One More Step Along the World I Go*, and have taken time to talk about classroom life and priorities as we look ahead to a new start. We hope that everyone has had a great experience and is looking forward to the new opportunities and challenges in store in September. If any parents would appreciate a meeting with their child's new class teacher, please do contact the school office to make an appointment.

We've enjoyed a busy half term so far, with lots of enrichment activities, school visits and adventures. We hope that you enjoy looking through photos of these, and are able to join us for school events as we approach the end of term.

Best wishes

G. Stainsby

Gordon Stainsby, Headteacher
Friday 4th July

EARLY YEARS

As part of our learning about summer, our early years pupils have really enjoyed seeing our caterpillars and tadpoles finally change into adults! Earlier this week we had a perfect day to release our 3 butterflies and it was amazing to see them fly away into the trees. Our little frogs have been fascinating to watch, and we hope they have a lovely time in Mrs Guy's pond!



GOOD BEHAVIOUR CERTIFICATES

Congratulations to the children below that have received good behaviour certificates in recent weeks.

BRONZE

Thomas Dixon, Lenny Haigh,
Orla Stainsby, Eloise Fowler,
Sophie Rukin, Charlotte Whitehead,
Nancy Dixon, Annie Hunter,
Zander Coates, Evie Burge,
Raife Coates, James Livingstone,
Daniel Calvert, Henry Abbey,
Lottie Shade, Alexa Stoddart,
Chloe Calvert, Charlotte Tinsley,
Tommy Wearmouth

SILVER

Jacob Coates,
Josh Coates, Chloe
Reynoldson,
Seth Booth, Ella Shade,
Seth Whitehead,
Luca Iesini-Atkinson,
William Dawes,
Arlo Johnson, Ben Guy,
Samuel Chen-Robinson,
Ellie Dixon

GOLD

Harry Coates, Josh Coates, Eliza Guy,
Emma Livingstone, Harry Calvert,
Amelia Hill, Rosie Holliday, Charlie Sunter,
Phoebe Guy, Thalia Calvert, Amy Allison,
Holly Calvert, Charlotte Dixon,
Olivia Sunter, Tommy Wearmouth,
Tyler Doughty-Coates,
Brooke Thompson, Isabelle Porter,
Fern Stainsby, Jessica Rukin

SALTBURN

Younger pupils really enjoyed a day at Saltburn, enhancing their classroom learning about coasts and the seaside. They made sandcastles and sand-art, followed by a paddle and a ride in the funicular cliff railway.

'My favourite part was the sand art.' Phoebe

'I liked jumping over the waves – it was fun.' Isabelle

'It was good to see the things we've learned about like the pier, the cliffs and the bay.' Seth

'I liked the beach art – it was nice and calming.' Charlie

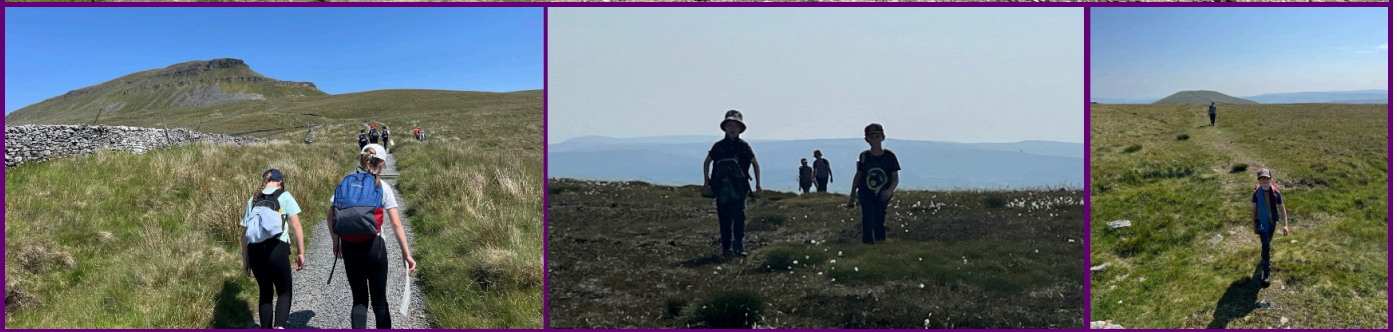
'It was really good. I liked going on the funicular and learning how it works. The top carriage is filled with water until it weighs more than the lower one and pulls it up.' Chloe

'We saw a crab when we were paddling.' Eliza



PEN-Y-GHENT

A few weeks ago, a group of Y5 & 6 pupils enjoyed a sunny afternoon walk on Pen-y-ghent as part of the John Muir Award. They each led a section of the route and are now increasingly able to navigate independently. For some of the group, this was the third of the Yorkshire Three Peaks – a great achievement!



GUNNERSIDE GILL MINE WALK

Y5 & 6 pupils enjoyed a great day exploring Gunnerside Gill as part of their study of former lead mining in the local area. We walked through the dressing floors of Sir Francis Level, learning about the different methods used to process the lead ore and the increasing use of technology to drive the levels and pump water from the mines. We ventured further to Bunton Level and then on to the smelt mill and and peat store at Blakethwaite. We returned on the western side of the valley and this gave a great view of the Gorton, Friarfold and Bunton hushes.

'Today was really fun, my favourite part was visiting the entrance to Sir Francis Level. The level is one mile long and took 13 years to build.' Alexa

'I liked thinking about what it was like to be a child lead miner and how hard life would have been.' William

'It was interesting to learn about how the Victorians used water and channelled it to power their inventions.' Charlotte

'I enjoyed the views throughout the walk, they were very beautiful.' Samuel

'It was great to see the things that they used and did in Victorian times, especially the big pipe that goes down to the engine room.' Tyler



SPORTS DAY

Well done to all pupils that took part in our sports day at Gunnerside School. Everyone was impressed by the level of enthusiasm and determination which was well matched by sportsmanship and encouragement of others. Everyone took part in a lot of races, and the refreshments kindly provided by Friends of School were very well earned! We're sorry that the early years sports afternoon was postponed, and look forward to the rescheduled event next week.



SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

One of the NYC outreach librarians, Laura Dinning, recently talked to pupils about the 2025 summer reading challenge. This is available during the holiday at our local libraries or online from tomorrow, Saturday 5th July. The theme this year is *Story Garden* which takes reading to the outdoors, inspiring children to tap into a world of imagination through reading, exploring the magical connection between storytelling and nature. The challenge is to read 6 library books over the summer holiday. Any child aged 4 to 11 can take part and everyone who finishes will receive a certificate. There will also be a programme of activities in libraries all summer, many of them free, to go with the challenge. <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk>



MOUNTAIN BIKING

Older pupils have been exploring tracks and bridleways after school each Friday during the summer term. They have completed a variety of rides including the Swale Trail down from Keld, a journey in Gunnerside Gill and routes along the side of Calver and Harkerside. Their skills, responsibility and independence have progressed well and they have been a pleasure to work with. Well done everyone!



LEAVERS' EVENTS

The last week of term will begin with a special assembly for Y6 pupils at Gunnerside Chapel. Parents are welcome to join us at 9:30am.

Y5 & 6 pupils will perform a musical production of *Jack and the Beanstalk* on Tuesday 15th July in Reeth Memorial Hall. Pupils need to arrive at the hall by 5.50pm, ready in costume for a 6pm start. We expect the concert to last approximately 1 hour. As usual, the performance is open to family, friends and the wider community. We hope you can join us.

The following day, we will celebrate Y6 achievement and their contribution to our school, wishing them every success as they move on. Parents and family of our leavers, along with parents of younger pupils who would like to join us in saying goodbye to the Y6 cohort are most welcome to join us. The event will take place on Wednesday 16th July at 1.45pm, at Gunnerside School.

WRAPAROUND PROVISION

We're pleased to let you know that our breakfast and wraparound offer, based at Reeth, will continue from September. We've adjusted the days that the service is available to meet parent requirements as best we can.

Breakfast: Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 7:45am
After school: Tuesdays and Thursdays until 5:45pm

Costs remain the same for the year ahead: £5 for breakfast and £10 for after school sessions.

The service has included nursery age pupils and will continue to do so for the year ahead. Please note that as part of a review of our offer, a year from now in September 2026, provision will be for pupils in reception through to Y6.

LET'S LEARN MOOR

This week KS2 pupils have spent a day learning about the importance of the uplands, the wildlife that lives there and how they are protected. The event was provided by the Yorkshire Dales Moorland Group in partnership with Countryside Learning, as part of a wider project across seven upland areas in England. Thank you to everyone involved for a brilliant day.

'I really enjoyed the bit when they talked about the bees. I learned that a queen bee lays 2000 eggs in a day.' Josh
'I got to eat venison which is a type of deer. I got to see bee hives. Did you know, the queen bee has a peanut shape egg? Any of the girl bees may become a queen bee.' Marianne
'It was an amazing experience. Everyone put so much effort in for our day.' Charlotte
'The working dogs were my favourite activity because we saw them in action and they were spaniels. My favourite dog was Minnie, she was the golden brown one. The naughtiest dog was Misty and there was also Mathilda and Merlin.' Leo
'What I really enjoyed was watching how the dogs fetched the things. The meat tasted so nice. I really enjoyed using the power washer to put out the fire. It was fun doing the dry stone walling because we could find fossils and we could make our own drystone walls.' Orest



MARRICK PRIORY

This morning, KS1 pupils have had a blast at Marrick Priory, completing an abseil challenge from the tower, a climbing session and an introduction to archery.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

July	Wed 9 th	Y3 & Y4 East Barnby residential (3 days)
		Rescheduled early years sports afternoon – 1:30pm – Reeth School
	Thurs 10 th	Y5 & Y6 afternoon rehearsal for leavers' concert at Reeth Memorial Hall
	Mon 14 th	Leavers' service – 9:30am – Gunnerside Chapel
	Tues 15 th	Younger pupils to watch leavers' concert dress rehearsal – Reeth Memorial Hall
		Y6 Leavers' concert – 6pm – Reeth Memorial Hall
	Wed 16 th	Leavers' celebration – 1:45pm – Gunnerside School
Sept	Thurs 17 th	Whole school walk – Reception to Y6
	Fri 18 th	School closes at 2:30pm for summer holidays
	Mon 1 st	Training day
	Tues 2 nd	School reopens