

Knowleswood Primary School

End of Spring 1 Newsletter



Dear families,

As we come to the end of this half term, we're delighted to reflect on the many achievements and special moments we've shared at Knowleswood. Thank you for your continued support in helping make this term such a positive and successful one for our children. Here are some of the highlights and key updates from the past couple of months.

Attendance

Our attendance team have been working incredibly hard to celebrate good attendance. 'Bums in Seats' proved a huge hit, with children discovering surprise prizes under their chairs. 'Mystery Box' brought out a fun sense of friendly competition between classes, and 'Lucky Ducks' had everyone going quackers! Holly Class have even created their own 100% attendance dance! Whenever every child is in, they celebrate with a special routine, sometimes spilling out into the corridor for everyone to enjoy! It has been wonderful to see just how enthusiastic our children are about coming to school each day.

Most importantly, we are delighted to see the positive impact good attendance has on our pupils: children who attend regularly are happier, more confident, able to build strong friendships, and are thriving in their learning. Thank you for your continued support in helping us give every child at Knowleswood the best possible chance to succeed.



Teaching and Learning

We are committed to continually developing teaching and learning so that every child has the best possible opportunities to reach their full potential. As part of this ongoing work, our teaching staff have taken part in a significant amount of training this half term.

Our recent training day focused on strengthening staff expertise in phonics and early reading, ensuring all adults are confident in supporting children to become skilled, fluent readers. Staff also received high-quality training on de-escalation strategies, helping us to maintain a safe, calm environment and to support pupils who may experience moments of dysregulation.

Being part of Exceed Academies Trust gives us access to the shared expertise of 14 schools, and we have been working closely with our Trust colleagues to further enhance our practice. This has included school visits, sharing ideas, coaching opportunities at all levels, and professional discussions that continue to help us all develop. It has been wonderful to hear such positive feedback from colleagues visiting Knowleswood, particularly about the warm welcome they receive and what a credit our children are to the school.

I would like to thank our teachers, support staff, and all members of our school team for their continued commitment to our children.

Sporting Events: Team Knowleswood!

Bradford Bulls came to visit us to teach us all about resilience, determination and how to be a good sport!

Y5/6 girls took part in a football tournament and came 3rd in tournament – amazing girls!

Y2 visited Bradford University to take part in Exceed games.

They achieved the highest score on penalties and were recognised for Sports Excellence and Sportsmanship – we are so proud!



Thank you to Miss O'Shea for organising these valuable events and for being our children's biggest supporter out there on the fields!

Exciting Educational Trips and Experiences

Year 5 visited Oakwell Hall to learn all about the Tudors. They had a great time experiencing what it would be like to live in the Tudor times.

Children's Mental Health Week – all children in school learned how to look after their mental health and how important this is. We spent time doing things that make us feel good and finished with a brilliant whole school dance festival that made us all feel amazing!



Tech She Can and Safer Internet Day – children were taught how to keep safe online and Tech She Can came to support our girls in understanding how they can be involved in technological careers.

Staff News

We said a fond farewell to Miss Rauf and Miss Fenton this half term and will be saying goodbye and thank you to Miss Puc-Aveyard and Miss Cowell, who will also be leaving us in the next half term. Their dedication and care will be missed and we wish them all the very best for the next steps in their careers.

Mrs Ryan has moved from Nursery to teach in Daisy class (Reception). Miss Hague will be joining us after the holidays to teach in Nursery alongside Miss Somma and Mrs Kaur.

Miss Ellis is currently off poorly, Miss Noble has been overseeing the teaching in Redwood and Mr Beseli will be joining us next half term to cover in Miss Ellis' absence. We welcomed Miss Conquest back to our Lunch Time Supervisor Team this half term. The children have loved having her back on the playground with them and we are pleased she has rejoined our team.

Site Updates

Thank you for your patience whilst we transitioned to the new access arrangements and to those who supported us with contacting the council about the cleanliness of the snicket. The cleaning of the snicket has now been completed and regular cleanups are now scheduled. A local councilor has been in touch and is looking to start regular litter picks with volunteers from the community. We will keep you posted on this.

The site is much safer now; no vehicles are driving on site during entry and exit times, all deliveries are now accessing via the designated delivery yard and the site is more secure whilst doors are open.

There are still improvements that need to be made; the access through the pedestrian gate can sometimes be very busy and, as such, the puddles on the path cannot be avoided. In order to improve this, we are having work done to the surfacing during the half term break to eliminate the puddles and work done to the existing pedestrian gate onto the snicket to make it usable. This will provide two pedestrian entrances at the front of school. We will let you know as soon as this is ready to use.

Please remain polite to staff who will be on duty on the gates – they are following instructions to keep our children safe. We will not tolerate any abuse to staff.

Parent Survey

Thank you to those who took the time to complete the parent survey. We really do appreciate your feedback and it was encouraging to see the positive responses. We have been working on actions linked to some of your responses over this half term and will be sharing these with you when we return.

Supporting Our Families (FYI website and Early Help)

We are pleased to share that our Early Help Coordinator, Mandy Pilling, now visits school fortnightly to offer additional support to our families. Mandy is available to host coffee mornings, provide guidance, and help sign families up for more individualised support where needed. This may include help with finances, SEND, child development, routines at home, or accessing adult support services.

At Knowleswood, we firmly believe that when a family is thriving, a child is thriving. We are grateful to Mandy for the expertise she brings and to our families for working so closely with us to ensure every child has the best chance to succeed.

FYI – is a Bradford based website that includes a whole range of family support. Should your family need any support, this is a great place to look!

[Home | Bradford Families and Young Persons](#)

Important Dates for Your Diary

Event	Date
School reopens	Mon 5 th January 2026
Road safety sessions – all school	Fri 27 th February 2026
Y4 trip to Magna	Tues 3 rd March 2026
World Book Day – dress up / non uniform	Thurs 5 th March 2026
Science week – experiments galore!	w/c 9 th March 2026
Reception – Hearing checks	Mon 9 th , Tues 10 th March 2026
Grow To Schools week – green activities!	w/c 16 th March 2026
Y5 Into University Trips	Tues 17 th and Weds 18 th March 2026
Red Nose Day – crazy hair, red clothes/non uniform!	Friday 20 th March 2026
Eid	Date TBC
Easter Crafts	Weds 26 th March 2026
Half Term Break	Fri 13 th February 2026 (1 week)

Keeping in Touch

Stay up to date with news and reminders through the Arbor app, regular emails, and our school Facebook page. Please remember, Facebook is for celebrations only. The inbox is not manned. If you need to contact us directly, the school office is always happy to help. We value your feedback and encourage you to reach out with any questions or suggestions.

Thank You and Happy Holiday!

We are grateful for all your support this term, it really makes a difference to our children. We hope you all have a great week off and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 23rd February 2026 for another exciting term ahead with hopefully some lighter mornings and better weather!

With warmest wishes,

Miss Truesdale

Deputy Headteacher

