

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2025

2024/25 No: 36



01904 768325 (option 3)



@RalphBPSch\_York



[www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk](http://www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk)



## Acting Headteacher's Message



### A Visit from the Lord Mayor of York

The children were very excited to welcome a special visitor to school on Wednesday, The Rt Hon the Lord Mayor of York, Councillor Martin Rowley BEM. Dressed in his traditional red robes and wearing his official badge of office, the Lord Mayor explained the significance of his attire and shared insights into his important role. Children from across the year groups asked thoughtful, sensible questions and were highly engaged throughout the assembly. The Lord Mayor spoke about his work, his aspirations, and encouraged the children to believe in themselves, reminding them that with determination and effort, they can succeed in whatever they put their minds to.

### Talking and Listening to Our Friends



In Monday morning's assembly, we talked about how, as we approach the end of the academic year, with warmer weather and everyone feeling a little more tired, it is natural that we might sometimes fall out with our friends. We discussed the importance of talking to each other and really listening when things go wrong. By taking the time to talk calmly, we can better understand what has happened and begin to see things from another person's point of view. This helps us to repair friendships and build stronger, more respectful relationships with one another.

### Year 5/6 Production: "Wonderland" Rehearsals Underway!

Rehearsals are now in full swing for our exciting Year 5/6 production, Wonderland! The children have been working incredibly hard, learning lines, songs, and choreography, and their enthusiasm is shining through. There's a real buzz around school as the performance takes shape, and we are sure our parent/carers audience will be in for a real treat. We can't wait to share this magical show with you next week!

We wish everyone a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

*Helen Stephenson*



Please ensure that all school dinners are [booked and paid for](#) (if applicable), before 8:55am each morning. This avoids your child having any issues with receiving a meal. Thank you.



[www.parentcarerforumyork.org](http://www.parentcarerforumyork.org)



# NEWS LETTER



[Connect@pcforyork.co.uk](mailto:Connect@pcforyork.co.uk)

Attached to this Newsletter

This Week's Attendance



Thank you for supporting your child to attend school as much as possible.



Going to school **every day** can help your child experience new things.

For more information on school absence in York visit:  
[www.york.gov.uk/SchoolAttendance](http://www.york.gov.uk/SchoolAttendance)



## Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



This week in phonics, we have revised reading words which have the suffix endings **er** and **est**. An example of these are **sprinter** and **softest**. We have learnt that adding these endings changes the meaning of the words. Adding **er** changes the word from a verb to a noun, for example **print – printer**. Adding **est** changes the word into a superlative which is a word that means the most, for example **soft – softest**. We have also reviewed our Phase 4 learning, prior to carrying out our half-termly assessments next week.

In maths, the children have explored 2D and 3D shapes. They have recalled the names of shapes and some of their properties. For example, a triangle has three sides and three corners. They have enjoyed using shapes to create pictures of dinosaurs and building models.



In our RE lessons this term, we have been learning about belonging. The children began by discussing what teams and groups they belong to. Then they learnt about how Christians know that children are special to God. Then, they have learnt about infant Christian baptism. This week, the children learnt about the Muslim naming ceremony Aqiqah. During the ceremony, the baby has prayers whispered into their ear and money is donated to charities in the name of the baby.



On Wednesday, the children were excited (if also a little nervous) to meet their new teachers for Year 1. They all returned from their transition visits with smiles and they were able to share their feelings about what they were looking forward to next year. We shall be talking about this more over the coming weeks and there will also be another chance to visit new classes, next week.



### **Important reminders**

There will be no library visit next week, due to additional activities on the calendar. Class 2 will have their final visit to the library on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July.

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July, we shall be visiting the beach. Please refer to the initial letter for more information and for a list of necessary items to bring along on the day. Any questions, please ask.

Please ensure PE days are in school for Thursday and Friday, in the next two weeks.

### **Important Reminder**

Please don't hesitate to discuss any questions or concerns with us.

**Mrs Robinson, Mrs Greenwood and the Reception team**





## Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)



It has been lovely to enjoy some more summer sun this week but it has also been great to see our wonderful children shining brightly too. This week we have been learning about structures in DT and how engineers use different shapes and materials for their strength and stability. We took a trip to Ethel Ward playground and investigated the play equipment there, seeing how they had been designed and

built to fit the design brief of being safe, strong and fun to use. We saw that a lot of wood and metal was used because they are strong materials and that the structures were made from triangles and rectangles because these are strong, sturdy shapes. We were also interested to learn that the ropes on the climbing frames had metal cores that would not rot and fray as the ropes did. Back in school, we used these same engineering concepts to design our own playground equipment models. We thought about how we could make them strong and the materials we could use when we build them.



As part of our PHSE work looking at money skills, we have started to think about where money comes from and how we can save it. We learned about all the different ways that we can get money (e.g. as gifts or through pocket money). We focused particularly on earning money and how people get paid for doing jobs. We thought about the way that people are selected for jobs and the skills and qualities that they need to be able to do them. We even had the opportunity to apply for jobs that we would like to do. We filled out an application form and explained which skills made us suitable for the role. We talked about how employers hold interviews to select the right people and that the employees then get paid for doing the jobs.



We were so proud of our children on Wednesday when they met their new class teachers and classes on our first transition morning. It was wonderful to reflect on just how far every single child has come this year, whether they are moving into Year 2 or Key Stage 2. It was also lovely to see the children in their new classes getting to know each other and the adults they will be with next year. There will be more transition sessions running over the next two weeks, and activities and support to help the children prepare for next year's classes.

Well done, Key Stage 1. The finish line is in sight so let's make the final 2 (and a bit) weeks the best ever to finish with a bang!

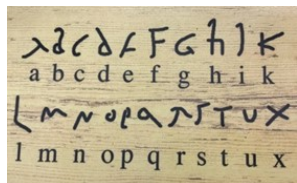
**Mrs Atkinson, Miss Tattersley, Miss Griffiths & Mr Merrall**





## Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

This week in science, we have continued with our plants topic and looked at the seven life processes: movement, reproduction, sensitivity, nutrition, excretion, respiration and growth. We discussed how these life processes apply to humans, other animals and plants and why each of them are vital to the life of a living creature. Afterwards, we explored the question 'What conditions do cress seeds need to grow?'. To find out, we planned and prepared a comparative test and formed our own predictions. We placed cress seeds on cotton wool in petri dishes and placed one in a sunny area, one in darkness and one in a cold fridge. We withheld water from another and had a control dish so we were able to draw comparisons. From the observations that we have done throughout the week, it is looking like our predictions were correct. The children will continue their observations and form their final conclusions next week.



It was lovely that so many parents / carers could join us on Monday afternoon to celebrate the work that the children have done in history on the Romans. We hope you enjoyed viewing the children's chariots and having a go at writing a short message in Roman script.

As the end of the school year is approaching, we would appreciate all reading for pleasure books to be returned to school by Friday 11th July. Thank you!



As always, please do come and speak with us if you have any queries, questions or would like to share any news with us.

We hope that you have a lovely weekend.  
**Mr Daniel, Miss Clapham and Mr Povey**

**York Armed Forces Day Trail 2025**

Join in on 5 July, 10am-4pm at West Offices with fun activities and discover the places in York linked to its amazing military heritage.

Start at West Offices, Station Rise where you can browse stalls and pick up useful information. Then pick up your trail map and special offers from our proud sponsors, and enjoy your day! It's one of the ways the city thanks you for your service.

Find out more by emailing [armedforcescovenant@york.gov.uk](mailto:armedforcescovenant@york.gov.uk) or visiting [www.york.gov.uk/YorkArmedForcesDay](http://www.york.gov.uk/YorkArmedForcesDay) or scan:

Learn more about the Armed Forces Covenant in York at: [www.york.gov.uk/ArmedForcesCovenantAndYou](http://www.york.gov.uk/ArmedForcesCovenantAndYou)

**JOIN US FOR HAXBY TOWN CARNIVAL**

**SATURDAY 12TH JULY 12:45PM TO 5.00PM**

Attractions include: CITY OF YORK PIPE BAND, GENERATION GROOVE LIVE BAND, PROFESSOR DAN, JOE'S EXOTICS, MINIATURE STEAM TRAIN, TOMBOLA AND MUCH MORE!

**FREE ENTRY**

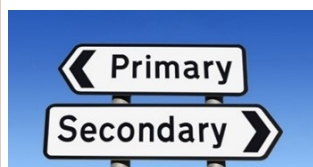
ON ETHEL WARD PLAYING FIELD  
CARNIVAL PROCESSION 12:45PM FROM GREY FIRS

ALL MONEY RAISED IS DONATED TO LOCAL CHARITIES

HOSTED BY **YorkMix RADIO**

## Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)

The staff were delighted to meet their new pupils this week. We welcomed the new Year 5s to Upper Key Stage 2 and began to get to know our new classmates. Our new teachers told us about themselves and we had the opportunity to share information about ourselves. We cannot wait to get together again next week!



We have had some fantastic feedback from the soon to be Year 7s and their day(s) out to their various secondary schools. They talked excitedly about the lessons they had undertaken and the new friends they had made.



### Reading books

We would like to request that all of our reading scheme books and reading for pleasure books are returned to school during the week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> July please. All books will then be audited to ensure we have all books ready for September. Please return any books regardless of when these were taken home during the year. The children will continue to practise their reading in school but they will not bring any reading books to share with you. Thank you for your support.

### Evening Performance of *Wonderland* - Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July @ 5:30.

Please make sure that all children (unless already notified to school staff) return to school at 5:00 pm in order to prepare for their production. All children will need to be **collected by an adult** after the evening performance at ~6:45pm.



Please contact us or speak to us directly if you have any questions or concerns.

**Mr Bennett, Mr Carpenter Mrs Fitzpatrick and Mr Tod**

## Healthy Snacks

As part of our commitment to promoting healthy eating habits and ensuring the safety of all children, we kindly ask that you send only a healthy, nut-free snack with your child for their break time. This helps support their well-being and avoids any potential allergy risks for other children. Where appropriate, please keep this snack separate from your child's packed lunch. We appreciate your cooperation in helping create a safe and nutritious environment for everyone.

Thank you for your understanding.



# New to music? Join Yorchestra!

Are you just starting your musical journey?  
Play, learn and grow with us!

## Young Strings & Young Wind



Beginner - Grade 1

2 mornings in the Easter, Summer  
and Christmas Holidays



Primo

Grade 1 - 2

1 day in the Easter, Summer and  
Christmas Holidays



### WHAT'S INVOLVED?

- Learn and Grow: develop your skills with guidance from experienced players
- Make Friends: Connect with fellow music enthusiasts
- Play Together: experience the joy of ensemble music

### ABOUT US

Yorchestra runs inspiring orchestral courses through the school holidays for all musicians aged 6-21. Whether you are pre-grade 1 or post-grade 8, you will receive specialist tuition from our team of professional musicians and student tutors.

**Join the Yorchestra family today**

All brass, wind, and string players welcome

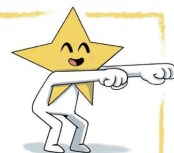
### FOLLOW US ON

Facebook: @Yorchestra  
Instagram: @yorchestrayork  
www.yorchestra.org



THE  
READING  
AGENCY

Summer Reading Challenge

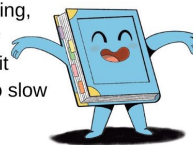


### Summer Reading Challenge launches 12 July!

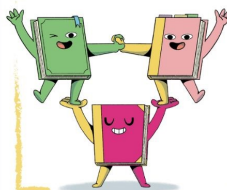
Over the summer children are encouraged to read/share six books of their choice. There are stickers to keep them motivated, and fun activity sheets and character hunts in libraries to complete, and a medal and certificate for all who finish by Saturday 13 September.

All participants will be entered into our weekly summer prize draws and we have some fantastic family tickets up for grabs – including tickets to York Maze, Cinderella at The Grand Opera House, Aqua Splash, Roller Skating, Clip 'n' Climb, and Wonderlab!

Children who are read to or read regularly are more likely to thrive and not just academically. They gain better emotional wellbeing, increased confidence, reduced stress, and a greater imagination! And it's not just the children who benefit – curling up with a good book gives adults chance to slow down, relax, and take a break from the world.



To sign up to the Summer Reading Challenge or to join your library just pop into your nearest branch – it's free, simple, and everyone is welcome.



explore  
Libraries and Archives



## School Uniform Bank

**Drop off your child's clean outgrown uniform, shoes, coats and PE kit and pick up the next size a few days later.**

### DROP OFF POINTS:

**AROMA COFFEE SHOP: MONDAY 14TH JULY - 23RD JULY**

**HAXBY AND WIGGINTON METHODIST CHURCH:**

**9.30-4PM WEDNESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JULY**

Pick up the next size on  
Saturday 26th July 10-2pm  
and have a cuppa and cake while  
you are there. It's free but any  
donations will go to Refugee  
Action York



**HAXBY AND WIGGINTON  
METHODIST CHURCH**



If you have any queries, please contact Lorraine Jones our Family Worker on 07850 631168 or email at families@hwmc.org.uk