



# DAYS LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Wednesday 28 January 2026

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### Monday 2 February

9.15am Nursery Open Morning for September 2026 Intake

### Wednesday 4 February

World Read Aloud Day

5S/5V Visit to Hall Place

### Thursday 5 February

5R Visit to Hall Place

### Monday 9 - Friday 13 February

Childrens Mental Health Week

### Tuesday 10 February

Safer Internet Day

### Wednesday 11 February

3.30-6.30pm Parent Meetings

### Thursday 12 February

9am Year 5 Selection Test Parent Meeting

### Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February

Last Day of Term

### Friday 13 February

INSET DAY

9am - 12pm Parent Meetings

### Monday 16 - Friday 20 February

HALF TERM

### Monday 23 February

Children return to school

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Spring term has seen the children's enthusiasm for learning shine brighter than ever, with pupils consistently striving to produce work they can be proud of including, local area studies, special visitors and exciting themed days to bring learning to life. The children have embraced every opportunity! Over this term, we have a range of engaging lessons planned to mark Children's Mental Health Week, British Science Week, Safer Internet Day, and World Book Day, making learning both meaningful and memorable for the children.

You may have noticed that we have launched our new school website! Do check it out! We are adding new and updated content to it all the time and plan to film a new virtual tour including drone footage of the school in the summer term. Looking ahead to the summer term, we are also planning a big celebration as the school celebrates its 95th birthday! Watch this space!

In my assembly at the start of this year, we discussed new year's resolutions, and I shared with the children that reading more books for pleasure was one of my goals. Reading regularly at home plays a vital role in developing fluency, confidence, and a lifelong love of books. It's one of the most powerful ways families can support learning. We have a range of ways in which we promote reading at Days Lane, including reading time at the end of the school day, promoting books and authors in class book corners, children making book recommendations to their friends, our termly reading champions and the chance to win a book from our book vending machine. We have a recommended reading list for each year group on our website ([click Curriculum, Reading](#)), and [Purple Mash](#), are giving access to hundreds of E-Books for free to all families at Days Lane. Please log in to your child's account to access these.

Finally a huge thank you to the DLPAs for all their hard work this academic year and for raising vital funds for the school. We have worked together to map out a range of events for the rest of the school year including - school discos for all year groups in March. Please do help support these events as fundraising will go towards a new school library.

A reminder to book your appointment for our forthcoming parent consultation meetings which take place on Wednesday 11th and Friday 13th February, where there will be an opportunity to look through your child's learning and discuss progress and next steps with the class teacher.

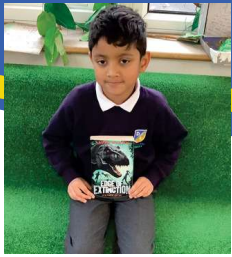
Kind regards  
Mrs Trusty



*Believe, Achieve, Succeed Together*

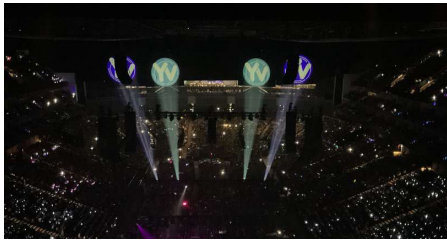
## Reading Champions Spring 1 2026

Class	Name
Ark	Jaxon W
Nursery	Victor
R Blue	Aadam M
R - Red	Mabel K
R - Green	Dennis K
1V	Charlie C
1R	Finley T
1S	Alara S
2V	Connie R
2R	Jack S
2S	Ivy H
3V	Ava G
3R	Umar A
3S	Poppy H
4V	Hussein H
4R	Ben P
4S	Bobby S
5V	Archie K
5R	Deniz G
5S	Joy H
6V	Max
6R	Armaan S
6S	Samuel Y





## YOUNG VOICES



Days Lane Choir took part in the spectacular 30th Anniversary Young Voices 2026 concert at the O2 Arena — the largest children’s choir event in the world. With thousands of pupils from primary schools across the UK singing together, the atmosphere was nothing short of electric. This year’s event also featured exciting guest performances from the Urban Strides dance group and Ruti Olajugbagbe, former Young Voices singer and winner of The Voice UK. Our choir performed brilliantly, Staff and families were incredibly proud of how well they sang as part of such a huge mass choir.

*“I was nervous at first because we were up high, but once the singing started I really enjoyed it. I loved hearing all the children sing together.” Harper 3R*

*“It felt like being in a galaxy of stars when the lights went out, and the dancers were amazing” Louie 4V*

*“I can’t put into words what the sound of all the voices was like. I would definitely try and get my friends to join choir so they can experience the amazing sound of all the children singing together” Ella 5R*

## MESSAGE FROM THE DLPA

The DLPA would like to say a huge thank you to all our amazing parents, carers, staff, and children who have supported our events and volunteered their time.

Some of our highlights from 2025:

- Fireworks Event – £8,366.70 Raised! - Our biggest achievement of the year!
- Christmas Fair – £993.40 Raised!

These events have enabled the DLPA to support the school with:

- Year 6 leavers books and Fun day
- End of term Santa visit – Bringing gifts to every class
- Class Christmas parties – Creating wonderful memories for all our children



We are working together with the school to raise funds for a new school library. This will provide every child with a space that inspires imagination, curiosity, and a love of books. This is a project we care deeply about, and with your continued support, we know we can make it happen!

We look forward to more exciting events for our community this year!

Kind regards.

Leanne Palmer  
Chair

## PEER MENTORS



Our Year 6 Peer Mentors delivered a great assembly to explain the important role they play in supporting children across the school. They spoke confidently about how they help to make playtimes happier, safer, and more inclusive, and how their work reflects our core values:

- Responsibility – Peer mentors are pupils who volunteer to help others and are always available if someone needs support.
- Resilience – If a child feels sad or left out, mentors can listen, encourage them, and help find a positive way forward.
- Respect – They promote kindness, fairness, and positive play between all children.
- Community – Peer mentors help everyone feel included and ensure no one is left on their own.
- Compassion – They can join in games or help children find someone to play with.
- Excellence – They support pupils in making the best behaviour choices in the playground.



Our peer mentors did a brilliant job presenting, and we are very proud of the difference they make every day. Their teamwork and leadership are wonderful examples to the whole school.

*"The role of being a peer mentor means you help other children on the playground. We want everyone to have fun at lunch time." Jake 5R*

## SPORTS



### Year 6 – League Football Match

The Year 6 girls' football team took part in three league matches and represented the school superbly. Throughout the games, the girls showed our core value of resilience, never giving up and continuing to push themselves even when faced with challenges. Their determination and teamwork were clear to see, with great support for one another both on and off the pitch. Special congratulations goes to Esmay for scoring two fantastic goals – a brilliant achievement! Well done to the whole team for their effort and positive attitude.

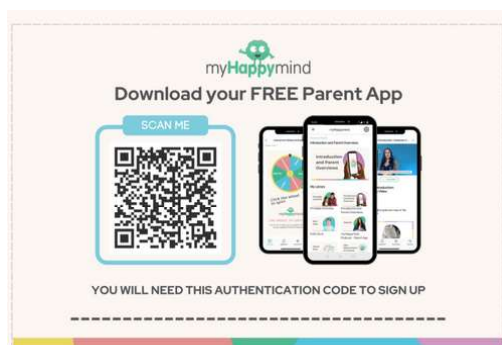
*"I love the experience of having football matches against different schools, it's really fun. I really like being part of the girl's football team!" – Maisey 6S*

### Schools Games Dodgeball Festival

A group of Year 5 boys travelled to Hurstmere School to take part in a Dodgeball festival. The children took part in many different activities designed to challenge their skills. They also played friendly matches against other schools and demonstrated excellent dodging and throwing throughout – well done to all who took part!

*"I enjoyed the dodgeball festival because it was a fun activity to do after school. I had lots of fun trying it." Frankie 6R*

## MY HAPPY MIND



To deliver our PSHE curriculum, we have introduced a nationally recognised programme called myHappyMind which is also backed by the NHS and taught to children from Nursery to Year 6. myHappyMind is a science-backed system designed to help develop confident, resilient children with the self-esteem and tools to thrive.

To further embed this learning, myHappyMind has developed a Parent App to support you as a parent in understanding what your child is learning with activities for you to do together at home. To access these materials just go to the website below to create your free account.

As a school, we truly see the value in teaching preventative strategies, skills and tools that children need to thrive in the modern world. We are aiming for Bronze accreditation status as we begin our journey with this programme and parents can support us by logging into the app and accessing the resources. To learn more please watch the video on the link below:

<https://myhappymind.lpages.co/myhappymind-parent-app-introduction/>

To access these materials just go to the website below to create your free account:

<https://myhappymind.org/parent-resources>

Your authentication code is 140710

## ONLINE SAFETY AT HOME



### The PlayStation Family App

The PlayStation Family App, launched in September 2025, it is a great tool to help families support safe and healthy gaming at home. With children spending more time online, it's increasingly important that parents have simple, effective ways to monitor what their children are playing, how long they're playing for, and who they may be interacting with.

The app brings all of PlayStation's parental controls into one easy-to-use place, allowing parents to:

- Manage playtime – Set daily limits and approve or decline requests for extra time.
- View activity reports – See what games your child has been playing and for how long.
- Receive real-time notifications – Know instantly what your child is playing.
- Apply content filters – Ensure games and features are age-appropriate.
- Adjust privacy settings – Manage who can communicate or play with your child online.



Tools like the PlayStation Family App supports creating online-safety habits, including knowing how to behave responsibly online, recognising when something isn't appropriate, and understanding how to ask for help.

You can download the PlayStation Family App here:

- App Store (iPhone/iPad): <https://apps.apple.com/app/playstation-family/id6740579446>
- Google Play (Android): <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.sony.playstation.family>

## YEAR 1 VISIT TO BLACKFEN HIGH STREET

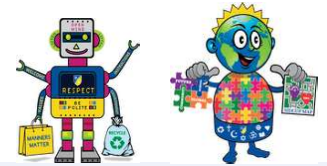


Year 1 explored Geography and Mathematics by taking a local walk to Blackfen High Street to answer the question, “Why do people visit Blackfen High Street?” Before the walk, the children studied a map of the area and discussed possible reasons why people might visit, organising their ideas so they could collect data accurately. During the walk, they gathered information about the places people visited. After returning to school, the children discussed their findings and created a class pictogram to represent the data, They made comparisons such as more people visited the library than the supermarket. Throughout the activity, children demonstrated teamwork and growing confidence by supporting one another.

*“More people went to the shops than Costa.”-Bonnie 1V*

*“The library was shut so no one could go.” -Theo 1V*

*“Lots of people were going to the Post Office.” -Ruby 1V*



## YEAR 2- HISTORY OF FLIGHT DAY



Year 2 had an exciting and creative day exploring Space with fun activities combining their Art, Science and Design Technology skills. The children learnt about the different parts of a space rocket before working in pairs to design and build their own demonstrating the core value of resilience, as they persevered with their designs and solved problems together. They created vibrant pop art astronauts using the Ben-Day dot technique, as well as learning about the artist ‘Roy Lichtenstein’, who was a leading figure of the Pop Art movement. Each class designed their own space meals, carefully deciding what they would take with them on a trip to the Moon. They demonstrated the British value of respect by working cooperatively, sharing resources and valuing each other’s ideas. It was lovely to see their different costumes, they all looked amazing!

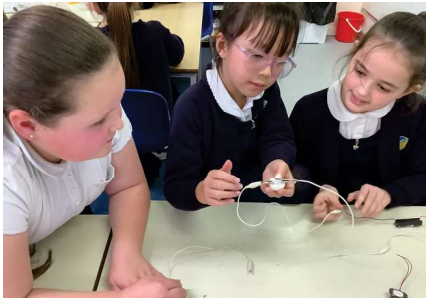
*“My favourite part of Space day was learning about rockets and then having the chance to make one. It was so much fun!” – Charlotte 2S*

*“I really enjoyed dressing up as a pilot and making an aeroplane out of different materials.” – Jack 2R*

*“Creating our pop art astronaut was really fun and making my rocket was so exciting!” – Japneet 2V*



## YEAR 4 ELECTRICITY



Year 4 have been learning about electricity and how it powers our everyday lives. Through a range of fun and interactive games, the children explored what electricity is used for and began to identify which objects need electricity to work. They had thoughtful discussions about what life might be like without electricity, helping them to appreciate just how important it is in our homes, schools and communities. The children sorted pictures of everyday appliances into different categories, including electric and non-electric, rechargeable, mains-powered and battery-powered items. They built a simple electrical circuits, connecting components to make a bulb light up or a buzzer sound. They discovered that electricity needs a continuous path to flow and quickly learned how to fix circuits that didn't work at first.

*"In Science, I know that to make bulb light you need a battery, a battery holder and two wires. I have learnt that the filament in the bulb makes it light and if there is too much voltage, it will burn" – James D 4R*

*"Building the circuit was really fun, working out how the components connected together to make the bulb light and to make the buzzer make a sound" Olivia A, 4S*

*"We have been learning all about electricity and how different circuits work. We connected a lightbulb with a battery to make the bulb light up. We then added extra batteries, and it made the bulb even brighter than before." - Bella 4V*

## YEAR 6 - BLOOD SOUP



In science, Year 6 have been learning about our blood and the circulatory system. The children explored the different components that make up blood and the important jobs they do in keeping our bodies healthy. As part of a hands-on activity, children created their own 'blood soup', using everyday materials to represent, red blood cells, white blood cells, platelets and plasma. The children then designed a colourful 'Blood Soup' booklet, labelling each part and explaining its function using scientific vocabulary. Year 6 showed great enthusiasm and curiosity throughout the lesson, and many were able to confidently explain the role of each component of blood. Ask your child if they can tell you what ingredients went into their blood soup!

*"Blood is made up of different parts. Different parts of blood have different jobs. White blood cells fight off germs and red blood cells bring oxygen to organs." Zara - 6R*

*"I enjoyed this activity because it was a fun way to learn. I never knew about plasma and platelets until this. A great way to learn about blood." Samuel 6S*

*"This lesson was really fun because I liked learning the facts about the parts of the blood and then getting the ingredients to make our own blood soup. I liked working as a team." Valeria 6V*