The New York Times

Autumn Term 1 2026

New York Primary School

Come as you are. Leave at your best.



Message from Mrs Shaw .

A warm welcome back after the summer holidays. It is lovely to see pupils happily returned to school, in their new year groups, embracing new learning challenges. This half term has been an 8 week one and your children will be ready for a week off! We have enjoyed welcoming parents and family members in to school for various events this half term, including Teddy Bears' Picnic in Nursery, Reading Meetings in Reception, MacMillan and SEND coffee mornings and information meetings for residential visits. Our popular Book Look was extremely well supported by families - thank you. The joy of children able to share their learning and show pride in their books is so special and we love how you enjoy it *with* your child. Those of you able to attend our Harvest Assemblies will have been impressed with the confidence of pupils speaking and singing in public in their new year group. Thank you for your kind donations to 'The Bay' Foodbank and 'Walking With' charities. Outdoor learning provision continues to be a priority at New York and our pupils are excelling at designing and creating dens. Den building supports lots of life skills including cooperation and communication, creativity, problem solving and teamwork. We are always looking for additional items that could be used to add to our den building equipment. Items such as plastic crates or buckets, lightweight tarp material, plastic tubes or clothes poles or giant pegs etc would be perfect. Your children bring so much joy to New York and staff with their positive attitude to learning and striving to meet our PROUD words. Remember the clocks go back on Sunday 25th October. We will really notice those dark evenings when we return on Monday 2nd November. Enjoy the week everyone. Mrs Shaw

Attendance

Our current whole school attendance is 96.2 %

w/c	Whole school %	Winning class	% of winning class
1/9/25	97.09	6CD & 7KJ	100%
7/9/25	96.6	2BK	100%
14/9/25	95.2	10GL/JB	100%
21/9/25	95.2	10GL/JB	100%
28/9/25	94.5	14DC	98.8%
5/10/25	95.9	4KT	100%
12/10/25	96.2	7KJ	99.1%

Author Day

Reception

In Reception we spent the day turning ourselves into Pirates as we read the story 'The Hoys' written by Kes Grey - one of our favourite authors!





Year 1

Year 1 explored a range of stories by the author Julia Donaldson. We then read "Room on the Broom" and used a picture from the story to make a list of what we could see.

Year 2

In Year 2 we explored our Library Books linked to our topic of the Arctic. We are choosing these stories to read for pleasure.

Year 3

In Year 3, we looked books written and illustrated by Tony Ross. We shared some of his books in PLZ and created our own Horrid Henry illustrations.

Year 4

In Year 4 we read the book "Hello Autumn" by Jo Lindley and then had a go at creating our own front cover designs, inspired by the changing season.

Year 5

In Year 5, we read a range of stories and discussed what makes a good book cover. We then had a go at designing our own.

Year 6

In Year 6, we celebrated Author Day by using our laptops to research our favourite authors. We then created Google Slides presentations to share interesting facts about our chosen authors and their books with the rest of the class.

Local Heritage Week

This week, we have been celebrating all things North Shields. We have been studying local buildings, sharing stories and discussing all the things in our local area that make us feel proud.

In Year 3, we discussed the history of the Fish Quay. We looked at the Herring Girls and went to see their memorial as part of our North Shields trail.





In Year 2 we looked at historical maps of our local area. We found out that the Old Forge was built in Victorian times and used secondary sources to find out more about it.





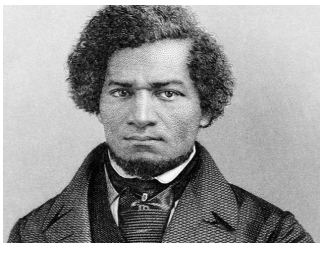
Year 1 explored photographs of familiar places in North Shields, including Rake Lane and Billy Mill. We put the photos in chronological order to see how these places have changed over time. We also discovered some interesting facts, for example Billy Mill was historically a windmill called Billing's Mill.



Year 4 used documents and historical photographs to gather information about Hadrian's Wall. This linked with our History topic 'What did the Romans do for Britain.' We were interested to find out about the origins of the name 'Wallsend.' Using our knowledge, we created a fact file about this beloved landmark.

In Year 6, we learnt about William Fifefield, a local ferryman, and explored the importance of the River Tyne and Fish Quay in shaping our local area during the Victorian Industrial Revolution. We also discovered how the Black community contributed to the history and development of North Shields, helping us to understand the diverse people who have shaped our local heritage.

In Year 5, we learnt about Frederick Douglass. He was an American man who escaped slavery and went on to deliver speeches around the world on the injustices of slavery. In 1846, he visited North Shields and gave 2 speeches. We wrote our own persuasive speeches inspired by him.



MacMillan Coffee Morning

Thank you to everyone who attended our coffee morning for Macmillan. It was a lovely morning with an excellent community feel and we raised £88 for a great cause.

Poetry Day

Year 1

Year 1 went out onto the yard to search for autumn leaves. We talked about what we could see and hear and we wondered how the leaves might move in the wind. We threw them up into the air and watched them twirl down to the ground. Back in the classroom we wrote our own class poems about autumn leaves.

Year 3

Year 3 read The Great Big Clean Up by Christian Foley, which discusses plastic pollution in our oceans. We discussed the recent nurdle spillage on our local beaches and wrote free verse poems, wondering what the sea would say if it could tell us how it felt about this.

Year 4

Year 4 looked at the story "The Wonder" and wrote our own free verse poem, thinking about the small wonders that we are able to see and feel every day. We took part in the Poetry Live Assembly with Michael Rosen.

Year 5

Year 5 looked at a poem called 'Say how you feel'. We talked about what happens to our bodies when we feel different emotions. We then put these into a poem using metaphors and similes.

Year 2

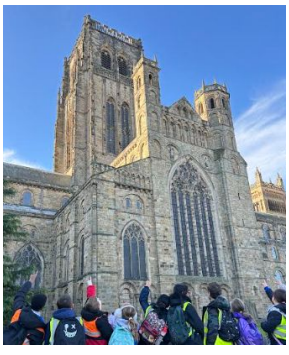
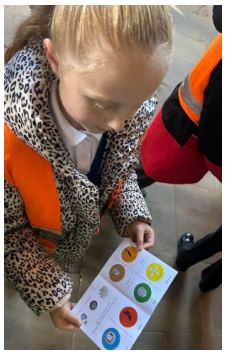
We listened to the poem 'Six Ways of Looking at a Leaf'. After this, we worked in small groups to create our own poems about Autumn leaves. We shared a few of our short poems at our Harvest Festival.

Year 6

Year 6 imagined what it would feel like to approach a Victorian workhouse as a poor child. We used powerful language and personification to bring the setting to life, building a sense of atmosphere and helping our readers imagine the fear and uncertainty these children may have felt.

Year 4 trip to Durham Cathedral

On Thursday 22nd October, Year 4 visited Durham Cathedral as part of our RE work where we have been looking at the importance of pilgrimage to Christians. We learnt all about the Northern Saints.



Year 3 North Shields Visit

Year 3 travelled to North Shields to visit the Mural Trail as part of our art and history topics. We visited many of the murals by foot and were even lucky enough to meet one of the artists - Anthony Downie - who just happened to be nearby! We are very grateful to Mr. Miller for allowing us to use 'The Loading Bay' to eat our lunch. Sandra and Stuart Barlow from the Old Low Lights came to talk to us about life on the Fish Quay and how it has changed. We visited North Shields library whose local history group had created a photograph display for us as well as visiting the Herring Girl and Fisherman statues on the Fish Quay. We had a great time!





Book Look

Thank you to all of our families and friends who came to our termly Book Look to share your child's learning with them. This is one of our favourite events in school and we hope you are as proud of your children's progress over the first half term as we are. Our pupils burst with pride as they bring their books to show you evidence of their learning so far this term. Thank you for your evaluations and letting us know that you value this event.





Halloween Crafts

On Wednesday 21st October, pupils stayed after school to take part in Halloween Crafts. What an excellent turn out from pupils and some hauntingly good crafts were made.












School council elections

On Wednesday 30th September our school council elections were held. We were extremely proud of all candidates as it takes a lot of courage to stand up in front of your peers and deliver a speech. Our new School Council members were announced during assembly the following day and were given their badges. They wear them with pride!

International School Award

We are proud to announce we have been awarded the **International School Award Foundation Certificate.** This is in recognition of our commitment to extending and embedding internationalism in our curriculum.

BRITISH COUNCIL

International School Award

Harvest Assemblies

In our Early Years Harvest Assembly we said thank you for all of our food and to the people who are involved in growing, delivering and cooking it.
2 Year Offer parents were treated to a singing session with Chris.





In Key Stage 1 we used our senses to describe what seasonal changes happen in Autumn. Year 1 showed off their nature Art pictures in the style of Andy Goldsworthy and Year 2 talked about the changing habitats of animals. Both Year 1 and Year 2 orally retold poems about Harvest.

Years 3 and 4 performed poems and showed art work inspired by harvest time. Year 3 spoke about why we celebrate harvest and which foods are harvested while Year 4 spoke about Roman harvest festivals and how Christians celebrate harvest.



Years 5 and 6 performed a harvest assembly based on diversity and understanding. Year 6 spoke about religious diversity and how different religions show they are thankful. Year 5 discussed the difference between harvest in the UK and Africa. Despite the technical difficulties, the singing was beautiful!

Sporting News

Year 5 / 6 Golf

On 9th September, pupils in Years 5 and 6 enjoyed exciting golf taster sessions led by a professional golf coach. The children developed their skills by practising chipping and improving their accuracy before having a go at hitting the ball as far as possible!

All of the children thoroughly enjoyed the session and the opportunity to try a different sport. Golf was an activity that pupils had specifically asked to experience, and it was fantastic to see their enthusiasm and engagement throughout the sessions.



Year 4 Netball

On Wednesday 7th October and Wednesday 14th October Year 4 visited St Thomas More High School for a netball session with coaches from the Seasiders Netball Club. Children learned a range of skills and had the opportunity to play in small matches.



Year 4 Hockey

On Friday 9th October some Year 4 pupils took part in a Hockey festival at the Parks sports centre. They played in various activities related to Hockey. They displayed fantastic teamwork, confidence and skill.



Littleton League

The under 11 boys team played their first threes games in the Littleton League winning 2 and drawing one. They currently sit top of the league. Making a great start and displaying great resilience and teamwork.

Music @ New York

Choir

Welcome Key Stage One Choir!

We are pleased to announce a new Choir at New York. Children from Key Stage One have been invited to come along to a Choir, rehearsing with Miss Anderson once a week and have been raising the roof with their amazing singing!

The children have been learning songs such as Best Day of my Life, Creepy Castle and Work from the Paw Patrol movie and get together once a week to rehearse and perform. We are hopeful of some performance opportunities for our new group of super singers later in the school year.

Key Stage 2 Choir

Meanwhile, our amazing Key Stage 2 Choir continues to rehearse weekly and is preparing for the Winter Sing at the Whitley Bay Playhouse on Monday 23rd November. Our chosen songs this year include Unstoppable and 9 to 5 by Dolly Parton. Details about this event will be sent home shortly.

We are excited to introduce a new Christmas performance for this year. As well as our EYFS and KS1 performances, there will be a slight change to our KS2 - with Years 3 and 4 putting on their own showcase and 5 and 6 performing their own Christmas production! We can't wait to get in the Christmas spirit with all these different performances!





Dates for your diary

2nd November - Children return to school
4th & 5th November - Parent Consultations
9th-11th November - Year 6 Robinwood
10th November - Reception Cinema visit
11th November - Year 3 and 4 cinema visit
17th November - Year 1 and 2 cinema visit
19th November - Year 5 and 6 cinema visit
20th November - Crazy Hair day for Children in Need
23rd November - Winter Sing
23rd - 27th November - Book Fayre
26th November - Robinwood Parents celebration
27th November - Non Uniform Day for Christmas Fair
3rd December - After School Clubs finish
3rd December - Year 1 Christingle
4th December- Christmas Fair and Grotto Day
7th December - LKS2 Christmas performance
8th December - KS1 Christmas performance
9th December - EYFS Christmas performance
10th December - UKS2 Christmas performance
14th December - Christmas Crafts
15th December - Year 1/2 Christmas Party (am)
15th December - Year 5/6 Christmas Party (pm)
16th December - EYFS Christmas party (am)
16th December - Year 3/4 Christmas Party (pm)
17th December - Carols on the Yard (am)
17th December - Theatre Royal Pantomime
17th December- Children finish for Christmas
Friday 18th December - Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 5th January - Children return to school

School Times Reminder

With so many different start and end times across school - here is a summary:

2YO morning - 8.30 - 11.30
2YO afternoon - 12.30- 3.30
2YO 30 hours - 8.30 - 3.00

Nursery morning - 8.30 - 11.30.
Nursery afternoon -12.30 - 3.30
Nursery 30 hours - 8.30 - 3.00

Reception - 9.00 - 3.30 (Gates open at 8.50 and close at 8.55)

KS1 - 9.00 - 3.30 (gates open at 8.50 and close at 8.55)
KS2 - 9.00 - 3.30 (gates open at 8.45 and close at 8.55)

All lessons start promptly at 9.00 and pupils should be in class seated by this time.