



# SKA HEADLINES

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025

It's already half-term! Summer 1 has flown by and with it only being 5-weeks long, we have packed a lot in. Have a read through this week's celebrations below.

## **Summer 1 SKA Exhibition & Coffee Morning**

A big thank you to the 110 parents, carers and family members who joined us for our SKA Exhibition and half-termly coffee morning. It was a joy to welcome so many of you into school. Highlights included:

- **Year 3** creating cave paintings as part of their history learning.
- **Year 4** showcasing fun times tables games and activities to support preparation for the upcoming Multiplication Tables Check next month – a perfect opportunity for some home practice over the break!
- **Year 5** giving their tastebuds a challenge with a Greek food tasting session – the anchovies definitely divided opinions!
- **Year 6** easing into their next geography unit after their SATs with some relaxing rainforest-themed collaging.

## **Year 6 Ice Cream Treat**

A huge well done again to Year 6 pupils for their maturity and resilience during SATs week. To celebrate their hard work, they enjoyed a well-earned ice cream treat from the ice cream van on Wednesday, kindly provided by Waterton Academy Trust and our preferred supply agency, Reed.

## **Prizes – Thank You**

Thank you, as always, to the generous parents, carers and families who continue to donate raffle prizes and hampers – your contributions are greatly appreciated and help us raise valuable funds to support enriching experiences for all our pupils.

## **Attendance Matters – Let's Get Back on Track**

We've had a disappointing week for attendance, with a whole-school rate of just **90%**. This is a real contrast to the strong attendance we saw earlier in the year and something we are keen to improve. We are working incredibly hard in school to ensure every child receives their full educational entitlement, and we need your support to make this happen. Every day counts.

Please see the attached reminder about leave of absence requests, plus associated fines.

## **Common Road Sports Day**

We were incredibly proud of our Year 6 helpers and sports reporters who represented our school brilliantly at Common Road's Sports Day this week. They supported younger pupils with enthusiasm and kindness, helped events run smoothly, and even conducted interviews and reports as part of their sports journalism roles. Their maturity, teamwork and leadership were a credit to our school — well done to all involved!

Whatever your plans are for half term, I hope you have a relaxing and enjoyable time. We look forward to seeing all children back in school for **Summer 2 on Monday 2nd June 2025**.

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 Facebook: Search for 'South Kirkby Academy'  X: @WatertonSKA

Attendance this week: **90%**



<b>Knaresborough</b>	<b>94%</b>
<b>York</b>	<b>94%</b>
<b>Whitby</b>	<b>94%</b>
<b>Harrogate</b>	<b>92%</b>
<b>Richmond</b>	<b>91%</b>
<b>Leeds</b>	<b>88%</b>
<b>Filey</b>	<b>85%</b>
<b>Ilkley</b>	<b>83%</b>
Knaresborough, York and Whitby may all wear non-uniform on Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	

<b>Phoebe (Leeds)</b>	For excellent skills and sportswomanship in P.E lessons.
<b>Jack (York)</b>	For fantastic batting and fielding in P.E.
<b>John (Knaresborough)</b>	For excellent effort in writing lessons, with particular attention to his presentation.
<b>Tyler (Richmond)</b>	For building confidence and resilience in his learning.
<b>Skylar (Whitby)</b>	For a week full of hard work and excellent effort.
<b>Darcy (Filey)</b>	For amazing ideas in writing lessons.
<b>Alisha (Harrogate)</b>	For her outstanding attitude during SATs week.
<b>Abdoul (Ilkley)</b>	For excellent and imaginative writing.

**Congratulations to our Stars of the Week!**

# YOUNG CHEF Competition

Would you like to design a special dish for your school menu?

If so, enter the **Waterton Young Chef** competition!

**To enter:**

1. Cook or bake your chosen dish at home
2. Take a photograph of the dish
3. Create a list of ingredients you used
4. Write up step by step instructions of how to make the dish
5. Email your photograph, Ingredients list and instructions to [skaoffice@watertonacademytrust.org](mailto:skaoffice@watertonacademytrust.org) by Friday 30th May 2025 for judging.

Your school's lucky winner will progress to the 'cook-offs' to show off their culinary talents and compete for the opportunity to design a special meal that will feature on the school menu!

**GOOD LUCK!**

*Ideal for half term!*

**Value of the week: Be kind**

Phinn (Year 6) Hope (Year 6)  
 Lily (Year 5) Skye (Year 5)  
 Joseph (Year 4) Morgan (Year 4)  
 Max (Year 3) Rudy (Year 3)

**Lunchtime Awards**

Ayra (Yr4) Keah (Yr6)

**DON'T MISS OUT ON IMPORTANT SKA INFORMATION!**

Please ensure you have the MCAS App downloaded with notifications turned **ON**. Please follow our social media feeds for more information and reminders.

**We send out paper letters but by request**

**Reminders & Key Dates**

We re-open for Summer 2 on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025 at 8:45am



# 5 GOVERNMENT CHANGES TO ATTENDANCE

Legally enforced from August 2024

**£160**

1

**“I’m a single parent/carer of 1 child and want to go on holiday for a week during term time.”**

You must fill out a leave of absence request form with accompanying letter to notify school of the holiday. The holiday will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. You will be given a penalty notice if your child misses 5 school days (10 sessions). The fine is £160, reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.

2

**A penalty is given for each child.**



**£160**

**£160**

**£160**

**£160**

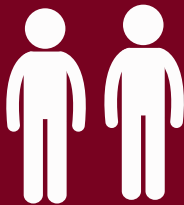
1 parent with 4 children =  
£640 reduced to £320 if paid  
within 21 days.

**£640**

3

**For a family of two parents.**

Both parents/carers  
are fined for each  
child. For example:



**£320**

**£320**

**£320**

**£320**

2 parents with 4 children =  
£1280, reduced to £640 if paid  
within 21 days

4

**Multiple holidays or patterns of irregular attendance within 3 years. (2 parents)**

2nd offence

1 child: £320

2 children: £640

3 children: £960

4 children: £1280

**NO  
DISCOUNT  
FOR EARLY  
PAYMENT**



3rd offence

No penalty notice. Instead, your case will be taken  
to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2500  
for each child

1 parent & 4 children: £10,000 2 parents & 4 children: £20,000

5

**Irregular Attendance ‘10 in 10’ 1 DAY = 2 SESSIONS**

If your child has 10 sessions of unauthorised absence within a rolling period of 10 school weeks or less, we will consider prosecution. These sessions may be consecutive or not.

Example: 3 days of unauthorised absence in one week + one day of absence per week for the next two weeks = 10 sessions (irregular attendance)