CARR LODGE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026

First Term

Dear Parents and Carers,
Welcome to our Autumn newsletter! I would like to begin by extending a warm thank you to all our parents and carers for your continued support in helping the children make such a settled and positive start to the new school year.
Attendance over these first 8 weeks has been amazing. We are thrilled to share that over 200 children collected 100% attendance certificates to celebrate the end of this half term—what a fantastic achievement!
Thank you also to everyone who joined us for Parents' Evening and for your ongoing encouragement with home learning. Your involvement truly makes a wonderful difference in your children's learning journey.
Finally, our recent spooky disco was a huge success! Thank you for your support; we are looking forward to using the funds raised to enhance our playtime resources for all the children to enjoy.
We wish you all a restful and wonderful half-term break!

Reminders

Please see the list of key dates for term 1b.

Respectful Behaviour

At our school, we are committed to fostering a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment where every child feels valued, safe, and respected. We actively encourage kindness, empathy, and positive interactions across all year groups, both inside the classroom and out on the playground.

Our staff work closely with the children to teach the importance of active listening, respectful communication, and celebrating our differences. We kindly ask for your continued support at home in reinforcing these positive values, helping us ensure that respect remains at the heart of our school community.

Early Years

Nursery

What a wonderful half term we've had in Nursery! We've settled in beautifully, made new friends and grown in confidence as we've explored all the things that make us special. We've been learning all about ourselves, our families and how we've grown from tiny babies into the little superstars we are today! We've also spotted the signs of autumn arriving, noticing the changing colours and talking about the world around us. Now, we're diving into the deliciously cosy world of Pumpkin Soup by Helen Cooper, ready for lots of pumpkin-themed fun, learning and adventures!

Reception

We can't believe how fast our first half term has flown by! It has been a joy watching all our new children settle into school routines, make lovely new friendships, and discover just how much fun school is. We've been up to so much—from dressing up in vibrant colors for Elmer Day and exploring nature on our Autumn walk, to practicing our letter formation and getting creative on Halloween craft day! Thank you to all our families for your support during this milestone transition. The children have made a fantastic start, and we hope you all have a restful half-term break before our next set of adventures! 🍂✨

Stay and Learn

Our Treehouse finished the term with a lovely Stay and Play with their grown ups. We can't wait to see everyone at the upcoming Stay and Learns for each year group.



Staff Changes

We would like to share a few staff updates with our school community:

Maternity Leave: Miss Rattigan will soon be going on maternity leave. We wish her all the best during this exciting time!

Welcome Back: We are delighted to welcome back Miss Corns as she returns from her maternity leave.

Retirement: We send our warm wishes to Mrs Driver following her retirement earlier this term, thanking her for her dedicated service.

Kitchen Team: Our new kitchen team is settling in brilliantly, and we are looking forward to some new and exciting menus ahead!

Key Stage 1

Year 1

Year 1 have made a fantastic start to the term, learning all about our local area! We have been exploring the different types of houses and homes people live in and went on a local walk to identify and locate important local amenities. We were also proud to work alongside Doncaster Council to help improve our community by taking part in a litter pick. Unfortunately, we discovered lots of litter in our local area, which led to some great discussions about keeping our surroundings clean and tidy. To finish, we designed posters to remind everyone to use the bins provided and help keep our local area a clean and pleasant place for everyone. What a brilliant start to our learning!

Year 2

What a fantastic and busy start to the autumn term in Year 2! We have been on the move with our transport topic in History, exploring how the ways we travel have changed over time. This tied in perfectly with our DT project, where the children put their engineering skills to the test by designing and making their very own buses! In English, our imaginations have been running wild as we wrote brilliant stories based on The Naughty Bus, while our young scientists have been investigating everyday materials to test which ones are truly waterproof. We are so proud of all their hard work and creativity already!

Lower Key Stage 2

Year 3

In Year 3, we have been travelling back in time to explore the Stone Age, learning about the three eras — the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic — and how we can identify them by the changes in tools, lifestyles and homes. In Science, we have been investigating different types of rocks, exploring weathering and discovering how fossils are formed through fossilisation. We are looking forward to our exciting school trip to Creswell Crags, where we will bring our learning to life and consolidate our knowledge of this fascinating period in history!

Year 4

In Year 4, we have exploring the time of the Industrial Revolution, delving into our linked text Street Child to inspire rich descriptive writing about life in Victorian Britain. In Science, we have been investigating the states of matter, exploring the properties of solids, liquids, and gases and observing how materials change state. In Art, we have started developing our sketching skills to create striking, industrial-style drawings of The Iron Man. We look forward to continuing to build on these exciting cross-curricular connections next half term!

Year 5

Year 5 have had a fantastic term filled with exciting learning and wonderful achievements! A particular highlight was a brilliant workshop that rounded off our learning about the Ancient Kingdom of Benin, with every child getting involved in drama to bring their learning to life. We also welcomed a teacher from Tech She Can, who introduced us to programming as part of an exciting series of computing lessons. The children have been busy rehearsing and perfecting a fantastic performance full of singing and dancing, while continuing to develop their Year 5 maths skills, particularly with number work, and strengthening their writing skills. In English, we have thoroughly enjoyed exploring our class text, *Freedom* and learning about the incredible life of Harriet Tubman, using her story to inspire our own writing. We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, effort and hard work the children have shown throughout the term!

Year 6

Year 6 have settled in well and have been learning about civil rights activists in our History and English work. In Maths, we have been revising place value and the 4 operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) as well as learning new content for Year 6, including BODMAS and long division. We have been learning about light in Science and drawing some amazing portraits in Art. More recently, we have been enjoying making a start on our social justice project, which we look forward to sharing after the half-term break.

Attendance Reminders

Medical Appointments

We kindly remind parents to book medical and dental appointments outside of school hours whenever possible. If an appointment during the school day is unavoidable, please share the details with the school office (including evidence of the appointment) at least 24 hours before the appointment so this can be officially recorded as an attendance note.

Leave of Absence Forms

If a child requires a period of absence from the academy, a Leave of Absence form must be completed at least 72 hours in advance. These forms are for the attention of the school office and can be accessed on the school website.

Reporting Absences

Parents must contact the school office on each day of a child's absence. If the office has not received a call by 10:30am, staff will attempt to contact parents directly. If no contact is established by 12:00pm, a home visit may be conducted in accordance with our attendance policy.