



Newsletter

Summer 2 2026

What a year this has been for Ingleby Mill!

Over the past 12 months, we have continued to strengthen and develop our wider curriculum, ensuring it is both ambitious and engaging for our children. It has been wonderful to see pupils thriving as they build new knowledge, make meaningful connections in their learning and develop confidence across the curriculum.

Our approach to mathematics has also evolved this year, and it has been a real pleasure to see the enthusiasm this has generated. Many of you will have experienced this firsthand during assemblies, where children have proudly shared their mathematical thinking and confidently explained new vocabulary and concepts. Maths has become a real strength and joy across the school.

This has also been a significant year in the history of Ingleby Mill as during our 30th year, we completed our conversion to academy status and joined Lingfield Education Trust. This marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter, bringing with it opportunities for collaboration, professional networks and further developments that will continue to benefit our children and families in the years ahead.

The final half term has, as always, been incredibly busy. We have enjoyed Health and Fitness Week, Sports Days, educational visits, sporting events and all the memorable experiences that make the summer term such a special time in school. Even the exceptionally warm weather hasn't dampened the enthusiasm of our children!

As we approach the end of another successful school year, there is so much to celebrate, plenty of exciting news to share and just a couple of important reminders. Apologies in advance that this newsletter is a little longer than usual - but there is certainly lots to tell you about!

Transition

It will soon be time for our children to meet their new teachers on Wednesday 8th July – always an exciting milestone in the school year. The children will spend part of the morning with their new teacher and classmates before returning to their current class to reflect on the year ahead and ask any questions they may have.

Our Year 6 children have also been enjoying their secondary school transition visits, taking their first steps towards an exciting new chapter. This is always a bittersweet time for us as they prepare to spread their wings and leave the Ingleby Mill nest. They have been an absolute credit to our school throughout the year, demonstrating kindness, resilience and a wonderful attitude to learning. They should be incredibly proud of all they have achieved – we certainly are.

End of Year Reports

A reminder that your child's end-of-year report will be emailed to you directly via Arbor. The report will include a summary of achievement across all curriculum subjects, information about progress in reading, writing and mathematics, and a personal comment celebrating your child's strengths, successes and development over the year. As shared previously, from September we will move to a new reporting schedule. In addition to the annual report, families will receive two short termly reports each year, in the autumn and spring terms. These reports will provide current assessment information alongside next steps in reading, writing and

mathematics, ensuring that families receive regular updates throughout the school year.

Gentle Reminder about Respect and Safety

I really wanted the final newsletter of the year to be a celebration of all we have achieved together. However, there are two important reminders that I need to share following a number of reported incidents.

Treating each other with respect

We have recently received reports of inappropriate language being directed towards both staff and other parents on the school site, sometimes in the presence of children. This is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. At Ingleby Mill, we work hard to teach our children about kindness, respect and courtesy, and it is important that the adults in our community model these values too. We will always listen to concerns and seek to resolve issues, but this must be done respectfully. I am sure we all agree that children learn as much from the behaviours they observe as the lessons they are taught. We therefore ask all members of our school community to speak to one another with courtesy and consideration. Where inappropriate language or behaviour occurs on site, the school will take appropriate action, which may include a temporary ban from the school grounds.

Parking and road safety

I would also like to remind families about the importance of safe and considerate parking around school. We have received a number of concerns regarding thoughtless parking, unsafe manoeuvres and the use of mobile phones while driving near the school site. The safety of our children must always come first. It only takes a moment's distraction or a poor decision to put a child at risk. Please park legally and considerately, be mindful of our neighbours and take extra care when driving around the busy arrival and departure times. As we have shared previously, using a mobile phone whilst driving is illegal. Cleveland Police

have advised that members of the public can report illegal parking or driving and submit supporting evidence, including photographs, through their online reporting system. Thank you for your support in helping us ensure that Ingleby Mill remains a safe, welcoming and respectful environment for everyone in our community.

Sporting Success

Now that we are fully part of Lingfield Education Trust, we were delighted to take part in our first Inter-Trust Athletics Tournament. A team of children from Years 3 to 6 represented Ingleby Mill and, despite this being our first experience of the event, they competed with determination, enthusiasm and outstanding sportsmanship. The children were a credit to the school and returned with an impressive medal haul.

Our Year 5 children have also enjoyed success on the cricket field, finishing in a very respectable second place at a recent tournament. Their teamwork, resilience and positive attitude throughout the competition were a pleasure to see.

Perhaps even more impressive than the results has been the way our children have embraced these opportunities. Whether competing, learning new skills or trying something new, they continue to represent Ingleby Mill with pride. The feedback we consistently receive at sporting events is about our children's attitude, behaviour and sportsmanship. These qualities reflect our school values perfectly and are something we are incredibly proud of.

Summer at Ingleby Mill

We still have plenty to look forward to before the end of term, with lots of opportunities for our children and families to celebrate together.

Summer Fair – Wednesday 8th July

Our Summer Fair will take place from home time until 5:00pm. There will be lots of fun activities for children and families to enjoy, including the giant inflatable and the ever-popular Soak the Teacher! We look forward to seeing as many families there as possible.

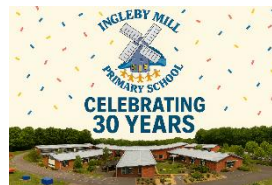
Reception Graduation – Monday 13th July

Our Reception Graduation will take place at 2:00pm in the main hall. All Reception families are warmly invited to join us as we celebrate the children's achievements and mark the end of their Early Years journey. It is always a very special occasion and a wonderful opportunity to reflect on how much the children have grown and developed during their time in Reception.

30th Birthday Celebration Picnic and Party – Wednesday 15th July

As part of our ongoing 30th anniversary celebrations, we are delighted to be hosting a family picnic and party for our whole school community.

We would love families to bring along picnic blankets, camping chairs and a picnic lunch so that children, parents, grandparents and friends can enjoy a relaxed afternoon celebrating together. We hope it will feel like one giant community picnic, with everyone coming together to mark this very special milestone in the history of Ingleby Mill. To help us manage the event safely, the main school gates will be open from 11:50am until 12:15pm for families to arrive and set up their picnic areas. After 12:15pm, the gates will be locked and any visitors arriving later will need to enter through the main office. From 12:15pm, children will be brought out to meet their families. For the afternoon, children do not need to remain with their classes and are welcome to sit and celebrate with family and friends. We will have a DJ providing music throughout the afternoon, alongside games and activities led by the Ingleby Mill team from 1:00pm. We also have some very special performances



planned as we celebrate 30 wonderful years of Ingleby Mill. We are hoping to have both an ice-cream van and a coffee cart available as part of the refreshments on offer. The afternoon will conclude at 3:15pm.

We very much hope that families can join us for this special event. However, we do appreciate that work and other commitments may make this difficult for some. If you are unable to attend, you may nominate another family for your child to join, or your child can spend the afternoon with a member of the IMPS team, who will ensure they are fully included in all the celebrations.

To help us plan effectively, we are asking all families to complete the Microsoft Form. As well as confirming arrangements for the afternoon, the form will ask about lunch arrangements for every child. Please let us know whether your child will be enjoying a family picnic, bringing their own packed lunch or requiring a school packed lunch to be provided. This information is required for all children, regardless of whether a family member is attending. The deadline for submitting lunch arrangements is Friday 10th July, as this will enable our catering team to order and prepare the correct number of packed lunches. Please be assured that every child will be fully involved and will enjoy this memorable celebration.

Year 6 Celebrations – Friday 17th July

Our Year 6 children will take to the stage at 9:30am for the final performance of their primary school journey. Parents and carers are warmly invited to join us as we celebrate the end of their time at Ingleby Mill and enjoy what is always a memorable occasion. Due to the size of the hall, attendance will be limited to two adults per family. Thank you for your understanding - we look forward to sharing this special milestone with you.



Breakfast Club and Wrap Around Provision

We are delighted to be continuing our Breakfast Club provision as part of the Department for Education's free breakfast club programme. From September, children will once again be able to access our free Breakfast Club from 7:45am, as well as our Second Chance Breakfast from 8:15am. This provides children who arrive a little earlier for school with the opportunity to enjoy breakfast, take part in activities with DF Coaching and spend time with friends before the school day begins.

We are also excited to announce that our wraparound provision, currently known as Plus 5s, will become fully integrated into the Ingleby Mill family from September and will be managed directly by the school. We are pleased that Michele will continue to lead the provision, ensuring the same familiar faces and high-quality care that families value. Following a vote by the children, the provision will relaunch under its new name, The Clubhouse. Further information about The Clubhouse, including arrangements for September, can be found in the separate letter coming out this week.

Uniform

At this time of year, we like to share a reminder of our uniform expectations and highlight any updates ahead of September. Our Uniform Policy is available on the school website. Once hair is long enough to be tied back, it must be tied up for school. This helps children stay comfortable and supports good hygiene and safety throughout the school day.

Our PE kit remains unchanged: plain navy-blue shorts or jogging bottoms, a plain white T-shirt and a navy hoodie. As part of our commitment to poverty-proofing and ensuring equity for all children, branded sportswear is not permitted. We want our uniform expectations to be affordable and accessible for every family. In line with national guidance, there are just three branded items within our uniform offer: the

school sweatshirt or cardigan, the PE hoodie and the school book bag. Children come to school on their allocated PE day in their PE uniform. Children will not require PE uniform for the first two days of the new term and you will be advised then, when your child's PE day is.

Children with pierced ears may wear one small stud in each ear. Earrings must be removed for PE lessons. If your child is planning to have their ears pierced over the summer, we recommend doing so at the beginning of the holiday to allow plenty of time for healing. While newly pierced ears are healing, tape may be worn over studs, but this must be applied at home before school. Please note that staff are unable to apply or reapply tape, and children with uncovered earrings will be unable to participate in PE for health and safety reasons.

We also have some exciting news to share elsewhere in this newsletter, which helps explain one small addition to our preparations for September. All children will need a pair of wellies that can be left in school for use at playtimes and lunchtimes. This is something our Reception children already enjoy, and we are delighted to be extending it across the school.

Finally, a little heads-up when shopping for winter coats. As part of our enhanced focus on play, there is every chance that children may come home a little muddier than usual! We want our children to throw themselves into their play, investigate, explore and have fun without worrying about keeping their coats spotless. So, while we know many of the coats arriving in September will be fabulous, you may want to bear our outdoor adventures in mind when making your choice!

You Said, We Did – OPAL Play

In September, we will share the full findings from our recent parent survey. However, there was one theme that appeared regularly throughout the responses that I wanted to address now: behaviour and social interactions across the school day.

Firstly, I want to reassure families that the feedback we receive from visitors is overwhelmingly positive. Over the last year, as part of our journey into Lingfield Education Trust, we have welcomed many visitors into school. The consistent message we hear is that Ingleby Mill is a calm and purposeful school, with children who are polite, respectful, kind and enthusiastic learners. We are incredibly proud of this feedback and, most importantly, proud of our children.

At the same time, one of our core values is that we never stand still. Even when things are going well, we continually ask ourselves how we can make them even better. Your survey responses highlighted some concerns about behaviour during less structured times of the day, and it is important to us that parents feel heard. Thank you for sharing your views so openly and honestly.

In response, we have moved quickly to introduce OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning), a significant investment in the quality of children's playtimes. OPAL is designed to promote positive relationships, teamwork, problem-solving, resilience and communication through high-quality play opportunities. We have already completed the audit and action planning stages of implementation and full staff training will take place during our September professional development days, ready for launch when children return on Thursday 3rd September. This is an exciting development for our school and one that we believe will enhance children's experiences during playtimes while further supporting positive behaviour, wellbeing and friendships. We are grateful to parents for sharing their views and helping

to shape the next stage of our school's development. Mr Ruffell is leading this project and will share further information before the end of term. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to him on the playground before school. We are looking forward to taking this exciting next step together.

Fond Farewells

As we reach the end of another school year, we also say goodbye to some very special members of the Ingleby Mill team.



Earlier this term, Mr Morgan retired from his role as Caretaker after 16 years of dedicated service to Ingleby Mill. Working tirelessly behind the scenes, he has played an important role in ensuring our school remained a safe, welcoming and well-maintained environment for everyone. We thank him for his commitment to our school community and wish him every happiness in his retirement.

At the end of this academic year, Mrs Simmonds will be leaving us to take up a new role as Assistant Headteacher at Rossmere Academy in Hartlepool. This is a thoroughly deserved promotion and recognition of the commitment, skill and passion she brings to education every day. Whilst her departure is undoubtedly a significant loss for Ingleby Mill, we are incredibly proud of her achievement. The children and families at her new school are extremely fortunate to be welcoming her, and we wish her every success as she embarks on this exciting next chapter of her career.

Finally, we come to the end of an absolute era at Ingleby Mill. After 32 years of service, Mr Carter has decided it is time to hang up his keys and step away from his role as Site Manager. It is difficult to put into words the impact Mr Carter has had on our school. Across more than three decades, he has welcomed generations of children and families through our gates, often being

one of the first smiling faces they saw each morning. Quite simply, Mr Carter is part of the fabric of Ingleby Mill. His dedication, commitment and pride in our school have helped keep everything running smoothly for an incredible 32 years. School will not be quite the same without him. On behalf of everyone at Ingleby Mill, past and present, thank you, Mr Carter, for everything you have given to our school community. I am sure you will join me in wishing him every happiness, good health and adventure in the years ahead.

Safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please do not hesitate to contact a member of our safeguarding team:

- Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): Janis Williams, Headteacher
- Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): Andy Ruffell, Deputy Headteacher
- Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL): Andrae Dent, Assistant Headteacher
- Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL): Micheala Lake, SENDCO

During the summer holidays, school email accounts will only be monitored periodically and should not be used to report urgent safeguarding concerns. If you have an immediate concern about the safety or wellbeing of a child, please refer to the Safeguarding section of the school website, where you will find key contact details for Children's Services and emergency support agencies, alongside further safeguarding information and resources.

Diary Dates

As the year has progressed, we have been regularly reviewing the calendar of events at Ingleby Mill, enabling us to plan ahead for the 2026/27 academic year. We will finalise this process by the end of term and, when we return in September, we will be able to

share key dates with you. We know how important it is for families to be part of these special school memories and experiences with their children. We also appreciate that advance notice helps you plan around work and other commitments, so we are pleased to be able to provide greater clarity and certainty for the year ahead.

PD Days 2026-2027

Tuesday 1st September 2026
Wednesday 2nd September 2026
Friday 4th December 2026
Friday 28th May 2027
Monday 7th June 2027



School finishes for the summer on Friday 17 July, and we look forward to welcoming the children back for the start of the new academic year on Thursday 3 September. As we reach the end of another successful year, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of everyone at Ingleby Mill, to thank you sincerely for your continued support. Your encouragement, partnership and trust are greatly valued and play an important role in helping us provide the very best opportunities for our children to learn, grow and thrive. This year has been filled with so many achievements. Our children have embraced challenges, seized new opportunities, developed their knowledge and skills, and grown in confidence and character. Most importantly, they have continued to become the very best versions of themselves, and we could not be prouder of all they have accomplished. As the school year draws to a close, we wish you and your families a safe, happy and restful summer. Thank you for being such an important part of our school community. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September, refreshed and ready for another exciting year together.

With best wishes,
Mrs Williams

