



Ralph Butterfield Primary School School Newsletter



Friday 13th January 2023

2022/23 Newsletter No: 15

 01904 768325 (option 3)

 @RalphBPSch_York

 www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk

Headteacher's Message

Hello

The children have been back in school for just eight days and there have already been many exciting, curriculum-enriching experiences taking place. Pre-Covid-19, we had increased our range of these for the children and it has been so lovely in recent months to be able to return to this important aspect of personal development. As shared in our school development plan summary for parents/carers in the autumn ([click here to view](#)), developing cultural capital for children is one of our key priorities. This supports their growth as people who have a good understanding of society and the world, for life skills both now and in the future. We have both regular curriculum-enriching work - such as through Total Sports (Mr Stephenson), York School Sport network (Mr Walton), music specialist teaching (Reverend Garside), wellbeing coach support (Mr Messias) - and more occasional opportunities. This week for example, we have also welcomed a dance specialist, a cricket specialist and enjoyed the excitement of visits from the fire brigade, (complete with fire engine -or appliance as it is technically known! -of course!) And there is so much more to come over the coming weeks; I have even heard that one of our phases is going to be visited by a very special historical figure! The children have continued to do an amazing job when thinking and talking about the British value of mutual respect this week, which is also one of our school core values (alongside determination, integrity and ambition). This work also links to our PSHE curriculum work around friendships, the community and the wider world.

Today Class 9 parents/carers have enjoyed sharing their special class assembly (it was fabulous) and next week, Friday 20th January, it is the turn of Class 7 (2:45 pm in the school hall). For a reminder of other remaining class assembly dates, please refer to the calendar on our school website ([click here](#)).

Hopefully you will have seen an email with attachments about our new parent/carer governor vacancy today; parent governors are elected by other parent/carers. It is always enthusing to welcome a new parent governor on to the board and I have never known a parent governor regret joining us! Please do give this some thought and I look forward to receiving your nominations (using the form in the email) no later than 9:00 am on Friday 10th February 2023. Thank you.

I hope you are able to have a lovely weekend.

Liz Clark



Parking near School

Thank you to those parents/carers who are parking away from the school site; parking is available in the car park near Ethel Ward playing field.

You may have seen our Police Community Support Officer (PCSO), Josh Walton, at busy times around school; we are grateful to Josh for helping us to keep our children, and their families, safe within the areas around our school.



This Week's Attendance



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

School Menu

Our catering provider, Mellors, are in the process of creating a new menu, which will launch after the Easter holidays. Mellors are working alongside pupils from our school, to seek their voice on which dishes they may like to see as new additions, also the ones that they are really enjoying and therefore would not want them to disappear! We'll share this new menu as and when it has been finalised.

Please do discuss the daily menu options, with your child(ren) as this helps them to make a decision over what they would like to order, during morning registration. Whilst sandwiches and jacket potatoes are available, we would very much prefer as many children as possible to be choosing to have either the main, or vegetarian option. Thank you.

You should have received, yesterday, a poster advertising a change in the menu for Thursday 19th January; we are really looking forward to our 'Build a Burger' day!



Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Our new theme for this first half-term is 'Amazing Animals'. We shall be taking a journey around the world to explore different habitats and meeting the animals who live there. More information about this half-term can be found on our school website in the [Reception classes' page](#).



In **phonics**, this week, the children were excited to begin to learn a new set of phonemes. The new phonemes are digraphs (two letters which make one sound) and trigraphs (three letters which make one sound) and these are **ai**, **ee**, **igh** and **oa**. We have also learnt the catchphrases for each grapheme. These help us to remember the phoneme (sound) that each grapheme (the way the phoneme is written) makes. For example, the catchphrase for **ai** is 'tail in the rain'. We have also continued to consolidate the phonemes and tricky words already learnt in the autumn term.

In **Maths**, this week, the children have investigated some new numbers in detail. These are the numbers **6**, **7** and **8**. They have investigated how these numbers can be made by using smaller numbers, using Numicon to build these. For example, 5 and 3 make 8 (5+3=8). Later in the week, we also explored adding and subtracting one more and one less than these numbers, using ten frames and counters.



This week, we have also focussed on the Polar Regions. This has included learning about which animals live there and where the Polar Regions are in the world. The children have particularly enjoyed reading our text of the week, 'Poles Apart'; creating their own polar bear, using fork painting, writing captions and labels based on our text and playing the 'Where do I live?' game.

In PE, we have started working with Mr Walton (our school PE specialist teacher). Unfortunately, on Tuesday, it was very wet so we couldn't go outside. Mr Walton led the children in some Polar Region themed yoga in the classroom. They met a polar bear and a penguin and went on a brilliant polar adventure, all through yoga moves. The children were fantastic, much better than some of the adults! We are hoping for sun next week!

Finally, if your child has already had their 5th birthday and you would like them to continue to receive milk each day, this can be arranged through the Cool Milk website. If you would like further information, please ask at the school office

Thank you for your continued support.

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



Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

What a fantastic start to the New Year!

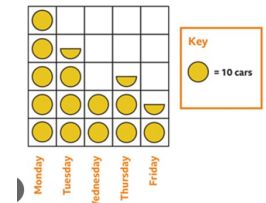
In PSHE we started with our big question- Why should I respect you?

Looking at the story of the 'Ugly Duckling', we discussed how the other animals didn't respect the duckling and that everyone deserves to be treated fairly. We also had some very informative discussions relating to keeping healthy, looking after our teeth, mental well-being and thinking about who helps us to do these things.



In English, we wrote instructions on how to clean our teeth. Within this we used imperative verbs (bossy verbs), time conjunctions and adverbs.

Maths has been a consolidation of place value by understanding how many tens and units a two-digit number has. We then ordered numbers and looked at more and less of given numbers. We also explored statistics by looking at how we can gather data and how it can be represented in different ways. This led to the children creating tally charts and pictograms and interpreting the data collected.



Please do not hesitate to come and see us if you have any questions or queries.

Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Reeves and Mr Merrall

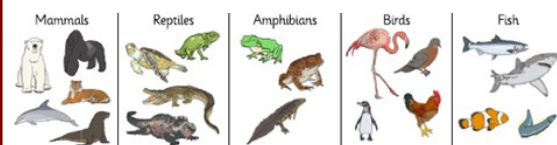
Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

Year 3 and 4 have had a brilliant start to this half term! They have returned to school full of enthusiasm and eager to learn and discover what our new topics are.

In Geography, our focus is on mapping skills and locations and environments around the World. To begin with, the children learnt the 8 compass points and gave verbal and written instructions using these alongside other directional language. They then looked at grid references and explored atlases. They soon discovered how easy it was to find a location using the atlas index and map grid references. After locating and naming the seven continents and 5 oceans, we discussed the difference between weather and climate and identified different climate zones around the world. The children have already become much more confident using atlases – great work Year 3 and 4!



Our science unit this half term is 'Living things and their habitats'. During our lessons this week, we have looked at the different classifications of animals (mammals, reptiles amphibians, birds and fish) and sorted a selection of these into a Venn diagram according to given criteria, such as the animal breathes air or lays eggs. We then retrieved information from the Venn diagram to answer questions about the groups of animals. Afterwards, we learnt about classification keys and how they can be used to identify different types of



animals. The children have created questions that could be used in a classification key, used classification keys to identify animals and created their own classification key based on animals that could be found in an urban environment.

Reminders:

Class 6, 7 and 8 - The children and staff are looking forward to welcoming parents / carers to our Stone Age open classroom event on Monday 16th January at 3pm to view the children's cave drawings and roundhouses.

Class 7 parents/carers – Class 7 are really excited to be doing their class assembly and are looking forward to you joining them on Friday 20th January at 2:45pm.

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

We hope that you have a wonderful weekend.

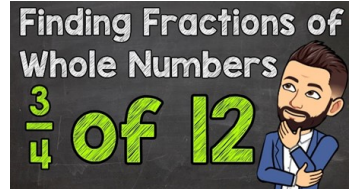
Mr Daniel, Miss Hodgson and Miss Clapham

Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)



In our English lessons over the last two weeks, we have been recapping and remembering the important grammatical features previously taught that are required in Year 5 and 6 writing. We revised how to use of variety of punctuation, such as apostrophes, inverted commas and semi-colons, and practised changing the structure of our sentences.

As part of our maths lessons, we have continued our study into fractions. Mr Tod's set have looked at finding a fraction of a given number and then applied this knowledge to different contexts. Mr Bennett's and Mrs Stephenson's sets have learnt how to find fractions of shapes, simplified fractions and, compared and ordered fractions.



We have started our new topics for this term. In geography we are starting to learn about 'Natural Disasters' and the force of nature. In science we are revisiting our prior learning from Years 3 and 4 about electricity and will start to learn about more complex circuits which will require a greater number of components. We will also learn the correct symbols required to represent a simple circuit in a diagram.

If you were unable to attend the Year 6 meeting held on Tuesday 10th January, your child will have been given an information pack.

As always, if you have any concerns please do not hesitate to come and speak to us.

Mr Bennett, Mrs Stephenson and Mr Tod



PTA

Welcome back! We have a few events this term including:

Friday 27 th January	Break the Rules Day
Friday 3 rd February	Bags2School Collection
Thursday 9 th February	UV Disco
Friday 17 th March	Mothers/ Special Love one Secret Room



Letters for the Break the Rules Day and UV Disco will be sent out shortly – so please take a look!

Christmas Tea Towel Orders

The final Christmas tea towel ordered were delivered and handed out this week! We are really sorry about them being so late and have been disappointed with the service this year from Class Fundraising! If you have any problems, please let us know by emailing ralphbutterfield.pta@gmail.com Sorry once again.

HALF TERM FAMILY

FÜN!

helmsley
artscentre

LYNGO THEATRE PRESENTS

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

AGE
3-8

Sun 12 Feb | 2.30pm | £8 child / £10 adult

A show by Marcello Chiarenza
Adapted by Patrick Lynch
Music by Carlo Cialdo Capelli
Design assistant Elena Marini

Running time: 50 mins.

"50 minutes of pure childhood joy!"
number9reviews



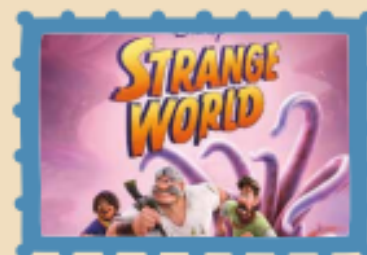
FAMILY FILM

STRANGE WORLD

PG

Fri 17 Feb | 2.30pm | u16 £5.50 / adult £8

The legendary Clades are a family of explorers whose differences threaten to topple their latest and most crucial mission.



DARK SKIES ART WORKSHOPS WITH TABITHA GROVE



Sat 18 Feb | £5 per session

Stars! Planets! Rockets! | 9.30 - 11.30am | 5-9yrs

...And maybe even the odd cute 'n' fluffy night dwelling beastie!
Your little ones will have the chance to make them all when they're greeted by a room full of painty, glittery, sticky 'Dark Skies' crafty fun!
Lots of craft activities to get creative and have fun.

Planets! | 12.30 - 2pm | 8+yrs

Let's make our own! Using a very clever technique called marbling you'll make amazing multi-coloured, swirly planets. Everyone will be marvelling over your creations when you hang them up at home!

Kaleidoscopes! | 2.30 - 4pm | 8+yrs

See the stars any time of the day or night with your very own kaleidoscope! Hold this clever tube up to the light and watch the most beautiful, unique, constellations of stars dance in front of your eyes, and it'll all be made and designed by you!

All children aged 7 and under, must be accompanied by an adult.
(free for accompanying adult).

