



John Blow Primary School
Weekly Bulletin – Friday 24th July 2026



Update to parents
Friday 24th July 2026

As we reach the end of another academic year, we would like to wish our Year 6 pupils every success as they move on to their next challenges and begin their secondary school journeys.

Their time at John Blow Primary School has not always been the easiest, and they have faced a number of challenges along the way. However, they have shown great resilience, determination and perseverance in overcoming these obstacles. As a cohort, they performed extremely well in their KS2 assessments, but more importantly, they have developed the character, confidence and independence that will help them as they move into KS3 and beyond.

We hope that our Year 6 pupils leave John Blow with many happy memories, a sense of pride in all that they have achieved, and the skills, values and foundations needed to succeed in life. They will always remain part of the John Blow family, and we look forward to hearing about the wonderful things they go on to achieve.

To all our other pupils, we would also like to say a huge well done for navigating a year that has brought its own challenges and difficulties. Your hard work, kindness and commitment to learning have been fantastic to see, and we are incredibly proud of each and every one of you.

Now it is time to enjoy a well-earned break. Take time to rest, recharge and reset ready for another exciting year of learning, growth and opportunity when we return in September 2026. We cannot wait to see what the next chapter brings for our John Blow community.

A huge thank you also goes to Friends of John Blow for organising the fantastic inflatables afternoon. It was a wonderful way for our pupils to celebrate the end of the year, have fun with their friends and create some more happy memories together.

We are incredibly grateful for the time, effort and commitment that goes into organising events like this. Your continued support makes such a positive difference to our school community and helps provide our children with experiences that they will remember for years to come.

Below is a summary of the favourite memories from this year; it is clear to see which year group dominated the responses – we start the year with PGL to build positive relationships to lay the foundations for learning and this central provides a core memory for our learners – we look forward to attending with the new Year 6 learners in September!



John Blow Primary School at Collingham Cricket Week

Thank you to Rob for organising and captaining the team for cricket week – not the results we would have wished for but a great experience – thanks to Shiv for representing Team John Blow. We'll be there again next year!



IMPORTANT- Acknowledgement of School Reports

School reports have now been shared with families. To help us confirm that reports have been received, we kindly ask all parents and carers to complete the short Microsoft Form sent alongside the report. This will act as your acknowledgement of receipt and will help us ensure that every family has successfully accessed their child's report. Thank you for taking a few moments to complete the form (see link below):

<https://forms.office.com/e/CfFLVbAGaF>

Family update evenings

Thank you to those who have responded to the end of year survey. I am pleased to be able to share the dates for the Autumn Term Family Update evenings with you; we have scheduled these for the start of Autumn Term 2 to allow children time to settle into their new classes – bookings will be made available closer to the time on the Arbor app (see below).

We will be returning to the model of 2 face-to-face meetings with teachers next year; this was not the case this year due to the disruptions caused by the flood in January; there has been so much upheaval in school with all the delays and building work that we have prioritised ensuring that opportunities for learning have been central to our focus during this academic year.

The dates are as follows:

- Monday 2nd November – 4.00pm – 7.00pm
- Monday 9th November – 3.45pm – 6.00pm



CLEARING ACCOUNTS ON SCHOOL MONEY – ARBOR UPDATE

From September, we will be transferring our booking system and lunch menus over to Arbor. This change will mean that more of our school systems are managed under one umbrella, helping to streamline communication and make things easier for families.

Before we break up for the summer, please ensure that any outstanding balances or accounts on School Money are cleared. This will help us to make the transition as smooth as possible.

If you have any questions, concerns or queries regarding this change, please do not hesitate to contact the school office, who will be happy to help.

INSET Days for the 2026–2027 Academic Year

The Governing Body has now approved the INSET (staff training) days for the 2026–2027 academic year.

These days have been carefully planned to support the priorities identified within our School Improvement Plan and will enable staff to undertake professional development that strengthens teaching, learning and the provision we offer to all children.

The approved INSET days are:

- **Tuesday 1st September 2026**
- **Wednesday 2nd September 2026**
- **Monday 23rd November 2026** – Whole-school training delivered by an external provider
- **Monday 22nd February 2027**
- **Wednesday 28th July 2027** – End of year staff training and school improvement planning

As these dates are designated training days, **children will begin the 2026–2027 academic year on Thursday 3rd September 2026.**

We hope that providing these dates well in advance will support families with their planning for the next academic year.

Photographs on the website...

Transition week 2026 (updated with more pictures)

<https://www.johnblowprimaryschool.co.uk/gallery/?pid=46&qcatid=38&albumid=271>

FoJB inflatables afternoon

<https://www.johnblowprimaryschool.co.uk/gallery/?pid=46&qcatid=38&albumid=276>

Y6 Leavers' trip to Slick City

<https://www.johnblowprimaryschool.co.uk/gallery/?pid=151&qcatid=46&albumid=275>

Year 6 bike ride to South Clifton

<https://www.johnblowprimaryschool.co.uk/gallery/?pid=151&qcatid=46&albumid=277>

Summer Term 2 Merits

Well done to this term's merit recipients:

EYFS	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Edward Daisy P Otis	Sofia Ollie	Meshach Ophelia Josie	Myah Max Ella	Zachary Elliot Eli	Lottie Beatrice Freddie	Lillian Ben George

Year 6 Awards

Well done to our Y6 award winners:

Voted by staff:

Sports Personality- Evie
Musician – Hannah C
Scientist – Angus
Mathematician- Ben
Writer – Pippa
Reader – Imogen
Artist- Betsy B
Leadership- Lillian
Resilience – Hannah W
Determination – Jessica
Enterprise – Caitlin

Voted by peers:

Focused and prepared – Zoe
Looking after our school – Daisy
Kind and thoughtful – Lexi
Respect – Izabella
Being the best they can be – Rafe

A Reminder from Collingham Tennis Club

The mini courts at Collingham Tennis Club are FREE to use during school holidays and at weekends. Rackets and balls are also FREE to use and are kept in the wooden box on the mini courts. Children should be accompanied by an adult while using the mini courts.

Mini court availability:

- Weekends free availability
- Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings

School holidays:

- w/c 27 July availability all day every day
- w/c 3 August, 10 August, 17 August, 24 August
- Monday available after 2.30pm
- Tuesday available all day
- Wednesday available after 2.30pm
- Thursday available all day
- Friday available after 2.30pm

James Wheatley, Head Coach, will be running Tennis Camps from 9.00am – 2.00pm during w/c 3, 10, 17 and 24 August every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. For further information, please contact James on 07985 643239.

AUGUST HOLIDAY TENNIS CAMPS

@ **COLLINGHAM TC**

1 Cottage Lane
Collingham
Newark
NG23



9AM-2PM

ALL DATES IN AUGUST:

3RD, 5TH, 7TH, 10TH,
12TH, 14TH, 17TH, 19TH,
21ST, 24TH, 26TH, 28TH



SUITABLE FOR
ALL ABILITIES, AGES 4-16



FUN GAMES - IMPROVE FITNESS
AND CONFIDENCE - DEVELOP
TECHNIQUE - MATCH PLAY



£25
PER DAY



PLEASE BRING
YOUR OWN LUNCH
AND DRINK



CONTACT COACH JAMES
07985643239



JPWheatleyTennis@gmail.com



FULLY QUALIFIED COACHES (DBS CHECKED, FIRST AID & SAFEGUARDING TRAINED)



Summer Reading Challenge 2026

Read to the Beat at Nottinghamshire Inspire Nottinghamshire Libraries 4 July- 6 September

Join the FREE Summer Reading Challenge and earn rewards for reading.

This year's theme is Read to the Beat, celebrating the joy of music and reading.

Flexible for all reading levels the Challenge is great opportunity for children to find the books they love. For children aged 4- 11 Summer Reading Challenge 2026: Read to the Beat at Nottinghamshire Inspire libraries 4 July – 6 September.

This summer Inspire libraries will be asking children find their reading rhythm in the Summer Reading Challenge 2026: Read to the Beat. Children select and complete six reading goals of their choice over the summer, collecting rewards along the way. Every child who completes the challenge will receive a certificate and medal.

Produced by The Reading Agency and delivered in partnership with libraries across the country the Summer Reading Challenge is a great opportunity for children to find books they love. They choose what they want to read – story books, information books, e-books, audio books, poetry, comic, joke books, and graphic novels, all reading counts –children set the tempo!

Read to the Beat is running in all Inspire libraries until Sunday 6 September, suitable for children aged 4 – 11. It's completely FREE to take part. Under 4s can take part in our mini challenge too. Find out more at www.inspireculture.org.uk/summerreadingchallenge

READ to the BEAT

Summer Reading Challenge 2026: Read to the Beat is at all Nottinghamshire Inspire Libraries
Saturday 4 July - Sunday 6 September

Step 1: Join the Challenge at the library*

Children receive

- Read to the Beat sticker booklet
- Bookmark
- Storytime Magazine



Step 2: Start Reading!

Borrow and read books from the library to complete reading goals. For every book read or goal reached there are stickers and character cards to collect.

Children choose their own reading goals and what books they want to read.



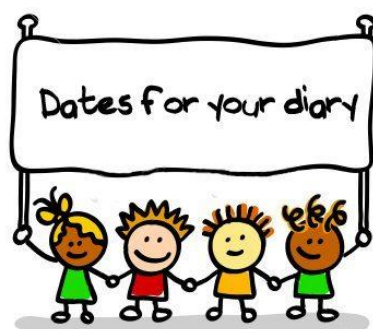
Step 3: Complete 6 reading goals

Children who complete 6 reading goals claim a medal and certificate.



It's FREE to join.

Materials outlined are available in Inspire Nottinghamshire Libraries.
Other authorities may vary.



See you on Thursday 3rd September for the start of the 2026-2027 academic year!

Below are some key events for the Autumn Term

Year group(s)	Event	Dates
Y6	PGL Residential	7 th – 9 th September 2026
Y1	Phonics introduction – drop in morning (in hall)	7 th September- 8.50am-9.30am
EYFS	Inspire Transition Music Event	Wednesday 9 th September 2026
Y2	Phonics introduction – drop in morning (in hall)	14 th September- 8.50am-9.30am
EYFS	Phonics introduction – drop in morning (in hall)	21 st September- 8.50am-9.30am
Whole School	Merit Assembly	Thursday 15 th October
Whole School	Wear what makes you feel wonderful day and FOJB Disco	Thursday 15 th October
Whole School	BBC Concert Orchestra performing in school	Friday 16 th October 2026
Whole School	Break up for half term	3.30pm – Friday 16 th October 2026
Whole school	Start of Autumn Term 2	Monday 2 nd November 2026
Whole School	Family update evening 1	Monday 2 nd November 2026 – 4pm – 7pm
Whole School	National Youth Choir Tour	Wednesday 4 th November 2026
Whole School	Family update evening 2	Monday 9 th November 2026 – 3.45pm – 6pm
School Choir	William Bailey Singing Event	Afternoon of Wednesday 18 th November 2026
Whole School	Inset Day training	Monday 23 rd November 2026
EYFS and KS1 (+KS2 siblings)	Musical Performance to parents	2pm – Wednesday 2 nd December 2026
School Choir	An Inspired Christmas Concert @ The Royal Concert Hall	Monday 7 th December 2026
KS1	Nativity Performance	5pm – Thursday 10 th December 9.15am – Friday 11 th December
Whole School	Visit to Newark Palace Theatre – Pantomime	Tuesday 15 th December (pm)
KS2	Musical performance to parents	2pm – Wednesday 16 th December
Whole School	FOJB Christmas disco	Thursday 17 th December 2026
Whole School	Autumn Term 2 Merit Assembly	Friday 18 th December 2026
Whole School	Christmas parties	Friday 18 th December 2026
Whole School	Break up for Christmas	3.30pm – Friday 18 th December