

# Central News

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[www.central.doncaster.sch.uk](http://www.central.doncaster.sch.uk)

 Balby Central Primary Academy

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## News

Welcome back and Happy New Year.

It has been a fantastic start back to school. Take a look to find out why...

### Year 5 - Austerfield

Year 5 book launch: Polar Bear Explorers Club.

A trip to Austerfield Study Centre put the survival skills to the test for our children in year 5. They had an amazing time learning how to build a shelter amongst other exciting things.



### Year 2's - Golden Egg Find

Can you believe it?

Year 2 discovered a golden egg on our playground. They have investigated where the egg may have come from and concluded that it could belong to the dragon in their new reading book.

Wow! Great skills Year 2!



### Choir

Choir began this week ready for Young Voices. If your child attends choir, they must attend rehearsals from now until Young Voices please, this will ensure we are ready for the amazing concert. Thanks

### Year 6 - SATs Meeting

Year 6 parents were invited this week to attend a SATs Awareness Meeting. In this meeting, the format of the tests were explained and information shared. Please see your child's class teacher if you were unable to attend and wish to know the information. Thank you to those who did attend.

### Year 1 - Guess who came to tea

We had lots of animals in school this week in Year 1. Were they animals, or were they the children launching their new book, The Tiger Who Came to Tea?

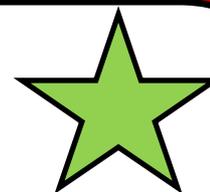
Thank you for the imagination and creativity behind all the costumes, the children looked amazing.

### Teacher Training

This week, all staff became musicians whilst improving our knowledge and skills to enhance our musical teaching further. We had great fun learning more about using Charanga as our music platform and cannot wait to be inspired with the children and their musical creativity.



# Attendance



Whole School Attendance – 94.3%

Highest Class – Green with 99.5% - Wow! Children with 100% - 373

## Do you know what each attendance mark means for your child?

There are only 6 marks that do not affect your child's overall attendance figure. These are Present (/ or \), Educated Off-Site (B), Dual Registered (D), Sporting Activity (P), Educational Trip (V) and Late (L). Any other time that your child is absent will affect their overall attendance. As well as this, children who are late and arrive after registration has closed, which is at **9:20am** at our school, will result in an Arrival after registration mark (U) and will affect your child's attendance. Children who are consistently late, whether this is a L or a U mark are less likely to achieve and grow to the best of their ability, being on time to school is a very important part of a child's education.



Code	Definition	Scenario
/	Present (am)	Pupil is present at morning registration
\	Present (pm)	Pupil is present at afternoon registration
L	Late arrival	Pupil arrives late before register has closed
B	Off-site educational activity	Pupil is at a supervised off-site educational activity approved by the school
D	Dual registered	Pupil is attending a session at another setting where they are also registered
P	Sporting activity	Pupil is participating in a supervised sporting activity approved by the school
V	Educational trip or visit	Pupil is on an educational visit/trip organised, or approved, by the school
C	Authorised leave of absence	Pupil has been granted a leave of absence due to exceptional circumstances
E	Excluded	Pupil has been excluded but no alternative provision has been made
I	Illness	School has been notified that a pupil will be absent due to illness
M	Medical/dental appointment	Pupil is at a medical or dental appointment
R	Religious observance	Pupil is taking part in a day of religious observance
G	Unauthorised holiday	Pupil is on a holiday that was not approved by the school
O	Unauthorised absence	School is not satisfied with reason for pupil's absence
U	Arrival after registration	Pupil arrived at school after the register closed
Z	Pupil not on admission register	Register set up but pupil has not yet joined the school
#	Planned school closure	Whole or partial school closure due to half-term/bank holiday/INSET day

## Things you need to know

Please see important upcoming events below - see your child's class teacher should you require more information.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Whole School</b></p> <p>18.01 - School Celebration - 'Oh I do like to be beside the seaside.' <i>Special lunch</i> for those choosing a school meal.</p> <p>18.01 <i>Choir</i> children must attend rehearsals after school in preparation for Young Voices.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Early Years</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PE Day - Friday</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 1</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PE Day - Monday</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 2</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PE Day - Tuesday</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 3</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PE Day - Monday</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 4</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PE Day - Friday</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 5</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PE Day - Thursday</b></p> <p>17.01 <b>Basketball Competition</b> You will be informed if your child is taking part.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year 6</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PE Day - Tuesday</b></p> <p>17.01 <b>Basketball Competition</b> You will be informed if your child is taking part.</p>

### Half Term Diary Dates

26th January - **Trust Choir** will visit Crowle Primary.

31st January - The Fire Engine will visit **Year 2**.

6th February - Internet Safety Day in school for **all children**.

6th February - **Year 3 and 4** Dodgeball competition @ Hatchell Wood.

7th February - 2.30pm **Year 2** Samba performance to parents

8th February - **School closes** to all children

9th February - Teacher Training Day

### After School Clubs

A Microsoft Form was released today for After School Clubs. Confirmation of successfully securing a place will be sent to parents on Monday - please do not assume your child has a place at the requested club until the confirmation text arrives.

The clubs this half term are as follows:

Tues - crochet club 3.15 - 4.15pm (not open for booking)

Wed - Art Y5, Y6 3.15 - 4.15pm

Wed - ACMAC - Y3, Y4, Y5 3.15 - 4.15pm

Thu - TTRS - Y4 3.15 - 4.15pm

Fri - Leger Sport Y1, Y2, Y3 3.15 - 4.15pm

### Entering and Leaving School

We are encouraging children to be more independent.

Please encourage your child to carry their own belongings to and from school. We will remind them on the gate and as they leave school.

## Assemblies this week

### Picture News

A 10-year-old child has launched a petition calling for Apple to change the glasses emoji, also known as the 'nerd' emoji, as he says it gives the wrong impression of glasses wearers.

**Talk to your child:** What do the emojis mean and how could they make someone feel?

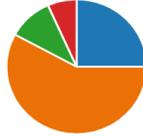
### Safeguarding

In our safeguarding assembly this week we have been learning about keeping safe online. We all know it is exciting to use the internet and there are lots of things we can find out but it is important that we keep safe at the same time. Please take some time to **talk to your child** about keeping safe when they are using the internet and check the age restrictions of apps they are using.

## Parent

### Voice

**We said:** I feel like my child is made to feel included in Balby Central and its wider community.



**You said:** 165 responses

25% Strongly agree  
58% Agree  
10% Disagree  
7% Strongly disagree

We pride ourselves on being an inclusive school and endeavour in every way to make all children feel welcome. Please speak to us on the gate if you wish to raise and concerns regarding this.

## Safeguarding

We all know the importance of a good night's **sleep**. Sometimes it can be tricky to get your child to go to bed. This week's picture link has some healthy sleep tips to support if you need a bit of help.



## PRIMARY ADMISSIONS FOR 2024

APPLY NOW!

Apply for Primary School for your child now. They will start in September 2024. Now accepting admissions for children moving from Nursery to Reception and Year 2 to Year 3 (Junior Schools only)

## Is your house a healthy home?

Click on the picture for the checklist to see how healthy your home is.

### Healthy Homes Checklist

**FIRE SAFETY**  
Fire hazards are a serious threat to health. All attempts should be made by a landlord to help reduce the risk of them occurring, or causing serious injury. Things to look out for include:

- Smoke alarms: Are there smoke alarms on each floor? If the alarm has a flashing light, it is working properly. You can also push the button to test the alarm.
- Fire Extinguishers: Can you see any fire extinguishers or blankets? Are they in date?
- Are there any fire doors?
- Have you asked the landlord to show you the fire escape route? Is it kept clear and is it easy to access?

**ELECTRICAL HAZARDS**  
It is important to ensure that electrics in your house are in working order. Faulty or damaged electrics can be extremely hazardous to your health, as well as having the potential to cause fires or damage property. When viewing a property, you should look out for:

- Are there any damaged power or extension cables?
- Do any cables or extension cables run under furniture or rugs, that could be easily damaged?
- Are any sockets overloaded (where lots of appliances are plugged into a single socket)?
- Are there any leaks or water sources near sockets or appliances?
- Switch on all lights as you look around the rooms to check they are working.

**LIGHT AND VENTILATION**  
Ventilation is important for tackling mould and condensation, as well as cooling your home during the summer months. Air flow can also help alleviate symptoms of asthma, hay fever, and reduce the likelihood of spreading infectious diseases. To ensure a house has sufficient light and ventilation:

- Can you open the windows?
- Are there air vents, particularly in the kitchen or bathroom, and do they work/can they be opened?
- Do all lights work? Check they light up spaces such as stairs and bathrooms to prevent trips and falls.
- Is there enough natural light? Think about what it will be like to live in key locations like bedrooms and living areas.

**ENERGY**  
A well-insulated home will keep you warmer in winter and will be cheaper to heat. There are several ways to check if the house you are looking to rent is insulated:

- Check that radiators are not covered by furniture
- Turn the heating system on (or ask the landlord to), does the entire surface of the radiator feel warm?
- Turn the hot water on to check the boiler works.
- Check behind any furniture that there is no damp, mould or damage (furniture that touches walls can cause damp to form).
- If the property has a gas cooker, gas boiler, or gas fireplace, check for a carbon monoxide detector. Test the detector to check it works.

[www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk/healthy-homes](http://www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk/healthy-homes) Doncaster Council

## When was the last time you checked in on your neighbour?

**#ChooseKindess** by checking in on friends, family and neighbours this winter. Not everyone will ask for help, but that doesn't mean they don't need it!

Pop over and see if there is anything they might need.

For winter support, click:

**Be a good neighbour this winter**

**Ask**

Not everyone will ask for help, but that doesn't mean they don't need it. Always ask if there is anything you can do to help.

[YourLifeDoncaster.co.uk/Winter](http://YourLifeDoncaster.co.uk/Winter)