

RED LANE ROUND UP

January 2026

As we settle into the new year, I would like to take a moment to recognise the fantastic attitude and determination our pupils have shown since returning to school. It has been wonderful to see them embracing new learning, developing their skills, and approaching challenges with confidence and enthusiasm. I am extremely proud of the positive start they have made to the year.



I would also like to remind families of the importance of good attendance and punctuality. Being in school every day and arriving on time plays a crucial role in helping children make strong progress and feel fully part of our learning community. Your continued support in this area is greatly appreciated.

Please remember to check the parent events calendar regularly for key dates coming up this term, including parent conferences, class assemblies, and workshops. These events provide valuable opportunities to stay connected with school life and support your child's learning journey. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. I look forward to another productive and successful term ahead.

Mrs Driver



Early Birds and Night Owls

To book in for Early Birds and Night Owls
please call Mrs Cornick on
01204 333580 Extension 302.

Early Birds 7.30am - 8.40am £6

Night Owls 3.30pm - 6pm £9



Help us to help you

We value positive relationships with our families and always want to resolve any concerns quickly, fairly and in the best interests of your child. If you have a worry or complaint, please follow the steps below so we can support you effectively. Please be aware that staff are not always immediately available but we will respond to parents as soon as is practicably possible.

Step 1 – Speak to the class teacher

Your child's class teacher is usually the best first point of contact, as they know your child well and can often resolve matters quickly.

Step 2 – Contact the phase or unit leader

If you feel the matter needs to be taken further, please contact the leader in charge of the phase or unit. They will review the situation and work with you towards a resolution.

EYFS - Mrs Willenbrook

Y1/2 - Mr Charlton

Y3/4 - Mr Nicholson

Y5/6 - Mr Hudson

Step 3 – Contact the school office

If you remain unhappy with the outcome, the concern is about the unit leader or if the matter is extremely serious, please contact the school office. The office will ask if you have followed the escalation process and who you have spoken to previously. Where this is the first contact you will be asked for some brief details in the event that in order that your concern is responded to in a timely manner you can will be contacted by the most appropriate team member. A member of the safeguarding or senior leadership team (Assistant Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher or Headteacher) will then get in touch.

We kindly ask that parents follow this process. When concerns are raised directly with outside bodies (such as the local authority or Ofsted), they are referred back to the school. This can slow things down and make it harder for us to investigate and help—especially if concerns are shared anonymously. While we can often work out where concerns have come from, it is always better for everyone if we can speak with you directly.

We also remind parents that, in line with our Parent Code of Conduct, all concerns should be raised in a calm and respectful manner. This helps us to focus on resolving the issue and modelling positive communication for our children. We would like to thank the many parents who consistently follow our policies and work with us in a constructive way.

Please be assured that we are always happy to listen and to work with you to sort out any concern or complaint. We simply need the opportunity to do so, and following the escalation process helps us resolve issues more quickly and in your child's best interests, avoiding unnecessary delays.

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

2026:



The National Year of Reading

This year, our school is proud to be taking part in the **National Year of Reading** initiative, which encourages children to read regularly and develop a lifelong love of books. Reading is essential to your child's success across the curriculum, strengthening vocabulary, comprehension, and confidence in all areas of learning. Reading together at home, talking about books, and sharing stories are some of the most powerful ways parents can support their child's progress and wellbeing. By working in partnership, we can help every child build strong reading habits that will benefit them throughout their education and beyond.

Parents and carers can support reading at home by:

Listening to your child read and praising their efforts

Reading together regularly, even for short periods each day

Encouraging children to choose books that interest and excite them

Modelling reading for pleasure by letting children see you read

Talking about stories and asking simple questions to check understanding

Why not have a go at the Book Mission challenge from BookTrust on the next page?

To support the first challenge, here is a recommended reading list of funny stories:
👉 <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/book-recommendations/booklists/funny-books-younger-children/>



2026

book missions



January

Read a book that makes you laugh!

☐

February

Tell someone about a book you love

☐

March

Join the World Book Day celebrations

☐

April

Read a book because you love its pictures

☐

May

Read a poetry book or a verse novel

☐

June

It's a summer of sport! Read a sporty book

☐

July

7 July: A new Children's Laureate is here! Read one of their books

☐

August

Read a book outside! What's the most unusual place you can find?

☐

September

Send a letter or a drawing to your favourite author or illustrator

☐

October

Read a scary book for Halloween!

☐

November

Read a non-fiction book and tell a friend a cool fact

☐

December

Swap your favourite book with your friends

☐

My favourite books of the year are...



Look, Listen, Think: *Road Safety Matters*



Next month, Mrs Hurst and her Road Safety Ambassadors aim to tackle parking on the zig-zags outside of our school. Look out for more information!

Please remember to be courteous and respectful of our neighbours when parking, and keep the safety of our pupils and families the number one priority.

Check out this website for more information on keeping safe on the roads. A few ideas are listed below...

<https://www.brake.org.uk/get-involved/take-action/mybrake/knowledge-centre/advice-for-parents-and-families>

As you walk, teach young children the words and ideas they need to understand the dangers of traffic.

Teach them that:

Traffic is hard and fast and can hurt and kill people, because people are much slower and soft.



Traffic is also smelly and can hurt your lungs – this is why it's better to walk and not drive cars.

It's important to stay away from roads, hold hands with a grown up, and not to run near roads.

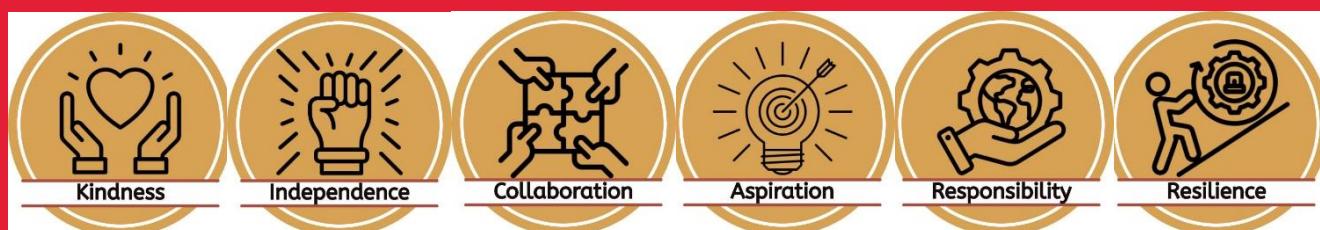


Let's Celebrate!



Well done to our Reception
and Key Stage 1 Values
Champions!

Pupils in Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 are recognised and celebrated in assemblies for demonstrating our six core values. These values are:



Bullying: A guide for parents

What is bullying?

Bullying is **deliberate, repeated** behaviour that hurts someone physically or emotionally.

What bullying is NOT

Not all conflict between children is bullying. Children are still learning social skills and will sometimes fall out.

Examples of normal disagreements:

Two friends arguing over a game

A one-off disagreement or misunderstanding

Both children being equally upset

Making up and moving on afterwards

These situations are a normal part of growing up and learning how to manage friendships.

How parents can help

Listen calmly to your child

Ask questions to understand what happened

Encourage kind and respectful behaviour

Let the school know if you are worried

If something is happening repeatedly and your child feels upset or unsafe, please contact us. We take bullying seriously and want every child to feel safe and happy at school.

Our message to parents

We work hard to teach children kindness, respect and how to manage friendships. With your support, we can help children learn from disagreements and address bullying quickly if it occurs.

Attendance

Current class attendance

Rec C	93%	Rec W	91%
1H	91%	1S	92%
2C	94%	2F	91%
3T	95%	3W	91%
4K	93%	4N	94%
5B	92%	5R	94%
6M	91%	6H	97%
6S 94%			



Our current school attendance level is:
93%

This is below the expected level of attendance.

The Attendance Shop

Our very successful attendance shop will be restocked ready for the next opening at the end of this half term. This initiative has been hugely successful and the children really understand that points mean prizes!

Every child gets 10 points a day for coming to school, and a further 10 points for arriving on time!

What is your child's points goal this week? Can they get the maximum of 100 points per week to spend at the shop?



Attendance

Do I need to keep my child off school?



Chicken Pox Until all spots have crusted over	Conjunctivitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Diarrhoea & Vomiting 48 hours from last episode	Glandular Fever No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Hand, foot & mouth No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Impetigo Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Measles or German Measles 4 days from onset of rash	Mumps 5 days from onset of swelling	Scabies Until after first treatment	Scarlet Fever 24 hours after commencing antibiotics	Slapped Cheek No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Whooping Cough 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Flu Until recovered	Head Lice No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Threadworms No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Tonsillitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed		

The Department for Education (DfE) states that children should attend school every day, with exceptions only for illness or other unavoidable circumstances.

At Red Lane, we monitor attendance closely and work with families to address any concerns. Consistent attendance helps children build routines, engage fully in learning, and achieve their potential.

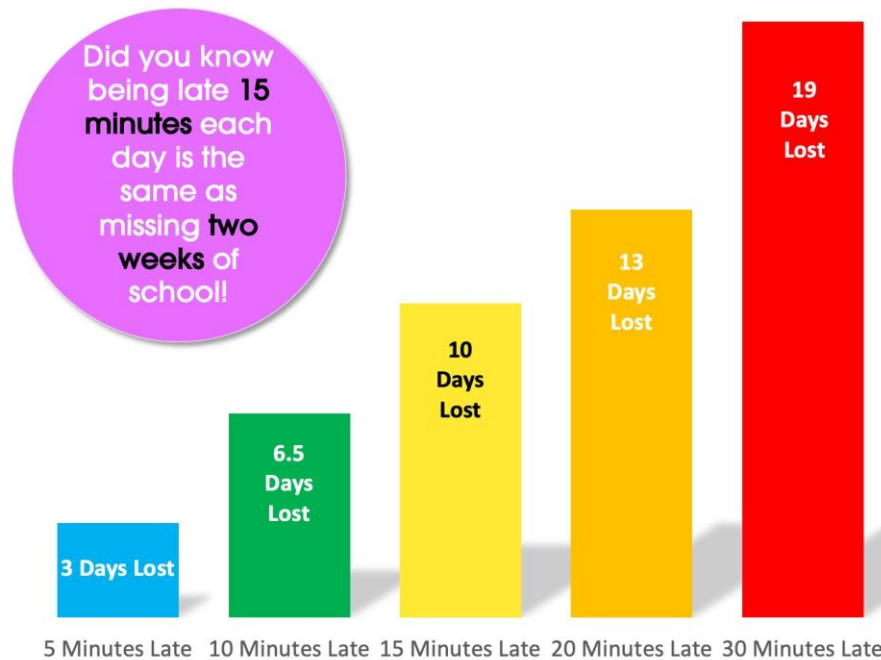
Parents are urged to avoid taking children out of school for holidays during term time.



Punctuality

Punctuality Matters!

Lost Minutes = Lost Learning



Punctuality

Thank you for your work on improving attendance. It is important that your children arrive on time to maximise their learning. From the moment they arrive, teachers are on hand to support pupils with reading, writing and maths work.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

When you're in school you...



Have the best possible start in life!



Dates for your diary

06.02.26	Number Day (dress up - see Dojo post)
10.02.26	Behaviour workshop
10.02.26	Safer internet day
13.02.26	School closes at 3.30pm for half term
23.02.26	School reopens at 8.40am
26.02.26	4N Class assembly and parent stay and play at 9am
05.03.26	3T Class assembly and parent stay and play at 9am
05.03.26	World Book Day
09.03.26 & 10.03.26	Parent conferences held
12.03.26	5B Class assembly and parent stay and play at 9am
19.03.26	5T Class assembly and parent stay and play at 9am
26.03.26	4K Class assembly and parent stay and play at 9am
27.03.26	Non-uniform for Easter Bingo donations
02.04.26	3W Class assembly and parent stay and play at 9am
02.04.26	Easter Bingo at 3.45pm & 5pm

Reminders...



For the safety and wellbeing of pupils and staff on-site, please be aware that **e-scooters, cigarettes, vapes and dogs** are not permitted on school grounds. Staff will challenge parents about conduct in relation to this if necessary.