

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2024

2024/25 No: 8

 01904 768325 (option 3)

 @RalphBPSch\_York

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

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



## Acting Headteacher's Message

Good afternoon

I hope you have had a positive week. It has been lovely welcoming the children back into school after the half term break.

### Robinwood

Well, what an amazing week our Year 6 children have had on their residential to Robinwood! All staff, who attended with the children, were so proud of their conduct, behaviour and manners; their behaviour was regularly praised by many staff on site. It was also fantastic to hear from the night staff that the children's behaviour had been exemplary whilst in the dormitories with their friends. They are a credit to yourselves and the school.



It was really lovely to hear how the children worked together developing their team building skills to solve problems, overcome challenges and, most importantly, support each other to overcome their own personal challenges and fears. It was also lovely to hear about individuals saying that their confidence has grown and they personally cannot believe what they achieved. The staff could see how the activities helped to develop a range of different skills and build resilience in knowing how to approach and tackle the difficult and challenging situations they were faced with.



For any child who can be selective over what they eat at home, we can promise you that your child ate exceptionally well and no one left the dining room hungry. Apologies if you are being asked to make a full cooked breakfast after cereals and toast!

I would like to thank all the staff who attended Robinwood for giving up their own time to support the children to have a brilliant and safe experience. We are already planning next year's residential trip and our current Year 5 pupils will receive information about this later in the academic year.



### Open evening for prospective parents/carers

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November, we are holding our second open evening for prospective parents/carers with children starting school in September 2025. If you know anyone, who was unable to attend our earlier open evening, please share the date. Thank you.

I hope everyone can enjoy a pleasant and safe weekend.

Best wishes

*Helen Stephenson*



## ODD SOCKS DAY

Anti-Bullying Week 2024 will take place next week, with the theme: **Choose Respect**.

Odd Socks Day is taking place on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November**, with adults and children being encouraged to wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique.

## Children in Need

Children in Need is a charity which supports disadvantaged children and young people all over the UK and on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November** we'd like to join the nation in raising money for this very popular charity. Children are invited to come to school wearing their own clothes on this day, in exchange for a donation to the charity (please ensure clothes are suitable for a day at school). Your child could wear spots or yellow clothes like Pudsey or a Children in Need accessory.



During the week 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> November, if you would like to and are able to make a donation, please do so via Parent Pay. We will then notify you in due course, of how much money has been raised for this very worthy cause.

Thank you

## Author Visit

Toby Glover is a children's author with over 20 books, his range of fun, rhyming stories are popular for all Primary children. His stories feature naughty dolphins, squirrels with nut allergies, ambitious dogs, pet dinosaurs, flying chickens, pirate zombies, green teddy bears and many more! His Mark Shark adventures are in talks to become a new animated series!

Toby has been touring schools and will be visiting us on **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November** to share his stories. His books are available as both paperbacks and ebooks on Amazon, also parents will have the chance to purchase signed copies on the day (card or cash) for £9.99.

If you already have one of Tony's books he is very happy to sign that on the day too.

[www.tobybooktour.com](http://www.tobybooktour.com)

**FABULOUS!**  
British School of Barcelona

**JOYOUS!**  
St. John's Wood Pre-Prep, London

**AMAZING!**  
British Council School, Madrid

**BRILLIANT!**  
St. George's International, Rome

**WONDERFUL!**  
Thomas's Academy, London

**DELIGHTFUL!**  
Benjamin Franklin International, Barcelona

**EXCELLENT!**  
Avenue Prep, London

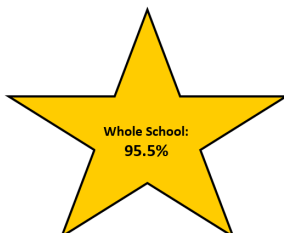
**FANTASTIC!**  
Rosemary Works School, London

**SO MUCH FUN!**  
Guidepost Montessori, Paris

**Toby Glover**  
Children's author & storyteller

[www.tobybooktour.com](http://www.tobybooktour.com) @tobybooktour

### This Week's Attendance



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

Going to school **every day** helps your child to get good qualifications, which will help them to get a job.

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



## Scooters/Bikes on School Playground

A reminder that scooters and bikes should not be mounted/ridden in the school playground. This rule applies to all those on site, at any time of day; younger children should not be riding scooters/bikes whilst waiting for their elder siblings. Thank you.



**Be Bright,  
Be Seen  
Be Safe**

Travel York North Yorkshire City of York YORK



## Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



A huge welcome back to our wonderful Reception children! We have loved hearing about the children's busy half term breaks. They have returned filled with enthusiasm and wonder for another exciting topic: **'Let's celebrate'**. This half term, we will be learning about lots of different festivals and celebrations including the children's own birthday celebrations.

In phonics, we have been so pleased with how the children have retained the phonemes learnt so far! We have learnt three new digraphs this week: ff, ll, ss and the phoneme j. Children have also resumed their reading practice sessions and are enjoying discussing the stories within our wordless and worded books.



In maths, we have focussed on 1 more and 1 less. This has included playing bus journeys with passengers getting on and off the bus and taking 1 less away in songs like 5 Currant Buns and 5 Little Men in a Flying Saucer.

On Monday, the children learnt about celebrating Diwali (following recent celebrations around the world). They enjoyed learning the story of Rama and Sita, finding out how Hindus and Sikhs celebrate this special celebration and made diya lamps.



On Tuesday, the children practised their writing skills to add describing words to their marble rolled firework scenes. It is amazing to see the segmenting being used to spell and write words like pop, whizz (wizz) and bang.

P.E lessons have changed days this term. Both Class 1 and Class 2 met Mr Stephenson from Total Sports on Friday. They began to develop multi-skills in their lesson this week and had lots of fun.

Thank you for sharing entries of your half-term activities on Tapestry. It has been lovely for the children to share these with us.

We would appreciate birthday uploads on Tapestry. This can either be your 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations. These will then be shared as part of our Let's Celebrate topic.



Your children are entitled to free milk until their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. If you would like them to continue to receive this, please visit the Cool Milk website (using the link) to sign up and pay for this. Thank you <https://www.coolmilk.com/>

If you have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to discuss these with us.

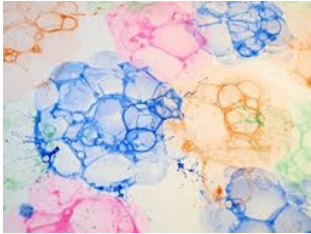
Mrs Robinson, Mrs Greenwood and the Reception team





## Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

On Monday, we had an exciting afternoon to launch our new topic, all about relationships. We were thinking about how we can show respect to other people by being mindful of their personal space, or 'bubble' and staying out of it when not invited in. We did a lovely piece of artwork by making a self portrait and drawing this imaginary bubble around it. We then used paint, mixed with washing up liquid, and straws to blow bubbles and make a colourful patterned background. We also designed our own towns as a way of thinking about the roles and responsibilities that people have in our community. We cut out and stuck down road sections to make a layout and then carefully planned which buildings to add and where to put them to make sure our communities had everything that they needed.



Tuesday was a very special day. It was Bonfire Night! We thought about our experiences of watching fireworks and how we could describe how our senses are impacted. We produced some fantastic artwork by cutting toilet rolls into strips and spreading them outwards. This created a stamp which we then dipped in coloured paint and printed onto black card to create wonderful firework effects. We were so inspired by this that we were able to come up with a huge variety of descriptive language for the sights, sounds and sensations of Bonfire Night. We then used this descriptive language to write fabulous descriptive poems and acrostics.



Hatching



Contour Hatching



Crosshatching

We have had a very creative week indeed and in art we had an opportunity to practise sketching techniques. We developed our observation skills to look carefully at an object and sketch it. We planned our work, drawing marks to plan its size on the page and then carefully copied the

shapes and lines that we saw. We then used different grades of pencil to shade the dark areas to create shadows. We were all very impressed with the care that everyone took when drawing.

What a fantastic first week back it has been, Key Stage 1!

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





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

Year 3 and 4 have had a brilliant start to the second half of the autumn term.

This week, the children have considered what the meaning of this half term's big question, 'Why can't I?' means. This question is linked to the Fundamental British Value 'Rule of Law'. As part of their learning, the children were asked about what rules they have at home and in school. After discussing the rules that they follow, the children identified that as a society we all have rules to abide by as the law. We all agreed that even though there are some rules that we don't like or would like to change, that they are needed to ensure the safety and equal treatment of everyone. The children then identified what the consequences of breaking the law would be compared to breaking a rule.



Our Design Technology project this half term is linked to our overarching topic from Flint to Iron (Stone Age to Iron Age), focusing on materials and construction. The children were very excited to find out that they would be making their very own round house. To begin with, the children were reminded about what houses were like during prehistoric times once people had begun to settle in one place and then they designed their own round house. The children thought very carefully about how the

houses should look and the materials they could use so their house would be a true representation of the time period. Afterwards, the children planned and drew the sequence of actions to produce their house. The plans for the houses are looking fantastic, we can't wait to construct them over the next few weeks.

In computing this week, the children started to learn how to use Logo. Logo is a text-based coding programme used to control an on-screen arrow (turtle) to create mathematical patterns. During their first lesson, the children learnt how to understand and use the language of Logo, for example FD is forward and BK is backwards. They then looked at a set of instructions and predicted what shape it would create. When the children had made their prediction, they had a go at inputting the instructions to see what shape it actually made. Their predictions weren't far off.



This half term, our PE lessons will consist of a mixture of in and outdoor lessons (REAL Gym, REAL PE and the Ultimate Warrior virtual competition). Therefore, please can you ensure that your child/ren has their indoor (including plimsols) and outdoor PE kits in school.

Our PE days are - **Class 6** - Monday and Tuesday / **Class 7** - Monday and Tuesday / **Class 8** - Monday and Wednesday

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 weekend.**

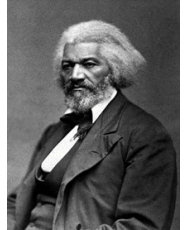
**Mr Daniel, Miss Hodgson, and Miss Clapham**

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



In our reading lessons this week, we have focused on non-fiction texts. We read a selection of short, non-chronological reports and then answered a series of questions about them; this included a focus on retrieval type questions and questions that required us to consider the meaning of the vocabulary. By varying the types of texts that we are reading, we can broaden our understanding of different genres.

This week, as part of our work on Black History Month, we created profiles about the remarkable Frederick Douglass. As we delved into his life, we learned about his incredible journey from slavery to becoming a powerful advocate for freedom and equality. We engaged in research, discussing Douglass's writings and speeches. Our enthusiasm and creativity shone through as we presented our profiles, showcasing not only Douglass's achievements but also the importance of standing up for justice.



This week in computing, we created games on Purple Mash. Using the interactive program 2DIY, we learned the basics of game mechanics. The excitement was palpable as we brainstormed ideas, designed characters and planned engaging settings. We learnt how to upload images and use the drawing tools to create the walls, floor, and roof of our simulated environment before we created a sprite to explore our digital worlds. Once completed we evaluated one another's work and provided constructive feedback.

### Date for your diary!

Monday 11th November we will be holding an art gallery event in our classrooms immediately after school. Please come along to see your child's amazing art work based on the work of Peter Podmore.



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**

## Year 6 Residential Trip

For all parents whose children have not told you what they did whilst at Robinwood, here is a brief summary. All staff and pupils thoroughly enjoyed the range of activities on offer: canoeing, archery, caving, trapeze, giant swing, zip wire, nightline, Knight's Quest, Dungeon of Doom, climbing, team challenge and the infamous Piranha Pool. You can see photos and some short videos of what we got up to on Ralph Butterfield Primary School's X account (formally Twitter).



The activities varied across each day and challenged them in a range of areas: mental, physical, overcoming fears and teamwork. All children completed every task to the best of their individual ability which at times took them out of their comfort zone.



We are very proud of all the children and what they achieved on an individual basis. Their approach to this whole experience was fantastic and the children were a pleasure to take and spend time with. We thoroughly enjoyed being able to spend time with the children outside of the normal school environment, which helped to deepen our relationship with each individual.

Thank you for all your kind messages and we wish all a restful weekend (apart from the washing).



**Mr Bennett, Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Robinson & Mr Keaney**



## PTA News



Thanks for all of the extra volunteers who have come forward to join the PTA team!

- **Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)**

We are pleased to say that we have had some volunteers to take on roles on our PTA Committee. To ensure they are voted in correctly we are organising an EGM at 3.10pm on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November at School – it will be a very brief meeting but everyone welcome so if you'd like to hear more about joining the PTA and meeting some of the team do come along.

Please email [ralphbutterfield.pta@gmail.com](mailto: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.

- **Christmas Cards & Gifts Have Arrived in School!**

Please look out for your items in your child's school bags – these should be coming home with the children after school today (Friday 8<sup>th</sup>) or early next week.

There will be a further opportunity to please another order for cards and gifts using your child's design – **The online shop will be open for 10 days from 15<sup>th</sup> November!** Letter to follow with more information.

- **School Disco – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November!**

We are pleased to announce that we have been able to get together enough volunteers to be able to go ahead with the school disco which will be held after school on 21<sup>st</sup> November.

**Discos will take place at school at the following times:**

**Reception, Year 1 and Year 2: 4.30pm – 5.30pm**

**Years 3 and 4: 5.45pm – 6.45pm**

**Years 5 and 6: 7pm – 8pm**

The cost of the disco will be £3 per child which includes a bag of sweets. There will be a small selection of glow sticks for 20p. Children at Kids Club will be able to attend.

A letter with more information will follow.





### Educational Psychology (EP) Support Line

A confidential telephone support service, staffed by Educational Psychologists, to talk through questions or concerns about children and young people's wellbeing or learning.

Open to all parents/carers of children with additional needs or SEND living in the City of York (who have not had recent EP involvement), and practitioners working with children who live in/attend an educational setting in York.

"It's invaluable"



"I feel confident in the next steps we can take"

"Great service. Very easy to arrange"

"I felt really listened to and supported"

Calls of up to 30 minutes are available

Monthly – the last Wednesday of each month 9.00am – 3.30 pm

Term time only (September 2024 - July 2025)

To book a slot, please e-mail: [EPsupportline@york.gov.uk](mailto:EPsupportline@york.gov.uk) with your name and a contact telephone number.

September 25<sup>th</sup> 2024  
October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024  
November 27<sup>th</sup> 2024  
December 18<sup>th</sup> 2024  
January 29<sup>th</sup> 2025  
February 26<sup>th</sup> 2025  
March 26<sup>th</sup> 2025  
April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2025  
May 21<sup>st</sup> 2025  
June 25<sup>th</sup> 2025  
July 16<sup>th</sup> 2025

Bookings will close on the Friday before each session at 5pm. We will then email you with a time slot for your consultation on the Tuesday.

This is a one-off consultation provided by City of York Educational Psychologists on a rota basis.

Please note: the helpline offers short slots to talk with a psychologist about specific concerns; unfortunately, within the time available, we cannot advise on complex situations where different agencies need to work together to support a child or young person.

# YORK CHOCOLATE THEATRE'S BIRTHDAY PARTY AND CHRISTMAS FAIR



Saturday 16th November

10am to 2pm

Joseph Rowntree Theatre, Haxby Road



Join us for tea, coffee and cake to celebrate the 89th anniversary of our theatre's opening night

Also featuring:

- Father Christmas to meet
- Side show games
- Children's trail around the theatre
- Christmas gifts and decorations
- Photobooth - have fun photos taken



A fundraising event for the Joseph Rowntree Theatre, Registered Charity No 1098329



# Toy Bank



Drop off your child's clean unwanted toys, books or games and pick up another a few days later!

**DROP OFF POINTS:**

**MONDAY MONKEYS PLAYGROUP 25TH NOV 10AM**

**HAXBY AND WIGGINTON METHODIST CHURCH:**

**9.30-4PM THURSDAY 28TH NOVEMBER**

Pick up another toy or two on **Sunday 1st December 1pm-4pm**  
It's free but any donations will go to Refugee Action York.

Don't have anything to hand in? Come and find something anyway!



**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](mailto:families@hwmc.org.uk)

# Christmas Collection Drop off day

Thursday November 28th 9.30am-4pm  
Haxby and Wigginton Methodist Church

ITEMS NEEDED:

Salvation Army: New toys and gifts for children (especially aged 8 and over) and their parents.  
Haxby Food Share need items for hampers: Christmas Crackers, Christmas sweets/chocolate, crisps, biscuits for cheese, yorkshire pudding mix, mince pies, Christmas pudding, custard, cranberry jelly, gravy pots/granules, tinned veg, fresh orange juice. Gluten free or vegan items. Or cash donations to buy fresh items.

Say hello to Santa!



# Be Bright, Be Seen



Stay safe on our roads. Let's look out for each other.

[www.itravelyork.info](http://www.itravelyork.info)

