

Newsletter 27th February 2026

Message from Mrs Crocker

Wow – what a difference a bit of sunshine has made this week! I've noticed more people smiling and I even made it outside without my woolly hat. I hope everyone had a lovely half-term. We didn't end up going on that bike ride after all, but Mr Crocker and I did manage to make the most of last Thursday's snow — we took our skis up to the top of hill behind our house and had a brilliant time pretending we were in the Winter Olympics!

This half term has already started brilliantly, and school has been full of activity. Preschool and Reception enjoyed the fantastic 'Sea Legs Puppet Theatre Show' at Longtown Primary School, who kindly invited us along. On the same morning, Sapling Class took part in a Viking workshop, which sounded both exciting and wonderfully educational. We've also had parents' evenings this week, and now we're all looking forward to World Book Day celebrations next week.

- Next **Wednesday 4th March** morning, the (school) children will be heading to Hay for an opportunity to spend their World Book Day tokens.

- In the afternoon on **Wednesday 4th March from 2:30pm**, we'd love parents, grandparents and friends to pop in to share a book (and a cake!) with your child. Please do support this — and if you're able to bring a cake, we'd be so grateful. We are also very thankful for any volunteers who can bake/donate cakes or help run the cake stall. We will need lots of cakes! Please get in touch if you can help.

- **Thursday 5th March** all children and adults who would like to are invited to dress up to celebrate World Book Day.

- **Bingo and Charity Evening – Friday 6th March**

PLEASE support this event. Food served from 6:30, Bingo from 7pm. Bids can be taken in advance for the auction – there's some amazing lots.

Attendance

Good attendance makes such a difference — children settle into routines more easily, make stronger academic progress, and feel a real sense of belonging when they are in school regularly.

Please avoid booking holidays during term time wherever possible, as this causes disruption to learning. For the first time, I have had to refer a small number of cases to the local authority (due to unauthorised absences), who then decide whether a fixed penalty notice should be issued. Thank you for your continued

Michaelchurch Escley Primary & Preschool Newsletter

support in helping us maintain strong attendance for all our pupils.

Dates

Please keep an eye on the calendar on the school website — there's lots happening over the next few weeks. I love the Spring Term, but it always flies by... and this year we only have five weeks well, 4 now really! until the Easter holiday!

Thank you again for your continued support and commitment to the school and preschool. It's very much appreciated.

Louise Crocker
Headteacher

Pre School Newsletter

Welcome back, and it feels like Spring has arrived! The children have enjoyed being outdoors with some sunshine! This week we have celebrated the Lunar New Year, which is the Year of the Horse, so on Monday afternoon the children made their own hobby horses and took them to the front playground to ride, although we couldn't persuade Mr Hollowood or Mrs Crocker to have a go! To continue the theme, we enjoyed cooking our noodles over the forest school fire and attempting to eat with chopsticks.

On Tuesday we accepted Longtown's kind offer and joined with Reception to watch The Little Go Peep puppet show. The children had a great time and haven't stopped talking about the cheeky mouse!

Please check that your child has a full change of clothes in the bag left on their

peg, as although the sun has appeared, there is still lots of water to splash in!

From September 2025, new statutory DfE Early Years nutrition guidance states that all settings provide healthy, balanced meals (e.g. lunchboxes) adhering to guidelines on safe weaning, allergy management, and strict choking precautions. Please see the separate email, and for further guidance please ask us.

On Thursday 12th March we are inviting all preschool children to join us for a special day. The children will be travelling by minibus to Hay-on-Wye with their World Book Day tokens to buy a book. We will be returning for lunch at preschool. During the afternoon we are celebrating and saying thank you to our Mummies by inviting you to join us at 2.00pm for free play and afternoon tea!

Thank you for your continued support, and have a lovely weekend.

Julie and Beth

Dates- All our upcoming events and important dates can be found on the calendar on our website here.