



# Scapegoat Hill School Autumn (2) Newsletter 2025

## Spring Overview

### Autumn Term Highlights

We've had a busy and fun term since October, filled with exciting learning opportunities and preparations for the festive season.

### Celebrating Advent and Christmas

This term, pupils have been learning about the importance of Advent and preparing for our Christmas performances, including the Nativity in church.

- Class 1 and 2 explored the true meaning of Christmas through a creative activity where they added a bauble each time something significant happened in the Nativity story. At the end, Jesus was presented with a tree decorated with all the baubles, symbolising the events leading to His birth.
- Class 3 performed Bah Humbug, learning about the classical themes in Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol. They discovered how Scrooge saw the errors of his ways and learned the importance of humility and generosity.

**British Values: UK Parliament Week**

In our assemblies, we explored UK Parliament Week, an annual event that inspires interest in Parliament, politics, and democracy. Pupils learned about the role of Parliament in the UK and took part in activities such as debates, researching famous politicians, and even building models of the Houses of Parliament.

### **Year 6 Transition Support**

The school nurse visited Year 6 pupils to talk about their upcoming transition to secondary school and where they can find support if they feel worried. This is part of our ongoing commitment to preparing pupils for the next stage of their education.

### **Looking Ahead**

We are excited for the spring term and all the opportunities it will bring. Thank you for your continued support in making this term so successful and enjoyable for our pupils.

Just a reminder: during the first week of the new term, children in Years 1 to 6 will be taking part in Sports Hall Athletics at Colne Valley High School. Please keep an eye on Pings to give consent for your child to participate.

## **Parental Acceptable Use Agreement for ICT and Social Media**

### **Reminder to Parents**

Please complete the attached form to agree to the school's **Acceptable Use Agreement for ICT and Social Media**.

Click here to access the form: <https://forms.office.com/e/s6jRi2gnWpt> Thank you for your support in keeping our school community safe online.

## **Our School Rules and Values**





## Our School Rules



Tell the truth.

First time for everything.

Use manners.

Take turns to speak.

Look after everyone and everything.



We'd like to wish our families, friends, governors and the wider community a Merry Christmas and a safe, happy New Year!

Thank you for all your support throughout 2025 – it means so much to us. Here's to another fantastic year together in 2026! ✨



## Christmas 2025 at Scapegoat Hill School

**We've really enjoyed the Christmas build-up at Scapegoat Hill School this year!**

It all began with our first flurry of snow on 19th November, followed by festive wreath-making and lots of rehearsals for our Christmas performance. After half term, the sound of carols filled the school as we prepared for our special performance in church. We also had a wonderful Christmas Fayre and a delicious Christmas dinner to celebrate the season.

**A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this Christmas so special for our school community!**





## Christmas Performances - Class 1 and 2 -Baubles!

What an incredible performance from our amazing pupils in class 1 and 2! This year's nativity, *Baubles!*, was full of laughter, music and Christmas magic. From Mr Potts and his helpful mice to the directionally-challenged kings, a moody donkey and the sleepest sheep you've ever seen, the show had it all!

The children sang their hearts out with songs like *I'd Rather Have a Bale of Hay*, *Stop That Knocking!* and *Deep-A-Sleepy Sheep*, and wow—what a performance! Every class worked so hard and the creativity in costumes and bauble props made the stage sparkle. A huge thank you to our staff and families for supporting this performance. We couldn't be prouder of our pupils!



### **Class 3 Christmas Performance - Bah Humbug!**

We are incredibly proud of our Class 3 children, who gave a fantastic performance of *Bah Humbug*, based on *A Christmas Carol*. They told the story of Scrooge and how he changed his ways after visits

from his old colleague Jacob Marley and three other ghosts, eventually becoming a second father to Tiny Tim and helping with the Cratchit family's medical bills.

Their commitment to learning long and challenging lines was outstanding and they brought the story to life with wonderful expression and confidence. The performance also featured brilliant songs such as *Glad to Be a Chimney Sweep*, *Christmas Eve* and *Greetings of the Season*.

Well done to all of Class 3—you were absolutely brilliant!



## Sporting Activities and Sporting Awards

We Are Delighted to Announce!

Our school has been awarded an Equal Access Award for our fantastic achievement in securing equal access for girls' football during the 2024/2025 academic year.

This is a significant milestone and a powerful step toward ensuring that every young player has the opportunity to participate, develop and thrive in the sport they love.

**Well done to our Year 5 & 6 basketball team!** 🏀

Back in November, some year 5 and 6 children represented our school brilliantly — showing fantastic teamwork, commitment and encouragement throughout. We're so proud of you all for being such great ambassadors!

As we look ahead to the new year, we're excited to kick things off with Sports Hall Athletics at Colne Valley High School for Years 1 to 6. It's going to be a great opportunity for everyone to get involved and showcase their sporting spirit!





## Personal Development Activities - November and December 2025

Class 1 and 2 and the Year 6s were lucky enough to have the road safety team come to share with us how to keep safe on the long winter nights. We learned about reflective clothing and how black is not the best colour for us to be seen in when it is dark. The children enjoyed trying on different high- vis and reflective items and when the lights were turned off and a torch was shone to imitate headlights, we realised lots of children's new fleeces had reflective elements to them!



## Class 1 News

Reception have been working super hard on their maths skills this half term. They have sorted groups based on how much in each set, developed subitising skills recognising patterns of amounts and also making repetitive patterns using objects they found on a nature walk around the school grounds.

They have also continued to explore autumn using their senses. They looked closely at natural objects they collected and described the feel of them and they especially enjoyed making herb butters and trying them with potatoes...yum!





Year 1 have been developing computer skills using the laptops. They have learned to log on and off safely using their own usernames and passwords and have learned the importance of not sharing these to keep their information safe. They have then accessed a programme called Paintz to create some fantastic artwork using the trackpad to navigate. They have also begun to use the keyboard to add text. This has been a highlight with all the children really enjoying the sessions!



## Class 2 News

The children have worked hard on their DT project making castles this half term. They followed their design specification ensuring their structures were stable, included a range of shapes, included a flag and a drawbridge. The children worked in small groups to create their structures and learnt some important team work skills!



Class 2 have enjoyed learning about humans in science including why hygiene practices are so important for our health. The children explored how germs can be spread easily through touch by using glitter and touching hands with others in the class!



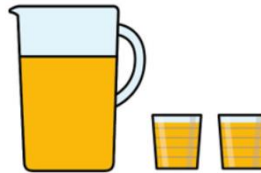
## Class 3 News

### Class 3 Maths Update

We've been tackling some tricky fraction work this term—adding, subtracting and calculating with fractions—and the children have done an amazing job! Their confidence and problem-solving skills are really growing. Can you complete the tricky problem below that class 3 have been solving!

There are 12 children in a class.

The teacher has 4 litres of orange juice.



Each child gets  $\frac{1}{5}$  litre of orange juice.

How much orange juice will be left over?

### Years 5 and 6 have been busy investigating electricity and circuits!

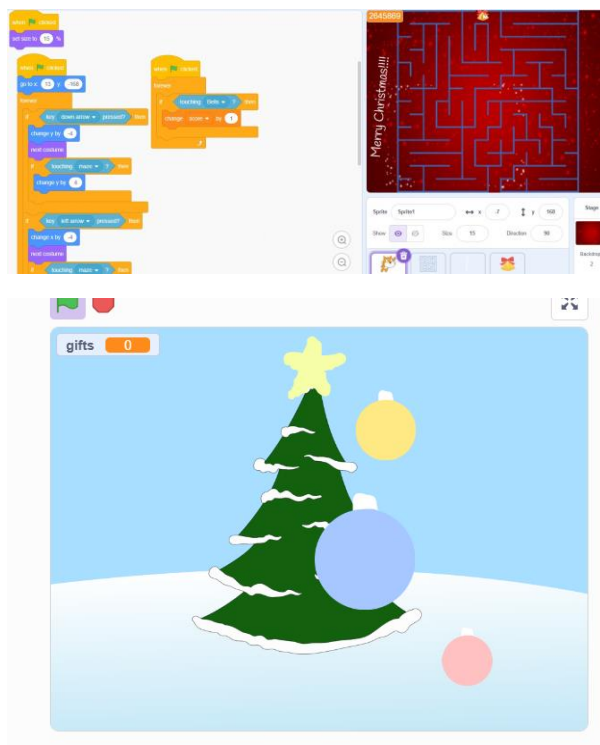
Using their scientific skills, they explored how voltage affects brightness in bulbs and the loudness of buzzers. Pupils applied their knowledge of variables—*independent, dependent and controlled*—to design fair tests and draw accurate conclusions.

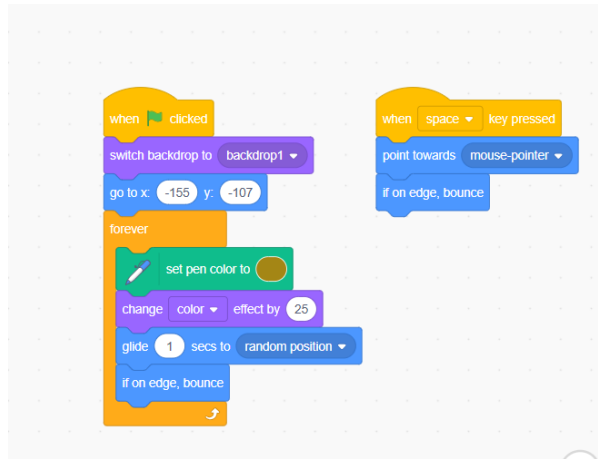
It's been fantastic to see their curiosity and problem-solving skills in action as they experimented and learned more about how electricity works!



**Class 3 have been developing their computing and coding skills this term with a festive twist!**

Using Scratch, they explored a variety of coding blocks to create exciting Christmas-themed projects. These included a moving bauble animation and a Christmas maze game, where reindeer and other sprites had to catch presents by navigating through a maze. It's been fantastic to see their creativity and problem-solving skills shine as they combined coding with seasonal fun!





## Breakfast Club Updates



We're pleased to say that Breakfast Club is continuing to be a great success since launching back in April 2025 . The children are really enjoying it - it's a great chance for them to socialise and start the day with a smile (and a slice of Mrs Senior's legendary toast!). Just a quick reminder that if your child needs breakfast, please ensure they arrive **before 8.25** as all food is packed away at this time.

**Booking and payment where necessary, is done through ParentPay. Even if your child is attending the *free* Breakfast Club from 8:15am, please make sure to book in advance (by the Wednesday of the previous week). This helps us plan food orders and staffing properly.**

Thanks for your support!

## Attendance by Year Group (01 Sep 2025 – 15 Dec 2025)

Reception: 94.1%

Year 1: 95.9%

Year 2: 94.8%

Year 3: 96.2%

Year 4: 96.4%

Year 5: 96.0%

Year 6: 97.1%

## After School Clubs



We have the following after school clubs running in January from 3.15-4.15pm. If your child is interested in joining any, please submit the form sent out by Ping and make any necessary payment through Parent Pay.

Monday - Homework Club Yrs 2-6 (**FULL**)

Monday - Construction Club Reception & Yr 1

Tuesday - Clay Club Yrs 1-6

Wednesday - Forest School Club Yrs 1-6 (**FULL**)

Thursday - Dance Club Yrs 3-6

Friday - Football Club Yrs 3-6

## Mental Health Support Directory

The Hub of Hope is the UK's largest and most comprehensive mental health support directory. Set up by the charity Chasing the Stigma, it's all about making mental health support more accessible and less daunting. Whether you need therapy, peer support, or just a listening ear, check it out on the Hub of Hope website or grab the app from your app store!

[Search for Services](#) - this is the website link.

## Lunch Accounts on Parent Pay

Please can you check your child's lunch account on Parent Pay regularly and make any necessary payments. All lunches should be paid for in advance.

As we are now on our Christmas break, please can you ensure all debts are paid immediately. Thank you

## FOSS - Friends of Scape School

### FOSS Annual General Meeting Update

On 12th November, FOSS held its Annual General Meeting and we're delighted to extend a warm welcome to our new volunteers! Your support makes a huge difference and we truly appreciate anyone who can lend a hand.

Please see the leaflet below for more information about FOSS and how you can get involved.

### Exciting News – Scarecrow Festival 2026!

Our now-famous Scarecrow Festival is back this year and will take place over the Easter Weekend (3rd–6th April). Last year's festival was a triumph and while we're not sure if we can surpass it, we're certainly going to try!

Stay tuned for more details and ways you can help make this year's event another fantastic success. If you would like to start planning your scarecrow for Easter the theme for 2026 is 'The Movies.'



Friends of Scape School are a Parent & Teacher organisation raising funds to benefit the children who attend Scapegoat Hill Junior and Infants School.

As central government and council funding is so limited, we work to ensure the children at our little school don't miss out.

During 2024-5, the majority of our fundraising was to pay for the design and installation of our new playground. We also arranged traffic safety signs, leavers gifts and new audio and presentation equipment for the school hall.

We like to think we stage wonderful events that enhance the pupil's experience, we love a disco! We also work with the Chapel and the community for our larger events such as Scape Scarecrow Festival.



As children (and therefore their grown ups!) leave every year, we are always hoping for new members. Could you help with organising an event? You can help as little or as much as you want. Organising is done mainly via whatsapp group so we really try not to take up much of everyone's time - we are all busy working parents and teachers, so we really do get it.

## Walking Home - Children in Years 5 and 6

We kindly ask that you contact the school office to inform us if and when your child will be walking home, specifying the days they will be doing so. Only children walking home independently, and only if absolutely essential, may bring a mobile phone to school.

If your child needs to bring a mobile phone, it must be handed into the school office upon arrival to comply with safeguarding procedures. Additionally, you will need to complete a permissions form available from the school office.

This process aligns with our Mobile Phone Policy, which we can provide upon request. Thank you for your cooperation in ensuring the safety and well-being of all our students

## Moving from Integris to Arbor

We are in the process of moving our software system from Integris to Arbor as Integris is being discontinued in February 2026. Although Arbor will allow payments and communications to be processed through it, we will continue to use Ping and Parent Pay for the time being.

## Free School Meals

Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals if you are in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, before benefits are considered.
- Income Support.
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance.
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance.
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit.
- Working Tax Credit run on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190.

Registering for the free meals raises money for school, to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff or school activities. This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the benefits listed above.

If your child is in full time education, and you receive one or more of the benefits stated above, please fill in an application form even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2. This is because they are also entitled to things like free milk, help towards school trips and other support. To check if you are eligible, please visit the Kirklees council website at: [www.kirklees.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)

## School Ping/Friday Flyer/Newsletter

\*\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\*\*

Please ensure you look at PING where we send information to parents. These include achievements in school, out of school clubs including our new BREAKFAST club, trip details, sporting events and other important information. Please make sure that these are read and if necessary, replied to. Every Friday we send out the Friday Flyer to keep you updated weekly about school events as well as local events and news. Our newsletter is sent out at the end of each term.

### A Few Reminders

- Please let the school know if you have recently changed any of your contact details: address, email, phone numbers etc, so we can keep our records up to date.
- If you know in advance your child will be absent from school (eg medical appointments) please let us know as soon as possible. **If your child is absent through illness/unplanned events please contact school to let us know on the morning of the absence – many thanks.**

Please be reminded you **MUST NOT** wait or park, or stop to set down and pick up passengers, on the yellow zig zag markings outside school, **Mon-Fri between 8:00-9:30 am and 2:30-4:00 pm**

### Dates for your diary

5th January	School re-opens
6th January	Year 3 / 4 Sports Hall Athletics
7th January	Year 5 / 6 Sports Hall Athletics
9th January	Year 1 / 2 Sports All Athletics
9th January	Yr 4 Safety Rangers Road safety training
5th February	Yr 5/6 Handball Tournament at CVHS 4.15-5.45pm
13th February	School Closes
13th February	Young Voices
24th February	School Re-opens
24th February	Strictly Pennine
5th March	Year 5/6 Hockey Competition
17th March	Years 4 / 5 & 6 Girls Football
26th March	Year 5 Try it Thursday at CVHS 4.30-5.30pm
16th April	Strictly CV 4-8pm (Dress rehearsal at 4pm show starts at 6.30pm)

## Term Dates

2025/2026

	<b>Break up</b>	<b>Return to school</b>
		Tuesday 2nd September
Half Term	Wednesday 22nd October	Monday 3rd November
Christmas	Friday 19th December	Monday 5th January 2026
Half Term	Friday 13th February	Tuesday 24th February
Easter	Friday 27th March	Monday 13th April
Half Term	Friday 22nd May	Monday 1st June
Summer	Friday 17th July	