

Friday 5th December 2025 - Newsletter no.13

A message from Miss Towler...



Dear Parents and Carers,

Well this week has certainly been one we won't forget in a while! I really do appreciate all our Parents and Carers support over the last few days with the very busy week we have had. There have been so many highlights this week which have had a real community feel and it is this time of year where we do really reflect on how lucky we are to have such a fantastic local community around us in Tadcaster.

On Sunday, Mrs Oldfield, Mrs Bairstow and myself enjoyed a lovely day in Tadcaster with 22 of our children who braved the cold to sing Carols in Tadcaster Market. It was such a special event and the children were absolutely amazing. Thank you so much to the families who supported this event – it was certainly appreciated.

Yesterday's Christmas fair once again showed us how the closeness of our community proves to be such a blessing when times are a little more challenging. I wanted to say a really big thank you to each and every member of TPAC who did a brilliant job of finding a new space for our Christmas fair after we had to close the school in the morning and which involved setting up the fair in record time. Michelle Waudby did a fabulous job of rearranging the plans from school Christmas fair to Tadcaster Barn Christmas fair and with the team of TPAC members who supported everything to get things in place it was a real success. Please check out the photos on instagram to see what fun we had yesterday evening.

On Wednesday we had a fabulous Maths Open Morning for families with children in Year 4. This offered us such a lovely opportunity to watch parents and grandparents working with their children on Maths. We introduced a new online resource called TT Rockstars for children in Teams Saturn and Neptune which will be funded by TPAC. More on this to follow in the next few weeks.

Don't forget next Wednesday we have our Christmas Dinner to look forward to and also an exciting Countdown to Christmas – which is a raffle for children who are in school, on time during the last two weeks of term. More on this below!

*Best wishes,
Caroline Towler, Headteacher*

Our school attendance is:

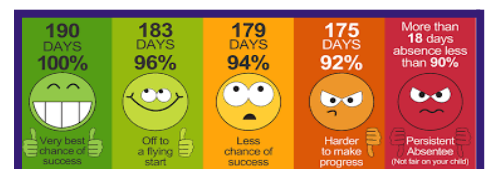
Our school attendance target is 97%.

Team Neptune: 93% Team Saturn: 93.8%

Team Venus Reception/Y1: 86.1% Top Team Attendance! 🙌

Team Nursery: 83.5%

***As Government guidance states, your child's attendance is compulsory in school and unless they are unwell we ask that you ensure they are in school, on time, every day.**



Farewell Mrs Bairstow!

We have some important news to share about Mrs Bairstow, our assistant teacher who works in Team Saturn. We are really proud to share that Mrs Bairstow has been successful in gaining a new position working for North Yorkshire local authority as a speech and language teacher as part of their special educational needs team. This is very much a passion of Mrs Bairstow's and we know that she will be amazing at this role.



Although we will miss Mrs Bairstow lots we understand that this is a fantastic opportunity for her. As many of our parents and carers will know Mrs Bairstow has worked for many years in Team TPA and has had a huge impact on the children and families who have passed through the school doors of both Tadcaster East Primary (as the school used to be known) and Tadcaster Primary Academy. Many of you will have seen Mrs Bairstow at the community events that we participate in and she certainly has become our official community representative over the years. Her role in TPAC, our PTA, has been so important to our school and none of us will forget the big purple bus that she helped design and create for the Tadcaster Festival last summer. Although we know the children, staff and parents will miss her lots she assures us that she will still keep in touch. Please see a little message from Mrs Bairstow which she has shared below:

Whilst I am very sad to be leaving TPA, I am also excited (and nervous!) as I have never actually left school so this new role will certainly be a very exciting challenge for me. I have been part of TPA for 15 years. Firstly as a parent when my two boys attended TPA and for the last 10 years as a member of the Teaching and Learning Team. I have been a member of TPAC for 15 years which has been a great opportunity to see how all the children benefit from all the hard work involved in the fundraising events and it's a joy to see the children having so much fun at the discos and fairs etc. I feel like there is a lot of me in TPA and of course it was my son Benjamin who won the competition to design the school logo when Tadcaster East became TPA, so a little bit of the Bairstow family will always be with TPA. I will miss you all and it has been a privilege to work with such amazingly well behaved, creative and imaginative children. I hope you will still treat me like a local celebrity when I bump into you in and around Tadcaster.

Mrs Bairstow is still with us for a little longer as her final day is the last day of this term. We have successfully recruited a new Assistant Teacher who will be visiting our school team next week in preparation for starting with us in January. More details to follow shortly.



Christmas Dinner Day and Christmas Jumper Day - Wednesday 10th December

On Wednesday 10th December we will be donning our festive knits (or a bit of tinsel) and tucking into Mrs Bedford's world famous Christmas dinner.

Please note we will not be providing jacket potatoes or sandwiches on this day as you can imagine the preparation always takes a lot of time for our kitchen team.



Year Four MTC Maths Open Morning

Year Four Parents and Carers were welcomed into school this week to find out more about Maths and the Multiplication Tables Check that these children will carry out in June. Mr Parkinson, Mr Sands and Mr Foster joined me and our Vice Chair of Governors, Derek De Vere to look at how we teach multiplication. The Year 4 children participated in the session and got stuck into some fun maths activities with their families. This offered a great opportunity to see the methods we use in school. A special highlight was the presentation that some of our older children delivered. They joined us in the hall to explain what they know about multiplication and to explain from a child's viewpoint what the MTC is all about. It was a real success and we had some really positive feedback from our families. Thank you to everyone involved! Check out the pictures from the morning which are on instagram.



Updated: Dates for your diary for this term.

Dates	What's happening at TPA?
Monday 8th December	Hub Club with Miss Bell and Miss Wu and Dodgeball Club with Five Star Sports Book your place here: https://tadcaster.cbfs.uk/
Tuesday 9th December	Team Venus - Christmas performance of a 'Warm and Fuzzy Christmas' at 9.00am - please see tickets shared this week
	Carols by Candlelight - 2pm at St Marys Church for Teams Saturn and Neptune (tickets shared this week)
	Hub Club with Miss Bell and Miss Wu and Music Club with Mrs Oldfield Book your place here: https://tadcaster.cbfs.uk/
Wednesday 10th December	Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day raising money in aid of Save the Children. Don't forget to book your child's meal on Appetite!
	Hub Club with Miss Bell and Miss Wu and Multiskills Club with Five Star Sports Book your place here: https://tadcaster.cbfs.uk/
Thursday 11th December	Hub Club with Miss Bell and Miss Wu and Dance Club with York Dance Space Book your place here: https://tadcaster.cbfs.uk/
Monday 15th December	Hub Club with Miss Bell and Miss Wu and Dodgeball Club with Five Star Sports Book your place here: https://tadcaster.cbfs.uk/
Tuesday 16th December	Hub Club with Miss Bell and Miss Wu and Music Club with Mrs Oldfield Book your place here: https://tadcaster.cbfs.uk/
Wednesday 17th December	Teams Saturn and Neptune Christmas performance of 'The Most Magical Place of All' - 2pm (one ticket per family - admits two)
	Hub Club with Miss Bell and Miss Wu and Multiskills Club with Five Star Sports Book your place here: https://tadcaster.cbfs.uk/
Thursday 18th December	Teams Saturn and Neptune Christmas performance of 'The Most Magical Place of All' - 6pm (one ticket per family - admits two)
	Hub Club with Miss Bell and Miss Wu Book your place here: https://tadcaster.cbfs.uk/
Friday 19th December	Christmas celebrations and a special visitor to look forward to...
	Break up for Christmas - Happy Holidays Team TPA!
Monday 5th January 2026	Training Day - School closed to pupils ~ Happy New Year!
Tuesday 6th January	Welcome back to Children and families.


Community Updates

Tadcaster Grammar School

Link for tickets [HERE](#)












Team TPA's Countdown to Christmas!

From the **8th December to 19th December** attend school on time and you will have a chance to take part in our attendance raffle. You will be given a raffle ticket to add your name to and then if your name is drawn you will then receive the prize shared below on that day of the draw. There will be a prize for each of your class teams.

You've got to be in it to win it, Team TPA!

8th December A festive pencil case and pen	9th December A hot chocolate treat 	10th December Festive selection box	11th December Christmas themed sweets	12th December MYSTERY SURPRISE 
15th December Festive stationery 	16th December £5 Amazon voucher	17th December Festive Selection Box	18th December £5 gift card 	19th December MYSTERY SURPRISE

We are thrilled to announce a dazzling festive incentive because your child's attendance in school is so important to us. We are passionate about ensuring that every single child benefits from every learning opportunity available and the best way to do that is for them to be in school, on time, every day. Get ready for next week's **Countdown to Christmas Attendance** initiative which we are **so** excited about!



We are starting our Countdown to Christmas initiative next week. Who will win these fabulous prizes?