



Shanklea
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Together Everyone Achieves More
#TEAM SHANKLEA

Thursday 9th January 2025

Happy New Year!

We hope everyone had the opportunity to spend time with their friends and families over the Christmas and New Year break and we're looking forward to an exciting half term ahead.

A Huge Thank You!

We just wanted to say a huge thank you again for all of your support with our visit to the RVI. We dropped off over 300 presents and you made lots of children and families who were staying in the RVI over Christmas very happy #TEAM Shanklea!

Anti Bullying Squad also did an amazing job of making and dropping off over 120 Christmas cards in the community: we're so proud of you all!

What's Next for TEAM Shanklea?

Our shared values of: Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience and Friendship are embedded in all that we do at Shanklea and now we're really going to focus on making a difference, this could be within our community or around the world because we are TEAM Shanklea: Together Everyone Achieves More!

International School Partnership: Over the coming weeks, I will be leading assemblies focused on our international school partnership with a school in Bali. Our children will have the opportunity to learn about Bali, traditions and cultures and in the future send letters and videos to children in one of the local schools.

This half term we also have lots to look forward to including: Mental Health and Wellbeing Week and E-Safety Day.

Dates for your Diaries



Year Group	Event	When	Further Information
Whole School	New Year celebration Roast dinner with all the trimmings	Thursday 16th Jan	Please order online via School Grid
Reception - YR6	Totally Taylor event	Monday 20th Jan	Please book your ticket via the Gateway. Doors will open at 5.30pm, event starts at 6pm
YR3/4	Science day with Guy Tansley	Friday 24th Jan	
Year 6	SATs information evening for parents	Thursday 30th Jan	AH5/6 & SL56 4.00pm - 4.30pm LR56 4.00pm - 4.30pm Please come to classroom doors.
Whole School	Mental Health and Wellbeing Week	Monday 3rd- Friday 7th Feb	Watch this space for exciting plans led by Anti Bullying Squad
To be confirmed	NSPCC - Speak out, stay safe workshops	Monday 10th Feb	
Reception to YR6	SEND Parent meetings	Monday 10th Feb	Booking information will follow shortly
All	Internet Safety Day "Together for a better internet"	Tuesday 11th Feb	Internet safety activities during class time
All	Non-uniform day	Friday 21st Feb	End of half term
Year 5	YR5 Robinwood Parents' meeting	Wednesday 5th March 3.30pm - 4.00pm	Meeting in LR5/6 classroom
All	World Book Day	Thursday 6th March	Optional character dress up! We've got an exciting day planned.



Year 5/6	History Live lesson with Blitz Bus Books	Monday 10th March	
Nursery Parents	Nursery Parents Evening	Monday 10th March and Tuesday 11th March 1.00pm - 3.30pm	Booking information will follow
Reception to Year 6 Parents Evening	Parents Evening	Monday 10th March Tuesday 11th March 3.45pm - 6.00pm	Booking information will follow.
All	Red Nose Day	Friday 21st March	Children can come to school wearing something red.
Squirrels	Squirrels Easter intake meeting	Monday 24th March	
A group of Year 3/4 children	AIM higher Maths Day - Andrew Jeffrey	Tuesday 25th March	
Nursery	Nursery Easter intake meeting	Monday 31st March	Letters will be sent out to new starters
Lower KS2 (YR3/4)	Share our learning afternoon	Monday 31st March 2.30pm - 3.30pm	Further details to follow
Reception	Easter Craft	Monday 7th April 9.15am - 10.15am	This will take place in the school hall
	Rocksteady concert	Tuesday 8th April - 9.15am - 10.15am	Further information to follow
Reception to YR6	Easter Disco	Wednesday 9th April	Further information to follow
Reception - YR6	Breakfast with the Easter Bunny	Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th April 8am - 8.45am	Please book your place on via the School Gateway
KS1 (YR1/2)	Easter Crafts	Wednesday 9th April 2.30pm - 3.30pm	Miss Short's class and Mrs Valentine's class will be in the hall and Mrs Downes' class will be in their classroom
Nursery	Easter Craft	Thursday 10th April	This will take place in the



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			school hall
All	Non-uniform day	Friday 11th April	End of Term
Whole School	Local Election Polling Day	Thursday 1st May	School is closed to all pupils. School is being used as a Polling Station for the Local Elections.

School trips this year

Year Group	Location	When	Further Information
Reception	Whitehouse Farm	Tuesday 1st April	Further information will follow
Year 6	Flamingoland	Thursday 22nd May	Further information to follow
Year 1/2	Possible visit to Beamish	Spring term 2	Further information to follow
Year 3/4	Discovery Museum	Summer term	Further information will follow

Residentials

Group	Location	When?
Year 5	Robinwood - Alston	17th - 19th March
Year 5 & 6	Beamish overnight - History theme	3rd - 4th June - Further information will follow
Year 6	Bushcraft camp - Castle Howard	25th to 27th June - Further information will follow
Year 4	Robinwood - Alston	9th - 11th July Payment plan to follow

Extra curricular clubs

Year Group	Activity	Dates	Further Information
YR 3/4	Rugby//Multi skills	Every Tuesday starting 14th Jan Final session - Tuesday 18th Feb 3.30pm - 4.30pm	Please sign up via the School Gateway. Limited to 20 spaces
YR 1/2	LASP - Bushcraft	Every Thursday starting 16th Jan Final session Thursday 20th Feb 3.30pm -4.30pm	Please sign up via the School Gateway. Limited to 15 spaces

School Football Teams

Mr Tuck has kindly agreed to continue running the Y5/6 girls and boys' football teams every week. Miss Witherspoon, PE Lead will send out further information shortly. Please can we ask that if you had kits at home you drop them off asap as we've spent a lot of money on new kits for our teams- thanks!

Fixture dates and times to be agreed and will be shared by Miss Witherspoon.

Whole School Events or Notices

Polling Day - Thursday 1st May

As requested by the local authority, our school building will be used and open to the general public for voting from 7.00am to 10.00pm on Thursday 1st May 2025.

As we are a Local Authority maintained school, the elections department have insisted the school building is used. Unfortunately, following a full risk assessment, we will be unable to open the site safely for our pupils on polling day as the elections office has requested the full use of the school hall and entrance during this time. Therefore, we will have to close completely. We are providing this information now to ensure all parents/carers have as much notice as possible. We appreciate your understanding with this matter and apologise for any inconvenience this closure will cause.

Taylor Swift event - Monday 20th Jan

Doors open at 5.30pm, the show starts at 6pm and is due to finish at 7.10pm. We're just waiting for exact timings from the company so as soon as we know we will update you.

From 5.30pm we will be selling sweets and glowing accessories: price list to follow.

There are still tickets and it's for Reception to Y6 children!



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'Totally Taylor is the electrifying tribute act dedicated to bringing the magic of Taylor Swift's music to life on stage. Led by a talented ensemble of performers, Totally Taylor captures the essence and energy of Taylor Swift's iconic performances, delivering a high-octane production that leaves audiences mesmerized.'

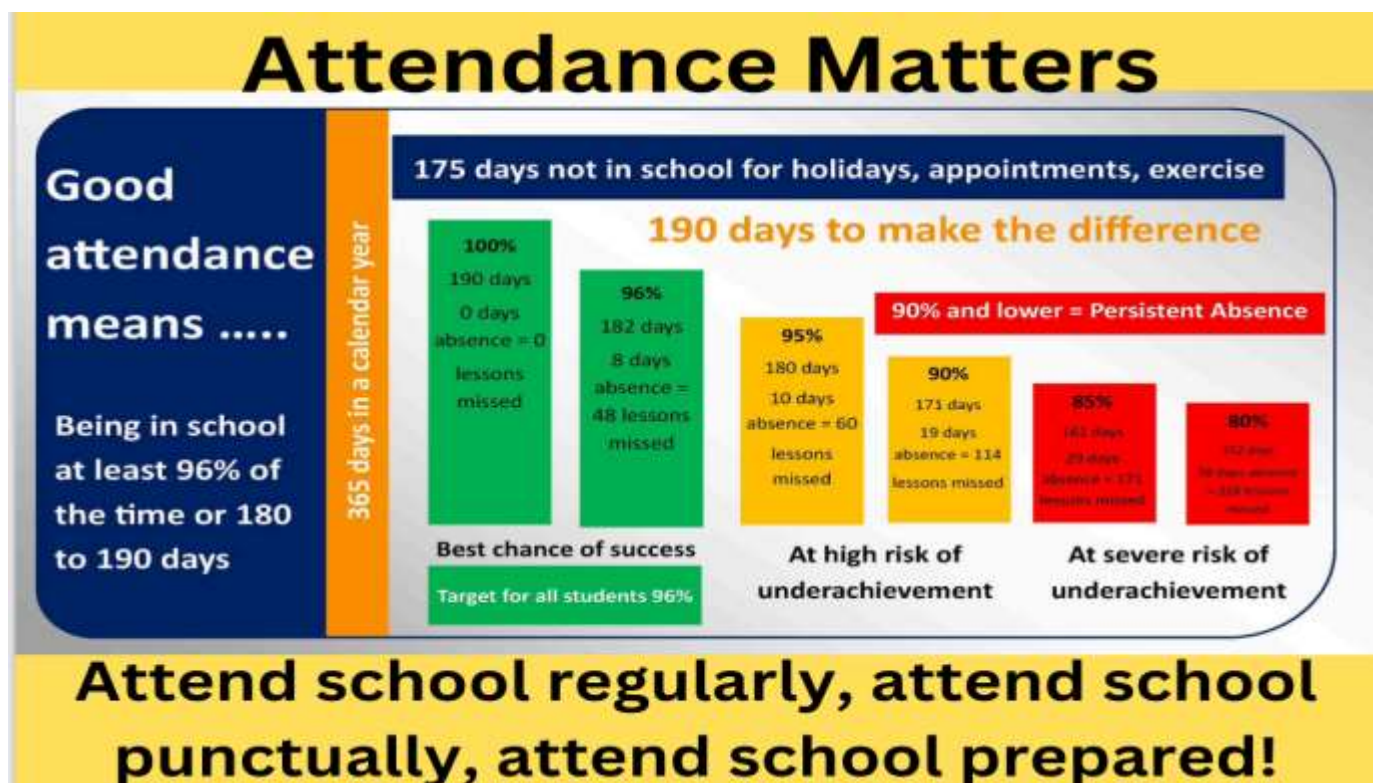
With a repertoire spanning Taylor Swift's illustrious career, Totally Taylor brings all of her biggest hits to the stage, including crowd favorites like "Ready For It," "Karma," and "Shake It Off," among many others. From the infectious pop anthems to the heartfelt ballads, every song is expertly crafted to evoke the spirit of Taylor Swift's music.'

What sets Totally Taylor apart is their unparalleled commitment to authenticity. From the meticulously crafted costumes to the flawless choreography, every detail is carefully curated to emulate Taylor Swift's stage presence and persona. Audiences are transported into the world of Taylor Swift, experiencing the thrill of her live concerts in an unforgettable tribute performance.'

Whether you're a die-hard Swiftie or simply a fan of great music and entertainment, Totally Taylor promises an experience like no other. Get ready to sing, dance, and lose yourself in the magic of Taylor Swift with Totally Taylor – the ultimate tribute to one of music's biggest stars.'

Please find the link to the website: [Totally Taylor | Tribute Act Entertainment](#)

Attendance and Punctuality



We continue to monitor attendance on a daily and weekly basis, meetings with families whose children fall below 90% attendance will continue to be arranged following weekly reviews. We want to work together to ensure all children are in school and don't miss out.

If your child is absent from school, please contact the school office by sending a text on the Gateway, leaving a message on the answer phone or by telephone call before 9am. Please try not to report absence via Dojo messages as the class teacher may not be able to access these before 9am.

Y6 Revision Sessions

As we did last year, we will be running additional sessions, Monday - Thursday morning from next week for Y6 pupils from 8.30 am - 8.45 am. The focus will be on maths to begin with and then after half term there will be some further optional revision sessions for English after school.

We hope these sessions will boost your child's confidence and address any areas they may be finding challenging in maths. If you think your child would benefit, please give consent via the School Gateway. This is not compulsory and is optional.

A few reminders:

- In line with further safeguarding guidance, please ensure that children are not wearing SMART watches to school.
- Please show consideration for local residents when parking. Please don't block drives or pavements. You cannot park on Nairn Road, Needham Place or Northolt Avenue without a residents' permit.
- Please remember the PE uniform is only plain black joggers or plain leggings. Please no logos or brands visible. Also for health and safety, no earrings can be worn for school or non uniform days due to health and safety. Plastic inserts are fine.
- Please ensure trainers are only worn on PE days.

As always, please get in touch if we can help in any way.

Team Shanklea