

FINCHALE FLYER

We see the magic in every child... and help make them sparkle.

Key Autumn Dates:

OCTOBER

- Black History Month
- 5th Photographer (individuals & family groups)
- 7th Flu vaccinations in school
- 6th Open Event for Potential New Starters 2027 (2.45pm and 5pm)
- 9th Mental Health Day (Celebrated globally on 10th)
Finchale Family Jiggly Jog
- 12th-15th Parent/Carer Appointments
- 16th Show Racism the Red Card Day (Wear Red)
- 21st Lockerbie Residential Meeting (5pm)
- 22nd PTA Spooky Disco
(4.15.-5.15pm - Rec/KS1; 5.30-6.30pm - KS2)
- 23rd Harvest Festival:
1.45pm - Families can view competition entries
2.30pm - Y3 Harvest Assembly
3.25pm - School closes for half term holiday

NOVEMBER

- 2nd 8.55am - School opens for Autumn 2
- 9th Y4 Bikeability Sessions
- 10th-13th Y5 Bikeability Sessions
- 11th Remembrance Day (Y6 assembly at 10.30am)
- 12th Author Visit with Adam Bushnell (Y6 and Y4)
- 13th World Kindness Day
- 16th Anti-bullying Week
- 17th Finchale Futures (RSHE) Information Evening
for Parents / Carers (5pm)
- 20th Children in Need
- WB. 23rd UK Parliament Week
- 27th PTA Christmas Fair

DECEMBER

- 8th Y4 Brass Concert (1.45pm)
Y5/6 Brass Musicians Concert (2.30pm)
- 11th Christmas Jumper Day
Christmas Lunch
Festive Fun Run (please note change)
- 14th KS1 Christmas Concert (2pm & 6pm)
- 15th Christmas Family Sing-a-long (9.15am)
KS2 Christmas Concert (2pm & 6pm)
- 16th Rec & KS1 Christmas Party (pm)
- 17th Y3/4 Christmas Party (am)
Y5/6 Christmas Party (pm)
- 18th End of term - school closed until 5th Jan.
School closes for Christmas holiday

**All dates are subject
to change.**



Finchale Art Week

In the week beginning 7th September, we launched our Finchale Art Week with a '**sketch-book assembly**' led by our Art Lead, Mrs McGuire, for all year groups from 1-6. Children brought their sketch books and enjoyed learning how to sketch portraits of each other, as well as finding out about our focus artist for this year, **Emma Majury**.

Emma is an artist and printmaker who lives and works in County Down. Her work includes traditional printmaking techniques (e.g. lithography, collagraphs, screen printing and dry point) as well as digital prints and artists' books. She collects vintage bits and bobs including tins and old postcards which often find their way into her work, along with her love for anything nautical. Emma inspired us to be creative across the week and we thank everyone who came to see our **art gallery** on 23rd September where we showcased samples of our work.



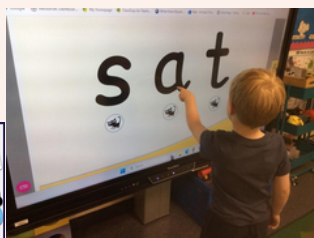
Colour Run!

Children from across the whole school took part in our annual Colour Run on the morning of Thursday, 11th October. Everyone had lots of fun on our running track, showing off how colourful and creative we all are!



Monster Phonics Day

On Friday 12th September, Reception and Years 1 and 2 launched their **Monster Phonics** sessions in style. Children and staff dressed up in the colours of a monster/their sound and listened to the story of each monster. They then learned to do the actions for each of the monsters and their sounds correctly. Everyone looked amazing and had great fun doing some *Monster Phonics* activities and showing off their skills!

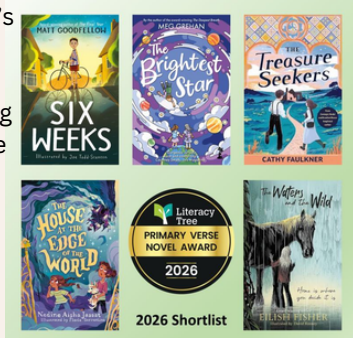


Spotlight on Safeguarding - Road Safety

Road safety is always a key part of our curriculum, assemblies and safeguarding messages here at Finchale. We encourage our families to walk and cycle to school and so preparing our children to become independent travellers is important. With this in mind, we have attached 'Teaching Road Safety: A Parents' Guide' to this month's Finchale Flyer for your information. This guidance from ROSPA suggests age-appropriate approaches to discussing road safety with your child.

Verse Novel Awards

Year 5 and 6 children are taking part in Literacy Tree's Verse Novel Awards and will be reading and rating the five nominee books, this October. We can't wait to hear their reviews!



European Day of Languages

We all had a wonderful day on Friday, 25th September celebrating European Day of Languages. We worked with children from other classes in our family groups to learn some key vocabulary from our focus countries (including Spain, Italy, Sweden and Portugal). This included **numbers**, **colours** and information about **flags** across the world. We shared what we had learned in our afternoon assembly and even taught each other some of the languages we speak within our school community. Reception class learned some basic greetings in French, as well as numbers and a traditional nursery rhyme - Frere Jacques. They also created flags in the style of French artist, **Georges Seurat**!



Hoop Starz!

The children had lots of fun at our Hoop Starz event. They hula hooped to music and learned different skills, including twirling hoops on their **hands**, **necks** and **feet**. They also practised skipping with the hoops and enjoyed trying out new movements. To finish, they took part in a **competition** to see who could hula hoop for the longest. It was a lively session, and everyone had the chance to join in and have a go. We were complimented by the instructor on our wonderful behaviour and effort!



Durham University Outreach History Sessions

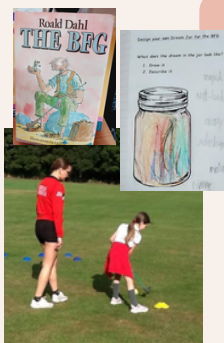
Years 3, 4 and 5 had the pleasure of learning about the Stone Age, Ancient Greeks and Anglo-Saxons with some hands-on learning with outreach workers from Durham University. Y3 learned the terms *Paleolithic*, *Mesolithic*, and *Neolithic* in a vocabulary game. They looked at **artefacts** from the Stone Age to the Iron Age and took on the role of **archaeologists** to describe them. Y4 children made a clay offering to the Ancient Greek Gods to honour them, thinking carefully about why people in Ancient Greece might have created the objects. To finish the day, they acted in an Ancient Greek **production**, bringing stories and characters from the past to life through drama, teamwork and confident performances. Year 5 learned about the **Lindisfarne Gospels** and brought history to life with some Anglo-Saxon artefacts to test their inference skills. Thank you to families who contributed to make these wonderful workshops happen. Contributions can still be made via Arbor.



Year 3 Roald Dahl Day & Golf Festival

September 13th, 2026 would have been author Roald Dahl's **110th birthday**. As big fans of his writing, Year 3 decided to celebrate on 14th September with a day of dedication. They learned all about his life, listened to **The BFG** and designed their own **dream jars**. They made their own **silly sentences** and had lots of fun completing the Roald Dahl challenge.

On 22nd September, Year 3 had some fun in the sun learning how to play **golf** and having fun scoring points. They learned to **chip** and **putt** the ball and were excellent ambassadors for our school.



September Attendance

Reception	99.92%
Year 1	97.9%
Year 2	97.64%
Year 3	98.22%
Year 4	97.64%
Year 5	98.92%
Year 6	98.6%
Whole School	98.42%

Musician of the Month

In September, we have been listening (and dancing!) to **Abba**, the Swedish pop group that rose to fame in the 1970s. With their catchy melodies, tight harmonies, and glamorous style, they became one of the most successful and beloved acts in music history.



Many thanks, as always, for your support.
Miss Ward.