



Gawber Primary School
Church Street
Gawber
Barnsley
S75 2RP
Telephone: 01226 289728
Headteacher: Mrs D. Bradshaw

Friday 30th January 2026

Dear parents/ carers

Young Voices

Our Key Stage 2 children had an amazing time at Sheffield Arena on Wednesday. They, along with thousands of other children from far and wide, formed the Young Voices Choir. As always, our children's behaviour was exemplary and they sang their hearts out. A huge thank you to Miss Wilson for organising and to all the staff who accompanied our children and ensured that the children were able to be part of such a wonderful experience. Thank you too, to all the parents and carers who attended to support our children.



Oliver's Haircut

Oliver Dale in class 4 had his hair cut for The Little Princess Trust in assembly this week. He has raised over £1000, with nearly £200 of this coming from our 'Crazy hair and Non- uniform Day'. £550 of this will go to The Little Princess Trust to pay for the wig to be made. The remainder will be donated to Bluebell Wood Hospice, in memory of Heidi.



National Storytelling Week 2026

2026 has been titled 'The Year of Reading' and to begin a year of reading celebrations, next week children will be taking part in National Storytelling Week! Created by [Society for Storytelling](#), this fantastic annual event is a joyful celebration of the power of sharing stories. National Storytelling Week 2026 is a celebration of oral storytelling, reading and writing for pleasure. On Monday, teachers will launch the week with some special sessions based around this year's theme of 'Soundtrack to Your Story'.

Urgent Health & Safety Notification- Hobbycraft Safety Recall Alert

We have been informed by Health and Safety that the 'Hobbycraft Giant Box of Craft' contains sand with possible low levels of asbestos. If you have this set at home (or know of anyone who has) then, despite the potential low levels, stop using the product immediately and take precautions for safe handling and disposal, outlined below.



Disposal instructions

If the sand is still in its packaging, place in a heavy-duty plastic bag, double tape it securely, label it clearly and store in a secure location out of the reach of children. If the sand has been used, clean-up sites where the product was used using wet cloths to avoid generating dust. Wear gloves and a mask. Double bag the sand, gloves, mask and cloths.

Keep children and other people away from areas where the sand has been used until the area has been cleaned.

Return the sand vials from the product to your nearest Hobbycraft store for a full refund.

The sand vials MUST be treated as hazardous waste as is NOT PERMITTED in general waste.

Severe Weather

We will always endeavour to keep school open if it is safe to do so. If we should have to close for any reason, you will receive a message on Parent Pay. We will also report any partial or full closure on the Council's website. See the link below.

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/schools-currently-closed/>

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Dawn Bradshaw
Headteacher

Statutory Tests Dates 2026

Below are the statutory test dates for 2025/26. Can we politely ask that parents/carers avoid these dates for any appointments/ holidays.

Year 1 phonics screening check June 8 to Friday, June 12, 2026

Year 4 multiplication tables check June 7th to June 18th 2026

Key stage 2 SATS May 11th to 14th 2026

Calendar Dates

Friday 13th February- break up for half term

Monday 23rd February- return to school

Friday 27th March- break up for Easter

Monday 13th April- return to school

Monday 4th May- bank holiday

Thursday 21st May-children break up for half term

Friday 22nd May- INSET day

Monday 1st June- return to school

Friday 17th July children break up for summer

Monday 20th July- INSET day