

Friday 12th September 2025

2025/26 No: 1



01904 768325 (option 3)



@RalphBPSch_York



www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk

Headteacher's Message

Good afternoon

It has been such a joy to be back in school full time. I would like to offer a heartfelt thank you to all parents/carers, staff, children and the wider community for supporting my return and making it feel so smooth. My passion for working to make a positive difference for the children every day is at full throttle and it's wonderful to belong at the heart of this very special school.

A sense of belonging is an important factor in supporting positive mental health. It helps us feel valued, confident, purposeful and ready to take on new challenges. As the theme of my Monday assembly, some children worked together to complete jigsaw puzzles on the wall in the hall. Each piece of a jigsaw puzzle is unique and important on its own, yet only when each piece is in place does a full picture emerge. Our school community works in the same way: every child and every adult is an essential piece, and when we come together, we create something amazing and beautiful.

"A SENSE OF BELONGING IS THE HEARTBEAT OF INCLUSION."

I hope you enjoy reading all about the magic that we have released already this term, in this first newsletter of the academic year.

Please recognise the moments of joy this weekend and remember that the little things are really the big things!

Best wishes

Lizzie Banbury



Looking Ahead - Key Dates for 2025/26

We know how busy family life can be, so we've put together a list of key dates for the 2025/26 academic year. It's **attached to this newsletter** and should help with planning ahead.



A few things to note:

- The list isn't complete - more dates will be shared as they're confirmed.
- The school calendar on our website will be updated next week with the latest information.
- Some events, like productions, will need extra details (e.g. tickets), which we'll share closer to the time.
- Whilst we're planning for everything as listed, a few dates may change - looking this far ahead always involves a bit of "best endeavours."

We hope this helps your family plan with ease. Thank you for your support - we can't wait for another fantastic school year together!



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.

Recorder Club

We are extremely lucky to have a weekly recorder club, held in our school but organised and run by York Music Education. The club is led by Miss Freitas; they meet every Friday morning, 8.00am - 8.45am, in the school hall. The club is now in its 4th year!

The club is for children in Years 3 - 6 and the children build on the recorder skills taught in Year 2.

If your child is interested in attending the recorder club, please click on the following link to sign up.

[Ralph Butterfield Recorder Club](#)

If you have any questions about the club, please email Jill Garside at jill.garside@yorkmusiced.org.uk

Miss Griffiths (Music Lead)



Clare's Kitchen
After School Cookery Club

Do you have a little chef at home who would like to join our team? Clare's Kitchen after-school cookery club meets one night a week for 2 hours to explore lots of fun and delicious recipes together. If your child would like to be a part of our team, contact Clare to know more. This club is for Year groups 1-6.

Follow Clare's Kitchen in schools
<http://www.facebook.com/clareshkitchenyork>
Instagram @clareshkitchenyork
Email clare@clareshkitchen.co.uk
Whatsapp 07813182216



Meet Children's Author
Tom Palmer

Saturday 13 September 2025
10.30-11.30 am



The Blue House Bookshop 10 Bootham, York YO30 7BL



Together we can make our streets safer

Crossing patrol vacancies are at an all time high. Are you free for an hour a day? If so, you can support road safety in your community, with starting pay of £12.80 per hour up to 8 hours per week.

Visit the council's website to find out how you can play a part in your community.

www.york.gov.uk/SchoolCrossingPatrols

Or, for a chat about the role, call: 01904 555579

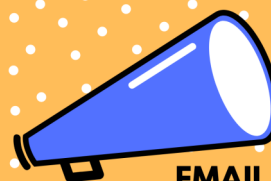


SCAN ME

YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Do you want to share your views with those who can make a difference to the lives of young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities?

Join York's new SEND Youth Forum



**EMAIL US TO FIND
OUT MORE**



LAURA.BROWN@YORK.GOV.UK

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

We are really pleased with how all of the children in Reception are settling into their new school and classes. It has been a pleasure to be greeted by warm smiles each morning, and the children are enjoying exploring all of the Reception areas. Thank you for your support in helping your children to enter school confidently each day.



This week, we began our phonics journey and started learning the letter sounds (phonemes) for s, a, t and p. You can view the pronunciations they will have learnt for each of these letters by using this link https://youtu.be/-ZtjFivA_fs The children have also begun to write these letters by learning a short rhyme (mnemonic). Please refer to your child's home learning sheet, for help with these.

In PSED (Personal Social Emotional Development), the children have discussed our school community. There are lots of adults and children to meet! As part of this, the children have started to meet other people who attend and work at our school. We have visited the office and explored 'beyond the school hall'.



We are really proud of how calmly the children have collected and eaten their lunches since starting school. They have enjoyed following the new routines and trying new foods. Thank you for booking lunches for your children each day, as this is making our register time very efficient.

In our areas of provision, the children have enjoyed creating pictures of their families, going shopping and cooking tea in our role play areas, building structures in the outdoor large construction area and learning how to use all of our resources. To develop their fine motor skills, the children have been using tweezers and threading beads.



This week, your child has brought home a 'Reading for Pleasure' book reading book. The 'Reading for Pleasure' book is for you to enjoy reading together at home. These are changed weekly, on a Monday. **Books are due back on Mondays, each week please.**

PE Days

Class 1 - Tuesday

Class 2 - Wednesday

Thank you for ensuring that your children's items are named.
This is really helpful when returning them at the end of the day.

If you would like to discuss anything, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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





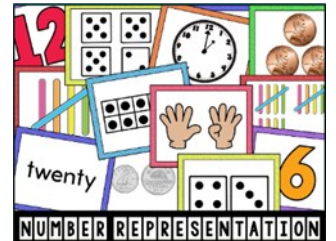
Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

What a fantastic start to the year we have had! It was so lovely to be able to welcome our children back into school after a busy and exciting summer. It can be a little tricky adapting back to school, especially when there are new routines to learn, but our children were incredible! The Year 2s stepped marvellously into the role of being the oldest members of the class, rather than the youngest, and our Year 1s were super stars for adapting to life in Key Stage 1. We were so impressed by you all!



There was a very exciting start to the week. On Monday, we enjoyed the story "The Bog Baby" and spent the day getting creative as we made our very own Bog Babies from air-drying clay. We also made habitats for them from cereal boxes that we cut, painted and decorated. We used natural resources such as twigs and stones from outside to enhance and decorate the models and habitats. The results were amazing! The children had such a good time doing them and were really inspired to write about the Bog Baby in their English lessons. We focused on the essentials of what a sentence needed to have, and the children were very careful and accurate when they wrote them. The children wrote some fantastic sentences and really showcased their writing skills.

This week, we have been impressed with how well the children have adapted to even more routines, as we started our full curriculum. This included swapping classrooms as we started our phonics and maths lessons, as well as working in groups for reading. In maths, we have been working on our understanding of place value and the number system, using practical resources to represent numbers physically. We also looked at pictorial representation of numbers and how they relate to the written numerals. This included the use of tens and ones to represent teen numbers.



It has been a fabulous and very positive start to the year. Our children have done so well and worked very hard. We can tell already that our learning journey this year will be one that takes us very far indeed. Well done Key Stage 1 and keep up the great work!

Mrs Atkinson, Miss Tattersley, Miss Griffiths & Mr Merrall





Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

Year 3 and 4 have had a fabulous start to the school year! The children have been full of enthusiasm and have thoroughly enjoyed the start of our new topics.



In history, last week, the children were very excited to discover that they were going to be learning all about the Ancient Egyptians this term. To start the topic off, the children shared what they already knew about this period in history and then, of course, what they were really looking forward to finding out. They came up with a wide range of interesting and thoughtful questions, which, hopefully, they will be able to discover the answers to by the end of the topic. Afterwards, using their chronological awareness from previous history learning, they were also able to accurately place the Ancient Egyptians on a timeline and ordered key events that occurred during the Ancient Egyptian period. This week they have looked at a variety of artefacts and used their knowledge to decipher what they could have been used for. The children also discovered fascinating facts about King Tutankhamun and created a fact file about him. It included key information such as his approximate birth, length of reign, when he died and when his tomb was discovered along with other facts that interested them.

Reading for pleasure books will be changed on:

Class 6 - Tuesday

Class 7 - Wednesday

Class 8 - Thursday



Reading books:

Children have now also been allocated a reading book which is appropriate to their current reading level. Unlike the reading for pleasure books, which have a designated return day each week (if they choose to), the children are given the responsibility to ask to change their book whenever they have finished reading it. Similar to the pleasure for reading books, each time it is changed, the child's individual reading record will be updated.

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 weekend.

Mr Daniel, Mr Carpenter, and Miss Clapham



Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)

We've kicked off our theme, 'Industrial Revolution', by looking at the work of the artist L.S. Lowry and recreating his distinctive style as we begin to study the landscape of cities at the time. After lessons learning how to use sketching pencils and how to draw perspective, we will be creating our own versions of Lowry's famous 'matchstick people'. The children were fascinated to see how simple shapes and lines could bring whole scenes to life, and they enjoyed comparing Lowry's industrial landscapes with photographs of modern city skylines. This unit will also link with our reading and history work, as we explore how the growth of factories and transport changed everyday life for people during the Industrial Revolution.



THE ZONES OF REGULATION®

For the start of the academic year, we have refocused and built on our prior learning of the *Zones of Regulation*. Throughout the school day, we have opportunities to reflect on how we are feeling and the impact that this has on our well-being. Building on the strategies we have previously learnt, we are continuing to manage our emotions in order to be effective learners. We are also practising techniques such as breathing exercises, movement breaks, and talking with a trusted adult when we need support. These skills are helping us to recognise that everyone experiences a range of feelings, and that knowing how to respond positively can make a big difference to our learning and friendships.



This week in RE, we started our topic which focuses upon the big question, 'Why do some people believe in God?' We looked at census data for the population of the UK and the variety of responses regarding differing faiths. We learnt about what the terms *theist*, *atheist* and *agnostic* mean. The children enjoyed discussing their own ideas and asking thoughtful questions about the different beliefs people hold. Over the coming weeks, we will explore stories and teachings from different religions, compare similarities and differences, and think carefully about the role of faith in people's lives today.

It has been a wonderful start to the term, and the children have shown great curiosity, creativity and resilience as they dive into their new learning. We are so proud of the way they are settling back into routines and embracing the challenges of the year ahead. You may find it interesting to talk with your child at home about the topics we are exploring in school, whether that's asking them to sketch a quick 'matchstick figure,' share which strategies help them regulate their emotions, or explain what they have discovered about different beliefs. Thank you for your continued support; together we can make this an exciting and successful year of learning.

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

Mr Bennett, Mrs Stephenson and Mr Tod

Weekly Parent/Carer Afternoon Drop-in Sessions at SEND Central

In-person drop-in support, **Wednesday afternoons, 1.30-2.30 p.m. at the YIKS All About Autism Hub, Clifton SEND Hub, (In front of Clifton Green School), YO30 6BF.** No need to book, just come along and meet a Specialist teacher and a Specialist TA from the Autism Team and other parents to discuss general issues and concerns, find information and look at some useful resources.

Wednesday **3rd September** 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.
 Wednesday **10th September** 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.
 Wednesday **17th September** 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.
 Wednesday **24th September** 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.
 Wednesday **1st October** 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.
 Wednesday **8th October** 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.
 Wednesday **15th October** 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.
 Wednesday **5th November** 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.
 Wednesday **12th November** 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.
 Wednesday **19th November** 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.
 Wednesday **26th November** 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.
 Wednesday **3rd December** 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.
 Wednesday **10th December** 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.

Fortnightly Morning Phone line Sessions

To book a 20 minute phone line call within the sessions below, please email parentcarerautismsupport@york.gov.uk with your name and a contact telephone number for us to call you on. We will send you a time slot for your 20 minute call. If we receive a high volume of requests we may need to allocate spaces on the session on a first come, first served basis.

Wednesday **10th September** 9 a.m. -12 noon
 Wednesday **24th September** 9 a.m. -12 noon
 Wednesday **8th October** 9 a.m. -12 noon
 Wednesday **22nd October** 9 a.m. -12 noon
 Wednesday **5th November** 9 a.m. -12 noon
 Wednesday **19th November** 9 a.m. -12 noon
 Wednesday **3rd December** 9 a.m. -12 noon
 Wednesday **17th December** 9 a.m. -12 noon

This is an admin email address and we are unable to forward or respond to queries via this email. Bookings close the Thursday before the session.



SEND CENTRAL

Check out York's new hub for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and their families.

Pop in for information, advice and more! You do not need to have an Education Health and Care Plan.



Find us at

SEND CENTRAL, Clifton Children's Centre, Clifton Green Primary School, Kingsway North, Clifton, YO30 6JA

Or find out more about support for children and young people with SEND in York at www.yorksend.org



Supported by:  **Raise York**
Your Family Hub Network

Delivered by:  **CITY OF YORK COUNCIL**



JOIN OUR CITY JUNIORS ND sessions that value neurodiversity

Our City Juniors ND is designed to support neurodivergent individuals aged 8–12 who want to improve their football skills in a safe, secure, and fun environment.

This non-competitive programme is ideal for those looking to build confidence, develop gross motor skills, and focus on football-specific techniques at their own pace, all within a supportive and inclusive setting.

SATURDAYS AT 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM
3G PITCHES AT YORK SPORT VILLAGE, YO10 5FG

PROGRAMME RUNS 6TH SEPTEMBER 2025 TO 23RD MAY 2026

£5.50 PER WEEK | TERM TIME ONLY | BLOCK BOOKINGS

At this time and due to funding guidelines, places are open to individuals with a formal diagnosis.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THIS OPPORTUNITY, PLEASE CONTACT ENQUIRIES@YORKCITYFCFOUNDATION.CO.UK

SEND CENTRAL LAUNCH
20th SEPTEMBER 2025 10am – 12pm

MUSIC EDUCATION GROUP

MEGaphonics

JOIN OUR NEW COMMUNITY CHOIR
FOR CHILDREN IN YEARS 5 AND 6



FREE!



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- FUN REPERTOIRE •
- WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT •

THURSDAYS 16:00 - 17:15
SIR JACK LYONS CONCERT HALL
UNIVERSITY OF YORK



Scan the QR code or click [THIS LINK](#) for more information and to register interest!

🌟 Welcome to IEC Dance and Performance! 🌟

At IEC we believe It is important for performers to have inspiring confidence through creativity, movement, and fun! We specialise in helping children build confidence through performance and games. Our classes are energetic, engaging, and inclusive, exploring a range of dance styles in a supportive encouraging environment.

👋 Meet Your Teacher: Izzy

Hi, I'm Izzy the founder of IEC Dance and your lead instructor. I work as a primary school music teacher and bring over 17 years of professional dance experience, including training in all major styles, performing in the West End, appearing in music videos for A-list artists, and live TV. For the past 4 years, I've been teaching Performing Arts to children and young adults aged 2 to 18+, I'm passionate about making every student feel confident and empowered through dance.

📅 Class Information

- When: Tuesdays, 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM
- Where: Wigginton Recreational Hall YO32 2LL
- Ages: 3 to 12 years
- Cost: £7 per class (paid termly)
- First class is FREE for new students!

📌 Attendance & Payment Policy

To maintain progress and secure your child's place, we ask that students attend regularly. Payments are made termly, and refunds are not provided for missed classes.

If you have any questions or would like to be part of our exciting dance performance group, then please contact isabelle@woodthorpeitd.co.uk or phone 07739607296

We are **RECRUITING!**
Book your **2 FREE** taster sessions **TODAY!**

- ▶ 2-3 yrs / 4-5 yrs - **SATURDAY 9am.**
- ▶ 5-9 yrs - **SATURDAY 10am / THURSDAY 5pm.**
- ▶ 8-13 yrs - **SATURDAY 10am / THURSDAY 6pm.**



We enhance **FITNESS**. We develop **SKILLS**.
We build **CONFIDENCE**. We have **FUN!**

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SQUASH

FREE INTRODUCTION JUNIOR COACHING

WOULD YOU LIKE TO
TRY SQUASH?

A fantastic, energetic, fun, indoor sport played locally. For boys and girls aged 8+



enquiries@wiggintonsquash.co.uk



Wigginton Squash Club

CITY.KICK.ABOUT. FANCY A KICK ABOUT?

**MONDAYS
HUNTINGTON**

Huntington Secondary
School All Weather Pitches,
Huntington Road, YO32 9WT

AGES 8 - 12
YEARS

5-6PM

AGES 13 - 17
YEARS

6-7PM

**THURSDAYS
ACOMB**

Energise Leisure Centre
All Weather Pitches,
Cornlands Road, YO24 3DX

5.30-6.25PM

6.30-7.25PM

**£1
per
player**



FOUNDATION

City Kickabout is a social inclusion programme offering football for all, working with various local youth partners, offering positive diversionary activity & opportunities. All participants will need to provide parent/guardian contact details in case of emergency. U12's must be completed by parent/guardian. Coaches reserve the right to refuse access to the sessions if details not provided or if the player code of conduct is not followed.

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YORK

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WIZARDING AFTERNOON TEA AT OUR FIVE-
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art competition

YOUR MISSION...TO DRAW THE GRAND WIZARD!

Every participant will receive 50% off our WIZARDING Children's
Afternoon Tea, so everyone can join in the fun.

★ SUBMIT ENTRIES TO: MARKETING@THEGRANDYORK.CO.UK ★
ENTRIES CLOSE MONDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER

T&cs: 50% discount on Children's Afternoon Tea only. Discount applicable to maximum of two children per booking. Children must be accompanied by at least one adult. Subject to availability.