

ESKDALE NEWSLETTER



Spring 2 Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back to the start of the second half of the spring term! I hope both you and your children were able to have a restful half term break. We have a shorter than usual half term (just 5 weeks!) leading up to the Easter break; however, one that is very busy - full of opportunities and events to enrich your child's school experience

Football

Our boys started the half term with a league fixture against Grange Primary, looking to build upon their victory against John Clifford before the half term break. In a very even encounter the boys found themselves 2-0 down before converting a late penalty. Despite a flurry of action toward the end of the game, the boys couldn't quite find an equaliser. Final score, Eskdale 1-2 Grange. Well done to all those boys who were involved, many thanks to parent Mr Cherry who kindly volunteered for refereeing duties once again and thank you also to all those parents who came to support the team despite the rain!



Rowing Competition

In a very different type of sporting opportunity, Mr Holmes accompanied a team of 8 rowers - 2 from each year group - to George Spencer for the annual indoor rowing competitions. The children were an absolute credit to the school - their teamwork and the way they supported each other throughout the morning really exemplified our school values. Well done to all those children who took part and many thanks to Mr Homes for organising this enriching opportunity and for his support for the children who took part.

Cross Country

The ability to compete in a cross-country competition is a very specific skill - not only to be able to run for a sustained amount of time but also to navigate what can be quite challenging terrain. Just before half term, three of our pupils - Isaac and Caleb in Y6 and Ezra in Y3 took part in the Nottingham High School annual cross-country races at Wollaton Park. Racing conditions were appalling. Not only was the course uneven, full of puddles and obstacles but the relentless rain and freezing temperature made this a race not for the faint hearted! That said, all the boys were incredible, showing a huge amount of resilience, determination and grit as they navigated the course, each finishing strongly - an amazing achievement. A special mention for Caleb, who came first place in the under 11s boy's race, beating well over 100 children. Many thanks to those parents also who were able to provide support on the day.



PTFA Sing-a-Long Night

Our P.T.F.A started their spring menu of events with a very different kind of film night. Pupils were invited to sing-a-long to the popular songs in the film KPop Demon Hunters. Certainly from what I could hear, the children had a fabulous time. Many thanks to Mrs Owen and Ms Heath for all their efforts in ensuring our children continue to benefit from a wide-range of opportunities.



Pokemon Cards

Those who have known me long enough will be aware that I am rarely in favour of 'banning' things in school. That said, there are occasions where it is important to ensure that school remains a harmonious place for your children to attend and that pupils are not distracted from learning. Over the past few weeks, we've noticed that the swapping and trading of Pokémon cards in some year groups has started to lead to disagreements and upset. This has sometimes spilled into lesson time and caused unnecessary worries for pupils. To help keep our school calm, happy and focused, we've decided that Pokémon cards should no longer be brought into school. If any cards do make their way in, they will be stored securely and will need to be collected by an adult at the end of the school day. Thank you in advance for your support and understanding.

Reminders!

Make Time to Read Month: March 1st-27th

Make Time to Read Month is a huge part of our annual calendar and as ever, we have a significant number of activities planned to promote the importance and enjoyment of reading. Please read the schedule (emailed previously) so you know what is happening throughout the month.

Grandparents Lunch

We will be giving the grandparents of Eskdale an opportunity to come and have a meal with their grandson or granddaughter from Monday 2nd until Thursday 5th March.

Comic Relief/Red Nose Day 2026

We will be recognising this important charity on Friday 20th March. More details will follow on how we plan to mark the occasion this year.

P.T.F.A Events

Our P.T.F.A have a number of events this half term to support both school and Make Time to Read Month – look out for communications about these.

Easter Egg competition

Every year we hold our annual Easter egg competition challenging pupils to decorate an Easter egg in the most creative or unusual way possible. In the past, we have had a number of incredible entries and we would love it if as many children as possible across school got involved this year. I will share with the children some previous creations in assembly this half term to inspire them. All entries will be judged in the final week before the Easter break.

Parents evening

Parents evening date/s this half term are:

Tuesday 24th March

Wednesday 25th March

Further information and booking will be communicated closer to the time.

Last day of term

The last day of the spring term is Friday 27th March 2026

Please take some time to look through the updated diary for the half term that accompanies this newsletter that also details year group specific activities and events that are taking part this half term

Yours sincerely,

R Scruton

Head Teacher