

# LOTHERSDALE FRIDAY NEWS

ISSUE 21

27th February 2026



**Welcome back to a new term – we hope you all had a restful and enjoyable break.**

On Monday, all staff attended an INSET training day alongside colleagues from other YCAT schools at Bilton Grange in Harrogate. During the day, we received training on the 'Secure Foundations' framework shared by Ofsted and reflected on ways we can continue to improve and enhance our practice to ensure every child achieves and thrives. This important area of professional development will remain a focus for staff throughout this half term as we work together to strengthen our provision for all pupils.

We are also pleased to introduce our new Lothersdale Learning for Life character for **Spring 2: Wise Owl**.

Wise Owl will be our focus for helping children develop thoughtful decision-making, reflection and learning skills.

Please keep an eye out for a separate parent newsletter with further information about Wise Owl and how you can support your child's learning journey at home. **Thank you for your continued support.**

## Working Together on Our Arbor Rollout

We want to share how grateful we are for the support, patience, and partnership shown by all our parents and carers as we continue our rollout of Arbor. This transition is a significant step for our school community, and your engagement with the new system has already made a real difference.

### Why Arbor Matters

Arbor brings several important parts of school life into one place, helping to make communication smoother and everyday tasks easier. Once fully in place, families will be able to manage:

- Messages and updates from school
- Payments for meals, trips, and activities
- Club and activity bookings
- Key information about your child's school experience
- Parents Evening Bookings

Having everything together means fewer platforms to juggle and a clearer, more consistent way for us to stay connected with you.

### Where We Are Now: Phase 2

We are currently in Phase 2 of the rollout. This stage focuses on ensuring that:

- All clubs are correctly set up and visible – please be aware your School Gateway Accounts will be closed on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026.
- Any upcoming payments are added and ready to use
- Families can begin to access and use these features with confidence

Your feedback during this phase has been incredibly valuable. It helps us refine the setup and make sure the system works well for everyone before we move forward.

### Looking Ahead: Phase 3

The next stage, Phase 3, will introduce school meals into Arbor. This will allow families to view menus, make selections, and manage meal payments in the same place as everything else. The dates for this phase are still to be confirmed, and we will share more information as soon as everything is ready.

**Thank You** – We know that change takes time, and we truly appreciate the effort you've put into getting to know Arbor. Your support is helping us build a more efficient, more connected experience for all our families.



Lothersdale Primary School will be holding another science fair this year. The date for the fair will be Thursday 12th March during British Science Week. During the fair, the children will have the opportunity to share their project with the rest of the children in the school and at collection time, there will be an open event for parents and carers to come and view the projects.

Use the time through the February half term holiday to plan and make your science project. During British science week, a specialist teacher from South Craven will be joining class 3 and class 4 to delve deeper into this years theme 'Be Curious' and will be helping to judge our science fair entries.

**Good luck, budding scientists, we look forward to see your projects.**

### **Water bottles and personal items**

We would like to remind parents and carers that children should be bringing a school water bottle into school each day. These can be purchased via Arbor School shop.

Please refrain from sending in alternative bottles, including large metal bottles or 'Stanley' style cups, as these can be difficult to store safely and may cause spillages or disruption in the classroom.

We would also like to kindly ask that children limit the number of personal items they bring into school. We are seeing an increase in toys, personal care items such as makeup (which is not permitted in school), pencil cases and stationery (all of which are provided by school), and other gadgets.

We encourage you to support your child in keeping these items safe at home so they do not become a distraction in school or risk being lost or broken.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support.

## **Lothersdale Lowdown**

**23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026**

Inset Training Day

**24th February 2026**

Extended Schools Start for the term

**2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026**

Scholastic Book Fair – final day

**5<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

World Book Day

**12<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

Lothersdale Primary Science Fair

**17<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

Y6 Crucial Crew

**17<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

Parent Consultations

**19<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

Parent Consultations

**25<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

Rock Steady Concert

**26th March 2026**

Class 2 – Fresh Water Theatre – more info to follow

## **Lothersdale Legends**

This weeks Lothersdale Legends are:

Class 1

Reception – **Sydney Huddy**

Class 2

Year 1 – **Ella Scott**

Year 2 – **Lucas Heaviside**

Class 3

Year 3 – **Arthur Nelson**

Year 4 – **Martha Smith**

Class 4

Year 5 – **Lucy Kennedy**

Year 6 – **Florence Chapman**



We will be celebrating them in our Friday morning assembly on Friday 6th March. Please come along if your child is one of our Lothersdale Legends for 9.00am.

Well done also to this weeks:

Maths Ambassador – **Jessica Staveley**

Year 6 Award – **Joe Lloyd**

who will be celebrated in class.