



Friday 17th
April 2026
Newsletter



Ghyll Royd School
and Pre-School
A foundation for life

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Headteacher's Message

Welcome back to the Summer Term! I hope you all enjoyed a restful Easter break and had the chance to spend some quality time together as families. I have been inundated with messages and emails, relaying all the exciting things you have been up to, which adds to the real sense of energy and optimism around school as we begin a new term. It has been a pleasure to see the children return so enthusiastically, ready to learn and make the most of every opportunity.

The Summer Term is always a particularly special one, filled with memorable experiences, trips, performances and opportunities for pupils to showcase their growing confidence and independence. We are also excited to be expanding our wider provision this term, with new clubs and some continued outdoor developments.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It makes a real difference, not just for the school but for your children also.

I look forward to sharing a fantastic term with you all.

Mr Hadley Nicholson: Headteacher

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS



We are delighted to be launching an exciting range of new extra-curricular clubs this term, offering even more opportunities for pupils to explore their interests, build confidence and try something new. From creative and active pursuits to skill-building sessions, there's something for everyone to get involved in.

We are especially thrilled to introduce our brand-new Debating Club, where pupils will develop their speaking, listening and critical thinking skills while tackling topical and thought-provoking ideas. **We can't wait to see our pupils embrace these opportunities and make the most of club life at school!**



CALL FOR OUTDOOR RESOURCES

We are developing our outdoor provision and creating even richer, more engaging spaces for our children to learn and play. To help bring this vision to life, we are reaching out to our parent community

and local businesses for support. If you have any outdoor resources, materials or equipment you could donate, such as planters, tools, seating, tyres, wooden pallets, waterproof storage, or anything that could inspire imaginative outdoor learning, we would be incredibly grateful. **We will organise a dropping-off point for donations, on the school field, just past the Great Explorers playground.** Please contact the office for support if needed.

Camping & Survival-Style Items

- Old tents
- Ground mats
- Sleeping mats
- Camping stools
- Fire-pit / tools

Weather & Water Play

- Funnels and measuring jugs
- Plastic pipes or tubing
- Guttering pieces
- Water trays
- Spray bottles
- Scoops and ladles
- Spoons (metal or plastic)
- Rain gauges
- Thermometers

Gardening & Digging Equipment

- Child-safe garden tools
- Brushes (scrubbing, paint, sweeping)
- Old watering cans
- Plant pots (plastic or terracotta)
- Compost (bagged)
- Soil / dirt / sand
- Bark chippings
- Sacks or compost bags

Ropes, Fabric & Fastenings

- Rope / String / Twine
- Paracord / old climbing rope
- Washing line
- Bungee cords
- Tarpaulins
- Old tents (even broken ones)
- Fabric offcuts
- Tablecloths
- Pegs (wooden or plastic)
- Cable ties

Wood, Building & Natural Materials

- Planks of wood/off-cuts (any length or thickness)
- Pallets (whole or broken down)
- Tree stumps and logs, branches and sticks
- Bamboo canes / garden stakes
- Dowels or wooden rods
- Old fence panels or slats
- Pebbles, stones, gravel
- Slate tiles, bricks (whole or broken)

Containers, Storage & Loose Parts

- Buckets/tubs (any size)
- Food tubs (ice cream, yoghurt)
- Baskets
- Toolboxes
- Storage trays
- Plastic bottles (various sizes)

Other Useful Items

- Old tires
- Barrels
- Traffic cones
- Old signs or boards



We are very much looking forward to the upcoming Wharfedale Speaking Festival, where 20 of our pupils will proudly represent the school. They have been working hard with Mrs Beeson and staff to prepare their pieces, showing great commitment and enthusiasm. We would also encourage continued practice at home, as this really helps to build confidence and polish performances. We wish all of our participants the very best of luck and look forward to celebrating their efforts in May!





Ghyll Royd School is delighted to welcome back Pippa Fest!

After an incredibly successful, **sold-out** first year, PippaFest is back for a second year! PippaFest is an all-day music festival for all ages on Sunday the **3rd of May 2026**, in our beautiful grounds of Ghyll Royd School. What better way to start summer on the first May bank holiday? There will be 11 hours of non-stop incredible musical talent... featuring the incredible headliners SKINNY LIVING, and so many other amazing artists including; Robert Vincent, EdBl, Bethannie Hare (Costello) from former Hollyoaks fame.. But that's not all! There will be family fun activities to keep the children busy, not to mention an array of fantastic food and drink outlets. PLUS a great bar! All profits of PippaFest will go to Teenage Cancer Trust in memory of Pippa Simpson, a local girl who lost her fight with brain cancer at the age of 25 in 2024. You can find more about the charity on their website: <https://www.teenagecancertrust.org/> This event was her biggest wish, so please come along and have a great day out, fun and dancing in the sun (hopefully) whilst supporting a wonderful cause. To see last year's festival and to stay up to date with PippaFest '26 - follow

their Instagram@Pippa_Fest https://www.instagram.com/pippa_fest/?locale=kk-KZ&hl=ar and Facebook page [\(1\) Facebook](#)

[BUY TICKETS HERE](#)

April 2026

- Mon 20:** Reception swimming starts
- Tues 21:** U/9 Athletics @ QE
- Weds 22:** Reception visit to LBA
- Thurs 23:** Swimming (F1-6)
- Fri 24:** Celebration Assembly
- Mon 27:** Reception swimming for parents
- Tues 28:** KS2 Concert @ 2pm
- Weds 29:** ActiveKids Jess Clarke visit
- Thurs 30:** Swimming (F1-6); Friends of Ghyll Royd Parent House Quiz

May 2026

- Fri 1 May:** House Assembly
- Saturday 2:** PippaFest hosted by GRS
- Mon 4:** BANK HOLIDAY; Ilkley Carnival
- Tues 5-6:** WHARFEDALE FESTIVAL
- Weds 6:** Individual School Photos
- Thurs 7:** Swimming (F1-6)
- Fri 8:** Celebration Assembly; U11 Cricket @ Brackenfield
- Mon 11-Thurs 14:** SATS WEEK: FORM 6
- Mon 11:** Reception swimming
- Tues 12:** Form 1 & 2 trip to Cliffe Castle
- Thurs 14:** Swimming (F1-6)
- Fri 15:** Celebration Assembly; U11 Cricket @ QE
- Sat 16:** Friends of Ghyll Royd family fundraiser breakfast & walk
- Mon 18:** Reception swimming
- Tues 19:** Forms 3 & 4 Brownlee TRI event @ BGS
- Thurs 21:** Swimming (F1-6)
- Fri 22:** Celebration Assembly; **school closes – half term**
- Mon 25-Fri 29:** HOLIDAY SPORTS CAMP

June 2026

- Mon 8-Fri 12:** FORM 6 Residential & Enrichment Week
- Mon 8 June:** Reception swimming
- Tues 9:** U9 Rounders @ Richmond House
- Thurs 11:** Swimming (F1-5)
- Fri 12:** School Assembly
- Mon 15-Fri 19:** National School Sports Week
- Mon 15:** Reception swimming
- Weds 17:** Forms 5 & 6 trip to Women's T20 Cricket @ Headingley
- Thurs 18:** Swimming (F1-6)
- Fri 19:** Celebration Assembly; SPORTS DAY; Friends of Ghyll Royd Summer Sizzler
- Mon 22:** Reception swimming
- Tues 23:** Forms 5 & 6 trip: Holes performance @ Giggleswick
- Thurs 25:** Swimming (F1-6)
- Fri 26:** Celebration Assembly
- Mon 29 June – Thurs 2 July:** Reception Parents and Children's Transition
- Mon 29:** Reception swimming; Reception 26 Outdoor Discovery @11am with parents; Reception Parents Transition Meeting, 3pm
- Tues 30:** Reception 26 Outdoor Activities with Form 5

July 2026

- Weds 1 July:** Reception 26 Indoor Stay & Play with parents; Whole school transition morning
- Thurs 2:** Swimming (F1-6); Reception 26 Indoor Stay & Play with House Buddies
- Fri 3:** House Assembly; 1889 FOUNDATION DAY
- Mon 6:** Reception swimming
- Tues 7:** KS2 Performance Dress Rehearsal, 2pm
- Thurs 9:** KS1 Fun Swimming; KS2 Performance – Shakespeare Rocks, 5pm
- Fri 10:** Celebration Assembly; End of Year Reports to parents
- Mon 13:** Reception swimming; Parents Evening, 4-7pm
- Thurs 16:** KS2 Fun Swimming
- Fri 17:** End of Year Celebration, 2pm; **school closes for summer**
- SCHOOL RE-OPENS:** Mon 7 September 2026