

# FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER



## A message from Mrs Foston

As usual, February has flown by and spring is just around the corner! We are looking forward to some sunshine, lighter mornings and nights and to lots of exciting learning opportunities and events as our Spring Term continues.

## Welcome

We would like to welcome Mrs Jenna Goodyear, who is joining us as Administrator, to the Office team at St Gilbert's.



## Horizon Schools Federation Birthday

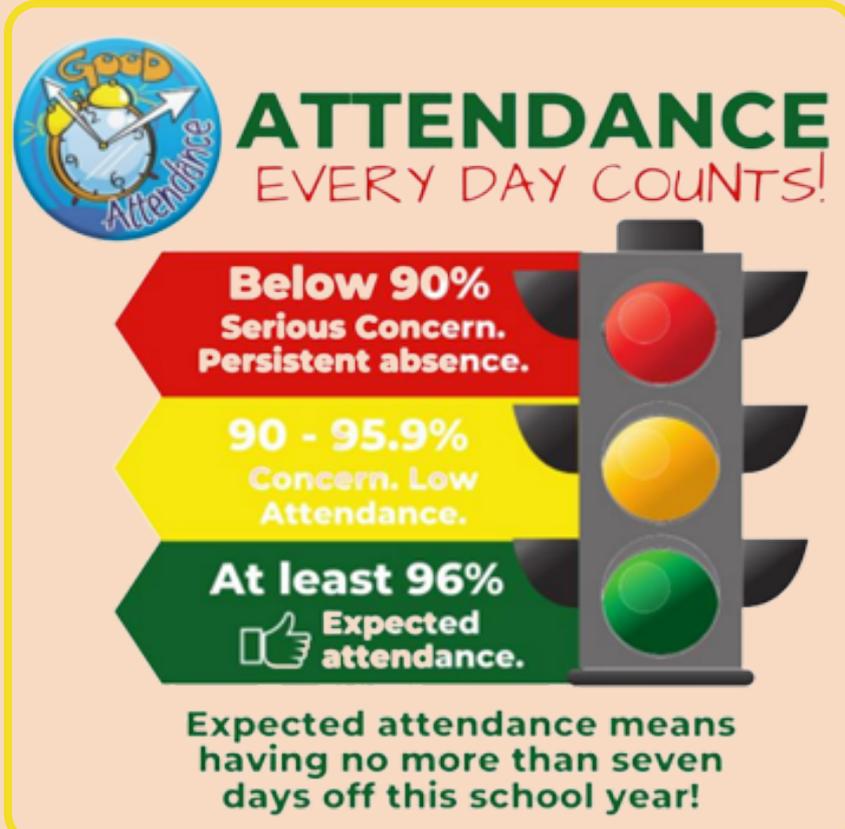
Horizon Schools Federation turned 1 years old on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2026.

This was a welcome opportunity to celebrate our 2 incredible schools and the wonderful achievements we have had since our partnership began. During the week, children across both schools were involved in enrichment and team building opportunities, working together to complete subject based challenges and activities and experiencing a wonderful visit from Zoo Lab to develop their scientific and geographical knowledge. A shared assembly, through the powers of technology, brought our children together once again in a joint celebration of togetherness and success. Happy Birthday HSF!



## Attendance

We understand that life sometimes presents exceptional circumstances. Our aim is to work with families to ensure children are supported while maintaining high standards of attendance. Please speak to us if you're unsure whether a leave request qualifies as exceptional



**ATTENDANCE**  
EVERY DAY COUNTS!

Attendance Percentage	Concern Level
Below 90%	Serious Concern. Persistent absence.
90 - 95.9%	Concern. Low Attendance.
At least 96%	Expected attendance.

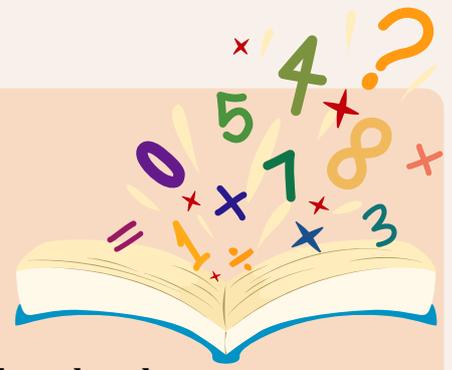
Expected attendance means having no more than seven days off this school year!

## SEND and Inclusion

Our Padlet is a resource library of information, printable resources and links to support you and your child. Follow our links below to have a look!



## Maths

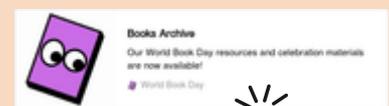
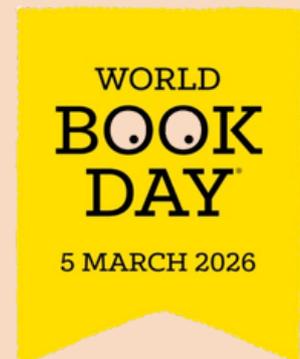


Next week our booster sessions begin across both schools to support Year 6 and Year 4 pupils in readiness for statutory assessments during the summer term. These sessions will be an opportunity for targeted tuition to develop confidence and increase knowledge and understanding. We strongly encourage all of our Year 6 and Year 4 pupils to attend these sessions. Please do sign up if you haven't already. Please do sign up if you haven't already via the 'Club' section of your Arbor Parent App.

## Reading

Next month we are excited to celebrate World Book Day! Each child should be coming home with a voucher which they can use at any large retailer that sells books. You can choose if you would like £1 off a book purchase or you can choose from the fabulous range of £1 books! Your children will recognise many of these amazing authors. Please follow this link for more details about the fabulous books on offer for 2026. Looking towards World Book Day, all classes are excited to take part in numerous activities including online author visits and draw alongs.

Just a reminder that this year we welcome all children (and staff of course) to come to school in their comfiest clothes that they enjoy reading in. This could be pyjamas, a onesie or even a cosy tracksuit. Children are also welcome to bring one of their favourite books from home into school to share within our paired reading activities.

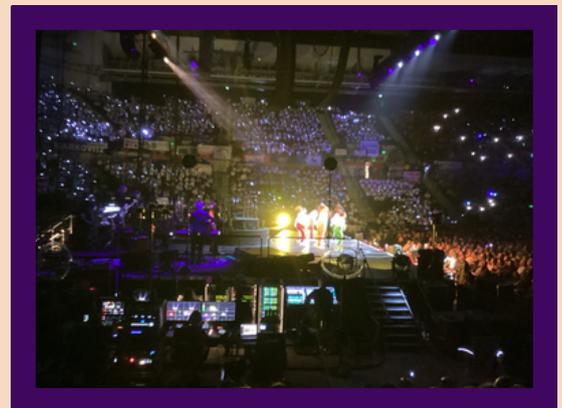




## Young Voices



On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February, the children from Donington and St Gilberts travelled to Sheffield to take part in Young Voices. It was an incredible day where the children were able to take part in one of the 'largest children's choir concerts in the world'. It was an amazing day of singing and dancing as part of the concert of 5,123 children. We sang songs ranging from a Wicked medley, a selection of sea shanties and a makaton signed song. We even took part in a hip hop dance off with the audience! The children were all super representatives and had a fantastic day. We can't wait until next years concert.



## School Council

### Time to talk

The school council recently planned and implemented a 'Walk and Talk' Lunchtime as part of the Mind Charity's Time to Talk Day. They challenged each other to share one thing that made them happy and one thing that made them a bit worried. In addition, the children were all provided with a Time to Talk Bingo card, with certificates presented to those who returned a completed card.



**WALK AND TALK  
LUNCHTIME**

**Big feelings or small feelings  
—it's good to share them all!**

### Red Nose Day

The School Council are currently busy making plans for Red Nose Day (Comic Relief). This year we will be having a non-uniform day where children are invited to wear red with silly/funny accessories!



School Council would also like to hold a bake sale after school on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March with all donations going to Comic Relief.

For this, we are welcoming donations of cakes, cookies and other sweet treats to help raise as much money as possible for this wonderful charity.





## Sports



A team of children from Years 5 & 6 travelled to Pinchbeck for the Elite Sports Cross Country event. On a freezing cold morning, the children all represented our school brilliantly and showed true resilience to complete the 1.5km course.

Our Year 3 and 4 children have started the early rounds of the New Age Kurling league so keep an eye on the website to see how they progress.

Coming up in March we have Y5/6 Bikeability, Girls Rugby Festival and an exciting new SEND Wheelchair Festival to attend.

Hopefully the weather will improve and we can start planning more outdoor activities with the children and introduce some new sports and games.



# PTFA

Over the coming weeks, the PTFA will be hard at work organising all of our upcoming Easter Events!

But first, we look back to last half term and our first event of 2026, a 'Spring Sling' Table-Top Sale! This saw members of the community and school coming together to sell their pre-loved items and enjoy a cup of tea and some yummy cakes! We will hopefully be running this event again later this year, so please start saving your unwanted items to sell so we can grow this event and raise even more for our school! We hope to see more of you there at the next one.

Looking forward to Easter, we are excited to announce the return of our very popular Easter Bonnet/Card competition! Use your crafting skills to design an Easter Bonnet, or why not decorate an Easter Greetings Card? Entries to be brought into reception by Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April in the morning (labelled with Name and Class), ready for judging later in the day.

Our Easter Squares competition will also be back with the chance to win Easter Eggs and other goodies. Squares will be on sale for £1 each from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at the gate before and after school. The more squares you have, the more chances to win! Winners will be drawn in school on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

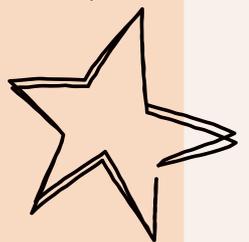
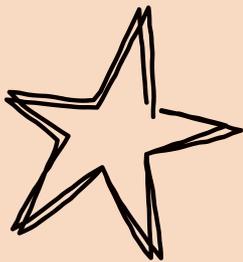
This year we will also be running a whole school Easter Egg Hunt! We are still planning this event, so more information will be available soon. For more information about our PTFA, what we are up to and how to get involved, please follow 'St Gilbert of Sempringham PTFA' on Facebook and Instagram (links below). Additionally, please speak to a member of the PTFA.



## Whole School Production

Having agreed dates with the village hall, we are delighted to confirm that this year's whole school production, led by Act II Theatre Company, has been arranged for 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026. Further details to follow regarding this year's production including tickets, timings costumes etc.

Save  
THE  
Date



# Important Dates - St Gilbert's

## March

- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> - Y5/6 Bikeability
- 4<sup>th</sup> - KS2 SEND Wheelchair Festival
- 5<sup>th</sup> - World Book Day
- 11<sup>th</sup> - Parent Consultations
- 16<sup>th</sup> - Wrates Photographers
- 18<sup>th</sup> - Roots to Food
- 20<sup>th</sup> - Y4/Y5/Y6 Girls rugby at Sleaford Rugby Club
- 20<sup>th</sup> - Red Nose Day
- 27<sup>th</sup> - Nursery - New intake parent coffee afternoon 2.15-3.00pm



## April

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Autism Awareness Day- Non- uniform- Wear it loud and Wear it proud- the brighter the better
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - PTFA Easter Egg Hunt
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Family Easter Celebration Assembly 2.15pm (all parents welcome)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - End of Spring Term
- 20<sup>th</sup> - Start of Summer Term 1
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Online Safety Workshops (Y5/6)



## May

- 4<sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday Monday
- 11<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> - KS2 SATs Week
- 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> - Whole School Production
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - End of Summer Term 1



## JUNE

- 15<sup>th</sup> - Sports Day (am)

