

FRIDAY NEWSLETTER



SUMMER TERM ■ ISSUE 39 ■ FRIDAY 18 JULY 2025

THANK YOU

We wish to thank all children and parents/carers for the very thoughtful cards, gifts and good wishes received this week ~ they are greatly appreciated by the whole staff team.

Thank you for all your support during this year ~ we hope you all have a very happy and enjoyable summer holiday and look forward to seeing you at the start of the new term at 8.40am on Tuesday 2 September 2025.



Our Year 6 leavers had an amazing day at Eshton Grange on Thursday 10 July 2025 with Mr Craven, Miss Thompson and Jenny Smith.

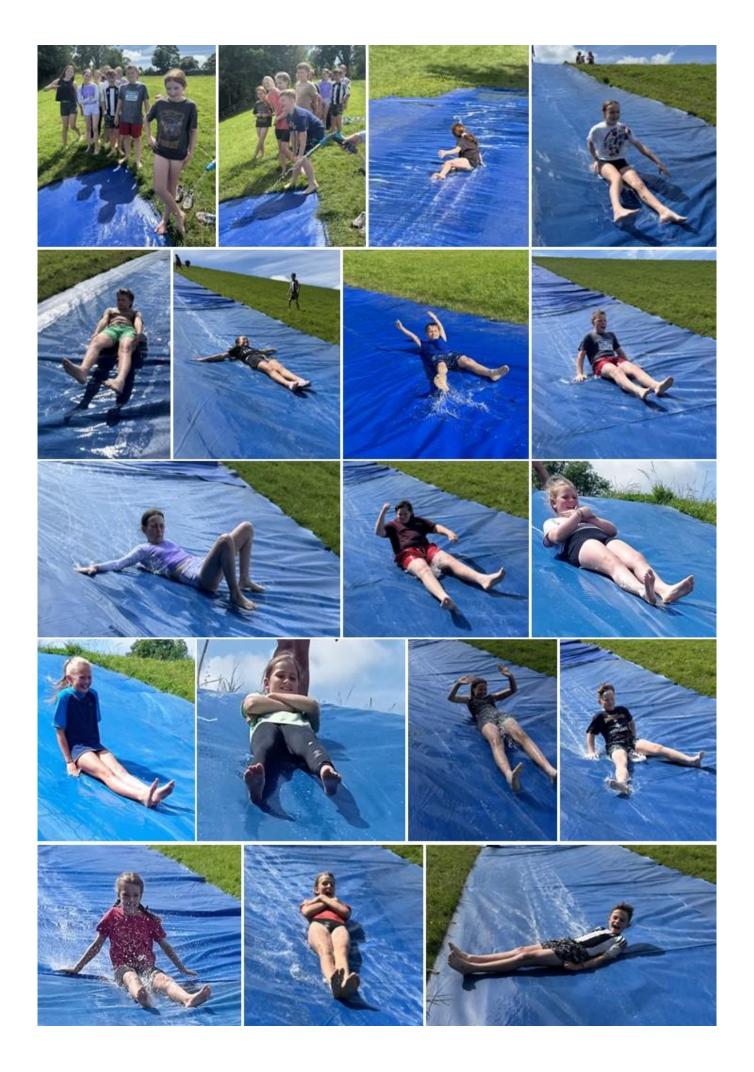
As usual. Mark at Eshton gave them all a fantastic welcome and they enjoyed lots of planned activities throughout the day, culminating in a BBQ tea.

We have put together a gallery of photos below and it is obvious that the water slide was a big hit with everyone - Mr Craven, Miss Thompson and Jenny Smith included!

This was a lovely way to end their time at Lothersdale Primary School, and we would like to thank Jenny Smith for giving up her time to spend the day supporting Mr Craven and Miss Thompson; and Mark and his team at Eshton Grange, who always make our visits so special.

We are already looking forward to the Year 4 visit next May.







YEAR 6 LEAVERS

16 children in Year 6 are leaving us today:

Ella B, Oliver, Aaron, Jude, Emily, Fabi, Lucy, Ella H, Devon, Charlotte, Joanie, Lucie, Lizzy, Jack S, Sophie, Jack W

In addition, we are sadly saying 'goodbye' to *Martha* in Class 1 and *James* in Class 2 who are moving out of the area to a new home and school.

WE SEND THEM ALL OUR VERY BEST WISHES FOR THE FUTURE



Well done to our Year 6 leavers for their fantastic leavers' concert on Tuesday ~ you were all amazing and your performance skills were very impressive. At the end of the evening concert, the children were presented with leavers' gifts, and we would like to

thank the Raygill Trust for providing the journals and calculators and the LSA for the leavers' hoodies and scrolls.

A special big "thank you" to Mrs Ellison for organising all the leavers' gifts. We also thank Mr Craven for working with all putting the whole leavers' production together.







All the children had a fantastic time on Wednesday evening at the leavers' discos, and we loved all the outfits!! Andrew from Party Mania did a wonderful job entertaining the children and kept them very busy! They were all amazing and had a wonderful night.

Thank you again to the LSA for providing the DJ and the refreshments.

Message from Mrs Tyson Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of another busy and rewarding academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank every child, parent, and member of staff for their continued support throughout the year. Your contributions, support and positivity are what make our school community so special.

We are sad to be saying goodbye to our wonderful Year 6 leavers. They have all been amazing, showing resilience, kindness, and enthusiasm throughout their time with us. They will be truly missed, and we wish each of them every success and happiness as they take their next steps.

This year, we will also be saying a fond farewell to Mrs Ellison, our longstanding school administrator. Mrs Ellison has been a valued member of our team for many years, and we are incredibly grateful for everything she has given to the school. On behalf of everyone in our community, we thank her sincerely and wish her every success and happiness in the future.

I will be sharing a more detailed summary of the year, along with key messages and updates, in my end of term letter. But for now, I simply want to wish you all a very happy and restful summer. We look forward to welcoming you back in September, refreshed and ready for another exciting year ahead.

Mrs Tyson

DEADLINES & REMINDERS

It would be really helpful if requested reply slips/payments etc. could be completed/paid by the stated deadlines to enable us to process the paperwork effectively this week. Thank you.

W/c 1 September 2025

NO EXTENDED SCHOOLS' ACTIVITIES OR READING PLUS/TIMETABLES CLUBS THIS WEEK

Mon - School closed for Staff Training

- School re-opens at 8.40am for the new academic year

Fri - Class 3 swimming lesson

GENERAL SCHOOL **UPDATES**

Please find detailed below general updates for your information. If you have any queries regarding any of the content below, please contact the school office.

Annual Reports

Please note that Annual Reports were sent home via bookbags on Thursday 17 July 2025. If you would like to discuss any aspect of your child's report, please contact the school office to arrange to speak to your child's class teacher.



Young Voices Choir and Concert ~ February 2026

YOUNG VOICES Further to our letter emailed to parents/carers of children currently in Year 2 through to Year 5 on Friday 13 June, we currently have 12

children signed up to take part in next year's Young Voices Concert and weekly practice sessions.

We need 25 children taking part to make this event viable. If you have not yet emailed school and your child would like to attend, please ensure you email the school office by return. The school has to sign up to Young Voices in early September and it is therefore important that we gauge interest before the summer break so that we can start planning and booking the event when we return to school.

End of Year Attendance



Congratulations to the children listed above, who have managed to complete the whole of this academic year without succumbing to illness or any other absence. What an achievement!! Certificates were presented to the children at this morning's assembly. Well done ever



Summer Reading Challenge Assembly

The annual Summer Reading Challenge is delivered in partnership with public libraries across the UK, and it's free for children to take part. Throughout the summer, children joining 'Story Garden' can discover new books, participate in free activities at their local library, and explore the link between reading and the

great outdoors, where nature and imagination come together.

The challenge for children is to read 6 library books of their choice and collect special stickers and other prizes along the way - everyone who finishes will receive a limited-edition Story Garden medal and a certificate. Any child aged 4 to 11 can join in and the challenge runs from Saturday 12 July until Saturday 6 September.

There will also be a fantastic programme of activities in across all Craven libraries throughout the summer, many of them free, to tie-in with the challenge - families can find out what's happening locally by contacting their library, on local library Facebook pages and on our webpage: www.northyorks.gov.uk/src

Safeguarding Information for Parents/Carers

Please find below the links to the water and dog safety information that has been produced by NY Safeguarding Board for parents.

https://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/parents-carers/help-guidance-and-support/dog-safety-howto-keep-your-child-and-dogs-safe-and-happy-together/

https://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/parents-carers/water-safety/

By following these links you will also find additional videos and information to share with your children over the holiday period.

Craven Youth Directory 2025

North Yorkshire Youth has launched its new Young Directory just in time for the summer holidays!

Each of the seven localities across North Yorkshire now has its very own brand new directory – redesigned to look better, be easier to use, and packed full of brilliant info on youth clubs, projects, events, support services and more for young people living in Craven. Please click on the links below and let the summer adventures begin!



Youth Directories | North Yorkshire Youth







We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all our wonderful parents for supporting Mrs Knight's raffle and wellbeing evening.

Thanks to your generosity — along with a kind donation from Yorkshire Dales Ice Cream — we raised a fantastic £327.00. Combined with Mrs Knight's online fundraiser, which brought in an amazing £1,710.00, we now have a total of £2,037.00 to go towards new technology in school, including a much-needed interactive board for Class 3.

Your support and encouragement make such a difference, and we are truly grateful. Thank you!

LIST OF PRIZEWINNERS:

Stay in a Shepherd's Hut – Sophie W
Neal and Wolf hair care - Granny Smith

Cut and blow dry - Mrs Huddy

KWVR Day rover tickets - M Kirkley

Family pass Embsay and Bolton Abbey railway – Jack Wood

Family swim at Avalon Wellbeing (Broughton Sanctuary) - Jack W

Plant from Poppyfields - April C

Family voucher at Hesketh - Mike D

£50 voucher off a family shoot Jacqueline photography - Niamh H

Lounge Board for 2 at Rhubarb Restaurant Herriots Hotel - Oliver B

£40 voucher - Renew - Millie E

Willow Avenue Beauty Voucher - Gem

£10 Usborne Books with Aimee - Sarah B

Britax water filter - Victoria B

Bedlinen set - Auntie Emma C

Pokémon Set - Lottie B

Wednesday Addams Set - Amelie B

Hotel Chocolat gift - Fabi F

The Turkey Inn voucher - Mrs Gallagher

Coffee & Crumbs Kildwick voucher – not recorded (prize claimed)

Blush Florist voucher - Oscar Y

The Deli Addingham - Sophie B

Elsworth Mill voucher - Vic P

Yoga voucher/ class - Mandy C

The Fun House voucher - Anna C

Keighley Cinema family ticket - Anne P

Efendy voucher - Grandma

Brownies - Rachel O

Bottle of red wine - Lauraine E

Candle set - Becky H

welcome SCHOOL to the Lothersdale OFFICE

SCHOOL OFFICE TERM TIME HOURS

	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	8:00 - 12:15	12:45 - 4:00
Tuesday	8:00 - 12:15	12:45 - 4:00
Wednesday*	8:00 - 12:15	12:45 - 4:00
Thursday	8:00 - 12:15	12:45 - 4:00
Friday*	8:00 - 12:15	12:45 - 4:00

Telephone: 01535 632510
Email: lothersdale@ycatschools.co.uk

Access into school for all visitors (parents/carers/governors/contractors/visit ors) is via prior appointment only, in line with the school's Health & Safety and Child Protection Policies.

Please telephone the School Office during the hours listed to make an appointment to speak to a member of staff.

*Please note that Mrs Phipps will be working alternate Wednesdays/Fridays. Mrs Pickard will be picking up urgent messages and emails on the day Mrs Phipps will not be in school.

REMEMBER TO KEEP PUPIL CONTACT AND MEDICAL INFORMATION UP TO DATE!



IMPORTANT: Please email school as soon as possible if you change your phone number, email address, postal address or need to advise us of any pupil health updates, to help keep our records up-to-date.

School Office ~ End of Year

Next week, Mrs Ellison will be carrying out year-end protocols in school and it is therefore important that all parent payment portals are up-to-date or in credit.

Please therefore ensure that your child(ren)'s SchoolGrid and School Gateway accounts have <u>a zero or credit balance</u> when school closes on Friday 18 July 2025, particularly if your child is a Year 6 leaver.

If you do receive any text or email reminders over the next couple of weeks, we would be grateful if you could ensure that any requested information or payment is provided as soon as possible to support us with our end of year administration.

School Term Dates ~ Academic Year 2026-2027

Please find attached copy of the school term dates for the academic year 2026/2027 for your information. We also attach a copy for the academic year 2025-2026, originally issued in October 2024. Both are available to view on the school website.

Ensuring your child's regular attendance at school is your legal responsibility and permitting absences from school without a good reason causes an offence in law which may result in prosecution. Please remember that Leave of Absence in Term Time is not a 'right' and all requests for leave in term time must be made in advance of confirming any arrangements. Schools can only authorise leave in term time if the circumstances surrounding the request are considered to be exceptional.





Five Staff Training Days are included in these dates:		
	Monday 1 September 2025	
	Monday 5 January 2026	
	Monday 23 February 2026	
	Monday 1 June 2026	
	Monday 20 July 2026	



Terms	Last Day of School	First Day Back at School
Autumn Term 2026 starts		Tuesday 8 September 2026
October Half-Term	Thursday 22 October 2026	Monday 2 November 2026
Christmas	Friday 18 December 2026	Tuesday 5 January 2027
February Half-Term	Friday 5 February 2027	Tuesday 16 February 2027
Easter	Friday 19 March 2027	Monday 5 April 2027
May Day Bank Holiday	Friday 30 April 2027	Tuesday 4 May 2027
Spring Half-Term	Friday 28 May 2027	Monday 7 June 2027
Summer Term 2027 Ends	Friday 23 July 2027	-

Five Staff Training Days are included in these dates:

Monday 7 September 2026

Friday 23 October 2026

Monday 4 January 2027

Monday 15 February 2027

Monday 26 July 2027

September 2025 School Information

School Hours

May we remind all parents/carers that school starts at 8:45am and we would be grateful if all children could be on the school playground at 8:40am ready to come into school.

8:45am Morning Registration (all children must be in school at this time)

10:45am Morning Break

12:15pm Lunch

1:15pm Afternoon Registration

3:15pm School Day Ends

3:15 – 4:15pm Extended Schools Activities take place

LEGENDS Before & After School Clubs

7:30 - 8:40am LEGENDS Breakfast Club (pre-booked sessions only)

3:15 – 6:00pm Mon-Thu LEGENDS After School Club (pre-booked sessions only)

3:15 – 4:30pm Fri LEGENDS After School Club (pre-booked sessions only)



All LEGENDS Before & After School Club sessions are booked and paid for in advance via the SchoolGateway app. If you would like your child to attend, please ensure you read the LEGENDS Parent Handbook to familiarise yourself with the procedures and booking process.

Please note:

Breakfast Club sessions must be booked by 4:30pm the day before the session weekdays only (eg. If you are booking a Monday Breakfast Club session, please book by 4:30pm on a Friday).

After School Club sessions must be booked by 1:30pm on the day of the session.

For parents/carers new to the school in September, a message will be sent via our communications system to confirm when you are able to access all our payment systems. This will be done once our current academic year end has been completed.

PE Sessions ~ Autumn Term

Our PE schedule for next term is listed below for your information:



Class 1 - Monday and Friday afternoons

Class 2 - Monday and Thursday afternoons

Class 3 - Tuesday afternoons / Friday ~ Swimming

Class 4 - Tuesday and Friday afternoons



Extended Schools Activities ~ Autumn Term

Extended Schools Activities will restart in the autumn term (usually the second week), and we will send out the activity flyers to parents during the first week of school.

School Uniform

May we remind parents that the definitive school uniform list is available to view on the school website and no other clothing can be accepted. It is important that children are wearing the correct uniform when representing the school. Please note that school shoes must be all black and not boots or trainers.

Shoulder length hair and longer (boys and girls), must be tied back in accordance with our school policy.

We would be grateful if all parents could ensure that all items of clothing are also named. All uniform will be checked at the start of the autumn term. Many thanks for your support.

Class 3 Swimming Lessons (current Year 2 & Year 3)

Class 3 swimming lessons will start on Friday 5 September 2025 and a letter was emailed to all parents/carers of children currently in Year 2 and Year 3 on Thursday 17 July 2025 with further details.

The payment for the Class 3 Swimming lessons has been added to SchoolGateway. Please note that, although these lessons are part of the school curriculum, the school receives no extra funding for swimming and relies on parental contributions to enable the children to take part in this activity.

This academic year the school has had to absorb the unexpected extra cost of the swimming lessons because of the low percentage of contributions received:

Class 3 = 64% contributions received

Class 2 =- 82% contributions received

As funding is extremely tight across all schools, this is having a negative impact on our learning resources and we would be extremely grateful if you could therefore help us by contributing towards your child's autumn term swimming lessons, however small that contribution may be. No child will be excluded if his or her parents/carers do not contribute, but if insufficient voluntary contributions are received then regrettably, this activity will not continue.

Key School Dates - 2025-2026

We list below our key dates for the autumn term. In September, key dates for the full year will be issued. Please note, however, that these dates may be liable to change and you should read the Friday News or other school communications issued nearer the time for confirmed dates of school events.

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0.09.0205	SEPTEMBER	Event		
0.09.2025 Winston Plowes - Poet in Residence session	01.09.2025	Staff training day		
10.09.2025	02.09.2025	School Reopens		
10.09.2025	03.09.2025	Winston Plowes – Poet in Residence session		
1.0.9.2025	08.09.2025	Extended Schools Activities start – Autumn 1		
17.09.2025	10.09.2025	Winston Plowes – Poet in Residence session		
18.09.2025 Suzy McCarter Assembly — 10.30am				
12. 16.09.2025 South Crawen Cluster Cross Country Event (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6)				
25.09.2025 Sen group to Esthton Grange				
Class 1 Bedtime Story Day				
OCTOBER Black History Month 01.10.2025 Winston Plowes – Land Art session 03.10.2025 Rational Poetry Day (Grandparents Poetry) 06.10.2025 Grandparents' Day 06.10.2025 Glass 4 Residential – Parent Information Meeting at 6pm 08.10.2025 Harvest Festivals: EYFS & KS1 in school 9.00am & KS2 at Christ Church, Lothersdale 2.15pm 10.10.2025 World Mental Health Day " Hello Yellow Day 11 – 18.10.25 National Hate Crime Awareness Week 14.10.2025 John Froud Assembly – 10.30am 14.10.2025 School Open Afternoon for Prospective Parents 15.10.2025 Winston Plowes – Land Art session 23.10.2025 Sury McCarter Assembly – 10.30am 24.10.2025 Separent School Plowes – Land Art session 23.10.2025 Sury McCarter Assembly – 10.30am 24.10.2025 Separent School Plowes – Poet in residence session 25.11.2025 Whole School Flu Immunisations 25.11.2025 Winston Plowes – Poet in residence session 26.11.2025 Inter-Faith Week 27.11.12.2025 Remembrance Sunday Service at Village Cenotaph (School Council) 10:45am 28.11.12.2025 Sury McCarter Assembly 29.11.12.2025 Sury McCarter Assembly 29.11.12.2025 Sury McCarter Assembly 20.11.2025 Sury McCarter Assemb		- · ·		
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And finally

A Farewell Message from Mrs Ellison

Thank you for the kind comments and wonderful gifts I have received over the last couple of weeks. It is much appreciated. I cannot believe I am a Lothersdale Leaver!

I love Lothersdale Primary School! My association with the school started when my daughter entered Reception in 2005 (at the same time as Mrs Bateman!). My son followed 3 years later, and I was the secretary of the LSA for a number of years. By September 2012, my daughter had left for secondary school, my son was in Year 4 and I joined the staff team as the school administrator, transferring from a primary school in Skipton.

There have been a lot of changes over my 13 years in the role! Three headteachers, two Ofsted inspections, staff have come and gone, and the role has changed considerably. Support staff, particularly office administrators, are often side-lined – taking a back seat to teachers and teaching assistants. We become 'experts' in school compliance, Finance, HR, IT, Health & Safety, GDPR, sorting out blocked drains, wasp nests, broken fences, faulty electrics, no water, shovelling snow – on top of organising school events, trips and the day-to-day role of supporting teaching and learning! Regular reports are compiled for the DfE, YCAT and North Yorkshire Council along with the daily management of the school. It is a thankless task! Too much information is sent out, not enough information is sent out, it's sent out too soon, it's sent out too late – we are only human and unfortunately cannot please everyone! But we try our very best to meet the constant and ever-changing demands of the role.

It is definitely not a job for the faint-hearted, but I have loved every minute of it!

I will really miss my Lothersdale colleagues — we are a team and each and every one of us plays a significant part in the education of your children. Working in a small school is not easy but we are there for every child, ensuring they get the best primary school experience to achieve their full potential. It is very rare in a school for staff to all be on the same page, but we are, and this is what makes the staff team so strong.

But, most of all, I will miss the children. I have seen them come into school as tiny Reception children and watched them grow into confident and independent learners, with the necessary skills to equip them for life as a secondary school pupil. I have watched them return as teenagers on work experience and seen them mature into young adults, which is so rewarding.

I would also like to thank our parents/carers who have supported the school, and continue to support the school, actively raising money for projects to enhance the children's education. Budgets are extremely tight and cuts to funding have seen schools having to cut back on staff and other resources in recent years. Your ongoing support is invaluable and gets us through the tough times.

I am handing over the baton to Jo Phipps, who has a strong school background and will be a huge asset to the school. I wish her all the best in her new role and future at Lothersdale.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer break.

Love from Mrs Ellison



A message from the LSA

Hello! We have had another very busy year and raised an incredible £10,000 for the school. On average, PTAs in the UK raise around £9000, so for a school our size, we really are thrilled to have raised so much. All our events and initiatives happen only with the support of the school staff, LSA members, parents and carers. So please accept a huge THANK YOU from us all!

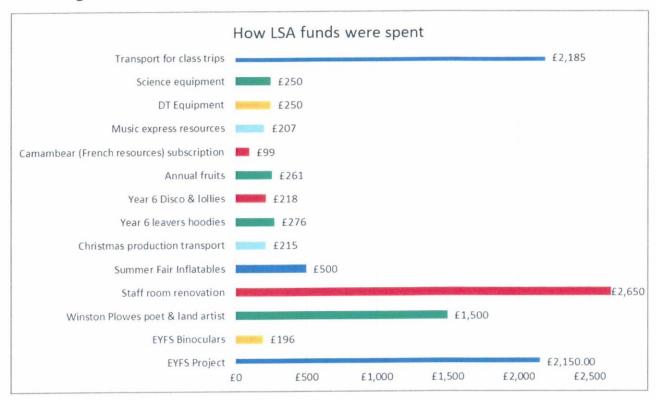
All our events this year have been well supported, from the cinema nights to the bake sales, and of course our Christmas and Summer Fairs. One of our biggest successes was the recent 'Grow a £1' initiative, supported by local company, Byworth Boilers. We saw some brilliant entrepreneurial skills on show, from crafting, gardening, baking and car washing, the children were fantastic, and very supportive of each other. We were thrilled that the event raised over £1500! Well done to everyone involved, particularly Jamie and Beulah who once again impressed us all with their tombola skills, raising an incredible £568!

Funds raised this year have been spent on the EYFS outside space, the staff room renovation & transport for class trips. In addition, we have once again been well supported by the Robert Windle Foundation, and as a result have been able to invest in science and DT equipment, 'Camembear' (EYFS French resources), and Music Express resources. In addition, we have over £4000 to go towards iPads in September 2025.

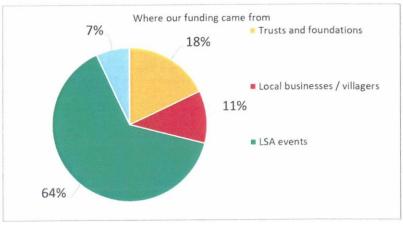
We wish our school community a wonderful summer break and would like to take the opportunity to invite you all to our next LSA meeting, the **LSA Annual General Meeting**, on Thursday 11th September 2025, when we can plan more exciting events for 2025-2026.

With thanks to you all from your LSA Team,

Donna Laycock, Chair Katie Lubomski-Wiggan, Vice-Chair Rachel Osborne, Secretary & Anna Chapman, Treasurer Throughout the year the LSA has spent funds on the school's facilities and equipment and has arranged events to connect the school community in a fun and relaxed environment.







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Lothersdale Prímary School



a Yorkshire Collaborative Academy Trust School





ensuring all pupils achieve their full potential





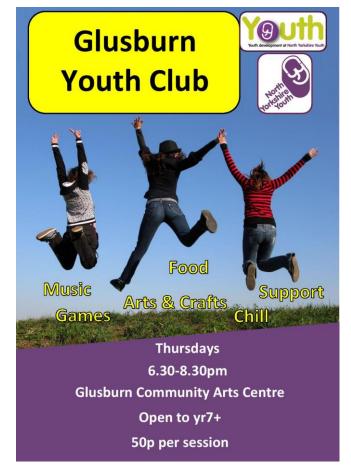
Please pop in to see us at 1:30pm to 2:30pm

on Tuesday 14 October 2025 or Thursday 16 October 2025

It would help us if prospective parents/carers could confirm attendance via email to lothersdale@ycatschools.co.uk and we look forward to seeing you soon. COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

We are delighted to be able to promote community events in our Friday News that may be of interest to our families and friends. If you would like us to promote a local event, please pass the details to the school office by Wednesday to be included in the Friday News of that week.









Your preloved items can help save lives

Being a part of pioneering research is as easy as donating your unwanted items to British Heart Foundation (BHF) stores. Funds raised from your furniture, clothing or electricals could help find the cures and treatments needed to beat heart and circulatory diseases.

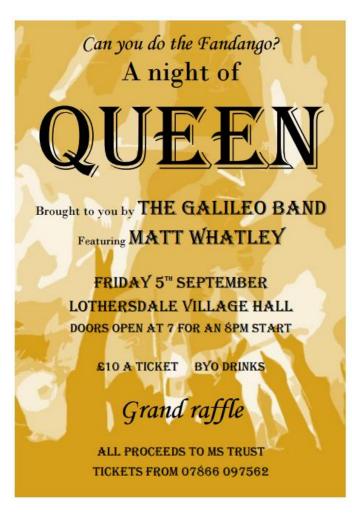
Your donations fund lifesaving research.

Simply donate your goods in store or post for free. If you're donating furniture, you can even let us do the hard work by booking a free collection or house clearance.

Don't forget to add Gift Aid to boost the value of your donation by $25\%_{\mbox{\tiny RMINGASA}}$

















DIARY OF EVENTS

If you wish to promote a community event in our diary below, please contact the school office. Please note there may be circumstances in which these dates are subject to change:

Community Events:

Fri 5 Sep 2025

- A Night of Queen – Lothersdale Village Hall (see flyer above)

