

Friday 13th February 2026

25 enthusiastic pupils had an unforgettable experience performing at the **Young Voices** concert held at **Sheffield Arena** — one of the biggest children's choir events in the UK.



Young Voices is renowned for bringing together thousands of children from primary schools across the country to form the world's largest school choir. During the event, pupils rehearse a range of songs spanning different musical styles and perform them together on a huge arena stage.

For the 25 pupils, this was much more than a performance. They spent weeks preparing in school, learning lyrics and routines before heading to Sheffield. Once there, they joined nearly 5,000 young singers, creating a powerful and joyful sound that filled the arena.



Parents and family members gathered in the stands to cheer on the young performers, capturing memories of a night many described as "life-changing" and "extraordinary." The event was not only a chance to showcase musical talent but also a wonderful opportunity for the pupils to build confidence, teamwork and lasting friendships.



All agreed the atmosphere was electric — a celebration of music, community and youthful spirit that will be remembered long after the final note was sung.

A huge thank you to the staff who attended and made this event possible, and to Mrs Sharpe, a school governor, who had these kind words: *"The pupils were amazing, obviously the students and staff worked so hard, and it showed on the night. Well done!"*

Dates for your diary...

13th Feb: Last day of school - February Half Term

23rd Feb: Back to school after Half Term Break

3rd March: (Tuesday) LMA celebrates World Book Day – dress up as a word!

4th & 5th March: Year 3 visit National Stone Centre

11th March : Year 5 visit to National Space Centre

18th March: Pastoral & SEND coffee morning – Supporting your child's Sleep Workshop with the school nursing team – 9am school hall

18th March: Las Fallas – Spanish Festival – wear red & yellow

19th March: Year 6 Visit Yorkshire Wildlife Park

25th March: Great LMA Bake Off 2026

26th March: Year 4 visit Bluebell Farm

27th March: Last day of Spring Term - Break up for Easter Holidays

13th April: Summer Term Begins

15th April: Year 4 Residential – Mill Base

3rd June: Pastoral & SEND coffee afternoon 2 - 3pm. Masking: Supporting positive home-school transitions

26th June & 29th June: School INSET days – long weekend.



World Book Day – Preparations!

Langley Mill Academy will celebrate World Book Day on Tuesday 3rd March.

We are excited to announce that this year, we will be celebrating World Book Day with a creative twist! Instead of dressing up as a book character, we are inviting all children to come to school dressed as a word!



Children can choose any interesting, ambitious or **imaginative vocabulary word** and bring it to life through their costume. They might choose words such as *brilliant*, *mysterious*, *gigantic*, *sparkling* or *courageous*. The more creative the better! Costumes can be simple or elaborate – it's all about celebrating the power of language and a love of reading.

Throughout the day, we will be enjoying a range of book-themed activities in class as we celebrate stories, authors and the joy that reading brings.

Prizes will be awarded in each year group for creativity, originality and ambitious vocabulary choices. We can't wait to see our school filled with wonderful words as we come together to celebrate books and reading on World Book Day!

Mrs Wilmot's Apple Tree

I took a unique phone call this week from a gentleman who works in Amber Valley Vineyards, who was searching the local area for a unique apple tree variety, which was possibly lost. The following information was shared over social media:

Mrs Wilmot is a Derbyshire apple, with a recorded link to Langley Mill, named after Mrs Mary Wilmott. It was known and described in the early 20th century but seems to have quietly slipped out of circulation. Even the National Fruit Collection no longer has a living tree, and nurseries don't currently hold graft-wood — which suggests it's not gone, just hiding in plain sight in someone's garden or old orchard!



After school on Wednesday, a Mrs Lewis arrived to cut a few young branches from an apple tree which had been planted in the 1990s. Thriving outside our Year 5 block today, from the large size of the apples and its early harvest season in late August, Mr Lewis believed that it could be highly likely that our apple tree is one of the lost varieties of 'Mrs Wilmot', an ancestor of Langley Mill orchard trees that once grew where the Trent-Barton bus station now stands.



Our Values Award Winners

Our Values Award winners received their certificates this week in our whole school values assembly.

Year 3:

Attenborough: **Aiden P – Respect**
Carson: **Emily – Respect**
Goodall: **Lottie – Determination**

Year 4:

Hadid: **Skyla – Respect**
Kahlo: **Kaylum B – Determination**
Berners-Lee: **Natali – Confidence**

Year 5:

Ayling-Ellis: **Jacob – Respect**
Hawking: **Ryu – Determination**
Tull: **Ellie B – Aspiration**

Year 6

Arkwright: **Joel H – Confidence**
Gregg: **Evan – Determination**
Hallam: **Aliza – Confidence**

RESPECT
CONFIDENCE
DETERMINATION
ENTHUSIASM
ASPIRATION
KINDNESS

This award recognises pupils **for living our school values and** inspiring others to follow. Well done to you all!

Attendance

Overall attendance this week was 94.2% and our top 3 classes were:

Hadid 98.6%

Hawking 97.4%

Arkwright 97.2%



We work together to ensure good school attendance: we are here to support the children and our families. Attendance support will be provided by our whole school team, with our Family Support Worker available to signpost help and services. [Langley Mill Academy - Early help](#) & [Langley Mill Academy - Attendance](#)

Safer Internet Day 2026 - AI



Mrs Connellan this week held an assembly on how artificial intelligence is affecting our world and how we use the internet. Focus was on how we could use artificial intelligence responsibly, respectfully, and safely in our everyday lives. We learned how AI tools could support our learning and creativity, while also discussing the importance of protecting our privacy and thinking critically about the information AI provides. Together, we reflected on how to be informed, kind, and responsible digital citizens in an AI-powered world. It was interesting to listen to children's answers in the assembly and learn how much they value real world friendships.

Safer Internet Day information and resources are provided for parents and carers here: [Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

Children's Mental Health week

During Children's Mental Health

Week 2026, we explored the theme "This Is My Place," focusing on the importance of belonging. The children talked about the people, places, and activities that help them feel safe, valued, and happy. As part of our learning, we created island pictures filled with things that are important to us, such as family, friends, hobbies, and favourite memories. This creative activity encouraged thoughtful conversations about what makes each of us unique and how we can support one another. It was wonderful to see the children expressing themselves so confidently and celebrating the special places where they feel they truly belong.



Further information can be found here: [Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week - Official site](#)

Celebrations from home



Georgia had an amazing time attending Strictly Come Dancing yesterday in Nottingham yesterday evening. She loved watching the live performances from Strictly Come Dancing and said the atmosphere was incredibly exciting. It was a truly memorable experience that she will be talking about for a long time.



For their geography enquiry home learning project, Jasper and Julia created fantastic volcano models. Jasper even made his volcano erupt at home using baking soda, creating an



exciting and realistic explosion. Julia's model was just as impressive, lighting up red to look like real flowing lava during an eruption. Both projects showed great creativity and a brilliant understanding of how volcanoes work.

Sporting Achievements.



At the Amber Valley dodgeball competition held at Heanor Leisure Centre, our teams represented the school brilliantly and finished in 4th place overall. The children demonstrated excellent sportsmanship throughout the event, showing respect, teamwork, and encouragement towards both their teammates and other schools.



Congratulations to Eddie in Year 3 and Julia in Year 4 who have both progressed in their swimming stages. Eddie has now moved into Stage 6 and Julia – who shared her certificate with our celebration assembly today – has achieved stage 7. Well done to both!