

15th May 2026



We have had a lovely week at school and there has been a real sense of positivity and togetherness across our community. On Wednesday, we held our very first *"It's Good to Be Me"* day. Both the children and staff thoroughly enjoyed celebrating all the things that make us unique. It was wonderful to learn so much more about one another and to see everyone embracing individuality with such enthusiasm and kindness.

The day was a huge success and is definitely something we hope to repeat next year.

The children have also been busy practising their sporting skills in preparation for Sports Day next week. Excitement is certainly building, and we all have our fingers crossed for good weather!

Mrs Irwin

Food Standards in Schools

The Government is currently consulting on proposed changes to the food standards for school meals. If this is something you are interested in, please follow the link below for further information and to share your views.

[School Food Standards: updating the legislative framework - Department for Education - Citizen Space](#)

We are also delighted to share that our jacket potato options have proved extremely popular with the children. Due to this success, jacket potatoes will now become a permanent feature on our school menus.

Leave of Absence

A reminder that requests for leave of absence must be submitted at least four weeks in advance for any planned events. Evidence must also be provided to demonstrate why the absence should be considered an exceptional circumstance in order for it to be authorised. Request forms are available from the school office.

As a reminder, the Government updated its penalty notice system earlier this year. The fine for unauthorised absence is now £160 per parent, per child. However, if paid within 21 days, this amount is reduced to £80. A second penalty notice issued within a three-year period will be charged at the full £160 rate with no reduction available for early payment. Further unauthorised absences may result in legal action being considered.

The Best Start in Life

We are pleased to support the new *Less Screen Time, More Playtime* campaign, which encourages families to increase opportunities for play and reduce screen time for young children.

Research continues to highlight the potential negative effects of excessive screen use in early childhood, including increases in short-sightedness and disruption to sleep patterns caused by blue light from screens.

As part of the campaign, local areas have worked together to create “50 Things to Do Before You’re 5” lists, full of simple and enjoyable activities for families to try together. We would love to create our own Larkfields version and would really appreciate your ideas and suggestions.

Please email us with activities your family enjoys doing in the local area so that we can include them in our community list. The link below takes you to the Sheffield example, and we hope to publish our own Larkfields version very soon.

[50 Things to Do | Sheffield](#)