



Ralph Butterfield Primary School School Newsletter



Friday 6th January 2023

2022/23 Newsletter No: 14



01904 768325 (option 3)



@RalphBPSch_York



www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk

Headteacher's Message

Welcome Back!

On behalf of all the staff at Ralph Butterfield Primary School, I would like to wish everyone a happy New Year; I do hope that 2023 brings all of our families many joyful times and some wonderful opportunities.

One opportunity that you may be interested in, is becoming a parent governor. A parent governor is a volunteer, usually a parent/carer of a child currently attending the school, who has the enthusiasm to contribute towards the effective governance and overall success of the school. Parent governors are appointed through an election process; I will be sending parents/carers all of the information needed for this by the end of next week. Do please look out for this and consider joining our dedicated board of governors. It is a great way to get to know more about the school and have a further positive impact on school life.

Our governing board is also seeking to appoint a co-opted governor. A co-opted governor is an individual from the community who can work with the governing board to appropriately support and challenge the school. This person would not be a parent/carer of a child at our school. Our governing board would be very grateful if you could please have a think about anyone you know e.g. socially or through work, who may be interested. Please ask them to contact school and we can arrange for them to have a no obligation, informal chat with our chair of governors to find out more about the role. Thank you.

A further opportunity we have available is for a midday supervisor. This is a brilliant role to have at Ralph Butterfield Primary School - one where such a positive difference can be made through interactions with the children and ensuring they have a safe and enjoyable lunch time. We are also fortunate to have a really enthusiastic and caring team of MSAs who would be welcoming and supportive of their new team member. We can be really flexible with days if someone is interested but cannot to commit to every day. Please do mention this role to anyone who may be interested and further details can be obtained from the school office. If you wanted just to find out more about the job, we could arrange an informal chat with our senior midday supervisor.

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) have published a blog that you may be interested to read: 'Back to school – 5 things to do to help manage winter illness'. This sets out some of the simple actions that parents/carers of school-age children can take to help protect their families and those around them against winter illnesses currently circulating. You can access the blog by [clicking here](#).

As always, please remember that we are fully approachable and always looking to be helpful and supportive. No concern is ever too small to mention and do also share with us what you feel is going well so that we know to keep those things going! Parents/carers can contact us via email (RalphButterfield.school@york.gov.uk) or telephone (01904 768325 option 3) and if you are able to do drop off/pick up, you will find class teachers and support staff on the playground at these times. I also endeavour to keep myself available for parents/carers first thing in the morning.

I look forward to seeing everyone soon.

Liz Clark

Attendance & Absence Policy

Our Attendance and Absence Policy was updated in December and can be viewed on our website or by clicking [here](#).

Please remember that all 'Leave of absence' requests require the completion of the 'Application for pupil leave of absence from school' form. These also need completing for medical and dental appointments known about in advance; please do show evidence of appointments where you have it. Please be aware that there is no entitlement to additional holidays outside of normal school holiday times. The policy does make clear what is and isn't eligible for consideration in relation to pupil leave of absence requests. As a school, we are always available to talk through any concerns that you may have; please don't hesitate to contact myself via the school if you have any questions or concerns.

A reminder that, should you need to inform us that your child is unwell, and unable to attend school, their absence should be reported by 8:55am. Please report daily absence via our online reporting form ([click here](#)) or by calling the school (01904 768325 option 1); please do not report absence via the school email account. Thank you.

Mrs Stephenson
Deputy Headteacher and Attendance Lead



Please ensure that your child's items are **labelled!** It is very hard to reunite items with children when they have no name on them.

We have a large amount of Lost Property in our entrance foyer - please take a look!



School Uniform

As we start the new term and following the update to our School Uniform Policy, ([click here to view in full](#)), please read the following reminders regarding the styling of hair and the wearing of jewellery. Thank you for supporting us with this from home.

- For safety reasons, long hair must be tied back at all times during PE lessons.
- We allow pupils to style their hair in a way which is appropriate for school.
- Watches should not be smart watches and not linked to mobile phones.
- Rings, necklaces, bracelets and earrings are a hazard in school:
 - Jewellery may be worn if required for medical reasons, e.g. a medical bracelet. In these circumstances parents/carers must apply in writing to the Headteacher.
 - The wearing of earrings is discouraged in school. If parents opt for their child to wear earrings, they must be small plain gold/silver studs only; hoops and large or dangly earrings are not permitted. Only one pair of small studs is allowed to be worn in school.
 - If a child has had their ears pierced and they are still within the 6 weeks healing period where they cannot take them out, they will need to be taped up for PE before school until the 6-week period is over. This is on the understanding that parents take responsibility for sending their child with earrings in, should their child have an injury as a result of having earrings in.

If you have any concerns; please don't hesitate to contact myself via the school office.

Mrs Stephenson
Deputy Headteacher

School Dinners

Thank you to those parents/carers who regularly book their child(ren)'s meals via ParentPay. We are, unfortunately, still needing to book meals for upwards of 40 children each day, which takes valuable time and impacts upon other essential office tasks. Dinners can be booked on ParentPay up to a term in advance, with children then making their meal choice during morning registration. Can we please request that all dinners are booked, by 9am, on the day which they are required? It is also very useful for parents/carers to have discussed the meal options with their child(ren) before they arrive at school. Thank you for your support with this.

School dinners for Key Stage 2 children (Years 3-6) are charged at £2.40 per day, unless a child is eligible for Free School Meals; all meals need to be paid for upon booking via ParentPay. Thank you. Should a meal be booked manually via the school office, the charge will then appear within your child's ParentPay account; payments should please be made to ensure that no ParentPay account has a balance below £0. If meals are booked, on ParentPay, by parents/carers this also helps to ensure that no debt balances occur. Thank you.

Mrs Sterling & Mrs Mowbray - School Secretaries

Parking away from School

We would again like to encourage families coming to school in a car, to please park away from the school site; parking is available in the car park near Ethel Ward playing field. This enables the section of road directly alongside the school to be so much safer for our children. Thank you.



LIVING autism foundation

autism advice, autism workshops, autism research



Charity No 1178723

Parkhill Business Centre, Walton Road, Wetherby, LS22 5DZ

Half Day Workshop for Parents and Carers

'AUTISM and GIRLS'



Guest presenter: Mike Cowan-Jones

Saturday 28th January 2023

10.00am to 1.00pm

The Bar Convent

17 Blossom Street, York, YO24 1AQ

VOLUNTARY DONATIONS WELCOME

To book your place please email;

enquiries@livingautismfoundation.org

(please include 'Autism Workshop'
in the subject heading)

Previous Feedback: 100% positive

- Excellent presentation
- Good interactivity
- So helpful, insightful
- A wealth of information
- Added hugely to my understanding