



Reminder
that all
events can be
found on the
school
calendar

[School Events
- Calendar](#)

Dates for the diary

28 April

4 May

5 May

Year 10 Parents Evening

Bank Holiday

Year 7 Parents Evening

Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to everyone as we begin our first full two-week cycle after the Easter break. It has been lovely to see students returning with such a positive attitude and settling quickly back into routines.

As we move into the final weeks before the public examinations, there is a real sense of focus across the school. Our Year 11 students, in particular, are approaching this period with maturity and determination. Since returning, many have already begun their Art examinations, producing some impressive and thoughtful work, well done to them for their commitment and effort.

The recent sunshine has been a welcome boost for everyone. With the field now open at lunchtime, it has been great to see students enjoying the fresh air, being active, and making the most of the outdoor space. These moments of balance are so important, especially during what can be a pressurised time of year.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of the school. Please do keep up to date with daily life at Upper Wharfedale by following us on Instagram for regular updates **@upperwharfedale**.

With best wishes,
Mr I Chapman
Headteacher

ISSUE 12 – 24 April 2026

BIG DIG 2026

We are delighted to invite your child to participate in the 2026 Big Dig!

The Big Dig is a “Time Team” type activity with students working alongside archaeologists in discovering the history of a particular site. This year the Big Dig will be located at **Netherside Hall** – a Victorian building (formerly a hunting lodge) sitting in extensive grounds. We hope to uncover more of its past and (fingers crossed!) find interesting artefacts along the way.

The Big Dig is aimed at young people in **school years 6– 11** and is open to all children in the local area. Your child will be actively involved in all aspects of the excavation such as digging, cleaning, identifying and recording artefacts, surveying, drawing, photography and much else besides!

In addition, there will be a **wide range of other activities** to participate in, such as nature and fossil hunts, arts and crafts, metal detecting, butterfly counting, Grass Woods nature reserve tour, bushcraft, archery, axe throwing and shooting!

The cost is **£40 per day** and includes mid-morning snacks and drinks. Parents can book their children on the Big Dig for a week or as little as one day.

All participants must bring along a packed lunch and clothing suitable for outdoor activities - some of which can be very muddy! The day begins at 9:30am and finishes at 3:30pm. A good standard of behaviour is expected.

If you would like to book a place, please email Mr Mitton directly on jmitton@uws.n-yorks.sch.uk to request a booking

YEAR 8 STEM RACING COMPETITION SPONSORSHIP

A team of enthusiastic Year 8 girls have taken part in the StemRacing competition for the school. As part of the competition, their team, named Team Pulse, worked hard to design and manufacture a miniature car and two portfolios detailing their project (one explaining the engineering of their project and another to explain the project’s enterprise).

The team attended the Regional Finals of the competition in Bolton in February, where they managed to place 5th out of 13 other teams in their category on their first attempt.

The team are entering again this year, rebranded as Cosmic Racing, and are hoping to go one step further and qualify for the National Finals. This competition is not funded by school and as part of the project they are tasked with raising money through fundraising and sponsorship. If anyone is interested in contributing to their efforts, please get in touch with the school.

YEAR 11 EXAM IMPORTANT DATES

Although some practical and early examinations have already taken place, the main written examination timetable begins on **Friday 1 May 2026**.

Attendance Up to May Half Term - Students are expected to attend school every day, in full school uniform. Attendance during this period will be monitored in line with our usual procedures. Where no valid reason is provided, absences may be recorded as unauthorised and will be followed up accordingly.

Provision After May Half Term - Following half term, we will continue to offer a programme of supervised lessons, revision sessions and targeted support. Students must continue to attend lessons in any subject where examinations or assessments are still outstanding. Teachers will be delivering focused revision and tailored support, which plays a vital role in maximising outcomes.

From **Monday 1 June 2026**, students may leave school after completing an examination and make their own way home. For safeguarding reasons, any student who chooses to leave the school site must **sign out at Reception** so that we are fully aware of who is on site at all times. Once a student has signed out, they may not return to school that day, including for the **15:20 school buses**. **We must also have authorisation from parents/carers that you are happy for your child to leave school.**

Key Dates and Final Arrangements

- **Contingency Day:** Students must be available up to and including **Wednesday 24 June 2026**, in line with national examination requirements, should any exam need to be rescheduled.
- **End of Roll:** Students remain on roll until the **end of June 2026**. Holidays or events should not be arranged before this date.
- **GCSE Results Day:** **Thursday 20 August 2026, 09:00–12:00**, in school.

SPORTS NEWS

Last half term, many of our students participated in the Swimming Gala and there were lots of records that were broken, so we'd like to congratulate the following students:

- Ben C (Langerton) - Year 8 Backstroke 31.69secs and Breaststroke 34.06secs
- Norah Y (Stebden) - Year 9 Backstroke 32.00secs
- Harry C(Elbolton) Year 9 Freestyle 25.22secs.

- Year 9 Elbolton Boys in the Freestyle relay 54.44secs.
- Year 9 Stebden Girls in the Freestyle relay 1:01.04.
- Year 8 Stebden Boys in the Freestyle relay. 1:01.39.

Congratulations to all students that also took part.

Last week, our Year 8 and Year 9 teams headed down to The Skipton Academy for a friendly game of netball. It was a lively afternoon, made even better by the double win. Well done to everyone who took part.

Year 8
UWS 26-3 The Skipton Academy
POM – Mia

Year 9
UWS 33-9 The Skipton Academy
POM – Nell

PE KIT SUMMER TERM

Just to confirm that the PE lessons next term 13-4-26 to 17-7-26 will move to our programme of summer sports.

All students need the same kit for each activity:

- UWS Green polo shirt
- UWS blue shorts/skort
- Green or white socks
- Trainers

Optional extras if the weather turns cold: Rugby shirt, Base layers

ABSENCES

All absences must be reported **before 9am** every morning of absence. **Please leave a brief description of illness, not just “ill/unwell”.**

Please can you also remind you that if your child has a diarrhoea and/or vomiting bug that they should stay off school until they have not had symptoms for two days.

Telephone: 01756 752215 (press 1- line open 24 hrs)
Email – absence@uws.n-yorks.sch.uk

EVERYONE'S INVITED RESOURCES No 5

Here is the link to the fourth resource guide, which provides an overview of the session.

<https://uws.n-yorks.sch.uk/5-parent-carer-media-resources/>

SCHOOL DINNERS

Have you ever wondered what your child can choose from for school dinner?

There is a 3-weekly menu for each term on the school website (link below)

[Canteen-Dinner-Menu.pdf](#)

HAYFEVER SEASON!

It is that time of year again when hay fever symptoms begin to appear.

Please may we remind you to give your child any hay fever medication in the morning before they come to school

We are unable to keep any medication in school to administer during the day.

TOWN INVESTMENT PLAN

We have been asked to share the article below: -

We are developing the Town Investment Plan (TIP) for Grassington and Threshfield as part of a regeneration programme across 32 towns in the county. The plans will help guide future funding bids by ensuring they are targeted to local priorities. To make sure each investment plan reflects local priorities, we are inviting residents, business owners and visitors to share their views on their local town and how they think it could be improved.

We have just launched a survey which is available online or as paper copies, will be attending local groups and meetings to discuss the TIP work and holding public drop-in sessions on Saturday 9 May 2026 10am to 12 noon at Grassington Community Hub and Thursday 4 June 2026 5pm to 7pm Grassington Devonshire Institute.

You can find further information about the Grassington and Threshfield Town Investment Plan and complete the survey on our website [Vision for the future of Grassington and Threshfield | North Yorkshire Council](#)



Wild Explorers: Into The Wild

A 2-day experience for young people aged 10 - 16.
Into The Wild provides an opportunity for young people to unplug from technology and benefit from all that nature has to offer.

Into The Wild is a 2-day experience that will give young people (10-16 years) increased responsibility and challenge.

You will have the opportunity to set up your own shelter, make your own campfire and cook the food on the fire along with other activities on the day.

The 2 days will be centred around building confidence, leadership, teamwork and resilience.



Price

£95 per child for 2 days inc food
Childcare vouchers accepted

Age

10 - 16 years

Must be in year 6 or above

Upcoming Dates

26th - 27th May

Please note: this is a 2 day experience.



Time

9.30am - 3.30pm

Location

Broughton Hall Estate



hello@wildexplorers.org.uk



www.wildexplorers.org.uk

— PROJECT REVERB —

YOUTH CLUB



GAMES



PIZZA



BE
CREATIVE

A SPACE TO HANG OUT FOR
YEARS 6 - 11
INSIDE AND OUTSIDE
ACTIVITIES



TABLE
TENNIS



MONDAY 27TH APRIL



CRACOE VILLAGE HALL



6PM - 8PM



FOOTBALL

EVERYONE WELCOME!

WE HOPE TO HOST IN
GRASSINGTON, KETTLEWELL
AND BURNSALL SOON

FOR ANY MORE INFORMATION
EMAIL ANNE

cypfreverb@gmail.com

PROJECT REVERB IS A REGISTERED CHARITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES 1160988