Being our Best Selves
Ludworth Primary School
Ludworth Life
6th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome Back!

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back after half term and to see the school buzzing with energy and enthusiasm once again. Thank you to all our families for ensuring children returned looking so smart and ready for learning. A particular thank you goes to everyone who made the effort for our individual and sibling photographs this week. The children looked fantastic and we look forward to receiving the photographs soon.

Learning Highlights

Building New Friendships Across Schools

Hare Class have enjoyed spending time virtually getting to know children from our linking school, **St John's**. These sessions provide a valuable opportunity for pupils to develop new friendships, learn about different experiences and celebrate both similarities and differences with children from another community.

Year 4's Greek Adventures

Year 4 have certainly had a busy and exciting week! Alongside taking part in their Forest School sessions, the children have been planning trips to Greece and using their growing knowledge of Ancient Greece to create freeze frames as part of their drama work on Greek myths. The creativity, teamwork and enthusiasm on display have been wonderful to see.

Supporting Our Community

Our Head and Deputy Head Councillors have been busy ensuring that all of the generous donations made by families for our Harvest Festival were delivered to the local **Marple Food Bank**. We are incredibly proud of the way our children demonstrate kindness and community spirit, and we would like to thank everyone who contributed so generously.

Reading and Phonics Information Session

Thank you to all of our **Reception** parents who attended this week's Reading and Phonics Information Sessions. The event was very well attended and we were delighted to receive such positive feedback. Parents shared that they found the session helpful and supportive in understanding how reading and phonics are taught in school and how they can support learning at home.

Remembrance Poppies

A reminder that **poppies will still be on sale next week**. Thank you for supporting this important cause and helping children understand the significance of remembrance.

Spotlight on Learning: Oracy at Ludworth

This week's spotlight focuses on Oracy at Ludworth Primary School.

At Ludworth, we place great importance on developing children's speaking and listening skills. Oracy helps children to express themselves confidently, share their ideas clearly, listen respectfully to others and participate effectively in discussions. These skills are essential not only for success in school but also for life beyond the classroom.

Through activities such as partner talk, class discussions, presentations, debates and collaborative learning opportunities, we support children in becoming confident communicators who can articulate their thoughts and opinions effectively.

Please take a few moments to read this week's spotlight information to find out more about how we develop and nurture these vital skills across the school.

Looking Ahead

Next week we look forward to:

- Another New Parent Tour for prospective families.
- Our Stay and Play session.
- The PTA Meeting at **5:00pm on Monday** at school to discuss plans for the Christmas Fair.

We hope to see many of you there as we begin preparations for what promises to be another wonderful festive event.

A Safety Reminder

As the weather continues to change and conditions become wetter, please remember to access the school site via the **pedestrian ramp** and not the car park ramp. This helps to keep everyone safe at busy times of the day, particularly as surfaces become more slippery and visibility can be reduced.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep our school community safe.

Wishing You a Wonderful Weekend

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. Together, we continue to make Ludworth a fantastic place for children to learn, grow and be their very best selves.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Walker

Head Teacher

KEY DATES

2027 Reception Parent Tour
9th November - 9.30am-10.30am
PTA Meeting
9th November - 5.00pm
2027 Reception Stay and Play Session
12th November - 9.30am-10.30 am
Year 4 Greek Experience Day
16th November
Year 6 SATs Meeting for Parents
16th November - 4.30pm-5.00pm
Year 4 Multiplication Check Meeting for Parents
17th November - 4.30pm-5.00pm
Year 6 Crucial Crew Vlsit
23rd Nlovember - 12.00pm-3.00pm
PTA Christmas Fair
27th November - 3.30pm-6.00pm
Barn Owl ParentAppointment
30th November - 3.30pm-5.30pm
Whole School Parent Appointments
1st December - 3.30pm-7.30pm
Whole School Parent Appontments
2nd December - 3.30pm-5.30pm
SCHOOL CLOSED - INSET DAY
4TH DECEMBER

2026 NOVEMBER

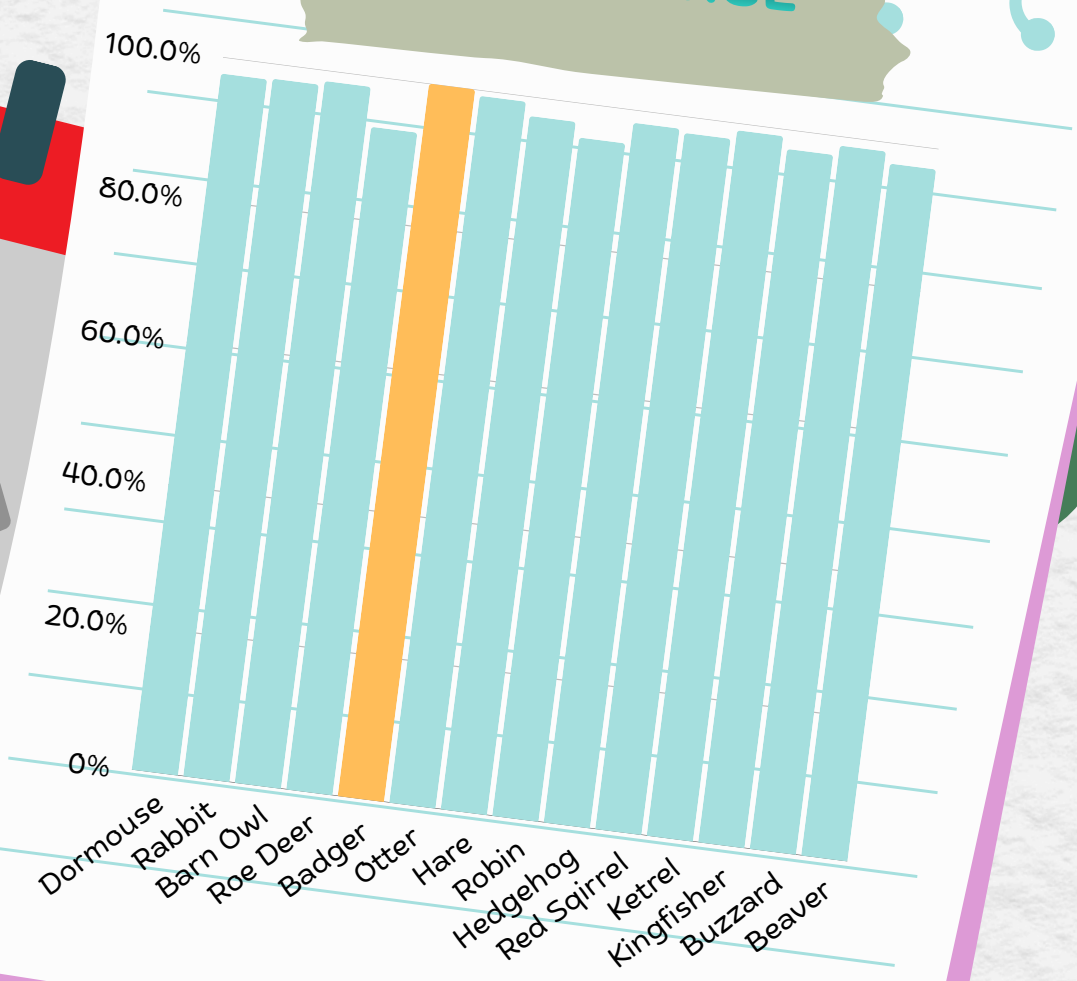
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2	3	4	5	6	7
9	10	11	12	13	14
16	17	18	19	20	21
23	24	25	26	27	28
30					



Congratulations BADGER CLASS for 100% attendance this week

Whole School Attendance - 97.4%

ATTENDANCE



Oracy at Ludworth

Giving every child the confidence and skills to speak, listen and be heard.

At Ludworth, we believe that every child deserves to have a voice and feel confident using it! This is why we have been developing **Oracy** across the whole school, from Reception through to Year 6.

But what exactly is Oracy?

Oracy is the ability to communicate effectively through speaking and listening. It is about giving children the skills they need to express their thoughts and ideas clearly, share their opinions, explain their thinking and communicate confidently with others.

Just as we teach children to read and write, we believe it is equally important to teach them how to speak and listen effectively. These are skills that will support them not only throughout their time at school but also in their future lives.

The Four Strands of Oracy

Oracy is made up of four key strands, each focusing on a different aspect of effective communication:

- **Physical:** How we use our bodies and voices when communicating, including eye contact, facial expressions, gestures, posture, volume and tone.
- **Linguistic:** The words and language we use, including vocabulary, sentence structure and choosing language that is appropriate for different situations.
- **Cognitive:** How we organise our thoughts, explain our ideas, give reasons and build on the ideas of others.
- **Social and Emotional:** How we communicate with others, showing respect, empathy, confidence and awareness of different viewpoints.

Each half term, we will be focusing on a different strand, allowing children to develop and practise these important skills progressively throughout the year.

Our Focus This Half Term: Physical Oracy

This half term, our focus is on the **physical strand of Oracy**.

This is all about what our bodies and voices do when we communicate. Children are learning how to use their physical presence to become confident and effective speakers.

We are encouraging children to think about:

- Making appropriate eye contact with the person they are speaking to.
- Using facial expressions and gestures to help communicate meaning.
- Standing or sitting confidently, using positive body language.
- Speaking clearly and at an appropriate volume.
- Using expression and varying their tone of voice to engage their audience.

- Showing others that they are listening through their body language.

These small but important skills can make a huge difference to how confidently children communicate and how effectively they engage with others.

What Does Oracy Look Like in Our Classrooms?

You may notice some new approaches and language being used across classrooms as we develop children's speaking and listening skills.

Talk Partners

Children regularly work with a talk partner to share ideas, discuss questions and practise expressing their thoughts before sharing them with a larger group. This gives every child an opportunity to have their voice heard and helps to build confidence.

Sentence Stems

We use sentence stems to support children in structuring their responses and developing their ideas. These prompts help children to get started, explain their thinking and respond to others.

For example:

- "I think this because..."
- "I agree with ... because..."
- "I would like to add..."
- "I have a different opinion because..."

Active Listening

Being a good communicator isn't just about speaking; it is also about being a good listener!

We are explicitly teaching children how to listen actively and show respect to the person speaking. This includes looking towards the speaker, maintaining appropriate eye contact, nodding to show understanding or agreement and allowing others time to finish speaking without interruption.

We want children to understand that everyone deserves to be listened to and that their contributions are valued.

ABC: Agree, Build, Challenge

We have also introduced ABC into classroom discussions to help children develop their responses and engage thoughtfully with different viewpoints.

- **A** – **Agree:** Show that you agree with something someone has said and explain why.
- **B** – **Build:** Add to someone else's idea by developing it further or introducing another thought.
- **C** – **Challenge**: Respectfully disagree with or question someone's idea, giving reasons for your alternative viewpoint.

This encourages children to understand that it is okay to have different opinions and that we can disagree respectfully. It also helps them to see discussions as an opportunity to learn from one another.

The Positive Impact We Are Seeing

We are already seeing some really positive developments as Oracy becomes embedded across our school.

Children are increasingly being given opportunities to share their thoughts, explain their reasoning and listen to the perspectives of others.

We are beginning to see children:

- Growing in confidence when speaking in front of others.
- Taking greater responsibility for contributing to classroom discussions.
- Using new vocabulary and sentence stems to express their ideas.
- Listening more carefully and showing greater respect for others' contributions.
- Building on each other's ideas rather than simply giving one-word answers.
- Developing the confidence to respectfully disagree and explain their opinions.

Most importantly, we want every child to feel that their voice matters. By developing these skills from Reception through to Year 6, we are helping our children become confident, articulate speakers who can communicate effectively in school and beyond.

How Can You Support Oracy at Home?

Oracy doesn't just happen in the classroom!

There are lots of simple ways you can support your child's speaking and listening skills at home. Why not try:

- Asking open-ended questions such as "What made you think that?" or "Can you tell me more?"
- Encouraging your child to explain their opinions and give reasons.
- Talking about different viewpoints when reading stories or watching programmes.
- Giving your child time to speak without interrupting.
- Encouraging them to listen carefully and respond to what others have said.

Remember, everyday conversations are fantastic opportunities to develop Oracy!



THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL OUR WONDERFUL FAMILIES FOR YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR HARVEST FESTIVAL BEFORE HALF TERM.

EARLIER THIS WEEK, ALL OF OUR DONATIONS WERE COLLECTED AND DELIVERED TO MARPLE FOOD BANK. YOUR KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED AND WILL MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE TO THOSE IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY.





HELP US FURTHER ENHANCE PLAYTIMES!

Voluntary Donations Needed

Inspiring Play, Creativity and Outdoor Learning

The success of our **PlayPod** has shown us the incredible power of **endless imaginative play**, encouraging children to collaborate, communicate, problem-solve and create together.

Building on this success, our **Sports Ambassadors**, **along with our Head, Deputy Head and School Councillors** are keen to further develop opportunities for **active outdoor play and learning**.

Together they have put together a wishlist!



As part of our commitment to ensuring all playtimes and lunchtimes are as active and fun as possible, we are looking for exciting resources that will inspire imaginative, creative and active play across our playgrounds and connect year groups to collaborate together and make magical memories.

⭐ Our Playground Wishlist ⭐

🪵 Crates, Reels, Drain pipes 🛁 Tubs, tubes 🍶 XL plastic bottles, boxes and tubs 🧵 Fabrics 🪢 Ropes 🧶 Wool 🪚 Wood offcuts (sanded), logs 🪵 Planks 🪵 Pallets 📦 Solid cardboard sheets or large boxes 🧹 Brooms 🖌️ Paintbrushes 🥣 Trays 🧸 Small toys and figures ⛺ Tarpaulins

Every Donation Makes a Difference

Your unwanted items could become:
🌳 Woodland dens 🚢 Pirate ships 🏰 Castles 🍂 Nature exploration areas
🎭 Role-play spaces 🧩 Collaborative building projects

Together we can create even more opportunities for children to be active, imaginative, resilient and creative.

Please contact the School Office if you are able to donate.

Thank you for supporting outdoor play at Ludworth Primary School!

Poppy Appeal

Suggested donation:
£1 per item



Our School Councillors will be visiting classes on Monday and Tuesay next week.