

MUSKHAM

Newsletter



The Power of Poetry.

This week at Muskham Primary School has been one filled with a variety of learning opportunities.

One of the highlights of our week was the wonderful poetry recital, where our children took to the stage in front of a packed hall. It was truly inspiring to see them stand with such confidence and bravery, sharing their words with clarity and expression. For many, performing in front of such a large audience can feel daunting, yet our pupils rose to the occasion magnificently. Their enthusiasm, resilience and pride in their work shone through in every performance. I know I speak for all the staff and families present when I say how incredibly proud we are of each and every one of them.

Alongside this, our learning this week has focused on developing a deeper understanding of neurodiversity. Through thoughtful assemblies and engaging class sessions, the children have explored the importance of recognising and celebrating differences. It has been heartening to see not only their growing understanding, but also their genuine willingness to support one another with kindness, empathy and respect. These are values we hold dearly as a school community, and it has been wonderful to see them lived out so clearly.

Finally, with the welcome arrival of some sunshine, it has been a pleasure to see the children enjoying their time outdoors. Whether playing together at breaktimes or continuing their learning outside the classroom (they have loved building their own nests), they have shown such positivity and cooperation. There is something very special about seeing children laughing, learning and supporting one another in the fresh air.

It has been an uplifting week at Muskham Primary School, and I would like to thank our children, staff and families for continuing to make our school such a warm and vibrant place to be.

Mr Pearson

What's Coming Up After Half Term...

Monday 12th March - Neuro Diversity Week

Friday 27th March - Rock Steady Performance to parents and carers (2:15pm)

Friday 27th March end of term awards plus Reading Raffle winner announced!

Friday 27th March - Break Up for Easter





It's all happening in the classroom...



Mr Charlesworth's Class

Foundation have had a wonderful time bringing our class story, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, to life! The children have been very busy making their own caterpillars, using their cutting and sticking skills. It was lovely to see them choosing different colours and patterns for their designs. Our classroom is now looking very bright and cheerful with all their learning on display!



Mrs Keane's Class

This week, our Year 1 children had a fantastic time learning all about birds as part of their Science topic. To help them understand how different birds eat, the children used pegs as beaks, practising picking up "food" just like real birds do. It was wonderful to see how quickly they recognised the challenge birds face and how cleverly they adapted their "beaks" to succeed!

The children then moved on to investigating how birds build their nests. Using a range of natural materials, they worked carefully to create their own mini nests, discovering how much patience, problem-solving, and teamwork birds need in the wild.

The class loved engaging with these hands-on activities, and it sparked lots of curiosity and conversation about bird behaviour, habitats, and the world around them.

Well done Year 1 — what brilliant scientists you are!



Mrs Ellison's/Mrs Sheldon's Class

Class 3 have been thoroughly enjoying their PE lessons of Basketball and Football. They have been learning and applying lots of vital new skills for each sport.

The children have been working really hard on their assessments in English and Maths this week. They have also shown their creative flair when writing based on a video about a train heist! In Art, Class 3 have been designing their own Greek inspired pottery. They are looking forward to making these out of clay in the coming weeks.



It's all happening in the classroom...



Mrs Palmer's Class

Year 4 & 5 have worked incredibly hard on their assessments this week, and we are so proud of every one of them – well done! In the afternoons, we've been diving deeper into our volcano topic. The children impressed us with their knowledge during a lively Kahoot quiz, showing just how much they've learned. We also put the finishing touches on our Hokusai Wave-inspired artwork. Using watercolour and pen, the pupils created detailed and expressive wave pieces that look fantastic!



Mrs Hough's Class

As part of their Inventions topic, Mrs Hough's class explored how to make a strong bridge using only paper, tape and glue. They planned their designs, strengthened their structures in creative ways, and tested how much weight their bridges could hold. A brilliant mix of problem-solving, teamwork, and engineering thinking.



It's all happening in the classroom...

Miss Baker's Class

In Science this week, Year 5/6 launched their new Electricity unit with an exciting 'Explore, Engage, Extend' carousel activity.

Pupils moved around a series of stations, tackling thought-provoking questions about circuits, conductors, safety and everyday electrical systems. This hands-on start sparked plenty of curiosity and great discussion as they built on their prior knowledge.

In Geography, the children have begun working on persuasive speeches and presentations about the global urgency of tackling deforestation. Some pupils are crafting podcasts, while others are creating powerful PowerPoints to communicate why protecting our rainforests matters for the planet's future. We can't wait to see their finished work!



A Wonderful Morning of Poetry and Pride!

Monday morning brought with it a truly special moment in our school calendar: our much-anticipated Poetry Recital. The hall was filled with excitement, gentle anticipation, and a real sense of community as children from across the school stepped forward to share the poems they had worked so hard to prepare.

We could not be prouder of every single child who took part. Each poem was delivered with a remarkable blend of confidence, enthusiasm, and personal flair. It was clear to everyone present just how much effort had gone into practising, memorising, and perfecting their performances. What makes events like this so wonderful is the opportunity they provide for children to shine in ways that go beyond everyday classroom life. Poetry recitals allow a different kind of skill to emerge—creativity, expression, communication, courage - and it was a joy to see children embracing this with such authenticity and heart.

Perhaps the most impressive aspect of the morning was the children's bravery. Standing alone on stage, in front of a packed hall, is no small achievement. Yet each performer rose to the challenge with admirable composure, delivering their poem clearly and proudly. Their determination and spirit earned warm applause from everyone present.

As we look back on such a memorable event, we are already looking forward to the next opportunity for our pupils to showcase their creativity. The Poetry Recital reminded us once again of the incredible talents within our school, and the joy that comes from celebrating them together.

Well done to all our wonderful performers. Your voices made Monday morning truly magical.



Muskham Community Chocolate Bingo – A Sweet Success!

What a fantastic evening we had at our Muskham Community Chocolate Bingo! It was truly wonderful to see so many families coming together to enjoy a night of fun, laughter, and a little competitive spirit. I have to admit, I was genuinely taken aback by just how many people turned up – far more than we ever expected – and it created the most brilliant atmosphere.

One of the highlights for me was seeing so much of our community gathered in one place, sharing smiles, cheering each other on, and celebrating every “BINGO!” that echoed around the hall. There’s something very special about events that bring everyone together, and this one will certainly stay with me for a long time.

I should also confess...I got very into the bingo calling! So much so that I’ve already been in touch with Gala to see if they have any openings for a budding caller with newly discovered talents. Whether they take me up on the offer remains to be seen, but I thoroughly enjoyed every moment of it!

Of course, none of this would be possible without the hard work and dedication of our wonderful Muskham PTA volunteers. A huge thank you to Tara Spurr, Emma Rogers, Deb Page, Rachel Burrows and Mr and Mrs Eggleston for all their time, energy, and enthusiasm in making the evening such a great success. (And if I’ve forgotten anyone, my sincere apologies – your efforts are truly appreciated.)

Thanks to everyone’s support, we raised an amazing £523! In the coming weeks, we will be speaking with the children and gathering their ideas before deciding how best to use the funds. We look forward to sharing those plans with you very soon.

Thank you again to every family who came along. Your support and community spirit are what make events like this so special.



Well Done Superstars!



Well done to all our Superstars this week. You are all fantastic ENABLERS and we are very proud of you!

The girls' football team delivered an outstanding performance this week, securing a brilliant 3-0 win in their latest match. From the first whistle, the team showed determination, teamwork, and real passion for the game.

The star of the match was Violet, who scored a superb hat-trick, showcasing her skill and composure. Her teammates supported her brilliantly with strong passing, clever movement, and solid defending throughout.

A huge well done to every player for their hard work, sportsmanship, and determination. We are incredibly proud of the team and excited to see what they can achieve in their upcoming fixtures.





This week, a team of Year 3 and Year 4 pupils took part in an exciting tag rugby tournament, representing our school with fantastic enthusiasm and teamwork. The children gave their all in every match, showing great determination, growing skills, and brilliant sportsmanship throughout the afternoon.

It was wonderful to see pupils from both year groups supporting one another, celebrating each pass and try, and encouraging their teammates.

Well done to all the children who took part – we are incredibly proud of you! Thank you also to the families who came along to cheer them on.





MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM



Parent/Carer Newsletter

**Spring
EDITION
2026**

"The greatest gift you can give yourself is the gift of belonging" - Shannon L Alder

We commenced February enjoying Children's mental Health Week. This year the theme was "My place". We wanted to continue this theme into spring by thinking about a sense of belonging and explore how this can be nurtured to help your child/young person feel a strong sense of belonging.



Children's Mental Health Week 2026

Children's Mental Health Week is a national annual event to highlight positive strategies to help children & young people develop and maintain good mental health. This year's theme was 'My Place' - helping children feel they belong.

What is Belonging & Why it Matters

Belonging means feeling like you are part of a group, a community, or a place. It is about knowing you have a place where you feel safe, accepted and valued. Belonging is a basic human need and crucial for our mental health and wellbeing.

For children, belonging is especially important as it helps them:

- develop emotionally,
- understand who they are,
- feel safe.

When children feel they belong, they are more willing to try new things, be creative, and make strong friendships.

Belonging vs Fitting in

Sometimes, when children do not feel they belong, they try to "fit in" by changing themselves. This can help them make friends or join groups.

But fitting in is different from belonging. If children have to change who they are or what they believe in, it can hurt their self-esteem and sense of identity.

True belonging allows children to be themselves and feel valued.

Click the heart

for ways to support your child at home!



Here are some things you can try at home:

[Families - Children's Mental Health Week](#)

Here's what we got up to

Last year's festive fun

As we commence the season of Spring we wanted to reflect back on the last year, considering how the MHST belong in your schools. The festive fun we enjoyed and shared within your schools gave us a real sense of belonging as it was a time to come together to reflect, rejoice and make plans for the future. Below are some photos that capture the fun had in one of our schools.



Lawrence View Primary - Christmas Fair
Friday 3rd December 2025.

Our Mental "Elf" Jude and Support Worker Wayne, taking a lucky dip from the Happy Notes created by the school Mental Health Ambassadors.



Spotlight on Belonging



We all hear the term belonging and you likely have ideas, places and people that come to mind when you consider who/what you belong to, but what does it truly mean to belong?

Belonging is a basic human need and impacts upon our wellbeing, health and relationships. It begins within with positive self-acceptance and is influenced by our connections with others, our communities and our experiences.

When we feel that we belong, it empowers us to contribute to the world and make a real difference. So nurturing a sense of belonging for your child is very important and here are so top tips on how to do this



Top Tips for creating a sense of belonging for your child/young person

- ▶ FOSTER CONNECTIONS
- ▶ EMBRACE/NURTURE YOUR/THEIR HERITAGE
- ▶ CREATE FAMILY RITUALS
- ▶ SPEND QUALITY TIME TOGETHER
- ▶ COMMUNICATION IS KEY.



Click on the icons for further information/top tips to create a sense of belonging in your family.





April 2026 Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours

Understanding Anger	6 April 10am
School Anxiety	6 April 7pm
Facing Defiance	7 April 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	7 April 7pm
Anxiety Explained	13 April 10am
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	13 April 7pm
Introduction to OCD	14 April 10am
What is ACT?	14 April 7pm
Decreasing Depression	20 April 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	20 April 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	21 April 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	21 April 7pm
FREE Decreasing Depression	23 April 7-8pm
Improving Family Communication	27 April 10am
Autism: Improving Communication	27 April 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	28 April 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	28 April 7pm

Newark Sports and Fitness Centre
and Dukeries Leisure Centre

EASTER TIMETABLE

Monday 30th March – Sunday 12th April 2026



**NEW Air-X Sports
Camp session!**

4 FREE SESSIONS!

Places limited so book now at
www.active4today.co.uk/leisurehub

You can pay at reception on the day, subject to availability

Telephone 01636 655780

Email enquiries@active4today.co.uk



We have a range of fun activities happening to keep the children active during the Easter Holidays at Newark Sports and Fitness Centre and Dukeries Leisure Centre. As part of the programme, we are also offering 4 FREE activities! Also, join in on the fun with our Air-X inflatable sessions which includes the NEW Air-X Sports Camp at Dukeries Leisure Centre too!