

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR THE 2024/2025 ACADEMIC YEAR

September (20 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

October (14 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

November (20 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

December (15 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

January (20 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

February (14 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March (21 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April (11 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May (16 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June (15 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

July (23 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August (1 Day)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

 Denotes INSET days

 Denotes School Holidays, including Bank Holidays

195 days – including 5 days to be taken as professional development days for staff

THE ROBSERVER

VE DAY 80TH ANNIVERSARY ADDITION

Summer 1 2025



In this edition ,we
have.....

Activities

Outings, competitions

VE Day Performances

This edition designed by Jack in Post16

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL (JON)

Welcome to our latest school newsletter. As we come to the end of another busy and rewarding half term, I am delighted to share with you the many exciting events, achievements, and milestones that have taken place in our school. This newsletter offers a glimpse into the hard work, dedication, and creativity of our pupils, as well as the ongoing commitment of our staff and the support of our parents.

From inspiring classroom activities and extracurricular triumphs there is much to celebrate. It is heartening to see the progress pupils are making and the ways in which they continue to grow both academically and personally. I hope you enjoy reading about our recent events and achievements. Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards,

Jon Mount

Principal

TERM DATES

MONDAY 23RD JUNE WEST MIDLANDS THEATRE GROUP

**TUESDAY 24TH JUNE LEAVERS ASSEMBLY - PARENTS/
CARERS HAVE HAD THEIR INVITES**

**THURSDAY 17TH JULY PRIMARY SUMMER DISCO
-PUPILS CAN WEAR PARTY CLOTHES**

**THURSDAY 24TH JULY SECONDARY SUMMER DISCO
-PUPILS CAN WEAR PARTY CLOTHES**

**TUESDAY 29TH JULY SECONDARY SHINE PERFORMANCE -
PARENTS/CARERS ARE INVITED**

**WEDNESDAY 30TH PRIMARY SHINE PERFORMANCE -
PARENTS /CARERS ARE INVITED**

ORTON



Orton class have been exploring our natural environment this half term.

MACKINTOSH

This term we have been learning about the natural environment. We have explored the environment out in the community and around school. We have also explored natural materials in school like clay and flowers, and have read many books about habitats and things we may find out and about!



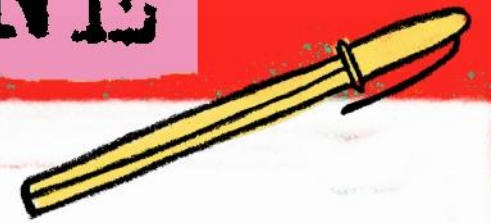
Pryor



In Pryor class we have had lots of fun playing in the garden and visiting the park. We have also planted some sunflower seeds and are all excited to watch them grow.



GASCOIGNE



This term our topic has been all about The Natural World including whereabouts different animals live. We went out into the community and have explored woodland habitats and farms. We found the park in the middle of the woods!

We have started exploring "algorithms" and programming, making the Beebot move was exciting! In PE we are perfecting our over and underarm throw to help us play basketball and we have enjoyed playing together in the playground and in the classroom.





Kay



Class

In Summer 1, Kay Class have been looking at different habitats and their features.

We have engaged in lots of activities to learn about different natural materials, and animals that live in different environments

We also went on our first full day outing to Cannon Hall Farm where we looked at the animals and did some great turn taking in soft play.



Bates

This half term in Bates class we have been learning lots outside of the classroom.



Reading our core text outside in the fresh air!



Taking care of the sensory garden and planting new flowers!

Bell Class

Bell Class has had a fantastic Summer 1 term. We have looked at The Romans in Topic, turn taking in PE and celebrated VE Day by making medals and bunting. Another one of Bell Class pupils enjoyed an outing to Clifton Park and an ice-cream



CUMMING

In Summer 1, Cumming Class designed rainbows as part of our VE Day celebration.



BATES

We have been exploring a nature hunt in the woodland area using our nature book to find items from the book.

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Making our own troll terrariums



Having fun outside in the sun on a scooter and celebrating VE day.

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STEELE

This term Steele Class joined in the VE Day celebrations in the main hall, we danced to "The Sun Has Got its Hat on". In preparation for the celebration, we decorated balloons to look like the sun and made flags.



We have been taking care of our local community by litter picking in the local park.

DYSON

This half term we explored Magna-Science Museum. We read facts about how the steel factory was made. Did you know it was built on top of a Roman settlement? Pupils learnt about all the elements; fire, water, air and earth, discovering how all of these are important to sustaining life on earth. Our favourite parts were the Fire Tornado and the Big Melt.



Alvey

Class



Pupils in Alvey Class accessed Crucial Crew educational provision where they had an opportunity to acquire essential life skills including road and fire safety. All pupils had lots of fun while they engaged in the interactive sessions with South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue staff.



Buttery Class

We've had a very busy half term in Buttery Class. This half term our topic is The Romans, we have been learning about how they used to live and in pottery we made some mosaic tiles mirroring the patterns that were used during Roman times. We have also been practicing skills during our cookery lessons like using knives safely. We have enjoyed taking part in gardening and enjoying outings to the woods which has helped us with our Science topic, learning about plants and the living world.



MCKINLEY

For the first half of our summer term, McKinley Class have taken part in a range of different activities both in and out of school. Layni and Matthew, along with Oscar from Wiggan Class, attended a performance of An Inspector Calls at the Alhambra Theatre in Bradford. It was a brilliant experience and will support their understanding of the play. In DT, Frank and Lily produced two exceptional designs: Lily made a wooden walker for her niece, and Frank built a sturdy wheelbarrow for his nan. As part of his Gardening course, Hanu has been out in the community helping to keep the environment clean.



SMITH

This term, some of Smith class have been taking part in travel training. We have been having lots of fun going to a local bus stop working towards going on a bus.

This is the first time going on public transport for some of our students and they did very well. Well done!



Wiggan...

This half term we had the pleasure of inviting Kate Nelson, from Henry Boot Construction, to give a presentation to our Post 16 and Key Stage 4 students about career opportunities available in the construction industry.



Kate discussed different pathways and current projects the company is undertaking, including the reconstruction of Rotherham Markets.



Following on from her visit the school will be arranging with her to take a selection of our students to look around the construction site at Rotherham Market and hopefully discussing work experience opportunities.

Henry Boot

Barrett class

Two of our pupils have a starring role in the West End!

Both Porcha and Eddie are featured on National Autistic Society promotional posters raising autism awareness.

The campaign aims to improve public understanding of autism, change attitudes and behaviour towards autistic people and highlight ways the public can show up for autistic people by making changes to make a positive difference.

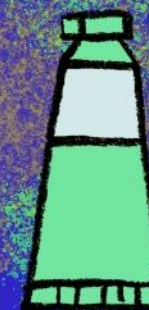
Porcha and Eddie were photographed together in the playground at school and used as part of the ongoing campaign.

This poster is seen here on display outside the Palace Theatre in London's West End which is currently staging Harry Potter and the Cursed Child.

Keep your eyes peeled to see if you can spot the poster on display somewhere.



HUB 1



Hub 1 have had a creative start to the Summer 1 term, engaging in a number of activities. Students have enjoyed participating in Design and Technology sessions, completing maintenance tasks around school and creating figures using a range of materials and tools.

HUB 2

The children in hub 2 have been having an amazing time in the community. Some children have been in the community to collect resources for projects they are doing in school, whilst others have done new activities such as horse riding and rock climbing.



EASTER COMPETITION

We held our annual Easter Bonnet and decorate a boiled egg competition on Friday 4th April. Jo Barker Carr judged the competition which was not an easy task as competition was fierce this year.

Easter Bonnet competition was won by -

Dyson Class

Boiled Egg competition was won by -

Primary-Parker

Secondary- Leo

Sensory - Logan

A special mention to Kai - for his writing to go with his egg.



TEAM BUILDING

On Monday 7th April staff at Robert Ogden School held a team Building exercise in the afternoon. A team building day is the perfect way to kick start a culture of open communication and positivity. Staff members are able to engage with one another in a fun way. Enjoying an event together gives teams a sense of shared experience, strengthening the bond between staff.



The winning Team
Orton Class



BAILLIE/CLAY CLASS






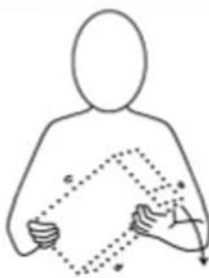



During Summer term 1, Clay Class have been learning about the Ancient Romans



SALT

Makaton

Throughout the year we are going to share you a set of useful Makaton signs you could use alongside your everyday communication.

		
biscuit	sandwich	chips
		
fruit	ice cream	cereal
		
meat	sausages	vegetables

THERAPEUTIC USE OF GARDENING AND BEING OUTSIDE

For our students taking part in garden activities like growing food or flowers, and participating in forest school type of activities, encourages a sense of accomplishment and responsibility. This can boost self-esteem and reduces anxiety and rumination through enabling relaxation.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY AND THE OUTDOORS

As Occupational Therapists we often have multiple aims within a session, whether that's developing **fine or gross motor skills**, providing a **rich sensory experience**, or meeting the sensory needs of an individual by providing regulating **sensory** activities. These can all be done effectively outside in our playgrounds and garden spaces.

In our outdoor spaces there are lots of opportunities for using our hands to create things, to travel over different surfaces and to experience a range of different movement. This can help to meet our **motor skill development** needs.

There are also loads of opportunities for lots of different **sensory stimulation**, whether that's deep muscle work from carrying, lifting, digging and dragging; or vestibular input from swinging on swings, rope swings, or in a hammock; or tactile input from getting our hands in the soil when planting. There are so many different ways that we can provide sensory input during meaningful activities outdoors, making our outdoor spaces a great place to meet those Occupational Therapy objectives.

Occupational therapist Hattie Mugleston has been making the most of our outdoor spaces, supporting our young people outside during her sessions and in enrichment.



MULTISENSORY IDEAS FOR AT HOME AND IN SCHOOL

It doesn't matter where you are, our outdoor spaces can provide us with a wide range of sensory experiences that can be grounding and supportive of self-esteem.

This could include:

- listening to birdsong,
- smelling flowers or herbs such as mint,
- feeling a breeze on their cheek,
- gently swinging on a hammock
- feeling the grass on their bare feet (if safe to do so),
- or anything else that tunes them into their environment, makes them think and feel through their senses.

For our older and students who are able, you can also try talking about and reflecting on their feelings about nature, so tuning in with their emotional attachment to the space that they're in.

CALMING ACTIVITY IDEAS FOR AT HOME AND IN SCHOOL

Activities which require bearing weight through the hands are generally calming for the nervous system. These could be used at the start of sessions if required to help calm pupils and / or at the end of sessions to help them transition back to the classroom. Calming activities could also be used if a pupil is starting to escalate, if it appears safe for them to do so. Therefore, it might be an idea to always have a full wheelbarrow or watering can to hand to direct pupils to if needed. Calming activities include: -

- Digging (easier in moist soil – gets harder with drier soils);
- Moving soil on a spade e.g. to fill up a bucket – encourage the pupil to try and move more and more soil per spadeful;
- Raking / hoeing;
- Pushing a wheelbarrow – can vary the load and the distance travelled;
- Moving heavy items by hand e.g. bucket of soil, full watering can, bucket of stones;



Growth and Sustainability Employment and Skills I Know I Can Team

Ref: Barnsley Apprenticeship Event
Date: 1 May 2025
Phone: (01226) 775270
Email: IKIC@barnsley.gov.uk

Dear parent or guardian

We're writing to invite you and your child to our upcoming event that will showcase the benefits of apprenticeships. This event is specially designed for Year 10 and Year 11 pupils.

Date: Tuesday 17 June

Time: Drop in anytime between 4pm and 7pm

Location: Barnsley Metrodome, Queens Rd, Barnsley S71 1AN

Apprenticeships offer paid work experience while you learn. You'll get training that leads to qualifications recognised across the country.

Join us to learn more about different career options and connect with local employers. They can tell you about working in sectors including engineering, construction, health and food manufacturing and more. Plus, you'll get to meet local services that can offer careers support.

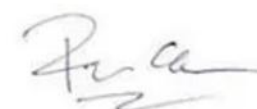
At the event, you'll be able to:

- discover apprenticeship opportunities in a range of sectors
- learn about the application process and requirements
- meet with others, ask questions and start applications.

Our skills and employability team support people to access learning, work, volunteering and training. If you'd like to learn more about this service, please visit barnsley.gov.uk/IKIC.

We're looking forward to seeing you and your child at the event. If you have any questions, please contact us at IKIC@barnsley.gov.uk or call 01226 775270.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Clifford, Service Director, Regeneration and Culture.

BUTTERY CLASS



On Thursday 1st May we took part in Cash for Kids day and completed a sponsored walk doing laps around the playground. One of our staff members Jamie completed most of the laps but staff and pupils from Buttery Class helped along the way. Altogether we completed 95 laps and all money raised will go towards Cash for Kids. Thanks for all the donations!

VE DAY CELEBRATIONS

On Thursday 8th May Robert Ogden School celebrated VE Day. It was a day to commemorate the end of World War2 in Europe, which occurred on May 8, 1945 when The Nazis surrendered to the allies. It's a time for reflection, remembering the sacrifices made during the war, and celebrating the hard won peace.

