




### Dates For Diary

<b>1<sup>st</sup> June 2026</b>	Back to School!
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> June 2026</b>	FIM Workshop
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2026</b>	Year 5 visit Nell Bank
<b>5<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	Non-uniform Day and Bring a bottle- info below
<b>8<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	Class Photos
<b>9<sup>th</sup> &amp; 10<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	Book fair- details below 
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> &amp; 24<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	EYFS Swithens Farm
<b>24<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	PTA event- Summer Fayre- Poster Below
<b>6<sup>th</sup> July 2026</b>	4AD Ukulele concert
<b>8<sup>th</sup> July 2026</b>	Year 3 Magna Visit
<b>8<sup>th</sup> July 2026</b>	2DJ Class assembly 9am
<b>20<sup>th</sup> July 2026</b>	Inset Day
<b>1<sup>st</sup> September 2026</b>	Inset Day

### Attendance

Well done everyone!  
Keep up the amazing achievement.

The winning class of this week's attendance challenge is 3SJ with 99.6%

The whole school attendance is 94.19%

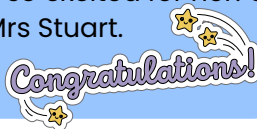
Thank you for your effort! Lets keep aiming for our whole school target of 96%

Class	%
3SJ	99.6%
1CLW	99.1%
FJP	97.7%
FKW	97.6%
1JS	97.0%
4AD	96.4%
FJW	96.2%
6LG	96.1%
2DJ	96.1%
4RH	95.5%
4RQ	94.8%
5GS	94.2%
3RW	93.6%
6SW	93.3%
1JT	93.3%
5SH	92.5%
6HY	92.5%
2CW	92.3%
2TD	90.9%
5JG	90.8%
3BJ	89.5%

<b>Yellow</b>	99%/ 100% this is outstanding
<b>Green</b>	97%/ 98% is good
<b>Amber</b>	95% to 96% this is expected
<b>Purple</b>	93%/ 94% requires improvement- attendance officer involvement
<b>Red</b>	91%/ 92% level 1 cause for concern- EWO involvement

### Congratulations!

A good luck and congratulations to Miss Pattison, from our admin team who will be getting married during the holidays! We are so excited for her! She will return as Mrs Stuart.



### Good Luck!

We would like to wish Miss Dickinson, one of our Year 4 teachers' good luck as her rugby Team (Sandal Warriors), will be playing at Twickenham on 24/5/26 in the finals? We will be thinking of you and look forward to sharing the result with everyone when we return after the holidays!



### Summer Fayre

Summer Fayre day on the 24<sup>th</sup> June, children will finish at 2:15pm



We would like to welcome Mrs Gorse to our Team! In the final half term, she will be working in 3BJ and also be the Phase Leader. She is looking forward to meeting you all soon!

## Well Done!

Alexis got her Red Belt with a yellow stripe.

We are so proud of you!



## Future in Mind Parent Workshop:

Future in Mind Parent Workshop: Next Steps—transitions and emotional wellbeing Tuesday 2nd June at 9am

Year 6 parents are welcome to join us in school on Tuesday 2nd June at 9am for a workshop where you can learn about the impact of change on your child and common worries around moving from primary to secondary school. You can also gain tips on how you can support your child through this transition. We looking forward to seeing you.

### Date

### Year 6 Events

2/7/26

Kettlethorpe Transition day

30/6/26-2/7/26

St Thomas a' Becket transition day

8/7/26

School of Rock performance  
afternoon 2pm - 3pm  
Evening 6pm - 7pm

9/7/26

Year 6 Leaver disco 3:15-4:30pm

10/7/26

Parents' Picnic 2-3pm

14/7/26

Leavers Church Service (St Helens Church) 1:30pm

15/7/26

Bridlington Trip 9-4pm

17/7/26

Leaver Assembly 9- 10am

## New Book!

A new illustrated children's book has just dropped about the world's first nature reserve, which is just three miles from Sandal Castle Primary School.

The Badgers of Walton Hall tells how squire Charles Waterton turned his estate into a haven for wildlife 200 years ago this month.

You may not have heard of Charles Waterton but he is greatly admired by none other than Sir David Attenborough!

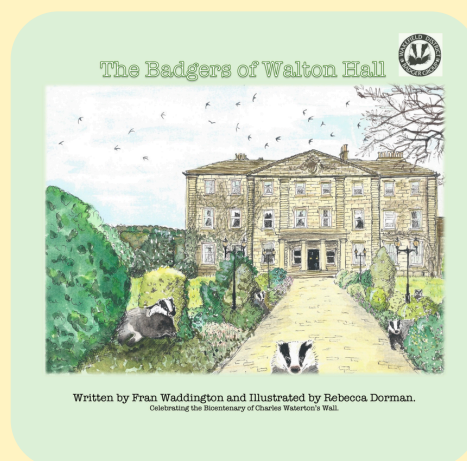
Making it even more special, the book has been illustrated by our very own Mrs Dorman while the author is a former Sandal Castle teacher, Fran Waddington.

The captivating story is told through the eyes of Beverley the badger and features more than 30 colour illustrations.

Mrs Waddington will give a special reading of the book at Walton Hall at 2pm this Monday, with copies available for sale afterwards.

If you can't make it, The Badgers of Walton Hall is on sale now at £10 per copy—all proceeds go to support Wakefield District Badger Group in their important work in our local area.

To buy a copy contact Fran on 07597940006 or Pam at [wakefieldbadgergroup@gmail.com](mailto:wakefieldbadgergroup@gmail.com)



## Half Term

We wish you a fantastic half term holiday and thank you for your continued support this half term. Enjoy the beautiful weather and we look forward to seeing you safely back on Monday 1st June.

## Dinner Debate



Dinner Debate- This week we have been thinking about our special gifts and talents. Our Big Questions have been:

What is the gift I have?

How could I use that gift in a new way this week?

# PTA EVENTS



**5**

FRIDAY  
JUNE

**NON- UNIFORM DAY**

ON FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE WE WILL BE HAVING A NON-UNIFORM DAY. WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK EACH YEAR GROUP TO BRING IN THE FOLLOWING ITEMS AS A DONTATION TOWARDS OUR SUMMER FAYRE. ALL ITEMS MUST BE UNOPENED, NUT FREE AND HAVE A USE BY DATE PASSED JUNE 25TH

EYFS - SWEETS  
YEAR 1 - BOTTLES  
YEAR 2 - SWEETS  
YEAR 3 - BOTTLES  
YEAR 4 - GENERAL TOMBOLA  
YEAR 5 - GENERAL TOMBOLA  
YEAR 6 - CAKES

**24**

WEDNESDAY  
JUNE

**SUMMER FAYRE**

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HOLD A STALL AT THE SUMMER FAYRE, PLEASE EMAIL - [LEGLEY@SANDAL.WAKEFIELD.SCH.UK](mailto:LEGLEY@SANDAL.WAKEFIELD.SCH.UK)



# SANDAL BOOK FAIR

TUESDAY 9<sup>th</sup> & WEDNESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> JUNE  
3:15pm - 4:00pm

Join us for our Sandal Book Fair and discover a world of stories waiting to be explored! The fair will be held just outside the main entrance area. There will be a fantastic selection of books for all ages and interests, so don't miss the chance to find your next great read.

Best of all, the funds raised will go towards improving and updating our school Dyslexia Library provision with new, engaging books. We look forward to seeing you there!

ANY UNWANTED BOOK DONATIONS WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. PLEASE DROP OFF AT THE MAIN RECEPTION - THANK YOU!

A vibrant, cartoon-style poster for a 'Summer Attendance Challenge'. The background is a bright yellow vertical banner on a light blue sky. At the top left is a large, 3D-style sun with a bright orange center and yellow rays. To its right are several fluffy white clouds. The title 'SUMMER ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE' is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters, curving across the top of the yellow banner. Below the title, on the left, is a yellow megaphone. On the right is a pink and white ice cream bar on a wooden stick. In the center of the banner, the challenge details are written in smaller, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. At the bottom left is a blue toy car with a pink ice cream cone on its roof. At the bottom right is a colorful plastic slide with yellow and green slides and a blue base. The bottom of the poster is decorated with a row of green leaves and white daisies with orange centers.

# SUMMER ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE

ATTEND SCHOOL EVERY DAY  
FROM MONDAY 27 APRIL TO  
FRIDAY 10 JULY TO EARN  
YOURSELF A PLACE IN OUR  
SUMMER ATTENDANCE  
CELBRATION MORNING

# SEND COFFEE & CHAT SESSIONS

## Sandal Castle Community Primary School

### Supporting SEND Parent Carers & School

♥ Support – A safe space for parent carers to share experiences and get advice.

♥ Connect – Build relationships with other parent carers, school staff and WPCF.

♥ Empower – Gain access to resources, guest speakers, and SEND guidance.

♥ Co-production – Strengthen home-school partnerships = better outcomes for children.



Join our SEND Coffee & Chat Sessions 9am - 10am

Thursday 29 January 2026

Thursday 19 March 2026

Friday 8 May 2026

Thursday 2 July 2026

**Stanley Family Hub**  
Thursday 26th February  
&  
Wednesday 13th May  
9AM to 11AM



### SEND Parents and Carers Drop-in Stanley Family Hub

Are you a parent or carer of a child with SEND?  
Drop in at your local family hub

We offer a supportive environment for parents or carers of SEND children to relax and talk with others. There will be information regarding local services and advice on how to support your child. Sessions can be tailored to people's needs in the group and are run monthly at hubs across our district.

**Free tea, coffee, and biscuits provided. Free parking.**

Please contact Stanley Family Hub 01924 303181 for more information.





☀️🌈 Everyone Welcome!!! 😊 Please join us for Family Aspirations and Warm Space!!!! 😊🌈🌟

Every Monday at Castle Family Hub 3:30pm to 4:30pm (Term time only). This is free of charge and everyone is welcome, where you and your children can gather for free in a warm, safe, and welcoming place. Our address is: Castle Family Hub, 255 Barnsley Road, Wakefield WF1 5NU. For more information, please call us on 01924 303376.



You'll be invited to enjoy a snack and soft drinks, and take part in planned activities. If you are not registered with

us already, please register with us when you arrive. It's free of charge!!! 😊 We hope to see you then!!! 😊🌈

#castlefamilyhub #WakefieldFamiliesTogether 😊



# Wakefield Parent Education Hub

## What is it?

A new, easy-to-use website has launched in Wakefield, giving families clear information, practical tools and helpful resources to support their child's health, development and learning.

## Who is it for?

The website is for all Wakefield families, including families who home educate and those with children who have SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities). The website can help support children and young people from birth up to 19 years old (or up to 25 years old for those with an Education, Health and Care Plan).

## Why is it useful?

Created with local parents and partners, it brings trusted local and national guidance together in one place to help every child thrive.

## What you'll find on the website:

Clear, easy-to-follow information on **health, safety and wellbeing** topics



Activities and resources to help build **resilience and confidence**



Easy-to-understand information and tips for talking about different topics at home



Practical advice and ideas to support with **feelings and emotions**



Speech, language and communication advice and support for under 5yrs.



Links to trusted local and national support



Scan the **QR code** to go to the **website!**  
<https://www.riskandresilience.org.uk/>

# May Half Term

**23 May - 31 May (closed Mon & Tue)**  
**Free Entry**

Experience an action-packed May Half Term, perfect for a family adventure!

Discover incredible hands-on activities, brass band performances, pit village pastimes and so much more.

Craft your own beautiful kite, paint a colourful character, pick up a nature trail backpack, take an immersive Time Tunnel tour, and celebrate the spring season with a woodland scavenger hunt.

**Find out more at: [ncm.org.uk/MayHalfTerm](https://ncm.org.uk/MayHalfTerm)**

**The Beach is open this May Half Term!**  
(if the sun is shining)



### **Bold as Brass**

Saturday 23 May, 10am-3.30pm, free entry

Join us for Bold as Brass, our annual brass bands event with a wonderful day of music and entertainment, in partnership with Brass Bands England.

### **Makers' Shed - Wed-Sun (11.30am-3.30pm) 4-12 yrs**

Step into the streets of Tom McGuinness paintings and make games inspired by pit village pastimes. FREE, Drop-in

### **Life in the Pit Village: Wartime Stories - Daily, (11.30am-3pm)**

Travel back to the 1940s and uncover what life was really like in the Pit Village through family-friendly storytelling. FREE, Drop-in

### **Pithead Baths Explore - Wed-Sun (12pm) all ages**

Discover the daily routines of miners, from the start to the end of their day, in this fun family tour! FREE

### **Spring Scavenger Hunts - Wed 27-Fri 29 May (10.30am-11.30am)**

Join us for a woodland adventure hunting for nature's treasures. Perfect for Under 5s!

### **Kite Making Family Workshop - Wed 27, Thu 28 and Fri 29 May, 11am-12.30pm**

Celebrate the joy of spring and craft your own beautiful kite using wood, fabric, and ribbon. Build it, decorate it, and watch your creation soar against the spring sky.

### **Horsekeeper Talks - Wed-Sun, all ages**

Visit Eric, Ernie, Aladdin and Bud. Join us for our Horsekeeper talks at 12pm and see what they have to eat at 2.30pm. FREE

### **Paint, Patterns and People Family Workshop - Wed 27 & Sat 30**

May, 1.30pm-2.30pm & 2.30pm-3.30pm, £2.50 per family  
Join artists Lenny and Whale for this fun painting workshop. Create your own colourful character to add to our sculptural village that will be exhibited at the Museum in October 2026.

### **Minecraft-inspired Escape Room in a Box, Thu 28 May, 10.30am and 1pm, £15 per family**

Test your skills to crack the code! Work as a team, solve clues, and see if you can problem-solve your way to victory before time runs out!

### **Time Tunnel - Wed-Sun, £5.50 per child, £6.50 per adult**

Be transported through the centuries as you are taken through almost 200 years of mining history thanks to state-of-the-art technology. Book in advance via our website.



Building Strong Futures Together

# Our OPAL launch! (Outdoor Play and Learning)



We are delighted to share our Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) program, which will be launched shortly after the holidays! Please click onto this link for more information: <https://outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk/>

## Why change our current lunchtime provision?

We have spoken to our School Council representatives and lots of our parents who feel that our current lunchtime model isn't the best that it can be. In the wet months we struggle with 630 children on our small tarmacked area which causes accidents and poor behaviour choices through boredom and lack of space.

## Introducing OPAL:

OPAL is a nationally recognized program of improving outdoor play- particularly over the most unstructured parts of the school playtimes and lunchtimes. Our children are encouraged to use all of the outdoor spaces (including the field in the winter), to be active, have fun and explore!

## What kinds of things will our children be doing?

- ✓ Sandpit
- ✓ Stage for dancing/acting/performing
- ✓ Digging area
- ✓ Tree swings and rope slides
- ✓ Football pitch
- ✓ Scooter area
- ✓ Gymnastic bars
- ✓ Plus more coming (TBC)

Every week, our children will be nominated to receive certificates and the very prestigious award; The Golden Welly! 😊



## Scooters

We will be creating a rota for scooters, to encourage our children to bring them in to play on, on certain days. Watch this space...



## How will our children learn about OPAL?

We will be holding regular OPAL assemblies to share information such as safe play, and to share child friendly risk assessments as necessary.

## Is there any element of risk?

Our staff have all received training in the OPAL philosophy. During this training we have been trained in the risk/benefit model. Our children will receive regular assemblies to train them in how to enjoy safe risk.

As our children become more practiced at play, they will be carefully taught to undertake more riskier play (such as tree climbing). Risk assessments will be completed, and you will be informed, as we get to this point! 😊



## How will I be kept informed?

After the holidays, we will be including an OPAL box as a standing item on our weekly newsletter. This will inform you of our weekly certificate winners, plus any OPAL updates or requests. We will often be needing some donations or support from local companies, so please keep an eye out for this! 😊

## What about clothing?

Our children will be encouraged to use our field- all year round. This does mean that during the winter months we will be encouraging or children to bring wellies to school and waterproof clothing. Our children will be encouraged to change their footwear and put on their waterproof clothing during the cold and wet months.



## What about Children with Additional Needs?

Our staff will support children who have additional needs to be able to access our OPAL program. Reasonable adjustments will be made to support these children, including 1:1 adult support where appropriate.