



Friday 13th
February 2026
Newsletter



Ghyll Royd School
and Pre-School
A foundation for life

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Headteacher's Message

Despite the rather miserable weather today, we move confidently into the second half of term with a great sense of energy and purpose across school. Our children have demonstrated enthusiasm and resilience in their learning this half term and it was a pleasure to see the classrooms so vibrant and focused during our recent Open Morning.

Alongside our academic priorities, preparations for our summer calendar are well underway. The coming months promise a rich programme of events, trips, performances and sporting fixtures. These occasions not only showcase our pupils' talents but also strengthen the sense of community that makes our school so special.

I am excited to launch soon some work that has been going on behind the scenes. This news will soon detail how we will enhance opportunities for our pupils and invest in the long-term margin of excellence at school. Our fundraising initiatives this year are focused on ensuring that we continue to develop our library, outdoor learning opportunities, computing and SEN provision. The Governors and I look forward to sharing how your involvement will truly make a difference.

I hope everyone enjoys a safe and restful week. Thank you to all our pupils for their hard work this term and to our wonderful parents for your continued support in all we do. It is very much appreciated. **Hadley**

Headteacher's Commendations

Week commencing: 09.02.26

Reception: Nurvi D, for her very good reading and for attempting to write words independently, using good phonic knowledge. Nurvi is also really enjoying her singing lessons.

F1: Seth J, for his consistent approach to all his work. He loves to challenge himself, especially when he has been given feedback.

F2: Freddie P, for the exuberance he shows in everything he does. He shares his knowledge with others readily and always goes the extra mile in his learning. Great work Freddie!

F3/4: Emily D, for her amazing attitude and demeanour in the cross country races. Well done!

F5: Hugo H, for making a really positive and constructive start to the new calendar year (carried over)

F6: Nancy R, for her hard work and effort at school and being such a persuasive member of her debating team in English lessons. Very well done.

Form 6 Debate!



Form 6 have been exploring their greater use of persuasive language in English lessons, over the last few weeks, culminating in them holding a **class debating competition**.

The statement was: "Mobile phones should be banned for all children under 16 years of age." The class was separated into 'for' and 'against' the statement and spent a week planning their arguments, speeches and responses. The debate was a huge success and may lead to 'Debating' becoming an extra-curricular club...who knows.

Ultimately, the 'for' team came out as the winners.





A huge well done to our fantastic team of runners who took part in the **Cross-Country race at Cliffe Castle on Wednesday 4th February 2026**. They showed great determination, teamwork, and represented our school brilliantly. **Year 3 and 4 Girls:** Evelyn B and Emily D; **Year 3 and 4 Boys:** Grayson H, Max M, Alex G, George W, Idris A-K, Oliver R; **Year 5 and 6 Boys:** Monty O, Hugo H, Leyton H, Amadeo P T, Zac T.

We are incredibly proud of every one of them!

GHYLL ROYD'S U11 FOOTBALL TEAM DELIVERED A STRONG PERFORMANCE AT THE ISA NORTH FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS, NARROWLY MISSING OUT ON PROGRESSING BEYOND THE GROUP STAGES. WELL DONE TO ALL, IT WAS A VALIANT EFFORT!



Oli proudly brought in two medals that he received at Ilkley Gymnastics Club. He was awarded both medals for his fantastic work on apparatus, demonstrating great skill and commitment.

Outside of gymnastics, Oli is also currently playing three years up for the Under-10s at Ben Rhydding, where he plays alongside his brother, Hugo. Although they are in separate teams, both boys are competing in tournaments and representing the club brilliantly.



World Book Day – Thursday 5th March

We are excited to celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 5th March and we have a wonderful day planned to help inspire a love of reading across the school.

This year, we will be running a Book Exchange for all children. We kindly ask each child to bring in **one book** they have already enjoyed and are happy to pass on. During the day, children will have the opportunity to choose a different book to take home, helping to share stories, spark new interests and promote sustainable reading habits.

Children are also invited to come to school dressed as a character from their favourite book. We love seeing the creativity and imagination that go into these costumes each year! This year the most creative costumes will be awarded a prize by Mrs Picken.

To take part, we ask for a £2 donation. All funds raised will go directly towards developing our school library, helping us to expand our collection and create an even more vibrant heart to our school.

Thank you for your support in making World Book Day a memorable and meaningful celebration for our school community. **A polite reminder that there will be no swimming on this day.** All children should arrive at school as normal.

Support Ghyll Royd every time you shop online, at no extra cost to you.

Simply visit easyfundraising.org.uk and select Ghyll Royd School as your chosen cause. Thousands of retailers (including Amazon, John Lewis, and Marks & Spencer) will donate a percentage of your purchase directly to our school.

It's a simple, effective way to make a difference, all while doing your usual shopping.





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Scholarships at Ghyll Royd School

We are delighted to share a summary of the opportunities currently available at Ghyll Royd School for prospective pupils who demonstrate exceptional talent, commitment, or potential.



Scholarships Available

Ghyll Royd School offers a range of scholarships for pupils from Reception class through to Year 6, recognising outstanding ability and dedication.



Eligible Areas

Scholarships are offered across Academic Excellence, Creative & Performing Arts, Sports & Physical Achievement and All-Rounder Awards.

After the Assessment Day

The school will confirm the level of scholarship available to you.

Limited Places Available

Scholarship places are strictly limited therefore early applications are encouraged.



How to Apply

Contact Yvonne Hare at Yvonne.hare@ghyllroydschool.co.uk for an application form and to book your child's place at our Scholarship Assessment Day.

We are pleased to remind you that a range of scholarships are currently available at our school.

Assessment Day

Tuesday 3rd March 2026

Scholarship places are awarded based on performance during our Scholarship Assessment Day which includes academic assessments and relevant demonstrations.

To ensure as many families as possible are aware of these opportunities, we would be grateful if you could **share our scholarship information** with your own network, including family members, friends, community groups, clubs, or any organisations you're involved with.

Your support in passing on this information helps us reach families who may benefit and strengthens our wider school community.

We would also like to remind you that our **Refer a Friend Scheme** continues to apply to new families joining the school through the scholarship route. If a family you refer enrolls and their child completes a full term with us, you will receive **£250 as a thank-you** for your referral. Thank you for helping us spread the word and for your continued support of our school.

FEBRUARY 2026

Mon 16-Fri 20: GHYLL ROYD SPORTS CAMP

HALF TERM

Mon 23 Feb: Reception swimming

Tues 24: F3& 4 games afternoon start (Football)

Thurs 26: Swimming for Forms 1-6

Fri 27: Celebration Assembly @ 8.50am; Form 5, 6 games afternoon start (Netball)

Sat 28: Wharfedale League Cross Country: Ashlands

MARCH

Mon 2 March: Reception swimming

Weds 4: Form 2 lunch with parents – 12pm

Thurs 5: no swimming – World Book Day

Fri 6: Celebration Assembly @ 8.50

Mon 9: Reception swimming

Thurs 12: Swimming Gala F3-6; Mother's Day Tea Party (Rec & KS1 @1.45pm)

Fri 13: Celebration Assembly @ 8.50am

Sat 14: Wharfedale League Nell Bank relays

MARCH Continued

Mon 16: Reception swimming

Tues 17: KS2 'Young Musicians Concert' @ 2.15pm

Weds 18: Red Nose Day EARLY

Thurs 19: Swimming Gala F3-6

Fri 20: House Assembly; U11 Football Cup @ Brackenfield; Reports out

Mon 23: Reception swimming; Swimming Gala @QE

Tues 24: KS2 'Choir in the Community'; Optional Parents' Evening 4-6pm

Weds 25: KS2 Inter-league Cross Country

Thurs 26: KS1 swimming

Fri 27: End of Term Awards Service: 2.15pm

**Mon 30 March – Thurs 2 April
GHYLL ROYD SPORTS CAMP**

