



Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

I'm not quite sure where the first half of the autumn term has gone to, but here we are! I have been so encouraged by the positive start the pupils have made to the new academic year and their commitment to trying their best in everything they do.

The classrooms are all now well established and it is particularly lovely to see our new Appleby group having lots of fun learning through the Early Years curriculum together. The class topics are all underway with a range of learning opportunities including the Romans and Victorians where the pupils have been discovering what it would be like to be a child in a different time. All the classes have enjoyed the usual variety of educational visits, ranging from playing tennis, to farm trips and pumpkin picking!

It was lovely to end the last week with a wonderful Harvest Festival celebration. The Windsor class led the school with their well-prepared assembly where they entertained everyone whilst also educating us all on the importance of fair trade. Thank you to all of you for sending in donations – these were beautifully presented on the Harvest table before being delivered to High Green food bank where they were gratefully received.

The final months of 2025 promise to be strong and I am so looking forward to the next half term. We hope to see some of you at the parents' evening meetings coming up on the first week back.

In amongst the continued learning, we have the usual seasonal events to look forward to, including Children in Need and, of course, all the excitement of Christmas!

Best wishes,

Lizzie

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Back to school: Monday 3rd November 2025

Children in Need: Friday 14th November 2025

Paces Ball: Saturday 29th November 2025

Christmas Concert (Evening): Tuesday 2nd December 2025

Class Christmas Celebration Performances:
Week Commencing 8th December 2025

Christmas Party & Lunch: Wednesday 17th December 2025

Finish for Christmas: Friday 19th December 2025

Back to School: Monday 5th January 2025

Balmoral Class:

What a fantastic term it's been diving into our topic *I Am Warrior*! The children have absolutely loved exploring the world of the Romans and it's been brilliant to see friendships grow stronger and new ones blossom along the way.

Balmoral have worked incredibly hard on their descriptive writing, experimenting with exciting adjectives and adverbs. They have especially thrived when writing their own soliloquies. They have confidently shared their creative ideas and supported each other with fantastic teamwork.

In maths, we've focused on times tables, addition, and subtraction, while also exploring the properties of 2D and 3D shapes and how they connect. It's been great to see the children's problem-solving skills shine!

Our science week was definitely the most exciting (and gross!) as we tackled the big question: *Did Romans use toilet roll?* Shockingly, they didn't! After a hilarious Roman toilet role play (20 people in one toilet—no thanks!), we tested materials for durability and absorbency, recording our own results like real scientists.

PE with Balmoral has been full of energy as we explored attacking and defending skills, with football being a firm favourite but competitive as always!

In history and geography, we've dug deeper into the Roman Empire, learning about gladiators, Roman life, and how their influence can still be seen today.

It's been an action-packed term, and we can't wait to see what's in store next!



Edinburgh Class:

Edinburgh Class have had a lovely half term. We are currently learning about Victorians and have enjoyed a day when a Victorian teacher came into school. We learnt how different schooling was! None of us want the cane please!

We are learning about writing diaries and have written entries about our days at school. We are now starting to think about a day in the life of a Victorian child and will write a diary entry as if we lived and went to school then! We've also been able to explore different Victorian artefacts, such as slates, pocket watches and ink writing pens. We've had fun learning about the history of our school. It used to be a factory, and we went back in time, getting messy with coal and pretending to work in an old factory. If we lived in Victorian times, a lot of our class would be too old to go to school and would have had to go to work in the factories! We're looking forward to learning more about Victorians next half term.

Also, this half term we've had Rosie, a musician, come into our class once a week to do a music session with us, which we have all loved. We're looking forward to making more music with Rosie next term!



Warwick Class:

This term we have enjoyed our topic 'Big Wide World'. The class have enjoyed learning all about our world. Exploring different maps, globes and our surrounding area.

The class have enjoyed sensory stories 'Lost in London', 'A Pirate Adventure' and 'All are Welcome'. They have been on a pirate treasure hunt around school; they have helped to add sound effects and used props to join in with all our sensory stories. In Maths we have been counting currant buns, teddies, ducks and pumpkins. Children have role played being a baker, making sensory currant buns.

Our class have been on lots of nature walks, looking at our changing environment as we go into Autumn, collecting leaves, acorns, pinecones, berries and conkers, then using these items to explore and create art. The children hand picked flowers to put in the vase they made using their handprint made from clay.

Warwick have been busy cooking a delicious harvest soup and homemade spaghetti. They have had lots of fun getting messy during our sensory play using pumpkin jelly, sensory soup, exploring the Antarctic with some icy water play, and the sandy African desert.

We have enjoyed lots of arts and crafts, making creative paintings, sensory postcards, and our very own designer bag!

Warwick have visited the local community, going to the library to join in with their Storytime sessions, we finished our term with a fantastic trip to Wentworth Garden Centre to carve pumpkins!

We hope you all have a fantastic October half term, we look forward to seeing you in November!



Appleby Class:

What a wonderful and busy half term it's been in Appleby Class!

We've had the pleasure of welcoming Clara and Jenson into our class, and they have both settled in so well. Our topic, "Big Wide World," has given us so many opportunities to explore, discover, and learn about the world around us.

We've been out and about in our local area, enjoying autumn walks, a visit to the library, and a lovely trip to the local farm shop, where we explored all the delicious fruit and vegetables on display. We even used some of our favourites to make soup and smoothies, which the children absolutely loved tasting!

The children had a fantastic time visiting Tiny Town, exploring the play areas and role-play activities. We've also been pumpkin mad this term, picking, exploring, and decorating them! And of course, we've celebrated some special birthdays too.

As part of our topic, we've been learning about different traditions and festivals around the world, including Yom Kippur, Harvest Festival, and Halloween. The children have enjoyed stories, crafts, and songs to help them understand the importance of kindness, reflection, and thankfulness.

It's been a wonderful half term full of fun, friendship, and learning. We're so proud of how well the children have engaged with every activity and experience.



Chatsworth Class:

Chatsworth have had a brilliant start to the new school year, with everyone settling back into the daily routine beautifully. Our new topic, 'Victorian Detectives', is very interesting and is enabling us to learn about the period in fun, multisensory ways. The core text has been *Alice in Wonderland*, which we have loved experiencing as a sensory story and in Music and Touch Communication, in the form of an immersive 'Journey into Wonderland' session. Our PSHE focus has been about teamwork, and we have been getting stuck into group projects related to our topic, such as planning and hosting The Mad Hatter's tea party, and producing a piece of class artwork (using our full bodies!) based on Vincent Van Gogh's *The Starry Night* painting. With the topic being history-centred, we have learnt all about different aspects of Victorian life including clothing, schooling, and leisure activities – we particularly enjoyed our experience of the Victorian seaside with sand, candyfloss, and fairground games! In Science, we have liked exploring Victorian innovation and advances in technology, including the telephone and the development of lightbulbs.



Hardwick Class:

What a wonderful and busy first half term we've had in Hardwick Class! The weeks have flown by, and we've packed in so many exciting adventures, creative moments, and learning experiences. Here's a little look back at everything we've been up to...

We kicked off the term by heading outside for our autumn walks, using all our senses to explore the changes around us. We listened to the crunch of leaves, felt the cool breeze, and spotted the beautiful colours of autumn everywhere we went.

Our sensory story sessions have been a big hit! Everyone got involved through touch, sound and smell as we brought our stories to life. There was lots of giggling, vocalising and even a few surprises along the way!

We took a fantastic trip to Weston Park Museum, where we explored fascinating objects and displays from the past.

To celebrate the Harvest Festival, we created our very own veg babies with googly eyes and silly smiles! Our vegetable friends were a hit.

Our visit to Farmer Copley's Pumpkin Patch was a highlight of the half term. We chose the perfect pumpkins, some big, some tiny, and even a few wobbly ones and listened all about how they grow!

To finish off our half term, we got spooky with some Halloween crafts and a fabulous party—full of laughter, dancing, and treats!



Windsor Class:

Windsor have had an exciting and busy time preparing for the Harvest Festival. We learned about Fair Trade for farmers and went to the local shops to find Fair Trade ingredients to make cakes for our bun sale. This linked to our maths topic on money, as we found out how much a banana costs to buy and how much the farmer would be paid for it. With the help of Pablo the Super Banana, we delivered a slick harvest festival with all the students signing, acting and speaking their parts brilliantly.

Our Forces and Motion Science topic has been fantastic. We have done lots of practical investigation: for example, exploring friction and electrostatic and magnetic non-contact forces. We had experience of a low friction surface when we went curling at Ice Sheffield, which was fun with some great competition.

Our trip also involved us buying tram tickets to Meadowhall where we all bought our own lunches. The students were all proud of their independence, paying for their chosen meals.

Students have all worked really hard this term, making excellent progress in phonics and maths – and showing impressive ambition and determination in their physical tasks. Life skills and communication have been key priorities this term, with students planning and cooking their own special Halloween themed party lunch, after shopping for the ingredients: a well-deserved reward after all their hard work



Durham Class:

What an exciting half-term we have had! As you know, the children have been learning about the Victorians, particularly focusing on schools. They have really enjoyed this topic!

The highlight of our learning was Victorian Day, where we partnered with another class to experience a day in the life of a Victorian child at school. The students practised writing on slates, learned about discipline methods such as the cane, and discovered the toys that children played with during that time.

Additionally, the children have thoroughly enjoyed our PE sessions, where we played traditional Victorian games, including "Wink-Wink Sleep," marbles, and pass the objects.



Wentworth Class:

It's been another fantastic and busy half term for Wentworth Class! The pupils have shown such enthusiasm, determination, and positivity across all their learning. We're so proud of everything they've achieved!

This term, the pupils enjoyed a brilliant trip to Manor Lodge, where they explored the history of Mary Queen of Scots and discovered what life was like when she stayed there. Everyone loved exploring the grounds, asking fantastic questions, and bringing our History topic to life. It was a wonderful day full of curiosity and excitement!

Our weekly tennis lessons at Thorncliffe Tennis Centre have been a real highlight. Pupils have focused on improving their hand-eye coordination through fun games and rally challenges, as well as developing their wheelchair skills on court. Each week, confidence has grown — and the determination from all pupils has been inspiring. Well done, team Wentworth!

In our Task Series, pupils have made fantastic physical progress this term. The focus has been on standing activities, where pupils have practiced standing either independently or using the ladder for support. Their enthusiasm, teamwork, and perseverance have been brilliant to see. Every pupil should be so proud of what they've achieved!

Wentworth Class has continued to make tremendous progress in the 'Little Wandle' phonics scheme. Reading confidence has grown across the class, with pupils recognising more sounds, blending accurately, and showing a real love for stories. We are also excited to share that a brand-new reading corner is being created — ready for pupils to enjoy after half term! It will be a calm and cozy space to relax and share books together.

We couldn't be prouder of all the pupils in Wentworth Class. Their positivity, hard work, and kindness make every day a joy. A huge thank you to families for your continued support — it makes such a difference. Have a wonderful and restful half term break, and we look forward to another exciting term of learning ahead



Outreach Class:

What a wonderful and busy term it's been! Our topic this term was *"People Who Help Us,"* and we've had so much fun learning about all the different people who make our community a better place.

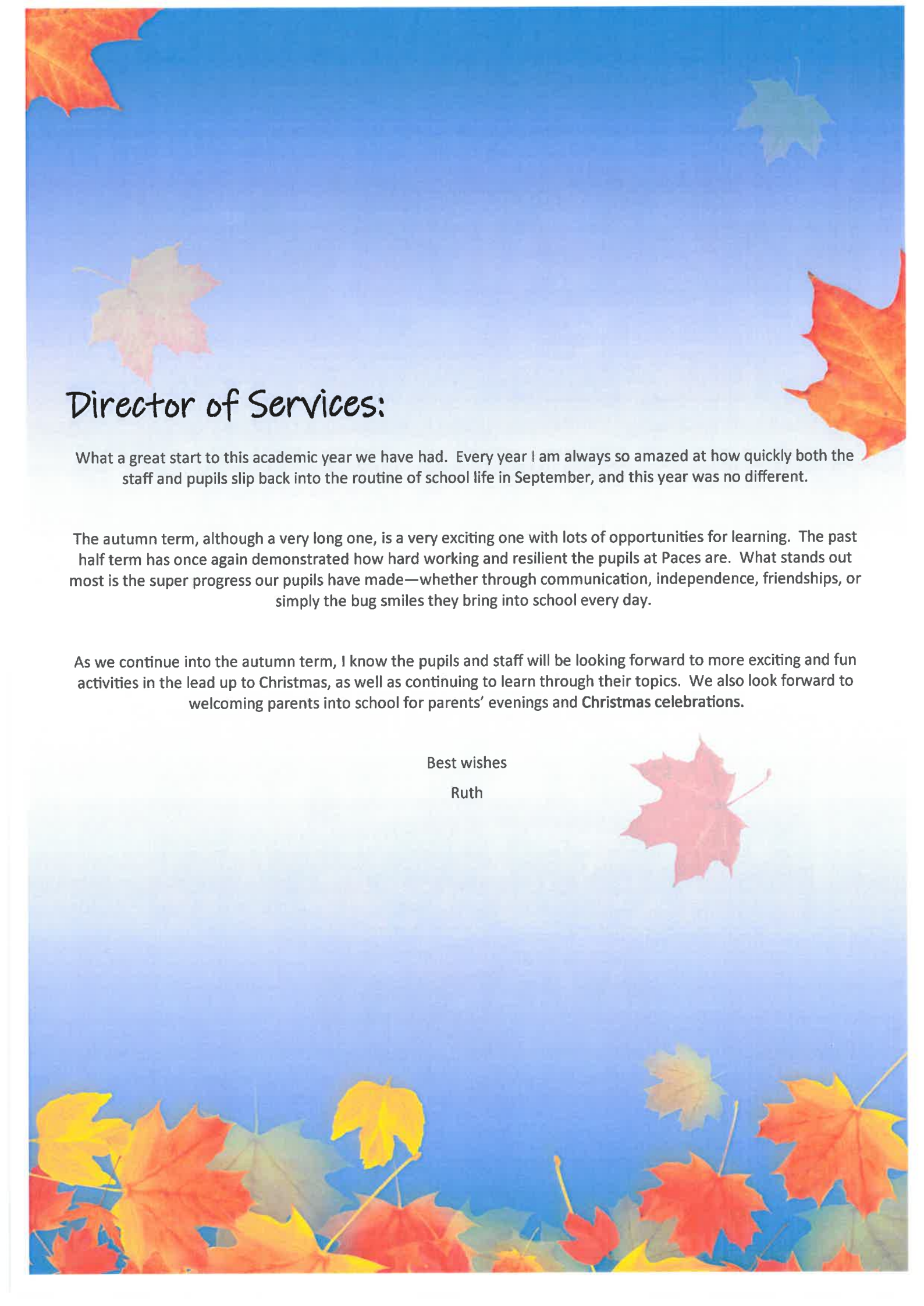
Through exciting pretend play, the children took on many important roles — from brave firefighters and caring doctors to hardworking builders and farmers. They enjoyed dressing up, exploring real-life tools, and acting out how these helpers support us every day.

Our little learners also worked incredibly hard on developing their physical skills. Whether climbing, lifting, digging, or role-playing emergency rescues, they stayed active and motivated throughout the term.

We are so proud of their enthusiasm, teamwork, and imagination. It's been a joyful term full of learning, laughter, and helping hands!







Director of Services:

What a great start to this academic year we have had. Every year I am always so amazed at how quickly both the staff and pupils slip back into the routine of school life in September, and this year was no different.

The autumn term, although a very long one, is a very exciting one with lots of opportunities for learning. The past half term has once again demonstrated how hard working and resilient the pupils at Paces are. What stands out most is the super progress our pupils have made—whether through communication, independence, friendships, or simply the big smiles they bring into school every day.

As we continue into the autumn term, I know the pupils and staff will be looking forward to more exciting and fun activities in the lead up to Christmas, as well as continuing to learn through their topics. We also look forward to welcoming parents into school for parents' evenings and Christmas celebrations.

Best wishes

Ruth

