



The following NHS page helps parents/carers by providing guidance on common childhood illnesses: [click here](#)



Acting Headteacher's Message

Assembly

At Ralph Butterfield Primary School we are proud to have a diverse curriculum and we have worked hard to embed black history within the curriculum, across the school, throughout the year. While black history is celebrated year-round, Black History Month is marked annually. It recognises and values the inspirational individuals and events that have shaped the black generation. During Black History Month, we remember and celebrate the important people from the past and also those who contribute to and help our society today.

Our whole school Monday assembly introduced this year's theme of "Reclaiming Narratives" and within lessons children will learn about the experience of significant black British figures. Using this approach in the classroom is a great way of giving children the opportunity to learn stories about true black heroes, their contributions to society, and their achievements in the UK and around the world.

Homework

Homework is a part of education that can be tricky to manage for both schools and parents/carers; opinion on its value and what/how much should be set, varies between schools and between families (as the previous government's guidelines do not set a standardised, legal expectation). We are aware that there is a lot of discussion around homework at the moment, which is good as debate is healthy and we like to know parents'/carers' views. Views recently shared with us include feelings that we set too much homework/it is too challenging, whilst others have shared they are happy with the quantity and tasks set but others would like more and/or for it to be more challenging. However, I think we would all agree that homework is generally accepted as part of school life; it reinforces learning from the classroom, develops skills such as independent study and values such as perseverance. It is also good preparation for secondary school, where the homework expectations are higher.

Whilst we undertake a review of our homework expectations, please encourage your child/ren to complete as much of the homework as they can in the time suggested by each phase. If they become upset with it at all, they should stop and speak to their teacher the following day.

We understand that some weeks are busier than others for families and/or circumstances mean it is not appropriate to expect your child to complete homework. Please rest assured that non-completion of homework will not result in sanctions; your child may still be present when feedback/discussion from the homework is shared in class though.

We will be in touch again regarding homework in the spring term. If you have any further queries, please do get in touch.

Helen Stephenson



Harvest Festival

We are incredibly grateful for the generous donations you have provided for our Harvest Festival. Your contributions will make a significant difference in supporting those in need within our community. We are pleased to inform you that a volunteer from Carecent will be visiting our school to collect the donations on Monday 7th October. Additionally, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Emily from YoYo for leading our Harvest Festival assembly and for her work with the children in the EYFS and KS1.





Haxby Playgroups

Headlands & Ralph Butterfield Preschools

'Play is essential for children's development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, relate to others, set their own goals and solve problems. Children learn by leading their own play, and by taking part in play which is guided by adults.'

Statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Spaces now Available!

WHAT WE OFFER:

- ✓ Long serving and highly skilled team of staff
- ✓ Expertise in speech and language
- ✓ Outdoor play
- ✓ Real life experiences
- ✓ Supportive transitions to school
- ✓ Open 9 until 3 term time only

TESTIMONIALS:

'My child has loved his time at HPG and thrived in your care. His interests have been encouraged and he has been supported in all areas of his development. HPG is really special where it feels like all the children are cherished.'

'HPG is a wonderful setting where my child feels happy, nurtured and supported in every aspect of his learning and development. The staff are incredible and help the children grow in independence'

2, 3 and 4 year old funding accepted!

Headlands Preschool: 01904 768966
Ralph Butterfield Preschool: 01904 762776

For more information visit:
www.haxbyplaygroups.org.uk





Going to school every day makes it easier for your child to keep up in lessons.

For more information on school absence in York visit:
www.york.gov.uk/SchoolAttendance



This Week's Attendance



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

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Wow! What a busy week we have had in Reception this week. We hope you enjoyed seeing all our learning in the classrooms during our 'Stay and Play' mornings. The children were very excited to explore the activities with you all. Don't worry if you didn't manage to get to a session this week, there will be many more opportunities during the year.



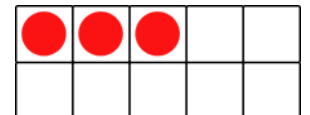
This week in **phonics**, we have learnt four new phonemes: ck, e, u and r. It was exciting to be introduced to our first diagraph (2 letters that make one sound) 'ck'. We normally find this at the end of words. For example, duck, peck, sock.

Once children have an ability to sound out and blend words, we begin to read books with words. Some children will have brought home these books this week. Please encourage the children to sound out and blend the words in order to read their book. If your child is continuing to read a wordless book, please enjoy discussing the events in the pictures and making up your own stories with these.

This week, the children have found out about Pantosaurus. They watched his song and heard his message. This song teaches children that their pants are special because it covers up their private parts. It also teaches children how to respond if someone asks to see/touch their private parts - with a firm "No". The children listened well to the song and engaged positively with the message. If you would like to watch the song, please follow this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LnroTxx7USI>



In **Maths** this week, we have continued to explore the numbers 1, 2 and 3. This included counting and representing these numbers on a tens frame. We played a game which you could play at home too. Clap your hands and ask your child how many claps they heard or drop items into a pot and ask them to count the number of objects.



Celebrating Harvest has been our theme for the week. We have enjoyed talking about all the food farmers produce and harvest for us to eat. We read the story of 'The Little Red Hen' as she harvested her wheat and made it into bread. At the end of the week we had some special visitors from Yo-Yo who came to talk us about the ways in which Harvest is celebrated by the Christian faith.

Just a little reminder...

Monday – please return your child's Little Wandle Reading Book and Reading for Pleasure book.

Wednesday or Thursday – your child will receive their new Little Wandle Reading Book.

Friday – Please bring homework folders (and keyword chains) to be updated.

Well done to the children for another fantastic week in Reception!

Mrs Robinson, Mrs Greenwood and the Reception team



Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

We have had another very busy week of learning in Key Stage 1 this week. We have been learning all about the world around us on different scales from our local and surrounding area, to places further afield in the UK and to places in other continents around the world! This week, we made our very own maps of the world. It was great fun and was an opportunity for us to display all of the geographical skills and knowledge that we have learnt over the last four weeks. In English, we used this experience to inspire our instruction writing as we explained how to make a map to our readers. We learned that the instructions need to be in chronological order so that things happen in the right sequence and that each instruction needs to have an imperative (bossy) verb at the start; this makes it clear and easy to follow. We also looked at the structural features of instruction texts, such as "you will need" lists and headings. We worked hard on our writing and the resulting texts were clear and well-thought-out. Well done Key Stage 1!



In science, we have been learning about animals, including humans. This week, we started to learn about the human body. We created some large diagrams of the body by drawing around a volunteer on a large piece of paper and then labelling the image by sticking the names of the body parts in the correct place. It was lovely to see how well our teams worked together, communicating in order to display and share their scientific knowledge and vocabulary.



On Friday, we had a special visit from our friends at YoYo! They came into our classes and delivered a lesson about Harvest Festival. We learned about why it is such a special time of year for some Christians and how it is an opportunity to say thank you to God for the food that we eat. We also talked about how it is a time to think of people who are less fortunate than ourselves and how we can share by giving to charities that help feed hungry people. Our visitors were so impressed by how thoughtful our children were when they discussed values of compassion and respect.



Well done as always, Key Stage 1. Keep up the good work!

Mrs Atkinson, Miss Tattersley, Miss Griffiths and Mr Merrall





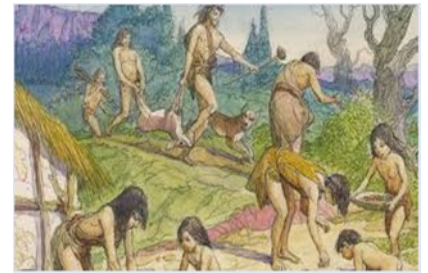
Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

Despite the torrential rainfall this week, the children have not let this dampen their spirits and enthusiasm for their learning.

The Year 3 and 4 children rose to the challenge of our first virtual PE competition this week and participated in the 'Cooper Run'. The children were very supportive of each other and they demonstrated great determination and endurance during the 12 minute timed run. Well done everyone and we hope you've got your breath back!



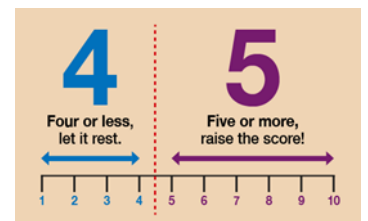
Our history topic this term is 'Stone Age to Iron Age - From Flint to Iron' and this week we have been learning about the Palaeolithic Period (Early Stone Age) and how people survived by being hunter gatherers. The children discovered that during this time, people lived a nomadic lifestyle which meant that they did not settle in proper homes but rather moved around the country in search of food. Believe it or not, they would shelter in caves or sleep under trees! Everything they ate, had to be found or caught. On land, they would hunt wild animals using wooden spears but would also hunt fish in nearby rivers and seas. The children also learnt that hunter gathers would go into local woods and forests to collect wild berries, fruit, nuts and seeds to eat. Next week, the children will be exploring some of the key developments that occurred later in Neolithic Period (New Stone Age) and into the Bronze and Iron Age that changed the way people had been living forever.



Hundreds	Tens	Ones
100	10	1
1	2	8

In maths, all three classes have begun the year learning about 'Place Value and Number'. The children have learnt to read and write numbers and recognise the value of digits in 3 and 4 digit numbers, beginning with the use of 'concrete' apparatus and pictorial representations. The children have had further opportunities to

demonstrate their understanding of place value through ordering and comparing numbers to 1,000 and beyond and explaining the reason for their choices. As well as this, the children have been learning to round numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000 as a way of approximating answers to their calculations mentally. The children have really impressed us with their growing understanding of the number system and are ready to face the challenge of addition and subtraction in the coming weeks!



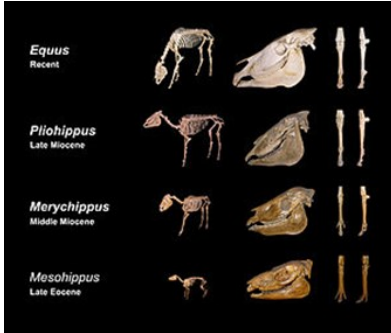
As always, please do come and speak with us if you have any queries, questions or would like to share any news with us.

**We hope that you have a relaxing and rain--free weekend.
Mr Daniel, Miss Hodgson, and Miss Clapham**



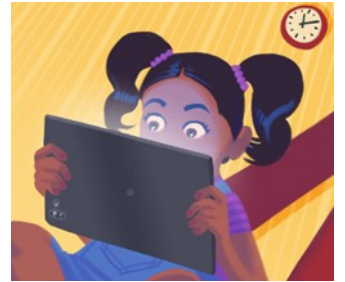


Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)



In science this week, we considered the way in which animals have evolved to better adapt to their habitats. We looked closely at the images of a horse skeleton and compared it to the evolutionary predecessors. On closer inspection, we were able to identify the ways in which the bones had changed as part of natural selection. We hypothesised as to the advantages of these adaptations.

This week in computing, we have been considering the amount of time we spend on using technology and our weekly 'screen time'. We analysed the data and were surprised to realise that a large proportion of our time was spent on screens and the impact that this has on our day-to-day lives. Following this, we considered the measures that we could put in place to maintain a healthy, balanced lifestyle.



This week, Mr Tod and Mr Bennett's maths sets have been extending their understanding of addition. We have looked at adding large numbers in columns and applied our understanding to a range of problems including decimals. In Mrs Fitzpatrick and Mr Carpenter's maths set, we have explored multiplying and dividing numbers by 10, 100 and 1000. We learnt that when multiplying or dividing by powers of 10, the individual digits within a given numbers will move, as they increase or decrease in value, to the left when multiplied and the right when divided.

Just as a reminder, homework will be given to your child on a Friday, to be returned no later than the following Wednesday. The homework will include a maths task and another curriculum based task. All children have again been reminded that they must not spend more than 45 minutes on each task. It would be helpful if you could please initial your child's homework to acknowledge that you have seen it.

Please do not hesitate to contact us or speak to us directly if you have any questions or concerns.

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

Mr Bennett, Mr Carpenter, Mrs Fitzpatrick and Mr Tod





PTA News

Joining the Team

At the AGM last week, we unfortunately did not fill all our PTA Committee positions and didn't get many volunteers sign up!

So, we are still looking for a **Chair, Co-Vice Chair** and **Vice Treasurer** to join our committee (and be charity trustees). We did fill some roles though:

- Treasurer - Clare Parr
- Secretary - Celia Cameron
- Co-Vice Chair - Claire Hoskin (welcome to the committee!)

CHAIR

provides leadership, sets the agenda for meetings, welcomes all new members and works closely with Vice Chairs, Treasurer and Secretary. The Chair is usually the point of contact for school. The Chair provides an annual report at the end of each year at the AGM, co-signs cheques and ensure policies are adhered to.

CO-VICE CHAIR (2 roles)

provides leadership and works closely with the chair to ensure that the group is run effectively and has enough volunteers for events to run. Takes a lead in organising some events. Often the vice chair may wish to become the chair at a later stage and so this role is a great way to learn what is needed. The Vice Chair will write newsletter updates and social posts.

VICE – TREASURER

this role supports the Treasurer with managing the PTA funds and ensure financial controls are adhered to. There is an expectation that when the treasurer steps down that this role will step into this position.

We really need volunteers to fill these roles or just to join the team!

We have arranged a very relaxed drop-in session –

on **Wednesday 9th October** at **Haxby Sports Bar** between **6.30-8pm** for anyone to come along and have a chat

Currently we are **not** able to run larger events (like the discos, secret rooms, and the summer fair) until we get enough volunteers and fill the Committee positions so we really hope this helps our numbers and support!

Please email ralphbutterfield.pta@gmail.com if you can't come but would like to help or have any questions.

We also have a [Facebook page](#) which includes more details about the positions.



A Bags2School collection will take place on **Monday 14th October at 9am** – when we ask you to bring in unwanted clean and usable old clothes, sheets, towels, bags and paired shoes. These are collected and raise money for school.

We will collect unwanted excellent condition logo school uniform too (polo, cardigans and jumpers) plus any unwanted winter coats

If you are having a sort out – please do keep it for us!



PTA News

Christmas Cards

The Christmas Card proofs have arrived. Please look in bags for these and see the letter sent out by school for instructions. All orders raise money for school.

Christmas card and gift orders must be made by

midday on Wednesday 16th December!

This date is set by class fundraising to ensure your orders are dispatched well before Christmas .



Holiday Activity Session

Tuesday 29th October

11:30pm-1:30pm

at the New Earswick Folk Hall
and New Earswick Swimming Pool

Family Swim!

11:30pm - 12:30pm Swimming session at New Earswick Swimming Pool

12:30pm - 1:30pm Food and crafts at the Folk Hall

- Most suitable for 3-12yrs
- FREE pack up lunch, snacks and a cooked meal to take away
- All children must be accompanied by an adult. 1 adult per 2 children aged under 8yrs. Over 8yrs MUST have an adult in the pool with them
- Please do not bring inflatables, snorkels or fins. Floating aids such as arm bands or baby ring allowed.
- Pre-book only

All activities are FREE.
Places are limited, please
book at the Folk Hall
reception or by calling
01904 769621

