



Hob Moor Oaks

17TH JULY



Dear Parents, Carers, and Families,

I wanted to take this opportunity as we close the academic year to share some reflections on what has been a truly remarkable year at Hob Moor Oaks.

First and foremost: to our pupils, you make every single day worth it. You inspire us daily, and it has been an absolute privilege to celebrate your progress this year. Whether it was taking first steps, speaking first words, learning to communicate on a device, or finding comfort in co-regulation through hugs and squeezes; whether it was mastering eye-pointing to make your needs heard, running in a sports day race, or boarding a 60-seater coach for our whole-school trip—you have shone. For those pupils who still find school a tricky place to be, please know that we will continue to work hand-in-hand with your families to support and celebrate every single step forward.

As this chapter closes, I want to share a heartfelt thank you to Sarah Taylor for our shared Co-Headship. When I returned from maternity leave with my second son, Jonah, we agreed to share this role for two years—and how quickly those two years have flown! This September, I will return as Headteacher, working four days a week.

Sarah has been a wonderful colleague to share this privilege with. We share a deep passion for our pupils' education and care immensely for the talented staff team we lead. We never take for granted the trust you place in us to advocate for your children daily. I know you will all join me in thanking Sarah for her incredible dedication and hard work.

We also recently celebrated two very special members of our team who received their Long Service Awards. Ian Wilson and Paula Thomas have both worked at Hob Moor Oaks for 20 years. Their unwavering commitment and joyful energy make our school a better place, and we are incredibly lucky to have them. Congratulations to you both on this remarkable milestone! We ended July in style with our first-ever whole school trip, and what an overwhelming success it was! While we might have wished for slightly cooler weather, the day was thoroughly enjoyed by so many. Two pieces of parent feedback truly captured what the day meant to our community:

"It was amazing. We could have never brought him somewhere like this on our own, so we are very grateful for the opportunity."

"Well done, Team! It takes so much planning to do a trip like that, especially with children with so many complex needs. We had a great time—thank you! I hope you rest well tonight."

To our wonderful Year 6 pupils: we wish you the absolute best of luck as you transition to secondary school. Keep being your incredible selves, showcase your unique talents to your new class teams, and thank you for the fantastic memories you leave behind. Please keep in touch!

The values of our school are so deeply evident in our daily practice, our community, and our relationships, which makes saying goodbye to departing staff members even harder.

Alistair, Ruby, and Evie are keeping their talents within the special school sector but moving closer to home—their new schools will benefit immensely from their expertise and care. We also wish Anisa and Melissa the best of luck as they relocate to new cities, and Catherine as she takes a well-deserved break. We wish all of our departing colleagues the absolute best in their future endeavors and hope our paths cross again.

Finally, a massive thank you to our entire staff community who make this school the wonderful place it is: our admin and catering teams, support staff, teachers, leaders, governors, and our extended teams in speech and language, physio, OT, nursing, and SEND transport. Your partnership and shared values are what help our pupils reach their full potential.

We wish you all a safe, restful, and happy summer break. We look forward to greeting our pupils back on **Wednesday 9th September.**

Warmest wishes,
Olivia





At the beginning of this week, we had our sports days, which were a huge success! We loved watching our pupils, (and parents!) competitive streaks come through!



Thank you to Shona for her amazing photography, to the staff who supported our children so they could take part, and for so many parents coming along to cheer our children on as well as having a go themselves. Just another great example of our amazing wider school community coming together to create fun and lasting memories. In total, we welcomed just under 100 family members to our Orchard Phase and Wheelchair races, as well as 118 for Woodland and Forest Phase.



7th & 8th September

Staff training -
School closed

Wednesday 9th
September

Pupils return to
school for 2026!

18th October 2026 YORK MARATHON

Joe is the father of Harry, a boy with profound autism and has attended Hob Moor Oaks since 2023. In hopes of giving back to the school, they are running York Marathon to raise £500 to help provide resources needed to support other families like theirs. Any donation is greatly appreciated no matter how big or small.

To donate please follow the link below:
<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/joe-richardsonhmo>

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Hob Moor
Oaks
Graduates
2026



Congratulations
&



GOOD LUCK!

