Barton, East Cowton and Ravensworth CE Schools

Cornerstone Schools

Building Futures with Love

Our Christian value this half term: Respect

September 2026

Dear parents and carers,

Our schools have had an incredibly positive start back to the school after our (extra-long) summer holiday. It's been lovely to see the children looking smart and eager to come back into school and learn. Our curriculum always starts close to home, so our youngest children have been learning to talk all about themselves and their families. While our older children have begun work on maps and land use in the local area as part of their geography.

School Inspections

All our schools have been waiting for Ofsted inspections for the past six months. July was the turn of East Cowton and this week, Ravensworth. We are expecting Barton to be any time. The views of our families are always sought as part of the inspection process, and we have all been incredibly grateful for the positivity and support our parents have shown when speaking to inspectors. It is always a priority to foster positive relationships with our families, and we pride ourselves on our approachability. Thank you for being our biggest supporters; it means a great deal to the staff who work so hard to ensure all our children get the right support to help them thrive. Thank you.

Kind regards

Kirstie Petch
Executive Headteacher

Barton CE Primary School

National attendance figure: 94.7% Target attendance: 97% Barton attendance this month: 98.6%

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to Barton after a lovely seven week summer holiday. We are incredibly proud of how positively all of our children have returned to school, helping to create a calm, welcoming and friendly atmosphere from day one. The classrooms have quickly filled with smiles, enthusiasm and a real sense of purpose as children have settled back into routines and embraced the opportunities that a new school year brings.

Our new Reception children have made a fantastic start to life at Barton and are thoroughly enjoying exploring our Early Years environment alongside our preschoolers. They have shown growing confidence each day as they make new friendships, investigate new learning opportunities and develop their independence. The warm, dry weather has provided us with plenty of opportunities to make the most of our outdoor spaces, where children have been busy developing their gross motor skills and exploring the natural environment.

Our new Key Stage 1 cohort have embraced the increased structure and learning challenges with enthusiasm and maturity, showing a positive attitude towards their learning. Class 2 continue to be a fantastic group of children and have settled brilliantly into their newly decorated classroom, which has created a calm and inspiring space to learn. The Year 3 children have transitioned smoothly into their new class and routines, and it has been lovely to see the older children supporting and encouraging them every step of the way.

We have also been delighted to welcome four new children to our Barton family. They have quickly settled in, made new friendships and are already making a positive contribution to school life. Their enthusiasm and willingness to get involved has been wonderful to see. We are proud of the warm welcome they have received from the children, which reflects the caring and inclusive nature of our school community. As always, growing our lovely little school and sharing the many strengths of our Barton community is an important part of ensuring Barton continues to thrive for future generations. We are incredibly grateful for the support of our families, who help us spread a positive message about all that makes our school so special.

This week, we have been busy establishing our new School Council and Eco Council teams. We look forward to introducing them to you in our upcoming Celebration Assembly and sharing the exciting projects they will be leading throughout the year. These groups play a vital role in ensuring that pupil voice is at the heart of our school and in helping to make important decisions that shape the future of Barton.

Barton – Dates for your diary

Tuesday's	**Afterschool Dance club 3:30-4:30pm**

*Barton, East Cowton and Ravensworth CE Primary Schools are members of **Dales Academies Trust**, company number 08372064, registered office at: c/o Oakbridge Church Of England Primary School, Alvertune Road, Northallerton, DL6 2GD*

Thursday's	**Barton Playgroup 9:30-11:30am All welcome 😊 - See poster**
Friday's	**Parent Collective Worship – 3pm All welcome**
Tuesday 29th September	Sukkot Celebration
Tuesday 6th October	Eco Workshop by Nexus
Thursday 8th October	SFX Year 6 Open Evening – 5.00pm to 7.45pm
Thursday 15th October	Richmond School Year 6 Open Evening – 5:00-7:30pm
Friday 16th October	PC Diamond visiting about Hate Crime Awareness Week – info to follow
Tuesday 20th October	Tempest Photographs
Friday 23rd October	**INSET DAY!**
Monday 26th Oct to Friday 30th Oct	Half Term!
Monday 2nd November	Children return to school

East Cowton Primary School

National attendance figure: 94.7% Target attendance figure 97% East Cowton attendance this month: 96.9

News from East Cowton

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We hope everyone enjoyed the long summer break and that you are all settling back into a familiar routine, or for some of our children, an exciting new one.
The school is looking fantastic following several improvements completed over the holidays. These include new carpets in Class 1 and the office, new hard flooring in the cloakrooms, and a fresh coat of paint in Class 1. Mrs Whent and Mrs Goude have also done a wonderful job of organising the learning and exploration areas, creating inviting spaces for the children to enjoy.
We are delighted to have welcomed nine new Reception children to our school this term. It has been lovely to see them settling in so well, socialising with their peers, and engaging enthusiastically in their learning.
We have also welcomed Lola to Year 2, Isaac to Year 3, and Olivia to Year 5. With so many new faces joining us, the school certainly feels fuller this term, and we are excited to see all of our children back, ready to thrive throughout the year ahead!

Class 2 have made a fantastic start to the year and are working incredibly well. The Year 3 children must have been more than ready for the move, as they have settled seamlessly into Class 2. They have quickly become part of the furniture, joining in with confidence and enthusiasm during lessons and class discussions.
In English, we have been enjoying our class text, *Operation Banana*. So far, we have written diary entries, learned how to use speech punctuation correctly, and explored the use of apostrophes. We are now in the process of showcasing these newly acquired skills through an exciting chapter entitled *The Big Surprise*.
We have also made a start on our Science topic, *Light*. The children have loved investigating how light works through practical experiments and activities. After all, who doesn't enjoy experiments involving torches?
In Music, we have been comparing songs from the First and Second World Wars, whilst learning some Italian musical terminology along the way.
Congratulations to our newly appointed Team Captains and Vice Captains. It was a pleasure to listen to the children's speeches, which thoughtfully incorporated our school vision as they persuaded their peers that they were the best people for the role.
The results are:

- **Richmond**: Captain - **Wilbur** | Vice Captain - **Tobias**
- **Bolton**: Captain - **Olivia** | Vice Captain - **Leon**
- **Middleham**: Captain - **Maddie** | Vice Captain - **Isabelle**

Thank you to everyone who put themselves forward to represent their house this year. We look forward to seeing our captains and vice captains lead their teams with pride and enthusiasm throughout the year.

Class 1 have had a wonderful start to the school year and have done a brilliant job of settling into their new routines. We had a special treat last week when we watched a live reading of Julia Donaldson's new book, *Gruffalo Granny*, followed by a draw-along demonstration with Axel Scheffler. The children loved it, were very engaged, and I was very impressed with their Gruffalo drawings!

In English, KS1 have been looking at the book *Incredible Me* and have been writing adjectives to describe what makes them unique. We then turned this into some wonderful artwork using chalks, which has really brightened up the classroom.

In Computing, we have been giving directions using floor robots, which the children really enjoy. We have also been giving each other directions, thinking carefully about being specific to ensure accuracy.

Maths has been a hands on task, with lots of games, resources and activites to practice our number skills. Well done Class 1, what a brilliant start to the school year.

East Cowton – Dates for your diary	
Mondays	Please Class 2 children bring their PE kits into school for the whole week every Monday.
Wednesdays	Class 1 to come into school in PE kit for the full day
Thursdays	Class 1 to come into school in PE kit for the full day
Thursdays	Parent Worship 3.10pm in the school hall - everyone welcome
Monday 14th - September - Monday 19th October	After school club Monday PM - Art with Ruth Hawkes 3:30pm - 4:30pm Year 1 - Year 6 Places limited to 10 pupils sign up via MCAS
Wednesday: **30th September**	After school club – Sports with ML Sports 3.30pm to 4.30pm - sign up via MCAS **Children need their PE kit and a water bottle.**
Thursday 8th October	SFX Secondary school Year 6 opening evening 5pm-8pm
Monday 12th October	Harvest Festival at the Church at 2pm – children can go home with parents after the service
Thursday 15th October	Richmond Secondary School Year 6 open evening from 5pm-7:30pm
Friday 23rd October	Inset day
Monday 26th October	October half term week begins!

Saturday 31st October	Deadline for year 6 secondary school applications
Monday 2nd November	Children return to school
Wednesday 11th November	Remembrance service at the Church Cenotaph 10:45am – The service is expected to last around 20 minutes
Thursday 12th November	Flu vaccinations – in school, you should or will receive an email or text to give consent for your child to receive this.
Thursday 17th December	Christingle and Nativity service at the Church 2pm.

Ravensworth CE School

National attendance figure: 94.7% Target attendance figure: 97% Ravensworth attendance this month: 99.2%

Class News

Class 1

Our Early Years children have settled into school amazingly well and we are so proud of how confidently they have embraced life at "big school"! They have been busy exploring their new learning environment, making new friends, learning classroom routines and getting to know one another. It has been wonderful to see so many smiling faces, kind friendships forming and children growing in confidence each day.

We have also been enjoying lots of lovely story times together and sharing some of our favourite books. Recently, we loved reading Gruffalo's Granny and were very excited when we received a letter from Granny herself asking if she could come and visit our classroom! The children quickly got to work preparing everything she might need. They carefully made Gruffalo stew, created a cosy bed for her to rest in, mixed some medicine in case she was feeling poorly and even made her a pot to help keep her giant teeth sparkling clean!

Our Year 1 children have adapted brilliantly and have made us incredibly proud. They have embraced their new responsibilities with enthusiasm and maturity, becoming wonderful role models for our new Reception children. It has been lovely to see them taking our new starters under their wing, helping them to settle into school life and demonstrating our school values every day.

In English, we have enjoyed sharing the texts The Colour Monster and Incredible You. These stories have inspired lots of thoughtful discussions about our feelings, strengths and the qualities that make each of us unique. We have been celebrating everything that makes us special and recognising the importance of being proud of who we are.

In Science, we have been exploring the changing seasons and investigating different materials and their properties. The children have enjoyed observing the world around them and thinking carefully about how materials are used for different purposes.

Our Geography learning has focused on our local area. As part of this, we went on a village walk to take a closer look at the features of our community. The children enjoyed spotting landmarks, discussing what makes our village special and developing their understanding of the place where they live.

It has been a fantastic start to the year, and we are excited to continue our learning journey together.

Class 2 and 3

What a busy and exciting start to the term we have had! The children have settled into class incredibly well and have loved reconnecting with friends and exploring the playground together. Our World War Two topic is well underway, with *Operation Banana* inspiring our English learning as we practise speech punctuation and apostrophes. We have been working hard in Maths too, with Years 5 and 6 solving problems using additive and multiplicative structures and Years 3 and 4 practising adding across 10. Science has been a particular highlight as we begin our **Light** topic. The children loved using torches to investigate light sources and explore how reflective materials can help to keep us safe in the dark. A visit from Simon, our dance teacher, brought even more excitement, and we have also enjoyed spending time sharing books and reading in our school library.

Congratulations to our new school leaders for this term too:

House Captains: Richmond - Jamie**, Bolton –** Rose, **Middleham -** Alliona

Play Leaders: Alliona and Rose O

Library Monitors: Rose H and Sophie

Sports Captains: Jamie and Louie

Eco Warriors: Benjamin and Jess W

School Councillors: Jamie, Sophie, Isabelle, Daniel, Annabelle and Isabelle H; the children are all excited to carry out their responsibilities to help us Build futures with Love within our school community.

Ravensworth – Dates for your diary	
Wednesdays – 3.15-5.30pm	Art/Craft Club with Mrs Dobinson
Thursdays – 3.15-4.15pm	Dance Cub with Dance Premium Academy
Fridays	Collective Worship from 2.40pm – all welcome!
Thursday 8th October	SFX Year 6 Open Evening – 5.00pm to 7.45pm
Tuesday 13th October	Tempest Individual School photos - am
Thursday 15th October	Richmond School Year 6 Open Evening
Thursday 22nd October	Break up for October Half Term!
Friday 23rd October	**INSET DAY!**
Monday 26th Oct to Friday 30th Oct	Half Term!
Monday 2nd November	Children return to school
Wednesday 4th November	Messy Church – details to follow **Please note the change in date for Messy Church**
Week Commencing 9th November	Northern Echo in this week to photograph our New Reception Children
Thursday 12th November	KS2 Trip to Green Howard's Museum - details to follow
Wednesday 18th November	Year 6 at Crucial Crew Workshop - pm - details to follow
Tuesday 1st December	Flu Immunisations - details to follow Christingle – 5pm – details to follow
Thursday 17th December	Friends of School Disco after school - details to follow **Please note, there will be no after school club this day**

Friday 18th December	Break up for Christmas Holidays! **Please note, there will be no after school club this day**

Quick Links for Each School

BARTON

Admin email address: admin@barton.dalesmat.org

School Lunch Menu: **School Lunch Menu**

School Holidays/Term Dates: **Term Dates 2026-2027**

The Friends of Barton School easy fundraising link: Easy Fundraising

Wraparound care: Breakfast and Afterschool Club

Uniform: Uniform School Shop

Cool Milk: Cool Milk

Newsletter: 3 school newsletters link

Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/Barton-CE-Primary-School-107161734680028

EAST COWTON

Admin email address: ecadmin@eckf.dalesmat.org

School Lunch Menu: **School Lunch Menu**

School Holidays/Term Dates: **Term Dates 2026-2027**

Friends of the school link: Friends

Wraparound care: Afterschool Club

Uniform Order: Order direct from School trends via this link: School Trends

Newsletter: 3 school newsletters link

Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/East-Cowton-CE-School-101930341769707

RAVENSWORTH

Admin email address: admin@ravensworth.dalesmat.org

School Lunch Menu: **School Lunch Menu**

School Holidays/Term Dates: **Term Dates 2026-2027**

Wraparound care: Afterschool Club

Ravensworth School Friends quick fundraising: - www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/rsfarichmond/

Uniform: school/uniform/

Newsletter: 3 school newsletters link

Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/Ravensworth-CE-Primary-school-100240412148195

Useful Contacts and Links for Parents

SENCO: If your child is struggling and you would like some advice, please contact their class teacher in the first instance.

Keeping Children Safe Online
Whilst children are spending so much time online, we need to make sure we keep them as safe as possible. If you would like some advice on this, please see guidance for parents below:
https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/ https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents

If you are worried about the safety of a child or want to know more about how to keep your own child safe:
NYSCP (North Yorkshire safeguarding children partnership)
NSPCC
Parents Protect
Parent Zone

Free School meals
If your circumstances have changed and you think you may be eligible for free school meals, please contact the school office or follow this link: Apply for Free School Meals

North Yorkshire local assistance fund
The fund has been established from 1 April 2013 to help families under exceptional pressure to stay together. Awards will be goods in kind, not cash, and will not have to be repaid.
warmandwell.org.uk/ For assistance with fuel and heating bills

County Music service
Is your child interested in playing a musical instrument? North Yorkshire County Music Service offer a wide variety of lessons for pupils. For more information on the type of lessons available and costs, please visit www.northyorkshiremusichub.co.uk to register your interest.

Sports links:
North Yorkshire Club Finder
A great way for schools to 'signpost' their pupils (parents/guardians) to their local clubs. The link can be found here - North Yorkshire Sport - Activity Finder