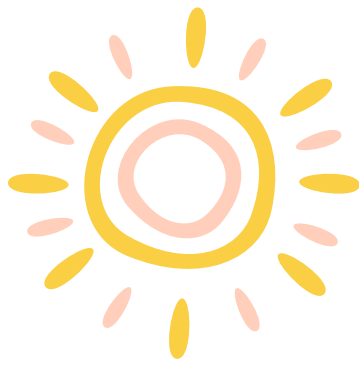




Newsletter

Friday 17th July

As we reach the end of another school year, it is hard to believe just how quickly the time has passed. The summer term has flown by, and before we know it we will be welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year.

This week has been a special one as we celebrated with our Year 6 pupils before they move on to high school. It is always a mixture of pride and sadness as we say goodbye to them. Their performance of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang was fantastic, and they should all be incredibly proud of what they achieved. We wish every one of them the very best for the next stage of their education and hope they embrace the new opportunities, experiences and independence that lie ahead.

As we finish today, I hope that both our children and staff can reflect on a year full of learning, achievement and happy memories at Shelf School. Everyone has worked incredibly hard and has certainly earned a well-deserved summer break. Whether you are travelling abroad, exploring somewhere closer to home or simply enjoying time with family and friends, I hope you have the opportunity to rest, recharge and make some wonderful memories together. Here's hoping the weather is kind to us and brings plenty of sunshine!

Although the holidays are about to begin, our staff are already preparing classrooms and planning for September. We look forward to welcoming everyone back at 8.45am on Wednesday 2nd September, ready for another successful year.

We also have a number of parent information events planned early in the autumn term. These sessions will help you understand the expectations for your child's year group, highlight key milestones throughout the year and explain important assessments, including SATs and other statutory testing where appropriate. We hope these events will give you practical advice on how you can best support your child at home. The dates for these meetings can be found at the end of this newsletter.

For now, enjoy a break from school routines. Make the most of slower mornings, longer days and the chance to spend quality time together before the excitement of a new school year begins.

Have a wonderful summer, and we look forward to seeing you all again in September.

Mrs J Elam



End of Year reports:

We hope you have all now received a copy of your child(ren)'s end of year report. Thank you to those of you who have taken the time to return the comments slip to us, we really appreciate your feedback.

'What to Expect' Sessions - September

In September we will be hosting our 'What to Expect' sessions which parents are invited to attend. Your child's class teacher will give you more insight into what your child will learn throughout the term / academic year and what our expectations are. We find these sessions make a huge difference so it would be great to see as many parents as possible.

Dates as follows, please come to the hall:

- Reception - Wednesday 9th September (incorporated with a Phonics session) 3.15pm - 4pm
- Year 5/6 - Monday 14th September 3.15pm - 3.45pm
- Year 1 - Tuesday 15th September 3.15pm - 3.45pm
- Year 2 - Wednesday 16th September 3.15pm - 3.45pm
- Year 3/4 - Thursday 17th September 3.15pm - 3.45pm

Swimming Lessons:

Year 4 students (current Year 3) will go swimming starting on Monday 7th September.

A letter was sent home earlier this month confirming what children will need with them.

Classes 2026/27

Classes & teachers for 2026/27 school year are as follows (NB: changes may happen, should circumstances change, and will be communicated accordingly :



**Mrs Priestley
Sheeran**
(Reception)



Miss Dennett & Mrs Jefford
Lister
(Year 1)



Mr Tolmie & Mrs Fennelly
Cockroft
(Year 2)



Mrs Watson & Mrs Parker
Mackintosh 1
(Year 3/4)



Mrs Lewis
Mackintosh 2
(Year 3/4)



Mrs Sutcliffe
Wainwright 1
(Year 5/6)



Mrs Grix
Wainwright 2
(Year 5/6)



Mr Badrock & Mrs Taylor
Wainwright 3
(Year 5/6)

PTFA Update - What a Year!

As another school year comes to a close, we'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported the PTFA. Whether you've attended an event, bought a raffle ticket, donated prizes or sweets, volunteered your time, or simply cheered us on, you've helped make a real difference to our school community.

Shelf Gala 🍬

Although the weather wasn't on our side this year, it certainly didn't dampen our spirits! Thank you to everyone who braved the rain and wind to support our Sweetie Tombola. It was wonderful to see so many families enjoying the day, and a huge thank you to our fantastic volunteers and school staff who gave up their time to help on the stall.

Sports Day 🏆

It was a pleasure to provide refreshments for families at last week's Sports Days, and we hope the children and staff enjoyed their well-earned ice pops after all their sporting efforts. Congratulations to everyone who took part!

Goodbye and Good Luck! 🎓

We'd like to wish all of our wonderful Year 6 pupils every success as they move on to the next exciting chapter of their education. We hope you leave Shelf J&I School with many happy memories and wish you every happiness and success for the future.

The Future of our PTFA ❤️

As many of you will know, the current Chair, Secretary and Treasurer will all be stepping down this summer. For the PTFA to continue, new committee members will need to be nominated and elected.

This will take place at our Annual General Meeting (AGM), scheduled for Wednesday 30th September. We'd love to see as many parents and carers there as possible!

The PTFA has achieved so much over the years thanks to the dedication of parents who have generously given their time, and we'd love to see this continue for future families. So, if you've ever thought about getting involved, now really is the time!

Your Support in Action



Finally, please take a look at the fundraising and spending summary below to see what we've achieved together this year.



SHELF J&I SCHOOL PTFA 2025/2026 IN REVIEW

HOW DID WE FUNDRAISE?



Halloween Monster
Mash Discos



Bethel Chapel Xmas
Tree Festival Donations



Spring Discos

Spring Hamper
Raffle



Playground
Fun Hour



Shelf Gala



Sports Day
Refreshments



PLUS! We helped the
school raise an additional
£2,228.05 through the
Christmas Fayre & Spring
Hamper Raffle!

AN AMAZING £2,789.59!

WHAT DID WE FUND / CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS?



Play
equipment



Class
resources



Seesaw
contributions



Playdoh for
dough discos



Enterprise
Support

Year 6
leavers gifts



Panto
Sweets



Sports day ice lollies &
End of year ice creams



Santa DBS
check



Star badges & Hot
chocolate rewards



Thank you once again for all of your support . We hope you all have a wonderful summer break!

Updates:

Sports Days

Thank you to everyone who made the time to attend our Sports Days last week and braved the sun/heat!

It was lovely to see so many people cheering their children on and well done to those who took part in the adult races too!

Below are the house winners, well done to all of the children:

KS1

1st Place - **Emerald**
2nd Place - **Ruby**
3rd Place - **Sapphire**
4th Place - **Diamond**

KS2

1st Place - **Sapphire**
2nd Place - **Emerald**
3rd Place - **Ruby**
4th Place - **Diamond**



Housepoint Winners

Each week we tally up the housepoints given across school for each House, this year the overall winners were **Rubies!**

They celebrated by enjoying ice pops together in the playground - **well done Rubies!**



Updates continued:

A Big Thank You to Mrs Farman and Our Gardening Team!

A huge thank you to Mrs Farman and her wonderful team of budding gardeners for all their hard work in keeping our school looking blooming lovely!

From caring for plants both inside and outside the school to growing impressive sunflowers and a variety of fruit and vegetables throughout the year, their dedication has made a real difference. We are so grateful for their enthusiasm, care and commitment in helping our school environment flourish.



Goal Challenge Fundraising - thank you!

We would like to extend a massive thank you to you, your family and friends for sponsoring your children in our Sponsored Goal Challenge.

We raised just over £1200 which is fantastic, this money will go towards continuing to improve our classrooms and outdoor areas - well done to Cockroft & Mackintosh 2 who were joint class fundraising winners (raising over £380 between them!), and received an extra break time!



Summer Reading Challenge - Calderdale Libraries

We were delighted to welcome a representative from Calderdale Libraries, who led a fun and inspiring assembly to introduce this year's Summer Reading Challenge. The children found out all about how they can take part by reading books over the summer holidays, collecting rewards and enjoying lots of exciting library activities along the way.

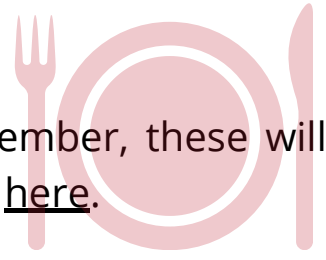
We hope lots of our pupils will join the challenge and keep reading all summer long!



Updates continued:

School Dinners

We recently shared the new school menus with you for September, these will rotate weekly. A copy of the menu can be found on our website [here](#).



The price of a school dinner is £3.05 per day (Year 3-6 only) and can be paid for via MCAS.

We would encourage all children to have a school dinner, even if only for part of the week.

Great British Summer Savings

From 25th June to 1st September 2026, the Government is temporarily cutting VAT from 20% to 5% on children's meals in restaurants, children and family tickets to cinemas, theatres, concerts and exhibitions, admission to a wide range of attractions.



Combined with free bus travel during August for children aged 5-15 in England, families and young people will be able to enjoy experiences that make summer special, including visits to the kind of cultural and educational attractions that enrich children's lives outside the classroom.

As part of this campaign, the government have launched an attraction finder website which allows families use the attraction finder, please [click here](#).

Have Your Say – Parent Childcare Survey

Calderdale Council's Early Years & Childcare Team is inviting parents and carers to complete a short survey as part of its Childcare Sufficiency Assessment.

Your feedback will help the Council understand local childcare needs and plan future services to better support families across Calderdale. Thank you for taking the time to share your views - [survey link here](#).

Reminders:

Term-time holidays

We would like to remind all parents and carers that holidays taken during term time cannot be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances.

We have recently seen an increase in requests where children are absent for 4 or 4½ days, seemingly in an attempt to avoid the threshold for a Penalty Notice. Please be aware that the Education Welfare Service monitors attendance patterns across the academic year and will review repeated or cumulative absences when considering enforcement action.

Regular school attendance is vital to children's learning, progress and wellbeing. Every day in school counts, and even a few days of missed learning can have a significant impact.

We ask all families to support their child's education by arranging holidays during the school holiday periods wherever possible. If you believe your circumstances are exceptional, please speak to the school before making any travel arrangements.

We are a Nut Free School

We would like to remind all parents and carers that we are a nut-free school to help keep everyone in our school community safe.

We have recently noticed that some children are bringing peanut butter, Nutella and other nut-containing sandwiches and snack items into school. Please remember that these products should not be included in packed lunches or snacks, as even small traces of nuts can cause a serious allergic reaction for children and staff with severe allergies.

Before packing your child's lunchbox, please check the ingredients of any food items to ensure they do not contain nuts.

We appreciate your support and understanding in helping us maintain a safe environment for everyone. Thank you for working with us to keep our school nut-free.

Announcements

Farewells

This week we say farewell to Miss Winder & Mr Whitton (Teachers - M1) who leave us following mat leave cover. We wish them both all the very best for their future plans and thank them for all of their hard work.



We also say goodbye to Mrs Tordoff (Senior Midday Supervisor & Teaching Assistant) who leaves us after 2 years. We will be sad to see her go but wish her well for the future & thank her for all of her hard work.

Welcome back!

We're looking forward to welcoming Mrs Sutcliffe back in September following her maternity leave - she will be teaching Year 5/6 in Wainwright 1.



Ice Cream treat

Last week the whole school enjoyed a well deserved and much needed end of year ice cream treat!



Learning:

Year 5 - Design Technology

Over the last few weeks, year 5 have been lucky enough to be working with Mr Ellis from Lightcliffe Academy on a Design Technology (DT) project.

The children have been designing and making packaging for food. To round off their project the Wainwright children spent a DT day researching, designing and making an afternoon tea that could go inside their packaging.



Year 5/6 PCSO Visit

This week, Year 5/6 welcomed a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO), who delivered an informative and age-appropriate session about knife crime awareness and personal safety. The children learned about making positive choices, staying safe, and who they can talk to if they ever have concerns.

The pupils were engaged throughout the session, listening carefully and asking thoughtful questions. It was a valuable opportunity to develop their understanding of this important topic and reinforce key messages about keeping themselves and others safe.



Learning:

Forest School

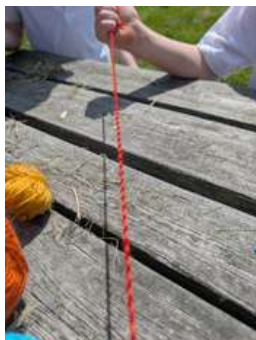
Frog week! Reception were so lucky to find tadpoles and little baby frogs! We learned all about the life cycle of a frog and made our own frog pond!



Ladybird week - we learned about the life cycle of a ladybird and made cute potato print pictures of ladybirds.



And finally, finish off the term, we made friendship bracelets.



Reception Graduation

Thank you to everyone who came to our Reception graduation ceremony yesterday, we hope you enjoyed seeing your little ones receive their end of year certificate. We wish them all well as they move into Year 1!



Year 6 End of Year Production - Chitty Chitty Bang Bang

Our Year 5 & 6 children have worked so hard on their end of year production this term. This week saw all their hard work come to fruition, we hope you all enjoyed the show!

A big thank you goes to Mrs Taylor, Mrs Grix and Mr Badrock along with Mrs Meadowcroft, Mrs Farman, Mrs Hartley & Miss Ishaq who helped with the costumes and set design.



Farewell to our class of 25/26!

This week, we said goodbye to our wonderful Year 6 children as they prepared to take their next exciting step on the journey to high school.

Over the past few weeks, the children have enjoyed a range of fun activities to celebrate the end of their primary school years. On Wednesday, they were treated to doughnuts, crisps and cans of pop, generously donated by our Year 6 parents following the recent leavers' party. We are incredibly grateful for their kindness and support.

On Friday morning, we held our annual Leavers' Assembly, where staff shared heartfelt reflections and a moving video celebrating seven years of memories, achievements and friendships. It was a wonderful opportunity to reflect on how much the children have grown, with plenty of smiles, laughter and a few tears along the way.

We were also proud to present two special awards:

Jessie Louise's Writing Award – Aaron Kenrick

Robert Bedford Achievement Award – Daisy Carter

Congratulations to both of you!

As is tradition, the Year 6 children had their shirts and autograph books signed.

We are immensely proud of all our Year 6 leavers and everything they have achieved during their time at Shelf. We wish them every success and happiness as they begin this exciting new chapter and look forward to hearing about all they go on to accomplish.

Good luck, Year 6 – you will always be a valued part of the Shelf family.



#WakeUpWednesday - Top Tips

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO RETURN TO ROUTINE

Most of us look forward to the school holidays as an opportunity to slow down and relax, stay up later, sleep in and generally approach life in a more leisurely fashion. However, this does mean that returning to normal school-day routines can feel like an uphill battle. Here are some practical tips to ease that transition, reduce stress and set children up for success.

1 START SMALL AND EARLY

Begin reintroducing elements of the school routine at least a few days before term starts. Gradually adjust bedtime, wake-up times and mealtimes to be more in line with school-day rhythms. Small changes can make a big difference in avoiding last-minute panic and helping children to readjust smoothly.

2 REVISIT THE SCHEDULE

Involve your child in mapping out their daily routine so they understand what's going to change. Visual tools like charts or calendars can help keeping to that schedule feel more engaging. When children understand and anticipate their personal timetable, they feel more secure and in control.

3 CREATE A SLEEP PLAN

Sleep can present one of the biggest challenges, as children can sometimes become night owls, prone to staying up late during the holidays. Limit screen time before bed and encourage winding-down activities like reading or listening to calming music. A restful night's sleep improves focus, mood and overall wellbeing, making mornings much smoother.

4 ENCOURAGE FRIENDSHIPS

Help your child to reconnect with school friends by organising playdates, catch-ups or arranging to go to after-school clubs. Re-establishing social bonds can make the return to school more exciting and less intimidating, allowing youngsters to focus on the positive aspects of the new term.

5 GRANT RESPONSIBILITY

Give children control over some aspects of the morning routine. Maybe they could be in charge of waking everyone up, serving breakfast or choosing the radio station that everyone listens to while getting ready. Something that gives them a sense of ownership over their morning schedule can help them view the task as one they've chosen to do, rather than being told to do it.

6 FOCUS ON NUTRITION

Make sure children are receiving balanced meals (with regular healthy snacks to boost energy and concentration), putting them in the best possible state to return to education. A nutritious breakfast is particularly crucial for a positive start to the day. Involve children in meal planning to make it enjoyable and collaborative.

7 COMMUNICATE OPENLY

Talk with your child about how they're feeling about returning to school: whether they're excited, anxious or a mix of both. Validating their emotions helps them feel supported and understood. Try asking them about the things they're looking forward to at school, such as seeing their friends again. Focusing on the positives can be useful for children struggling with change.

8 RECONNECT WITH LEARNING

Ease children back into a learning mindset by incorporating fun, educational activities into their home life. Reading a favourite book, playing games that involve maths or discussing an interesting topic can gently reawaken their focus and prime their minds to learn, which can have helpful impacts on their academic performance.

9 PREP TOGETHER

Turn preparation into a shared activity, to shoulder the responsibility together and provide support where needed. Pack school bags, lay out uniforms and plan lunch the night before. This not only reduces early morning stress but also gives children a sense of ownership over being ready for school.

10 BE PATIENT AND FLEXIBLE

Transitions take time, and every child adjusts differently: so, it's important to stay calm and supportive, especially if they're reacting adversely to the change in their daily life. Be ready to tweak routines as needed, and work with the child to make the return to education as easy as possible for them. Patience can go a long way to setting a positive tone for the new school year.

Meet Our Expert

Becky Dawson is an education expert with a focus on mental health and wellbeing. Passionate about empowering adults who spend time with and care for young people, Becky specialises in creating practical strategies that promote wellbeing and resilience in children during life's transitions.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/supporting-children-to-return-to-routine>

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 01.01.2025

Dates for the Diary:

Summer

Friday 17th July - last day of term

**BACK TO
School**

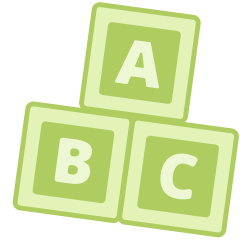
Tuesday 1st September - Staff Training day

Wednesday 2nd September - first day of new school year

Wednesday 9th September -

Reception Phonics Session &

What to Expect Parent's Event 3.15pm - 4pm



Monday 14th September -

Yr 5/6 'What to Expect' Parent's Event 3.15pm - 3.45pm

Tuesday 15th September -

Yr 1 'What to Expect' Parent's Event 3.15pm - 3.45pm

Wednesday 16th September -

Yr 2 'What to Expect' Parent's Event 3.15pm - 3.45pm

Thursday 17th September -

Yr 3/4 'What to Expect' Parent's Event 3.15pm - 3.45pm

Friday 25th September -

MacMillan Coffee Morning

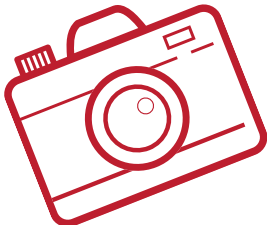
(more details to follow)



Wednesday 7th October -

Individual & Sibling photographs

(more details to follow)



[Click here for the 2026/2027 Term Dates](#)