



Fellside Matters

Commitment, Confidence, Change, Creativity, Challenge, Collaboration, Curiosity.

Ambition for all.

13th February 2026

Ms Thornber's Weekly Message:

Last week's update comes from me rather than Mrs Green, and I'm delighted to share some highlights from another busy and enjoyable week in school. Our newsletter was delayed this week due to ongoing connectivity issues affecting various council sites across the borough on Friday afternoon. This was a regional issue affecting Virgin Media, which thankfully has been resolved.

Last week, we embraced Safer Internet Week, beginning with a whole-school launch assembly that encouraged everyone to think carefully about how to stay safe and respectful online. Across Years 1–6, pupils then took part in follow-up lessons tailored to their age groups, exploring topics such as digital kindness, recognising safe websites and understanding the importance of asking for help when something online doesn't feel right. The children engaged brilliantly and demonstrated thoughtful awareness throughout.

A huge thank you to the PTA for organising the Valentine's Disco. Pupils and staff who attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves—it was a wonderful opportunity for the children to have fun together, and we are very grateful for all the hard work that goes into making these events happen.

On a personal note, I attended an Early Mark Making course last week and have since enjoyed working alongside Mrs Storey, our EYFS Lead, to discuss best practice and explore ways to continue enriching early writing opportunities for our youngest learners. It has been inspiring to reflect on how small, meaningful steps in early mark making can build the foundations for confident writers.

As Mrs Green is unwell at the moment, I will be deputising for her this week and ensuring everything runs smoothly in her absence.

Ms Thornber

Key Dates

Monday 16th February PM

- Year 6 to watch Legally Blonde at Whickham School

Wednesday 18th February

- Swimming Team to the Primary School Gala at Dunston Pool
- Chinese New Year themed curry lunch

Monday 23rd to Friday 27th February

- Half Term Holiday

Please continue to check our website, which is updated regularly with key dates.

Nursery

Nursery have shared the book "Don't Worry Hugless Douglas" together while also continuing to practise 'writing' their names by tracing letters. They have been ordering and comparing amounts as well as using digital number games. Pupils have been singing 'One Little Finger, 1-2 Buckle My Shoe and Hickory Dickory Dock' to support their number learning. In PE, pupils have been exploring balance and movements. Much fun has been had designing and creating Valentine's Day cards.

Challenge winner: Lyle S

Reception

Reception children have enjoyed sharing "The Lion Who Loved" and they have written captions to retell the story of Handa's Surprise. In maths, children learnt about number bonds to 10 and they have created repeating patterns. The highlight of the week was colour mixing to create pink so that they could paint a Valentine's Day card for their Year 6 buddies!

Challenge winner: Maryam I

Year One

Year One have been reading "Kitty and the Tiger Treasure" and wrote diary entries from a cat's point of view about the Great Fire of London. In maths, they have been learning to identify different coins and amounts, and in art and design, they explored the vibrant style of pop art. During PE, they particularly enjoyed practising their jumping and rolling skills in gymnastics

Challenge winner: Joshua S

Year Two

Year Two have been reading "Rosie Revere Engineer". In writing, they have been finished their biography on Mae Jemison and produced some wonderful work. In maths, they have been adding and subtracting tens and ones from two digit numbers and, and in computing they have created posters to celebrate what they have learned about Safer Internet Day. During PE, they particularly our Games session which focussed on different types of passes and tracking the ball to catch accurately.

Challenge winner: Miles M

Year Three

Year Three continue to enjoy reading *The Christmasaurus*. In writing, they have been practising the use of fronted adverbials, powerful verbs, and adverbs to develop well-structured sentences. In maths, they have been deepening their understanding of fractions of amounts and learning to interpret pictograms. During geography, they explored land use in Whickham and Newcastle upon Tyne. In PSHE, pupils learned about the NSPCC's PANTS rules, and in PE they are continuing to rehearse their whole-class dance.

Challenge winner: Ruby B

Year Four

Year Four continue to enjoy reading *The Tin Forest*. In writing, they have been developing their use of subordinate clauses to enhance their sentences. In maths, they have been learning about time and have also begun exploring shapes and angles. Internet safety has been a key focus in Computing, while in Religious Education they have been learning about the fourth pillar of Islam—fasting and Ramadan.

Some lovely news to share this week is that many children achieved 'Swimmer of the Week' certificates during their lessons.

Challenge winner: Evie R

Year Five

Year Five have continued to share the book "Kenzuke's Kingdom", discussing events and characters. In maths, they have focused on fractions. During computing, children began to add code to their robots while, in geography they compared major Brazilian cities to Newcastle.

Challenge winner: Chloe H

Year Six

Year Six have begun to read 'The Varmints' discussing key events. In maths, pupils have been linking percentages to fractions. During religious education, pupils have been learning about the sacred thread ceremony, known as Upanayana, and its significance within the Hindu faith. In music, have been listening to jazz music, whilst in PE, pupils have been developing dance performances

Challenge winner: Autumn L-J