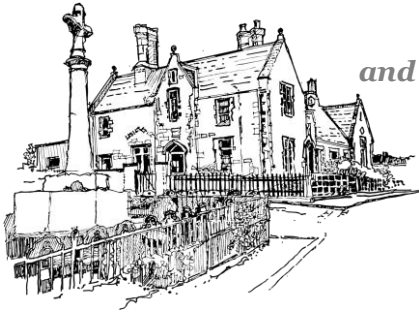


# HARBY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL - LINK LETTER

*Expanding horizons, exploring potential, embracing faith*



*"Start children off on the way they should go,  
and even when they are old they will not turn from it."*  
Proverbs 22:6

*This Link Letter contains news,  
forthcoming events and information,  
helping you to keep in touch with school.*



Telephone: 01949 860553 Email: [office.school@harby.leics.sch.uk](mailto:office.school@harby.leics.sch.uk) Website: [www.harbyprimary.org](http://www.harbyprimary.org)

*Peace, Endurance, Friendship, Compassion, Thankfulness, Koinonia*

## Assembly Focus

This week we have been thinking about the character strength of being **THOUGHTFUL** and showing **THOUGHTFULNESS**. To be thoughtful is to think about others and behave in a way that is kind and considerate. To think about the impact of our words and actions and how this can make others feel. We can show thoughtfulness when thinking about other people's views and opinions and their feelings by using linked character strengths of kindness and patience.

*First week back after the half term we will be focusing on the character strength of enthusiasm.*

## Team Points

Well done to **FIRE** – the winning team this week!

### Cumulative Total – Spring Term 2026

Earth	Air	Fire	Water
75	51	52	65

## School Council and Eco Council

Each class has followed a voting process to elect their School Councillors and Eco Councillors. Meetings will take place on each alternate Monday after school. With School Council meeting first on 23<sup>rd</sup> February and Eco Council on 2<sup>nd</sup> March. We will keep you updated with their activities.



## Children's Mental Health Week

There have been some activities in school to raise awareness of this such as yoga, mindfulness, thinking about what we can do if we have a worry, making 'calm down' bottles and also collaborative piece about belonging.



## Nature School

Class 1 enjoyed their first Nature School lesson where we discussed some simple Nature School rules. We talked about the seasons and then went off to look for signs of life around our gated Nature School area and our wider playground. The children spotted snowdrops, ivy and lots of different insects. We enjoyed being outside in nature. It was a lovely bright sunny afternoon, if a little cold, but everyone was wrapped up warm!



## Internet Safety Day

This year internet safety day has focused on the use of AI with an internet safety assembly and live lesson taking place during the week. Internet safety is so important for us to be aware of all year round – not just on one day. As we now reach the half term holiday there may be more opportunities for children to be on devices. Please see these two posters about Apps that parents should be aware of and also how screen time can impact children when it is used a lot – we hope they are helpful.



**20 APPS PARENTS & CARERS NEED TO KNOW**  
www.SocialWorkersToolbox.com

<p><b>Snapchat</b></p> <p>Messages and photos disappear. Children can be pressured to send images because they believe they will not be saved. Location sharing can show where a child is in real time.</p>	<p><b>Roblox</b></p> <p>Although it looks like a children's game, it includes chat features. Children can be contacted by strangers and slowly groomed through friendly game play.</p>	<p><b>Kik Messenger</b></p> <p>Accounts can be anonymous. It is often used to move conversations away from apps parents may check.</p>	<p><b>Fortnite</b></p> <p>Voice chat allows children to talk to strangers during games. Language and behaviour are often inappropriate.</p>
<p><b>TikTok</b></p> <p>Children can see adult content, receive sexual comments, and be contacted by strangers. Live videos allow real-time interaction, which can quickly become unsafe.</p>	<p><b>Telegram</b></p> <p>Messages and groups are encrypted, making them difficult to monitor. It is used to share sexual images, harmful material, and to keep conversations hidden from adults.</p>	<p><b>Hoop</b></p> <p>The app connects directly to Snapchat and encourages children to add new contacts quickly, including people they have never met.</p>	<p><b>Reddit</b></p> <p>Children can easily access sexual, violent, or extreme material through posts and comments.</p>
<p><b>Instagram</b></p> <p>Messages allow strangers to contact children directly. Many children run secondary accounts that parents do not know about. There is strong pressure around appearance and popularity.</p>	<p><b>OmeTV</b></p> <p>Random video chats with strangers. No effective safeguarding. Sexual content and adult behaviour are common. Children have no control over who appears on screen.</p>	<p><b>LiveMe</b></p> <p>Children can broadcast themselves live to anyone watching. Viewers can comment in real time, including adults.</p>	<p><b>BeReal</b></p> <p>The app prompts children to take photos instantly, which can lead to oversharing without thinking about safety.</p>
<p><b>WhatsApp</b></p> <p>Private chats and group chats are often used for school or friendship groups, but bullying, exclusion, and sharing of images can happen quickly and spread widely.</p>	<p><b>Yubo</b></p> <p>The app is designed to meet new people. Children can live stream and chat with strangers, which can quickly become sexual or exploitative.</p>	<p><b>Calculator+</b></p> <p>These apps look like calculators but are used to hide photos, videos, and messages from parents and carers.</p>	<p><b>Twitich</b></p> <p>Children watch and interact with live streamers through chat, which often includes adults and unmoderated comments.</p>
<p><b>Discord</b></p> <p>Children join private chat servers linked to gaming or interests. These spaces are often unmoderated and can include adults, sexual content, or harmful language.</p>	<p><b>Monkey</b></p> <p>Children are placed into random video chats with people they do not know. They have no control over who appears on screen.</p>	<p><b>YouTube</b></p> <p>Children can be exposed to adult content through suggested videos, comments, and live streams, even when watching innocent clips.</p>	<p><b>Bumble</b></p> <p>This is a dating app. Despite age limits, some under-18s access it to talk to adults looking for relationships.</p>

## Governing Body

Following advertising for 3 parent governors in the autumn term I am pleased to share that we have appointed Tim Clement, returning for a further 4 year term, and Jo Judge and Kirsten Kennedy as new parent governors. We look forward to working together.

## World Book Day Celebrations

This year World Book Day is on 5<sup>th</sup> March. We will have a group of children and staff out of school on this day taking part in an Eco-Extravaganza so we will be having our school celebrations on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March**. This year the theme will be 'traditional tales' and we invite children to consider their favourite traditional tale and why and to dress up as a character from their favourite tale if they would like to. Will we have many wolves, Red Riding Hoods or Goldilocks? We look forward to seeing your costumes!

## Friends of the School – Belvoir Challenge News!

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our Belvoir Challenge meeting this week – it is nearly here! The next meeting will be at 6pm on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February, specifically for those who have volunteered to be marshals on the day.

A huge thank you to everyone who has volunteered to bake or buy cakes and/ or puddings for this year's Belvoir Challenge, which takes place on 28<sup>th</sup> February.

We still need cakes and puddings, so please sign up to help out if you can.

We don't need anything fancy - cakes can be flapjacks, traybakes etc and puddings can be as simple as a crumble or a sponge pudding (basically anything we can whack custard on for our hungry runners and walkers).

Boxes for the cakes to be transported in can be collected from school the week before the event (i.e after half term)

Please also remember that we will very shortly be asking for more volunteers to help at the event itself!

You can sign up to provide cakes and puddings here:

<https://form.jotform.com/260066116787057>

**Half term and holiday activities that may be of interest to**



A vibrant red poster for a Chinese New Year event at Melton Museum. At the top, several colorful lanterns (yellow, pink, and white) are hanging from a string. The text in the center reads: 'CELEBRATE CHINESE NEW YEAR AT MELTON MUSEUM 2026 - YEAR OF THE HORSE'. Below this, the dates and times are listed: 'Tuesday 17 - Saturday 21 February 10am - 4pm daily'. A cartoon illustration of a brown horse is on the right side, holding a red lantern. The bottom section lists activities: 'Zodiac Trail FREE', 'Make a Chinese New Year bookmark FREE', and 'Make your own stained glass lantern £2.50'. At the very bottom, there are logos for Melton Carnegie Museum and Leicestershire County Council, along with contact information: 'Melton Carnegie Museum, Thorpe End Melton Mowbray LE13 1RB 0116 305 3860 meltonmuseum@leics.gov.uk'.

Celebrate Chinese New Year at Melton Museum!

Half term holiday activities that may be of interest to families.

**First week back in school:**

Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	School opens for the second half of the spring term Swimming for children in Class 3 Young Voices Choir after school
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> February:	SATs Club after school
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February:	Cross Country Club after school Belvoir Challenge marshalling meeting at 6pm at school
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> February:	Young Voices Choir performance in Birmingham Library Club after school
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> February:	Rock Academy music lessons in school

***Dates for the diary:***

*New / updated dates in red*

23<sup>rd</sup> February – School opens for the second half of the spring term

26<sup>th</sup> February – Young Voices Choir rearranged performance date

28<sup>th</sup> February – Belvoir Challenge!

*5<sup>th</sup> March – Eco Extravaganza for a group of children in Leicester*

*6<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day celebrations in school today*

*9<sup>th</sup> March – Parents' Evenings in school this week – letter to follow*

*9<sup>th</sup> March – Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) week in school*

*9<sup>th</sup> March – Leicestershire recycling workshops*

*10<sup>th</sup> March – Severn Trent water assembly*

*10<sup>th</sup> March – Class 3 waste soup workshop*

*17<sup>th</sup> March – Wheelchair basketball*

*20<sup>th</sup> March – Red Nose Day – details to follow*

*25<sup>th</sup> March – Easter service in church at 1.45pm*

*27<sup>th</sup> March – School closes for the Easter Holidays*

*13<sup>th</sup> April – School opens for the summer term*

*16<sup>th</sup> April – Cricket for Class 2 and Class 3*

*23<sup>rd</sup> April – Cricket for Class 2 and Class 3*

*30<sup>th</sup> April – Cricket for Class 2 and Class 3*

*4<sup>th</sup> May – Bank holiday – school closed*

*5<sup>th</sup> May – Class photographs*

*11<sup>th</sup> May – Mental health awareness week*

*11<sup>th</sup> May – KS2 SATs week*

*15<sup>th</sup> May – 'Roots to Food' – cooking workshops and Gala Dinner*

*19<sup>th</sup> May – Road safety workshops for each class*

*22<sup>nd</sup> May – School closes for the half term holiday*

**We hope you all have a good half term break!**