



New Pastures Primary School Newsletter

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January 2026

Executive Principal: Mrs S Hall

Deputy Principal: Mrs C Cotton-Bailey

The Spring Term—part one!

The spring term has started really well at New Pastures and despite the dreary weather (and there is more forecast) we have had a great start to the spring term and indeed, to 2026. The children have all returned, looking smart in their uniform. We have started our timetable of clubs and we are working really hard to ensure the children continue to make great progress. We are really pleased with our developments in reading, writing and maths.

We have welcomed back Mrs Turner, who has returned from her maternity leave. She is now Assistant Headteacher at New Pastures, with responsibility for SEN. This is a really exciting appointment as we know that some of you have had concerns about your children, especially if they have special educational needs. We also welcome a new member of staff to the New Pastures team—Mrs Nash. Mrs Nash is our early years leader and she is taking responsibility not only for our current nursery and reception classes, but also for the new provision starting at Easter. I am sure you will agree—it is great that the team is growing!



Stars of the Week for January

Well done to the children who have won the Star of the Week. Please look at our Instagram page @newpasturesprimary to see the range of awards we share in our Celebration Assemblies.

Class	9.1.26	16.1.26	23.1.26	30.1.26
Mrs Rooney - FS2	Isabella	Sonny	Ruby	Hayley
Mrs Sherratt - Y1	Scarlett	Grace	Hunter	Ruby
Miss Hutt - Y2	Roman		Zayne	Sophia
Miss Cooke - Y3/4	Eva	Jack	Pippa	Geri
Mrs Moss - Y3/4	Muhammad	Sonny	Isla	Sophia
Mr Ridgill - Y3/4	Maya	Teddie	Isobel	Alfie
Mr Woodward - Y5	Bobby	Felicity	Freya	Eli
Miss Jarvis - Y5/6	Elsie	Myla	Neidas	Jake
Miss Spencer - Y6	Amber-Rose	Luna	Max	Amelia

KS2 SATs Tests

The SATs Tests for children in Year Six take part during the week beginning the 11th May. On Monday they children have a spelling, punctuation and grammar test, and on Tuesday they have a reading test. On Wednesday and Thursday the children have three maths tests. The tests are national tests and have to be taken on these days. **Please make sure you put these dates in your diary** if you have a child in Y6.



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Attendance

Attendance continues to be a focus and we closely monitor any absences and reasons for these. The policy is on our website but this is what is defined as exceptional circumstances:-

1. **Medical emergencies:** Serious illness or injury requiring immediate and/or ongoing medical attention that cannot be scheduled outside of school hours.
2. **Bereavement:** The death of a close family member or loved one, necessitating time off for funeral arrangements and grieving.
3. **Family crisis:** Critical situations within the family unit, such as severe illness of a family member, divorce proceedings, or other significant personal matters requiring the student's presence.
4. **Legal obligations:** Mandatory court appearances, immigration proceedings, or other legal matters that cannot be rescheduled.
5. **Unavoidable transportation issues:** Significant disruptions in travel due to unforeseen events such as natural disasters or severe weather conditions.
6. **Other compelling reasons:** Unique or extraordinary events that are assessed on a case-by-case basis by the school's administration.



DID YOU KNOW? A two week holiday in term time means that the highest attendance you can achieve is 94.7%

Class	9.1.26	16.1.26	23.1.26	30.1.26
Mrs Loosemore - FS1	96.75%	96.39%	94.33%	94.33%
Mrs Rooney - FS2	96.43%	97.14%	92.86%	100%
Mrs Sherratt - Y1	97.43%	93.53%	92.35%	93.53%
Miss Hutt - Y2	97.77%	96.43%	92.5%	97.5%
Miss Cooke - Y3/4	95%	94%	91.5%	90%
Mrs Moss - Y3/4	96.2%	95.65%	96.52%	94.35%
Mr Ridgill - Y3/4	98.21%	97.5%	92.14%	97.86%
Mr Woodward - Y5	98.96%	99.17%	95.83%	96.67%
Miss Jarvis - Y5/6	96.35%	96.67%	92.5%	96.25%
Miss Spencer - Y6	86.72%	91.56%	94.06%	95%

These are the attendance figures for the first part of this half-term.

- **Red percentages are below 90%,**
- **Amber 90—96%**
- **Green 96+%**

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Curriculum Enrichment



As soon as children start at New Pastures we do all we can to instil the importance of reading and to try and develop a love of books. Each year, as children become more interested in the digital world, this becomes a little harder. However, listening to stories is such a vital part of language development, regardless of the age of the child.

Each night, your child will bring a reading book and a record home. It would be great if you could listen to your child read each night, especially whilst the nights are still dark and somewhat miserable with the rain at the moment. [Reading tips](#) | [BookTrust](#)

Keeping Our Children Safe in the community

[Doncaster South](#) | [Your area](#) | [South Yorkshire Police](#)

Please find a link to the South Yorkshire Police page that lists some dates for local meetings—it's important that you have your say and you feel you are listened to. We have really good links with the police and share information when appropriate. Unfortunately there have been a number of New Pastures children involved in incidents of anti-social behaviour recently. This is not what we expect; we want our children to be proud of the community in which they grow up and to feel responsible for looking after the resources it provides. If you do have any concerns about children in the community, then please do let us know and we will do all we can to make things better.

Times Tables

All children in Y4 take a national test in June—this is called the Multiplication Tables Check. We are obviously doing everything we can to make sure the children get the best scores, preferably 25 out of 25. You can help your child by regularly saying the times tables or use the website [Home - Times Tables Rock Stars](#). The children do all have their own logins.

Curriculum Offer

We work hard at New Pastures to make the learning relevant, first-hand and exciting. This includes visits out and this half-term our children are attending Crucial Crew in Rotherham and The Laurel Academy. The children in Y3/4 have been learning about Diwali in RE and part of this includes making pots to celebrate the festival of light. In addition to this, we have had Greek food-tasting, parachute games, ukulele lessons, lessons on the artist Paul Klee ... to name but a few!



Thanks

Thank you to you all for your continued support; we can't do this without you. We look forward to sharing more about our learning, especially as the weather changes, we see the signs of spring and we can start to get out and about more.

The New Pastures Team