

ACOMB FIRST SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

September 2025 | Newsletter

A Message from Miss Williamson

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a wonderful summer. It has been such a joy to see the children return to school full of energy and enthusiasm. Our new Reception children have made a fantastic start, showing great confidence as they come into school independently. Across all classes, children have settled beautifully, and it has been a real pleasure to welcome them back.

If you have any questions or need any support, please don't hesitate to get in touch via the school office or email.

Warm regards,

Miss Williamson

Arbor

Arbor is the system we use for all payments, communication and parental consents. Please ensure you log on to Arbor as there will be a number of consents which need to be completed. If you have any issues logging into Arbor can you please contact Mrs Collingwood who is our Arbor expert!



School Meals

As shared last term, school meals are now £2.80 per day. Children in Reception and Maple class continue to receive free school meals, and if your child is in KS2 (Chestnut Class) and you think you may be entitled, please contact Mrs Collingwood, who will be happy to help with the application.

While a member of the kitchen team is absent from 11th September, we will be offering one main meal option each day. This will ensure children still enjoy a healthy, tasty lunch while keeping things manageable for the catering staff. Thank you for your understanding and support – we look forward to our full menu returning soon.



Snacks for Break time

We kindly ask that children bring a healthy snack for morning break – such as fruit, vegetables, or a small sandwich. Please avoid sending in crisps, chocolate or sweets, as we want to encourage healthy choices that keep children energised and ready to learn. Thank you for your support!

Packed lunches

We encourage balanced lunches to help children learn and play. Please include:

- Carbohydrates (bread, pasta, rice, wraps)
- Protein (meat, fish, eggs, beans, hummus)
- Dairy/alternatives (cheese, yoghurt, plant-based)
- Fruit & vegetables (at least one of each)
- Drinks – water is best (available all day)

Please avoid:

- Fizzy/energy drinks
- Sweets, chocolate bars/spread
- Crisps & biscuits every day (occasional treat is fine)
- Nuts or nut products (allergy safety)

Tips: Small portions, variety, and reusable named containers work best.

Thank you for supporting healthy, safe, and enjoyable lunchtimes!

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Clubs Timetable Update

We are delighted to share this term's clubs timetable with you. There are lots of exciting opportunities on offer for children to enjoy, develop new skills and spend time with friends.

To help us continue providing a wide range of clubs, we have had to make a small change. From this term:

- NUFC Club and Forest School (external providers): £2 per session
- Staff-led after-school clubs: £1 per session

We have kept costs as low as possible, and all funds will go directly towards supporting the continuation of these valuable activities.

We are also pleased to confirm that lunchtime clubs will continue to be free of charge, giving every child the chance to join in and take part in something they enjoy.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us provide these opportunities for all children.

Harrison Wellbeing Hub – Coming Soon!

Green Roof Structures have been hard at work on our Harrison Wellbeing Hub over the summer holidays. This is not too far from being complete. Please keep an eye out for information about its official opening!



Contact details

Please ensure that we have the most up to date contact details for you and all additional contacts. It is now **law that we hold 2 alternative contact details (in addition to parents) for all Reception children** and this would be good practice for all children to have.

Dates for the diary

We have included a copy of the Dates for the Diary for this term. Please keep this safe and check it regularly, as it will help you stay up to date with upcoming events and activities.

From now on, whenever a new copy of the dates is shared with parents, it will include any updates or additions. This is to make sure you have as much notice as possible and can plan ahead.

Thank you for taking the time to check the diary regularly and for your continued support in helping us keep communication clear and timely.



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The Importance of Attendance

At Acomb First School, we know that every day in school makes a difference. When children are here regularly, they have the chance to learn new things, build friendships, and develop the confidence they need to thrive. Good attendance really does set the foundation for future success.

We understand that family time is precious, and holidays are a wonderful way to spend time together. However, we kindly ask that these are planned during school holiday periods wherever possible. The Department for Education (DfE) asks schools to ensure pupils attend consistently, and taking holidays in term time can result in a fine being issued.

By working in partnership, we can make sure your child doesn't miss out on important learning experiences and all the opportunities that school life brings. Thank you for supporting us in giving your child the very best start.

Playtime Donations Welcome

We are refreshing our playtime boxes and would love donations of:

- Dolls
- Dinosaurs
- Action figures
- Construction toys
- Sand toys e.g. small buckets, spades, sieves etc
- Guttering – clean

Please drop off clean, gently used toys at the school office.



Celebrating Our Skills Builder Award!

We are absolutely delighted to share some fantastic news – Acomb First School has achieved the highest award possible from Skills Builder!

This is an incredibly special achievement, as only a small handful of schools across the world have reached this standard. It recognises the outstanding work we do to help children develop the essential skills they need for life: listening, speaking, problem solving, creativity, staying positive, aiming high, teamwork and leadership.

These skills go hand-in-hand with academic learning and are at the heart of preparing our children for their future, both in education and beyond. Achieving the highest award shows that we are successfully embedding these skills in every part of school life – from lessons in the classroom to playtimes, projects, and enrichment activities.

We are incredibly proud of this recognition. It reflects the dedication of our staff, the enthusiasm of our children, and the ongoing support of our families. Together, we are giving every child the tools they need to shine – now and in the future.

