



READING CHALLENGE

November seems a long time ago, but many of our keen readers took up the challenge to read as many books as possible to raise money for our school libraries. We thought the fundraisers deserved a big thank you. They were able to choose a book of their choice. Grainthorpe children chose their books online and Marshchapel children had a selection of books to pick from; it was a lovely surprise! You've raised a whopping £550 - thanks!





GRAINTHORPE GETS FIT 2026!

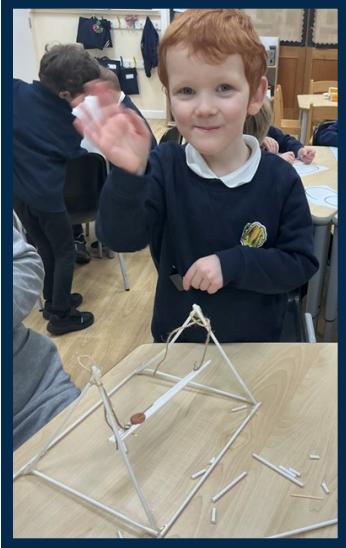
It's been another busy month of sporting events for all the children. Developing our team skills, determination and resilience is so important. Children have participated at various sports venues, honing skills in tennis, archery, and pickleball (a cross between tennis, badminton and table tennis). Joining with other schools is proving to be such fun!



MARSHCHAPEL INVESTIGATORS 2026!



When you are presented with a challenge, what do you do? At Marshchapel, the children told me "You just have a go!" Let's see what they've had a go at this month. Robins have been finding out how bridges are made to be strong and sturdy. They had the challenge to create a bridge that would hold up a coin. It wasn't as easy as it seemed!



Meanwhile, the nursery children were making crowns to wear in Royal castles and learning how to weave on simple looms! They had a great time practising their fine motor skills.

Kirsty from Rhubarb Theatre spent an afternoon improvising with dance and movement in medieval times - there was even a dragon...





GRAINTHORPE INNOVATORS 2026!

It seems a few weeks since our STEM Lego Day at Grainthorpe when children from both schools worked in pairs. Everyone enjoyed a fantastic STEM LEGO workshop, where the children designed and built helicopters, putting their science, technology, engineering and maths skills into action through teamwork and problem-solving.



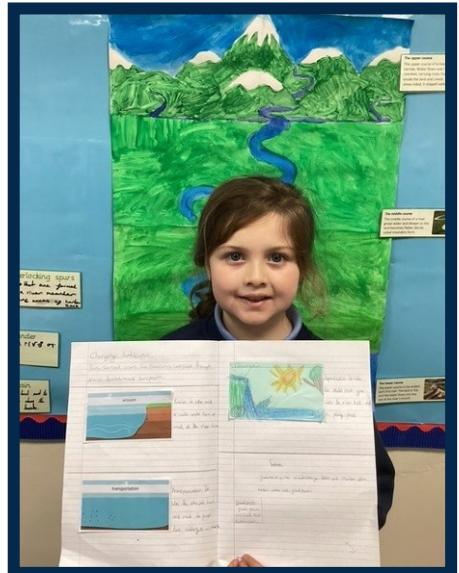
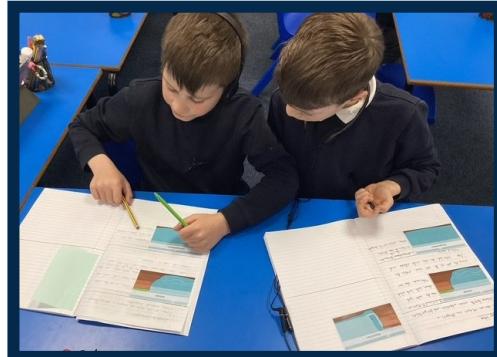
Mrs Clifford has started the Robotics After School Club. Six Tech Wizards are being trained to deliver the programming project to other groups of keen children. It's a very exciting session!

There are job vacancies in school this term - for the children! Opportunities include becoming a Book Ambassador, a Play Leader, or an Eco Caretaker. Anyone can apply but they must fill in an application form and be interviewed by me! I can't wait to meet the candidates and get the exciting projects started in school. The School Council has shared the information in classes and we are now waiting for applications to be completed before half term! Watch this space for more details.



GRAINTHORPE LEARNING

The Barn Owls have enjoyed learning how rivers shape the landscape, exploring erosion, transportation and deposition. They finished the lesson by creating eye-catching information posters to share their learning.



In art, the class explored atmospheric perspective, experimenting with shading, tone and light using a range of materials. The children showed great creativity as they applied these techniques to their own work.



HEALTHY SLEEP FOR GROWING MINDS

Are you struggling with a child who can't/won't sleep? If you answer yes, you're not alone - and help is available.

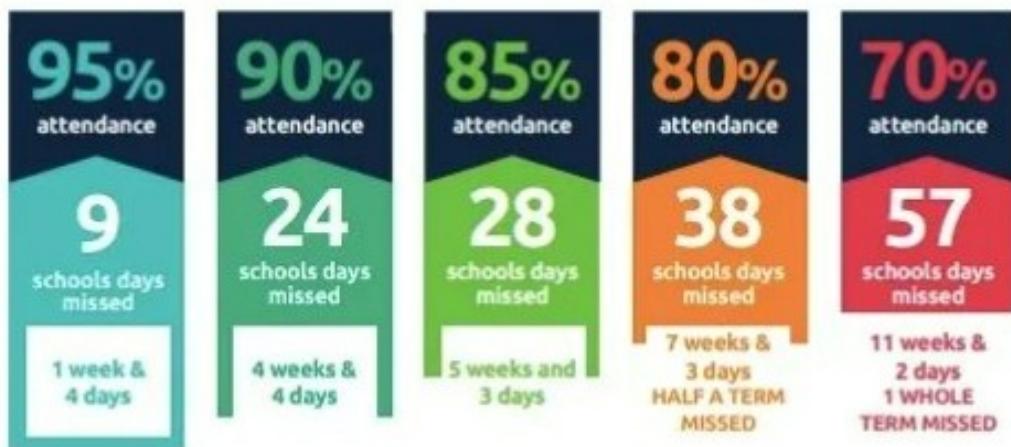
The Sleep Charity is offering FREE 1-to-1 Sleep Clinic appointments with an experienced Sleep Practitioner. Click [here](#) to contact the charity and to book an appointment:

<https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/contact/>



ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

Every day in school counts...



and every minute counts...



IMPORTANT DAYS TO BE IN SCHOOL

We know how much the children love coming to school - that's why our attendance is in line with schools nationally. We understand when a child is ill and know you do not keep children at home unnecessarily.

However tempting term-time holidays may be, please be mindful of the days children will be expected to complete national tests.

YEAR 6 children have four days of their SATs papers from Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May. We make the week special with Year 6 Breakfast and additional privileges throughout the week.

YEAR 4 pupils take a Multiplication Test sometime during the week beginning 1st June.

YEAR 1 children will have a Phonics Screening Check during the week beginning Monday 8th June. Throughout the year, they have practise checks so it isn't anything scary!



ONLINE SAFETY



A guide for parents has been released by the Children's Commissioner and was written with the support of children across the country on what they would like their parents to know and do around online safety.

Please click on the link '[What I wish my parents or carers knew...: A guide for parents and carers on managing children's digital lives | Children's Commissioner for England](#)



FENLAND FEDERATION

JANUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER



TERMS 3 AND 4 DIARY DATES 2026

Monday 2nd February Speak Out Stay Safe NSPCC Workshops at both schools

Tuesday 3rd February 2026 Year 3/4 Boys Tennis event with Wolds Sports

Thursday 5th February 2026 Year 3/4 Boys Football event with Wolds Sports

Thursday 5th February 2026 Year 5/6 Boys Football event with Wolds Sports

Friday 6th February 2026 NSPCC NUMBER DAY - Details on the flyers!

Tuesday 10th February 2026 Safer Internet Day in School

Wednesday 11th February 2026 Open afternoon from 2pm at Marshchapel 'Towers, Turrets and Tunnels'

Thursday 12th February 2026 Speak Out Stay Safe Workshops for Year 2 and Year 5/6

Friday 13th February 2026 Term 3 ends

Monday 23rd February 2026 Term 4 starts

Monday 23rd February 2026 Parents' Evening at Grainthorpe from 4pm onwards

Tuesday 24th February 2026 Year 3/4 Cross Country Running event

Tuesday 24th February 2026 Parents' Evening at Marshchapel from 4pm onwards

Thursday 26th February 2026 Year 3/4 Boys Football and Y5/6 Boys Football

Thursday 5th March 2026 World Book Day

Thursday 12th March 2026 Y5/6 Class trip to Doddington Hall

Thursday 12th March 2026 Y1/2 Cricket session

Thursday 19th March 2026 Golf Day at Grainthorpe (Years 1 and 2 to join)

Friday 20th March 2026 Red Nose Day - details to follow

Friday 27th March 2026 Easter Celebration at St Mary's **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE**

Thursday 2nd April 2026 Term Ends for Easter holiday

Tuesday 21st April 2026 Term 5 Starts for children

SAFEGUARDING IN OUR COMMUNITY

If you have any safeguarding concerns about children, please let us know. We have a designated safeguarding lead professional (DSL), Mrs Turner and deputy DSLs, Mrs Manders and Mrs Clifford.

Please telephone school on 01472 869075 (M) or 01472 869035 (G).

If you have a safeguarding issue to discuss directly, you can contact Lincolnshire Children's Services on 01522 782111.