

Appleton Academy

Primary
Newsletter
Summer 1 2026



Together with our community, we can achieve extraordinary things.



Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that another half term has passed, and we will soon be in the last few weeks of the academic year. Once again, I would like to say a big thank you for your continued support.

It has been a really positive few weeks in school, with lots of learning, activities and achievements to celebrate. We are all especially proud of our Year 6 children, who approached their SATs with such determination and a calm, positive attitude. They have worked incredibly hard and should feel very proud of themselves. They have been busy this week baking and taking part in the Bikeability training programme.

We've also enjoyed a range of lessons and activities that have made this half term such a busy and enjoyable one. These have included Year 4 taking part in Roman Day, Early Years working with Chris Mould (Artist in Residence) and Year 5 taking their first steps on the climbing wall.

After the half term break, we will be continuing with statutory assessments with the Phonics Screening Check in Year 1 and the Multiplication Check taking place in Year 4.

As we break up, I hope you all have a relaxing and happy holiday with your families. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for the final half term, ready for more learning and fun together.

Best wishes

Miss Clayton



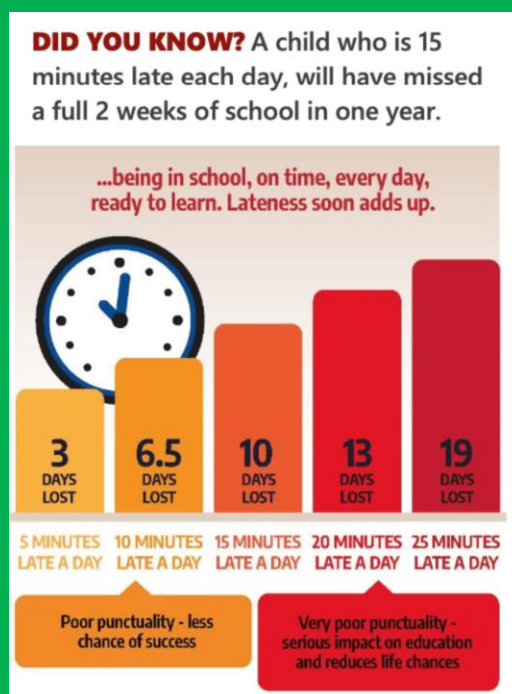
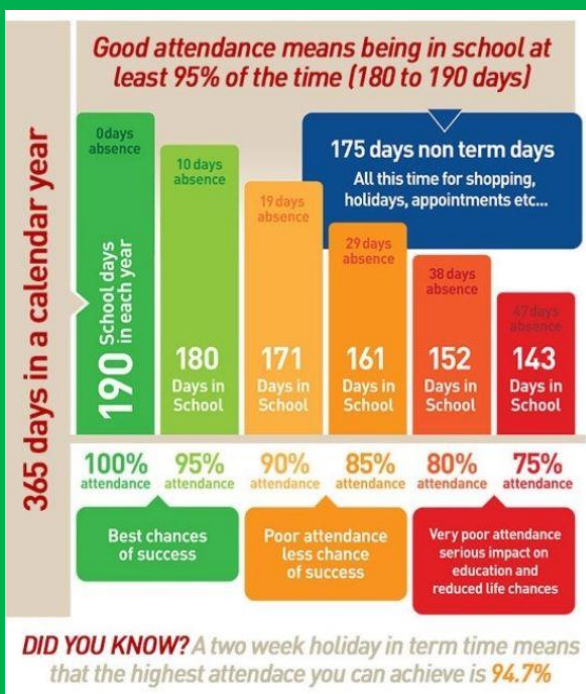
Attendance

This final half term is especially important as children begin preparing for the next stage in their learning and their new year group. Teachers use this time to build on key skills, close any gaps and help children feel ready and confident for September, so regular attendance is more important than ever.

Amazing Attendance Award

As well as our weekly rewards and certificates, we are starting an **Amazing Attendance Award** during the final half-term. Children who achieve 100% attendance and punctuality for 2 weeks will be rewarded with the opportunity to choose an activity of their choice in recognition of their commitment. There will be three opportunities across the half term for them to take part in their selected activities, each at the end of the 2 weeks.

Thank you for your continued support.





EYFS



This half term our topic in both Nursery and Reception has been Fee Fi Fo Fum, and we have learned the story of Jack and the Beanstalk using actions.

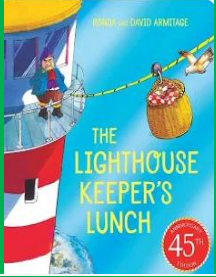
We have also learned how plants grow from a tiny bean into a big, tall beanstalk in the real world, by learning about the life cycle of plants and flowers. We have planted our own seeds and waited patiently for them to grow.

Nursery have also explored the story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar to create a caterpillar's life cycle as well as investigating lots of mini-beasts.

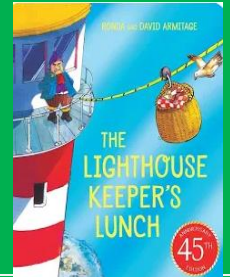


This half term both classes have worked super hard to learn 6 different rhymes for the Bradford Libraries Rhyme Challenge, we even learned a brand-new rhyme in Ukrainian! To celebrate the end of all of this hard work, we had a visit to the Wyke Library to share our rhymes and had a visit from the Bookstart Bear! He loved listening to our rhymes and joining in with our dances! Everyone got a certificate for taking part!





KS1



This half term in KS1, we are exploring plants. We went on a garden and wild plant hunt around the school and discovered so many different types of plants. The children enjoyed identifying and naming the plants they found, making it a fun and engaging way to learn about the natural world.



This half term, we are reading the story of *The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch*. Inspired by the story, we designed our very own baskets with special protection to stop the seagulls from stealing Mr Grinling's lunch. We also wrote warning notes to the seagulls to make them aware and keep the lunch safe!





Year 3



This half term year 3 had a fantastic time learning about money through practical activities! The children ordered coins and notes by value, made different amounts, and worked out the correct change using real-life problem solving.



Year 3 have been busy planting sunflower seeds and exploring what plants need to grow! The children are carefully observing the effects of sunlight and water, as well as what happens when plants do not receive them. Through this exciting investigation, they are developing their scientific enquiry skills and making thoughtful observations about how living things survive.





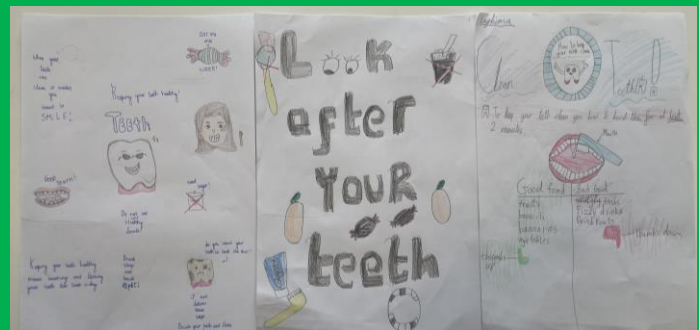
Year 4



What a busy and exciting time we've had in Year 4! Our *Roman Theme Day* was a huge success, with children fully immersing themselves in life in Roman Britain. Pupils enjoyed creating beautiful mosaics, taking part in Roman-inspired drama, and engaging in fun sporting activities. It was fantastic to see the effort put into their Roman costumes - everyone looked incredible and really brought the day to life!



In science, we have been studying teeth and learning how to keep them healthy the children then used their knowledge to create dentist waiting room pictures



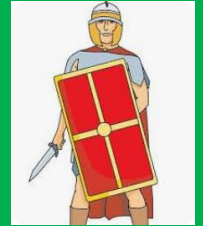
We were also lucky to welcome to Year 4 our resident author Nik Perring and illustrator Chris Mould for a special workshop. The children were inspired by their creativity, learning more about the writing and illustrating process and even having the chance to develop their own illustrations.





Year 4

Roman Day

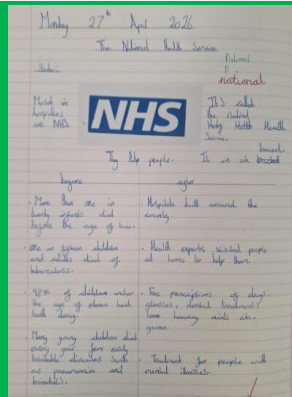




Year 5



In Year 5, we have been learning about Britain after the war. We have celebrated the Windrush generation and how immigrants came here and helped rebuild the country.



Alongside our PE sessions, we have been rock climbing and bike riding. It is amazing to see the increase in confidence week by week and the teamwork skills demonstrated during these activities.



As part of a literary walk, some of our children were chosen to go to Haworth, the home of the Brontes, to study the cultural significance of this wonderful village.



Year 6



This half term our Year 6 children have completed their SATs. We are so incredibly proud of how they approached the week and with all the work and preparation before these. They attended booster sessions after school and Saturday schools. We celebrated with a fun filled day and a pizza party.





Year 6



We have had a lot of fun during our Bikeability sessions. These sessions have helped us understand how to be safe when riding our bikes.



Year 6



We have finished a really busy half term by baking buns for our bake sale. Thank you for all your support towards this.



Annie





Commando Joe's provides the thrilling opportunity to enable every pupil to become their best self – through character education. Commando Joe's is an award-winning UK-wide provider of character education programmes for EYFS, primary and secondary schools. With over a decade of experience and a research-backed RESPECT Framework, they equip young people with the confidence, empathy, and resilience they need to succeed in life, both in and out of the classroom.



ignite
Immersive Education

Ignite Immersive Education is a creative education company, who work with pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 in Appleton. Their sessions uniquely blend core subjects and in class learning, with the creative arts. Each week pupils work with Shine and Jenny, as they sing, dance and act their way through the curriculum. This half term they have been supporting the children with their curriculum themes.



Y1 Festival

Some of our Year 1 students represented Appleton at the Bradford sports festival. A big well done to them all for their fantastic efforts!



Play Leaders



Some of our Year 5 pupils are training to be Play Leaders. They join KS1 and lead playground games, model positive behaviour, and support younger children. Our Play Leaders develop confidence and leadership skills while making sure the younger children are having fun and joining in.



Our Artist / Writer Residencies



Early Years children worked with Chris Mould, retelling the Jack and the Beanstalk story and drawing their own beanstalks.



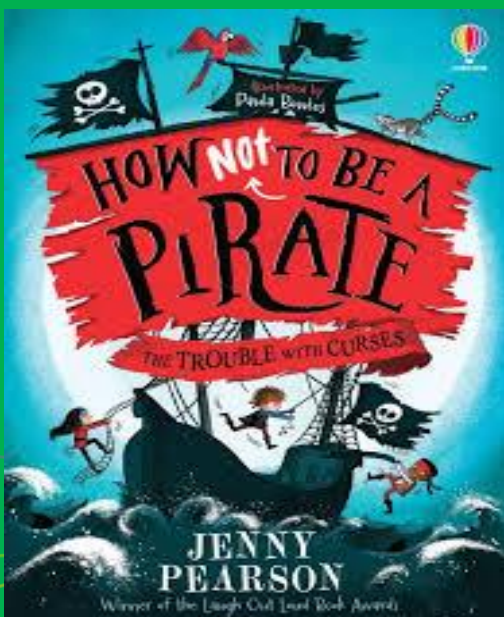
Year 4 children enjoyed creating Roman characters with Nik Perring and illustrating them with Chris Mould.



Library Events



Year 5 students enjoyed our trip to Haworth. We visited the museum, took a tour around Haworth and made miniature books



We have been reading 'How Not To Be A Pirate' during Chatterbooks sessions.

Community Events

My name is Emily Chesterman, and I am the Parental Involvement Officer here at Appleton Academy. I hope you all enjoy a wonderful half term and have the chance to spend some quality time together as a family. Below are some fun ideas you can try at home.

1. Build a fort with blankets and things from around the house and have a movie night.
2. Create a music playlist of everyone's favourite music and have a dance party.
3. Try to cook or bake something new- homemade pizza or a chocolate fondue.
4. Create a list of things to find on a walk and make a scavenger hunt – unique leaves, rocks or certain wildlife.
5. Take turns in reading pages of a book using different voices for the characters.
6. Have a family games night playing different board games, card games or video Games.
7. Have 'no phone' time and use your imaginations to create some family fun ideas.
8. Go for a bike ride, game of football or fly a kite in your local park.

Emily.chesterman@appletonacademy.co.uk



FREE summer family activities

National Science and Media Museum BD1 1NQ – daily

70 years of Eurovision- stories about performers, go behind the scenes, live music, dressing up and live game shows.

Bolling Hall Museum BD4 7LP Sunday 31 May 11am-3pm

English Civil War Living History- Experience living in the 1640s, how they lived, how they made clothing. See a real cannon fired.

Bradford Cathedral BD1 4EH

Free family activities based around animals and nature and the option to create a Fathers Day card. A tour of the cathedral is available at 2.30pm.

Darley Street Young Traders Market BD1 3HH Saturday 23 May 1-am-4pm

Aged 16-30 years running a fantastic mix of stalls under the courtyard canopy.

The Beacon at Bowling Park 27/05, 29/05 & 30/05

Mobile adventure playground at various times

SEND

Reevy Hill Family Hub- Wednesday 27 May 1-3pm. Gardening fun and planting to take home. FREE but booking needed 01274 434940

Rainbow Family Hub- Thursday 28 May 1-3pm. Arts and crafts, games and activities and grow kits to take home. No booking required.

