

Headteacher's Newsletter

Spring 2, 2026

23.02.2026



Welcome back

Welcome back! We hope you all enjoyed a restful and refreshing February half term, filled with time to relax, recharge, and enjoy moments together as families. Whether you managed a few days away, explored the local area, or simply enjoyed some well-earned quiet time at home, we hope it brought a welcome pause in a busy school year.

As we return for the new half term, we are excited for everything the weeks ahead will bring. This is always a wonderful part of the school year—children return with renewed energy, a readiness to learn, and a sense of curiosity about what's coming next. We have a full term planned, with plenty of opportunities for learning, creativity, and celebration both in and out of the classroom.

Attendance

We would like to thank all parents for prioritising attendance at school. Our attendance at the end of our first term was 95.2% which is above the National benchmark of 94.3% for all schools which is a fantastic achievement, and one we'd like to build on to meet our target of 97%. For any requests for authorised absence please use our Exceptional Circumstances Form available on the school website and from the reception area in school.



We're delighted to receive the National School Attendance Award. A fantastic achievement, reflecting the commitment of our whole school community.



Twins Lola and Ted Wilson, joined by classmates Isaac Dixon and Charlie Weaver, proudly sell their homemade treats at the school's charity bake sale.

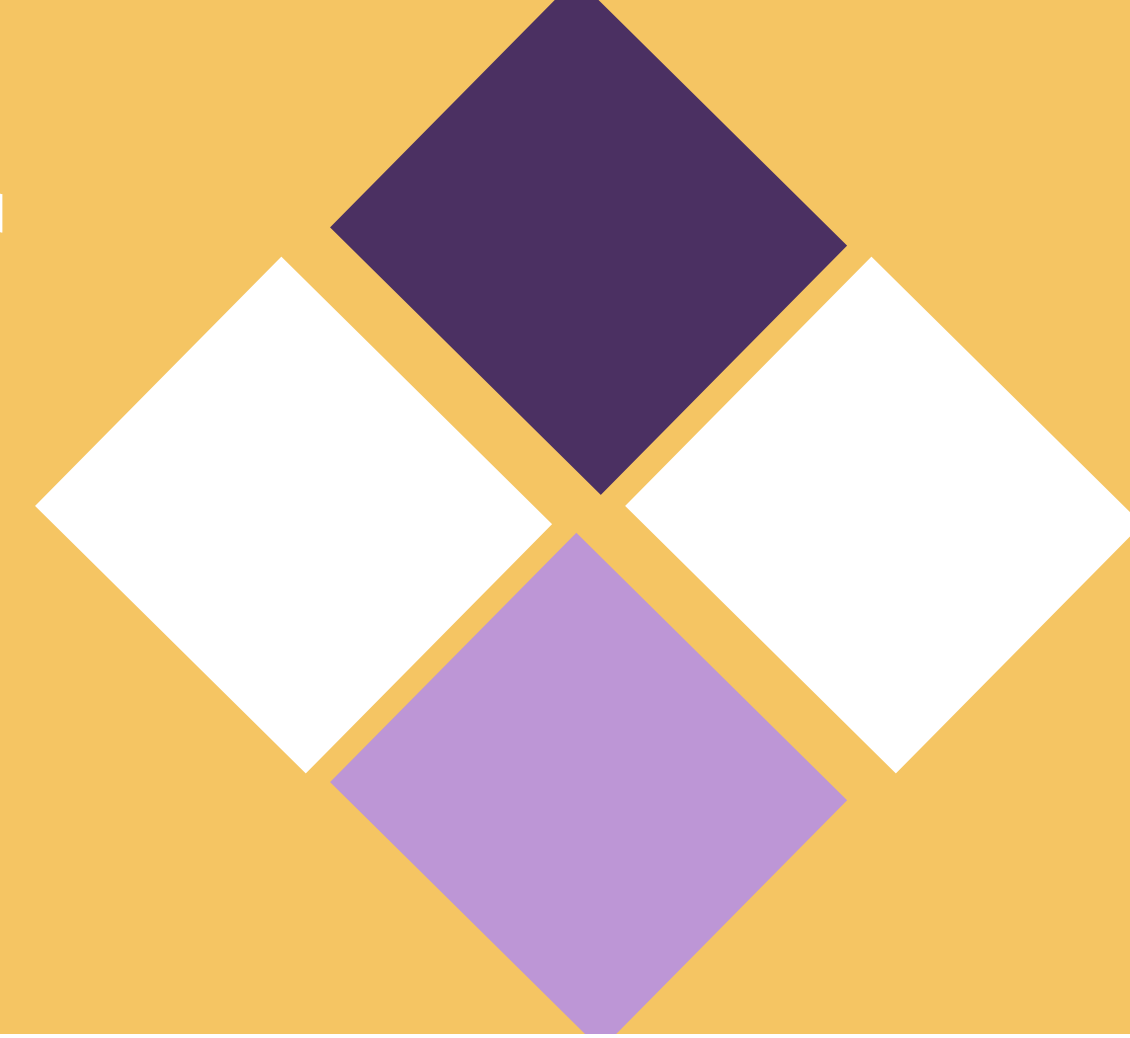
Four Year 5 pupils, supported by Mrs Bednar and Miss Collinson, organised a successful charity bake sale supporting a local hedgehog rescue, turning a small classroom idea into real impact, raising over £150! Their teamwork, creativity, and compassion shone throughout, showcasing the impressive achievements of everyone involved.



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Thank you & Goodbye

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to **Mrs Ibbotson, Mr Burton, and Miss Ahmad** as they leave our school this term. Each of them has made a valuable contribution to our community, bringing warmth, dedication, and a genuine commitment to our children. Their hard work and positive influence have been greatly appreciated, and they will be missed by staff, pupils, and families alike. We wish them every success and happiness in their next steps.

Parent Evenings

We kindly remind all parents and carers to book their **Parents' Evening appointments via Arbor** as soon as possible. These meetings are an essential part of our partnership with you, giving us the opportunity to discuss your child's progress, celebrate their achievements, and talk through next steps for the term ahead.

If you experience any difficulties, please contact the school office and we will be happy to help.

Thank you

Thank you so much for your incredible generosity at our Valentine's Disco. Together, you helped raise over £900. This amazing total will make a real difference to our children. The funds will go towards **subsidising school trips**, helping ensure every child can access enriching experiences. We will also use part of the money to **improve the resources and opportunities** we offer across school.

In addition, we are currently designing a **low-arousal space** to support pupils who benefit from a calm, sensory-friendly environment. A portion of the funds raised will help us develop this important provision.

We are equally grateful for your generosity in helping us raise **£200 for Place2Be**, a charity that does vital work supporting children's mental health.

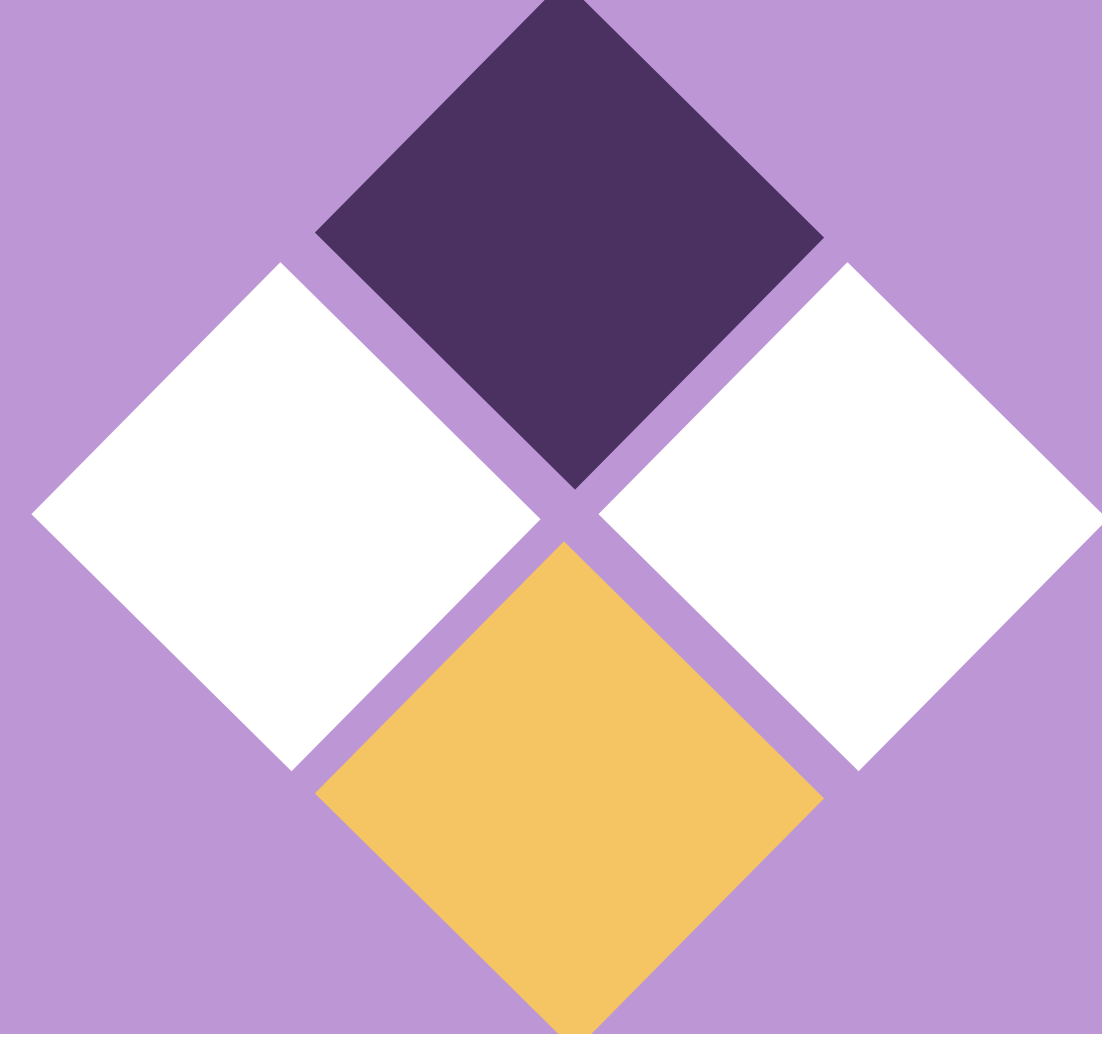
Thank you once again for your continued support—our community truly makes these achievements possible.



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Upcoming dates

Friday 27th February: World Book Day
Monday 2nd March: Class photographs
Wednesday 4th March – Friday 6th March:
Year 5 Residential trip
W/C Monday 9th March: British Science Week
Friday 20th March: Red Nose Day

W/C 23rd March: Parents' evening

- Year 3: Monday, 23rd March
- Year 4 and 3/4D: Tuesday, 24th March
- Year 5: Wednesday, 25th March
- Year 6 and 5/6C: Thursday, 26th March

Friday 27th March: Easter egg competition

Friday 27th March: Break-up

Safeguarding update

Please be vigilant - if you have any concerns for the safety and wellbeing of any child, please report it to the **Designated Senior Leader Mrs Donna Foster** and **Liam Booth**, 01977 518959 or contact **Social Care Direct** - 0345 8 503 503. When school is closed, please follow details on how to report a concern on our school website. Please remember – **safeguarding is everyone's responsibility**. **Everyone has a duty to keep children safe.**



We're thrilled to receive the Autism Inclusion Award, recognising our commitment to creating an inclusive, supportive environment for every child.



Thank you to all parents and carers who generously gave their time during Aspirations Week—your support truly enriched our children's experiences.

Follow us on X
@CastlefordParkJ

