

Carrdyke Federation

Newsletter



May 2026

Staffing Changes

There are a number of staff changes from this autumn

Mrs Mary King's:

- Mrs Beckingham is leaving us in the summer to take up a new role at another school.
- Mrs Osborne will continue to teach Class Three for four days a week. I will be able to confirm the person teaching the remaining day shortly.
- Miss Jollands has been appointed as the new Class One teacher replacing Mrs Reed who retires this summer.

Walcott:

- Mrs Fletcher has been appointed to share the teaching of Class One with Miss Warner. Mrs Fletcher will replace Mrs Miller who is moving to take on the role of SENDCO at another school.

We have held four days of interviews over the last two weeks, we were delighted with the quality of candidates and are very much looking forward to working with the new staff.

Summer of Enrichment activities

We hope the children are enjoying our summer enrichment activities, I think we have the most comprehensive programme of events we have ever offered.

I would like to say a particular thank you to everyone involved in the 'Paddock to Plate' event at Thorpe Tilney. A special thank you to 'Farmer Joe' and his family for all the planning and organisation that went into this event. We had a wonderful day and could have stayed much longer if we had the chance.

We have a lot more activities to look forward to with Class Three going to Creswell Crags, the Class Four residential trip, Class One visit to the museum of Lincolnshire Life and a visit to the schools by Sunita from the Indian Experience to name but a few.

Mrs Mary King's and the County Netball Finals



A huge congratulations to the Mrs Mary King's Netball team for making it through to the county finals this week. They achieved third place playing against schools with excess of five hundred pupils. This is an extraordinary achievement and demonstrates the hard work and resilience of the team and is testament to the coaching from Mrs Roulston over the years.

The children's excellent behaviour was noted by a number of other people attending, including a coach from the England Netball Squad who was very impressed with our team. Well done everyone.



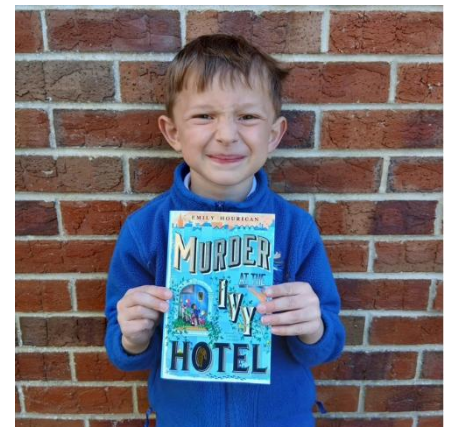
A few scenes from the 'Paddock to Plate' event.

Birthday Cakes

A reminder that following the closure of our kitchen we are no longer able to supply birthday cakes. As both school are nut free sites due to us having both staff and pupils with severe allergies we have a policy of not allowing children to bring birthday cakes and sweets to share with their class. This is because the risk of sharing something with nut contamination is too high. We don't allow sharing of sweets as there is a choking risk when they are given to children who are likely to be running around on the playground at home time.

If you would like to celebrate your child's birthday we have set up a system where you can gift a book to the school library. Books have a bookplate giving details of the birthday and we will celebrate the gift in collective worship.

Please let class teachers or the office know well in advance if this is something you would like to do.



Dairy Dates

Mrs Mary King's

Term 6 Monday 1st June - Wednesday 22nd July

Tuesday 2nd June Sunita Patel the Indian Experience
Friday 12th June Aylmerton Residential Weekend
Wednesday 17th June Sports Day
Wednesday 24th June Class Three Cresswell Crags visit
Monday 20th July Federation Picnic
Wednesday 22nd July Leavers' Service 2.00pm

Walcott

Term 6 Monday 1st June - Wednesday 22nd July

Tuesday 2nd June Class Four Metherringham Airfield Museum
Monday 8th June Sunita Patel the Indian Experience
Friday 12th June Aylmerton Residential Weekend
Wednesday 24th June Cresswell Crags visit
Monday 29th June Sports Day
Monday 20th July Federation Picnic
Wednesday 22nd July Leavers' Assembly 10.30am

Ofsted and SATS results

We have been really impressed with the way all our Year Six children conducted themselves with the SATS tests. Some of the tests appeared particularly hard this year, there were questions that would leave many adults scratching their heads over. We will be proud of our children's achievements regardless of whether they achieved the expected standard or not. For many children the progress they have made since Class One will have been huge, especially for children who find learning challenging and have SEND.

Over the years both schools have gone through phases of having results that have exceeded national expectations but on other occasions just through the make up of the classes, times when they are below. The new Ofsted framework has reverted back to a very clinical way of making decision about pupil achievement and unless the school has consistent results at national average or above, will most likely receive a **'requires attention'** or even **'inadequate'** rating.

Time has ticked by since our last inspections and we are now thinking about the next one. Ofsted has said that the 'requires attention' grading is now the equivalent of the old average to low 'good' judgement but schools should be happy with this! It is entirely predictable that some of our current data indicates a 'require attention grading'. Whilst I feel this is useful for staff and governors, I think it is highly misleading for parents. Headteachers in Lincolnshire have been asked to share this with parents so that there is more understanding of the grades being given.

You will be aware that Ofsted changed the way it works in the response to the death of headteacher Ruth Perry, I can tell you from my own perspective that none of the changes have improved the wellbeing of heads or senior staff who will all feel a great sense of personal shame and day in day out worry over judgements that don't reflect the hardwork by staff and children. If a school used the naming shaming of children and a sense of fear as its tool to get children to improve results it would be seen as an appalling safeguarding issue however it is the accepted way that adults working in schools are treated.



Student Placements

I would like to thank all the students we have had on placement at both sites this spring we have really enjoyed hosting them. A particular thank you this term to the two occupational therapy students who have had a placement at Walcott; Synnove Skaheim and Rebecca Rafferty.

We have gained a a great deal of professional support from these students who are very close to qualifying. They have been able to work with children and offer excellent advice on how we might support individuals needs in the future.

