

Wednesday 7th January 2026

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Newsletter

Hendal Primary School
Tel: 01924 259465

CHILDREN'S VOICE

*"We've been doing Bikeability and learning how to be safe on the road".
Evelyn - 6A*



HAPPY NEW YEAR! - Welcome back to the Spring Term 2026. We hope you had a relaxing holiday.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Fri 16th Jan	Year 5 visit to Armley Mills
Thurs 22nd Jan	Year 4 visit to Bradford Hindu Temple
Mon 26th Jan	Year 3 Castleford Museum
Wed 28th Jan	Young Voices Sheffield Arena
Mon 9th Feb	Safer Internet Week and Children's Mental Health Week
Wed 11th Feb	Year 6 Parents Evening
Thurs 12th Feb	Year 2 The Hepworth Gallery, Wakefield
Fri 13th Feb	END OF TERM Last Day of Term
Mon 23rd Feb	INSET DAY
Tues 24th Feb	School Reopens
Tues 3rd Mar	Rec - Year 5 Parents Evening
Thurs 5th Mar	Rec - Year 5 Parents Evening
Mon 9th Mar	Science Week
Fri 27th Mar	END OF TERM Last Day of Term

INSET DAYS

Mon 23rd Feb	Inset Day
Mon 16th Mar	Inset Day
Fri 22nd May	Inset Day
Mon 1st Jun	Inset Day
Mon 20th Jul	Inset Day

YEAR 6 - SATS WEEK MONDAY 11TH - 15TH MAY 2026

As you know term time holidays are not authorised. Please do not book any holidays or appointments during SAT's week Monday 11th - 15th May 2026.

BIKEABILITY

Congratulations to our Year 6 children who have completed their Bikeability training this week. Well done for braving the cold weather conditions.

SCHOOL TOPIC OVERVIEWS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Our new topics for Spring term are:

EYFS	<i>What Makes Me Unique?</i>	Year 4	<i>Are all settlements the Same?</i>
Reception	<i>What is it like in Space?</i>	Year 5	<i>What was it like to be a child in Victorian Britain?</i>
Year 1	<i>What is it like to Live in Shanghai?</i>	Year 6	<i>Is the Arctic Uninhabitable?</i>
Year 2	<i>Why is the Wakefield Art Gallery Called the Hepworth?</i>		
Year 3	<i>What made Rome so Powerful?</i>		

PSHE

This half term in PSHE lessons our Jigsaw Puzzle is called 'Dreams and Goals'. All children will have a weekly lesson focused on this theme. This theme was launched on Monday in our whole School Assembly. Children were encouraged to set themselves a goal and learn how to overcome obstacles and work towards a goal by asking for help, breaking the goal into smaller steps, lots of practice and most importantly showing resilience.



MONDAY 12TH JANUARY- BEAT AUTISM

On Monday 12th January at 2pm, we will be holding a drop in session with Beat Autism. If you have any worries/concerns or successes, please come along and share your story. Please join us in the Music Room which can be accessed via the main front gate. We would love to see you there.

LOST PROPERTY - Please can we ask that all children's clothing, including coats, has your child's name in as we have a large amount of lost property throughout School.

OUTDOOR PE LESSONS

Your child will continue to have one lesson of PE outdoor each week - weather permitting. Please send children with a warm PE kit, this should be a navy tracksuit, and white t-shirt. Due to the cold weather a hat and gloves can be worn. Our policy states that only a pair of stud earrings can be worn at School. On your child's PE day these must be taken out and left at home or taped up at home.

PENALTY NOTICES AND FINES FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

The School does NOT authorise holidays taken in term time and works in partnership with the Education Welfare Service regarding the issue of Penalty Notices. Pupils have an entitlement to an education, not a term time holiday. Hendal Primary recognises that school attendance is closely linked to attainment. As such Penalty notices will be issued for parents taking their children out of school during term time without permission. We will contact the Education Welfare Service when the tenth half day (5 full days) of unauthorised absence is recorded for your child throughout the year and a penalty notice will be issued by the Education Welfare Service. The school will work closely with the Education Welfare Service to enforce this policy. **Payment of a Penalty notice is now £80 per child per parent if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice, increasing to £160 per child per parent if paid after 21 days, but within 28 days.** If the Penalty notice is not paid in full by the end of the 28-day period, the LA must either prosecute under Section 444 of the Education Act 1996 or withdraw the notice. There are other substantial changes to how the National Framework for Penalty Notices will be issued.

Designated Safeguarding Leads - Mrs K Ashton (Headteacher), Mr D Benson (Deputy Headteacher),

Mrs R Knowles (Assistant Head Teacher, SENCO & Early Years Foundation Leader), Mrs R Bentham Teacher, Miss A Walsh Learning Mentor Safeguarding Governor, Mrs A Spiers (Chair of Governors - aspier@hendal.wakefield.sch.uk) If you have any concerns regarding the welfare of children you can contact Social Care Direct on 0345 850 3503

Attainment is Linked to Attendance

Belong
Aspire
Achieve

Class	Weekly Attendance
Llama (6A)	93.7%
Penguin (6B)	92.7%
Zebra (5A)	96.0%
Otters (5B)	95.0%
Rhinoceros (4A)	88.7%
Koala (4B)	94.8%
Orca (3A)	87.0%
Giraffe (3B)	95.0%
Toucan (2A)	92.5%
Flamingo (2B)	94.0%
Tiger (1A)	96.6%
Panda (1B)	80.8%
Lions 1 (UF1)	91.5%
Lions 2 (UF2)	95.7%

100% Class Attendance Non Uniform

Unfortunately no classes achieved 100% for week commencing 15th December 2025.

ATTENDANCE

If a class gets 100% they are allowed to come in non school uniform the following Friday. Children love trying to achieve this and we would be grateful if you could support us with this.

LATE ARRIVALS

26 children arrived late last week - this means that they lost valuable learning time and did not get the best possible start to the school day. Why not bring your child to our breakfast club to make sure they are at school ready to start lessons on time every day.

At Hendal Primary School we are dedicated to ensuring that each child has the opportunity to learn to the best of their ability and reach their full potential. To achieve this it is vital that children attend school every day, and arrive on time.

ATTENDANCE CLASS LEADERS

2A	Half Term reward for extra playtime on last day of half term.
2A	Termly reward of a golden hour on last day of term.
2A	Whole School yearly reward of a visit by the Ice Cream van.

EVERY DAY COUNTS!

ATTENDANCE INDICATORS

Below 90%	Unacceptable persistent absence - serious cause for concern.
90-94.99%	Cause for concern - less chance of progression
95-97.99%	Satisfactory - room for improvement
98-99.99%	Good
100%	Excellent

Attendance as at
19th December 2025
92.4% (Target 96%)
Year So Far
94.8%

Achiever of the Week

Class	Star of the Week	Class	Star of the Week
Llama (6A)	Lainey-Rae	Toucan (2A)	Whole Class
Penguin (6B)	Whole Class	Flamingo (2B)	Whole Class
Zebra (5A)	Oliver	Tiger (1A)	Ivy
Otters (5B)	Eleanor	Panda (1B)	Theo
Rhinoceros (4A)	Whole Class	Lions (UF1)	Whole Class
Koala (4B)	Whole Class	Lions (UF2)	Whole Class
Orca (3A)	Harley-Mae	Lion Cubs	Whole Class
Giraffe (3B)	Albie	Lion Cubs	Whole Class