



At Phoenix, we are very proud to be part of the Gedling Community. Last week, we had the pleasure of welcoming Tasha Morton, the Rector from All Hallows, who came to support our Religious Education (RE) learning focused on the theme of belonging. During her visit, Tasha engaged with our children on the significance of Baptism, a key aspect of Christian faith that symbolises belonging to the church community.

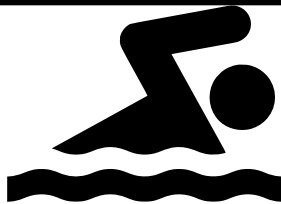
In Key Stage 1, the Nottinghamshire RE syllabus emphasises the concept of belonging through various religious perspectives. Children explore what it means to belong to different communities, including family, school, and different faith groups. This exploration encourages children to reflect on their own experiences of belonging and to understand the values that underpin these connections.

Tasha commented afterwards that the children were "polite, attentive, and engaged," which reflects our commitment to fostering an inclusive and respectful learning environment. At Phoenix, we ensure a real sense of belonging by linking learning to British Values, which include democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, and understanding of those with different faiths and beliefs. These values guide our approach, ensuring that every child feels included and valued as part of our school community.



Attendance - What an Improvement!

Fantastic news! We are delighted to announce that our overall attendance has risen to an impressive 96% for the year and an outstanding 98.3% for the week! This remarkable achievement is a testament to our children's engagement and commitment to learning and your support. Let's keep this up to get attendance at 97% for the year. High attendance rates are crucial as they correlate with better academic outcomes and social development. Families have really worked closely with us to improve attendance! Thank you for your support.



Year 2 Swimming Lessons

We are excited to announce that Year 2 swimming lessons will be taking place onsite in May, providing our children with essential skills in water safety and physical fitness.

These lessons are a proactive approach to physical education, making swimming more accessible and integrating it into the school day. Swimming is not only a vital life skill but also an enjoyable way for children to stay active. A Google form link went onto Seesaw yesterday and a text today to Year 2 families -please complete this form so we can collect initial information by 6/2/26 please.



As we approach Children's Mental Health Week, we are committed to supporting the mental well-being of our children. This year's theme, 'This is My Place', further highlights the vital importance of belonging, which is essential for emotional health and academic success. Throughout the week, we will engage in various activities designed to foster a sense of community and support among our children.

We encourage families to participate in these activities and engage in conversations about mental health

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/#family> . Mental health awareness is crucial in today's society, and we are dedicated to creating a supportive environment where every child feels valued and understood. We have lots in place already including First Aid for Feelings, Zones of Regulation, Time to Talk Jars that all support the children in recognising their feelings and tools to support them. Emotional literacy at this early age is vital to help the children be able to understand and deal with big feelings as they get older.



Our next Stay and Play will be on Saturday 14th March- 2pm until 3.30pm. Everyone is very welcome to join us for an afternoon of connection and community spirit. At this event, families can expect a friendly atmosphere where you can meet other parents and share experiences.

Have a great weekend!

Diary dates

Spring Term

- **Children's Mental Health Week** - 9th February 2026
- **Safer Internet Day** - Tuesday, 10th February 2026
- **Half Term** - Monday, 16th February 2026 to Friday, 20th February 2026
- **First Day of Term** - Monday, 23rd February 2026
- **World Book Day** - Thursday, 5th March 2026
- **Easter Disco** - Friday, 20th March 2026
- **F2 Parents' Evenings (Puffins and Finches)** - Monday, 23rd March and Wednesday, 25th March 2026
- **KS1 Parents' Evenings (Hummingbirds, Kingfishers, and Woodpeckers)** - Tuesday, 24th March and Thursday, 26th March 2026
- **Last Day of Term** - Friday, 27th March 2026

Summer Term

- **First Day of Summer Term** - Monday, 13th April 2026
- **Half Term** - Monday, 25th May 2026 to Friday, 29th May 2026
- **Year 1 Phonics Screening** - Week commencing 8th June 2026
- **Year 2 Residential Trip to Gulliver's Valley - details to follow** - Thursday, 11th June 2026
- **KS1 Sports Day (Hummingbirds, Kingfishers/Woodpeckers)** - Wednesday, 17th June 2026 - 9:30 AM
- **F1/F2 Sports Day (Nursery, Finches, and Puffins)** - Wednesday, 24th June 2026 (times: 9:30 AM and 10:30 AM)
- **Carnival (after school fundraiser for children)** - Thursday, 2nd July 2026
- **INSET Day** - Friday, 3rd July 2026
- **Year 2 Leavers Assembly** - Thursday, 23rd July 2026 at 2:00 PM
- **Last Day of Term** - Friday, 24th July 2026 - End of Academic Year