



Dates For Diary

17th July 2026	At 3:15pm we break up for the Summer Holidays (Sandal Stars will run till 6pm as normal)
20th July 2026	Inset Day
1st September 2026	Inset Day
2nd Spetember 2026	Back To School!



YEAR 6



PERFORMANCE!

Well done to all of our Year 6 children on their production of School of Rock this week! We are so proud of their hard work and commitment - what a fantastic way to end their time at Sandal Castle Primary School! We wish them a fantastic last week of school and all the best as they move on to high school.



Attendance

Well done everyone!
Keep up the amazing achievement.

Class	%
3SJ	100.0%
1CLW	99.1%
1JS	98.3%
5GS	97.5%
5SH	97.5%
6LG	97.4%
2CW	97.1%
FJP	97.1%
2DJ	96.1%
4RQ	95.7%
3BJ	95.0%
3RW	95.0%
FJW	94.8%
5JG	94.4%
6SW	93.3%
4RH	92.9%
6HY	91.7%
FKW	91.5%
2TD	89.4%
1JT	89.3%
4AD	87.9%

The winning class of this is 3SJ with 100%

The whole school attendance 94.28%

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

Thank you!

A huge thank you to Victoria Garden Centre for their generous donation of plants, soil, seeds, planters and gardening accessories. We are incredibly grateful for their support, which has helped our Garden of Reflection flourish and look fantastic.

The children have also been busy planting lots of spider plant babies, which are now brightening up the windowsills throughout our corridors. We look forward to watching them grow over the coming months!



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

Date	Year 6 Events
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



Dinner Debate

Dinner Debate - In Collective Worship this week we have been thinking about the importance of being patient. Our Big Questions for this week have been:

What does it mean to be patient?

How can planning help us in the future?

Lost Property

Please check the lost property. As there is a lot of unclaimed items. From Monday the clothes will be outside reception and then will be disposed of Friday evening.



Bag For Life

Please can you encourage children in Years 1-6 to bring in a heavy duty carrier bag (bag for life) on Monday 13th July so that they can start to bring some of their books home?

Cashless

As a reminder, we are a **cashless school**. Please use Arbor to make payments for school dinners, trips, and other school events and activities.

We will clearly state in our communications if cash is required for a specific event or occasion.

Afterschool Clubs

Afterschool Clubs have now stopped, There won't be any clubs running next week.

Sandal Stars and sandal Sunrise will continue as normal.

Please Read!



Please remember to contact the school office whenever your child is absent, has a medical or other appointment, or will be arriving late or leaving school early. We also ask that you provide proof of any appointments where possible.

You can notify us by visiting the office during the school day or by emailing

office@sandal.wakefield.sch.uk.

As you can appreciate, messages passed to teachers at the classroom door may not always reach the office in time. It is therefore essential that the office is informed directly whenever a child is leaving school during the day, so that we know when they are leaving and the reason for their absence.

Thank you for your cooperation and support in helping us keep our attendance records accurate and ensure the safety of all pupils.

OPAL

As we come to the end of another fantastic school year, we would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported our OPAL journey. It has been wonderful to see the children enjoying the outdoor environment, using their imaginations, making new friendships and showing our school values every day. Despite the warm weather, the children have continued to play brilliantly while remembering how to stay safe in the sun by wearing hats, seeking shade and keeping hydrated. We are still looking for any donations to help us continue developing our OPAL provision over the summer. In particular, we would love any resources suitable for our sandpit area, as well as any loose parts that could inspire imaginative play.

Golden Welly Award!

As we celebrate the end of the academic year, the OPAL team would like to recognise every single child.

Throughout this term we have seen children demonstrate our school values of in so many different ways. Whether they have helped a friend, cared for our environment, used their imagination, shown determination or included others in their play, every child has contributed to making our playtimes a happy and positive place. This week's Golden Welly Awards are dedicated to all of our children. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of you!

Summer Activity Pack

We're delighted to share our new Kids Summer Activity Pack, bursting with fun, family-friendly activities to help children stay active, creative and connected with nature during the summer holidays.

Featuring Mandy Mole, Hannah the Horse, Bob the Badger and their friends, the pack includes outdoor challenges, crafts, puzzles, colouring activities, a short adventure story and plenty of opportunities for children to explore the natural world while having fun.

Suitable for Key Stage 1 and 2 children, the free pack can be downloaded to a mobile device or printed at home, making it perfect for families at home, in the garden, at the park or out on the Trans Pennine Trail.

We would be grateful if you could share it with parents and carers through your newsletters, websites or social media channels.

The activity pack can be downloaded from our Children's Page, at:

<https://www.transpenninetrail.org.uk/childrens-page/>





COME TO SCHOOL



EVERY DAY!



SCHOOL IS IMPORTANT!

School helps you learn, have fun, and make friends.



WHEN SHOULD I COME TO SCHOOL?

- Every day when I am well
- Even if I feel a little tired or a little unwell



BE ON TIME!

- Doors open at 8:45 AM
- Learning starts at 9:00 AM
- Being on time helps you feel ready and calm.



WHEN CAN I STAY HOME?

- If I am poorly



HOLIDAYS

- Holidays are for school holidays
- We don't usually go on holiday during school time

WE LOVE GOOD ATTENDANCE!

You can earn:

- ★ Certificates
- ★ Class Prizes
- ★ Bronze, Silver & Gold Awards



NEED HELP?

If something is worrying you:
Talk to your teacher
Talk to a grown-up
We are here to help

EVERY DAY MATTERS!

WE ARE HAPPY WHEN YOU ARE HERE



A vibrant, 3D-style poster for a 'Summer Attendance Challenge'. The background is a bright yellow banner on a light blue sky. At the top left is a large, smiling sun with a yellow face and rays. To its right are several fluffy white clouds. On the left side, there's a yellow megaphone. On the right side, there's a pink and white ice cream bar. At the bottom, there's a row of green grass with several white daisies. In the bottom left corner, there's a small blue toy car with a pink ice cream cone on top. In the bottom right corner, there's a colorful slide with yellow and green sections and a blue base. The text is centered on the yellow banner in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

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

**NATIONAL
COAL MINING
MUSEUM**

Wakefield, Yorkshire, WF4 4RH
Open Wednesday–Sunday

ncm.org.uk

Your six-week summer adventure starts here!

SUMMER TIME

at the *Coal Mine*

£10 per car (£7.50 early
bird until Sat 11 July)

Join us from **Saturday 18 July** until **Sunday 30 August**
for a holiday themed summer of family fun.

Get ready for weeks of amazing entertainment with interactive family shows, hands-on craft workshops, pop-up beach with music, and classic giant holiday games, special events, creative trails, pony feeding and pony keeper talks plus much, much more.

It doesn't matter if it's a traditional soggy British summer or the sun is shining all through the holidays, come and see us for a full day out like no other!

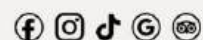


Scan here
to plan your
visit, or go to
ncm.org.uk

Our summer offer is great value for families; just £10 per car, including all of our amazing activities and unlimited Paddy Train rides for everyone (usually £2.50 per person) – weather permitting.

Some workshops and tours carry an additional charge and can be booked online in advance.

Share your
experience
#NCMME



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.

Makers' Shed – Wed–Sun, 11am–4pm, free as part of the summer offer, drop-in

Join us for free crafts inspired by the work of Jason Wilsher-Mills and miners welfare trips to the seaside from a bygone era.

Science Show – Wed–Sun, free as part of the summer offer, drop-in

Step from light into darkness in this explosive, interactive science show packed with fascinating facts, dazzling demonstrations, and encounters with historical characters.

Nature Crafts: Family Workshop – Wed 29–Fri 31 July & Wed 5–Fri 7 Aug: 11am–12.30pm, £10 per family

Head out onto the Museum's Nature Trail for a hands-on craft adventure, and get close to nature by making sun prints, hammer-printing organic materials onto textiles. Forage the forest floor to create beautiful clay tiles to hide in the trees.

Yorkshire Day – Sat 1 August, 10am–5pm, free as part of the summer offer

Join us for a grand gala family fun extravaganza in the proper Yorkshire way, inspired by the vibrant Miners' welfare galas of years past. Immerse yourself in the sights, sounds and experiences of real coalfield celebration.

Wind in the Willows: Outdoor Theatre Performance – Saturday 15 August, 12pm, free as part of the summer offer

Noisy Cow Theatre Co invites you to leave the modern world behind and join Mole, Ratty, and the formidable Badger on Kenneth Grahame's classic adventure that has captivated hearts for over a century.

The Caphouse Brick Show – Sunday 23 August, £4 early bird / £5 on the day, pre-bookable

Get ready to unleash your imagination and join the building fun – a fun day out for fans of all ages! See LEGO brick-built masterpieces across a wide variety of themes and enjoy hands-on fun in a building zone.

Shrinking Pin Badges: Family Workshop – Wed 19–Fri 21 & Wed 26–Fri 28 Aug: 11am and 12.30pm, £10 per family, pre-bookable

Join us for a crazy colourful workshop, inspired by the vibrant storytelling tapestries of Jason Wilsher-Mills. Create your own pin badge that tells a story using Jason's playful emblems, then watch it magically shrink before your eyes with heat.

Discover all of our incredible summer activities: ncm.org.uk/summer



**Sunday
12 July
2026
10am-4pm**



**Pontefract
Liquorice Festival**



Famous Food & Drink Market

Pontefract Liquorice Parade

Street Entertainment

Free Family Activities

Live Music



Event Sponsor
HARIBO

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WAKEFIELD**

wakefieldcouncil

Welcome to our latest newsletter, the Summer holidays are just round the corner. We wanted to share with you some updates and helpful information.



Moodboosters Resilience School Sessions

Future in Mind Mental Health Support Team Practitioners Laura, Education Mental Health Practitioner (EHMP) and Charlotte, Associate Practitioner, have just finished doing the Year 3 Moodboosters programme on resilience at Altofts Junior School and they and the children really enjoyed these.

Laura told us “We did one session a week over three weeks. The children learnt about the importance of exercise, sleep, helpful foods/drinks and the importance of connectivity on their mental health. At the end of the sessions, they created their own resilience toolkit which included all sorts of things they were each going to try. The staff and children were amazing and made us feel so welcome.”

The class teacher said “The lessons were clearly explained, and Laura and Charlotte were supportive and the topics engaging. The children looked forward to them every week and could record previous lessons.” Watch out for Moodboosters sessions coming to a school near you!

Wakefield College Careers Fair



Practitioners Liana, Education Mental Health Practitioner (EHMP) and Beth, Trainee Education Mental Health Practitioner (TEMHP), Future in Mind Mental Health Support Team attended Wakefield College’s careers fair.

Here’s what Liana and Beth told us “It was a pleasure to attend Wakefield College’s careers fair, specifically for their Health and Social Care students. It provided students with the opportunity to question myself and Beth about our role as Education Mental Health Practitioners. We also discussed the wider job opportunities throughout the NHS, from midwifery to art therapy”.

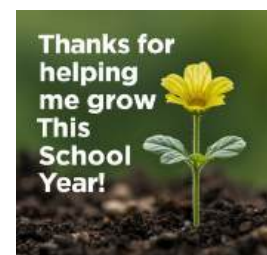
“The students approached us with drive, enthusiasm and a genuine interest for developing their understanding of future opportunities available to them. It was fantastic to share information and answer their well-considered questions”. A huge thanks to Wakefield College staff for inviting us to share the vast array of NHS jobs, not only in the Mental Health Support Team, but also within the wider NHS.

Thank You to School Staff

We receive lots of lovely feedback from parents, carers, children and young people about the work that we do at Future in Mind MHST.

We also hear from staff members in schools about how well we support them. It’s important to remember that when education staff are looked after too, they are better able to support their students.

How about at the end of this summer term, asking your child which adult in school they really appreciate and why? This might be their class teacher, learning mentor, lunchtime supervisor or the caretaker, and then let them know just how appreciated they are! We are sure it will put a big smile on their faces.



Future in Mind MHST

Supporting The Clothing Bank



Over the past few years as a team we have been supporting The Clothing Bank.

We make regular donations of pre loved clothing through out the year to help support against clothing poverty.

Nic, our team Project Manager is currently collecting our teams generous donations and will be heading to The Clothing Bank HQ to drop it off in the coming weeks.

The mission of The Clothing Bank is to tackle the UK's clothing poverty by providing good quality clothing to those struggling to afford it. This mission is driven by the values of listening, caring, and behaving in down-to-earth yet professional manner.

Our contributions will go a long way!

When we contribute to The Clothing Bank, whether it be through donating, volunteering or just simply following on social media, you're guaranteed to have made a difference.

If you would like to know more you can visit their website ~~The Clothing Bank~~ or social media pages. You'll find out how to donate, sponsor, volunteer or access support. You can also find local donation stations.



Wakefield Happy Healthy Holidays

WF Happy Healthy Holidays (HHH) aims to keep children and young people active during the School Holidays by providing free activities and healthy food. WF Happy Healthy Holidays is for school age children (Reception to year 11) who receive income-related free school meals. For more information about the amazing activities going on throughout the summer with HHH and to book your place ~~Equ~~ ~~After school~~ ~~In place of school~~ ~~Beyond school~~.



Lumi Nova: Helping young people manage their worries

WHAT IS LUMI NOVA?

Lumi Nova is an intergalactic adventure game to support young people to fight fears and manage worries. Whilst exploring planets, customising characters and earning treasure your child breaks their fears and worries down into manageable steps, learning life-long skills and building resilience.

Watch this short animated video to learn more:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mmgrU4zXU3M>

LUMI NOVA
TALES OF COURAGE

Help your child build confidence over the Summer Holidays

- ✓ For 7-12 year olds
- ✓ Free instant access
- ✓ Support worries about:
 - Going to school
 - Making new friends
 - Speaking in front of a group
 - Making mistakes and more!

Recommended by **NICE** National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

To get instant access visit: luminova.app/wakefield

Available on the App Store and Google Play

in partnership with BJB, NHS West Yorkshire, and Wakefield Partnership

To find out more visit luminova.app or join a ~~Parent Information Webinar~~.

Over the Summer there are lots of great opportunities for children, young people and families in the Wakefield district, take a look at a few of them here...

Creativity s'cool 2026



Educational Improvement Teacher (EIT)
Return to School Helpline

summer s'cool is back with an even bigger and more exciting programme for young people from living in Wakefield district (8-12yrs). This year's

programme is packed with opportunities to experiment, explore and let imaginations run wild with workshops in performance poetry, experimental printmaking and The Rap School.

The EITs will be available over the summer to take calls from parents and carers who may have concerns regarding their child / young person's return to school in September.

The telephone helpline can support parent / carer worries in relation to attendance, behaviour, anxiety, SEND or transition. We aim to listen to worries and suggest possible support and provide impartial advice.

Digital Explorers (12-25yrs), our dedicated SEND programme, allows young people to lead the creative process. Expect a mix of hands-on making with digital creativity, from clay, painting and drawing through to directing their own films.

Creativity s'cool for teenagers (13-17yrs) offers two specialist Skills Weeks focusing on Film and Fashion & Textiles, alongside a skills day I Can Be...A Designer! These experiences provide an exciting introduction into career pathways and a real taste of working in the creative industries.

These activities will be live in the next few weeks! To find out more visit: ~~summer s'cool- What's Happening - Creative Wakefield~~

"Return to school helpline"

Do you have worries about your child's return to school in September?

(e.g. Attendance, Behaviour, Anxiety, SEND, Transition)

Would you like strategies that you could try to help your child?

Would you like to speak to somebody and get advice on what could be done to help?

If you have answered "yes" to any of the above, then the "Return to school helpline" service is available for parents and carers throughout August and September.

We have Educational Improvement Teachers (EITs) available to take your call to listen to your worries, suggest possible support and provide impartial advice.

The EITs are available to take your telephone call on the following dates:

Wednesday 5 th August 2026	10am – 4.00pm
Wednesday 12 th August 2026	
Wednesday 19 th August 2026	
Wednesday 26 th August 2026	
Wednesday 2 nd September 2026	
Wednesday 9 th September 2026	
Wednesday 16 th September 2026	
Wednesday 23 rd September 2026	



Please call the Educational Psychology Service on **01924 307403** and ask to speak to an EIT.

Things to Do

The summer holidays are a great opportunity to engage children in activities that promote mental health and wellbeing. Here are some free activities to consider:

- Mindful colouring - Helps with focus and to appreciate their surroundings
- Nature based activities - bushcraft days, wildlife gardening nature scavenger hunts, woodland walks to build physical confidence and time together
- Community events - meet new people and make new friends

We've included some great ideas for top 20 free and low cost days out

You can also find great things to see and do at <https://yorkshiretots.com/>



Hopefully through the summer you will have chance to slow down a little and enjoy some family time
Here's a few ideas our team enjoy doing to help them relax, de-stress and take a moment for self-care.
(with our playful heads on)

"A game of swing ball with the kids –
Can't beat hitting the ball, Winter –
Definitely walking in the crunchy
leaves, always a go to – pounding
the pavement to walk it off."
(Leanne)

"Making Daisy Chains, Blowing
dandelion clocks, Wild swimming"
(Tracey)

"My favourite way of de-stressing
involves nature especially relaxing
by the sea or in the garden listening
to nature - so peaceful and
beautiful" (Donna)

"I like to destress by being creative,
so drawing, painting, making things"
(Helena)

"Karaoke in the car, dancing in the
kitchen or wild swimming" (Laura)

"Spending time in nature with family
and our dog. Whether that's
listening to the birds sing and the
leaves blow in the woodlands, or the
sound of the waves crashing at the
beach" (Nic)

"Throughout the day, I enjoy
curating my A-Z Glimmer collection.
Glimmers are moments when I feel
touched by the world and its
positive people- those special
moments that make me pause and
appreciate the simple, wonderful
things that bring a smile to my face.
This might include taking a photo or
sharing one, hearing a new (or old)
song that will be added to the Joyful
July collaborative playlist on Spotify."
(Karen M)

What can I do in a mental health crisis?



If you already get mental health support from the NHS or another organisation, please contact the service that helps you



2026

Book an emergency appointment with your GP practice. Outside of normal hours you can still phone your GP, but you will usually be sent to an out-of-hours service



Contact Night OWLS (West Yorkshire only). Call free on 0300 2003900, text on 07984 392700 or chat online:
www.wynightowls.org.uk from 8pm–8am every day



Call NHS 111, a 24-hour helpline for help and advice



If you don't currently use mental health services, you can contact Single Point of Access (SPA) teams:

Wakefield: **01924 316200** Barnsley: **01226 644829** Calderdale: **01422 300001** Kirklees: **0300 304 5555**