

Friday 14th November 2025

2025/26 No: 9



01904 768325 (option 3)



www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk

Acting Headteacher's Message

Anti-Bullying Week - Using Our Power for Good

Monday's assembly introduced this year's Anti-Bullying Week, Monday 10th to Friday 14th November. We revisited the definition of bullying, which is the *repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another, where there is an imbalance of power*. We also reinforced that bullying is not a one-off disagreement or a falling out that took place many months ago.



The children explored the different forms bullying can take and how it can happen both face to face and online. We also shared the story "Troll Stinks" to help them consider the impact of unkind behaviour when using phones, messages and the internet.



Throughout the week, classes took part in activities that encouraged kindness, standing up for others and speaking out if something didn't feel right. We continued to remind the children that if they are ever worried about bullying, they can talk to Mrs Stephenson, Mrs Robinson or any trusted adult in school.

There was also a whole-school Anti-Bullying Week challenge, encouraging every child to take at least one positive action to make someone else feel included, valued or supported.

Thank you, as always, for your support in reinforcing these messages at home and for helping us ensure that our school remains a safe, welcoming and respectful place for all our children.

Yr 1/2, Yr 3/4 and Yr 5/6 Open Classroom Events

Our open classroom events were a real success this week. The children were thrilled to welcome parents and carers into their classrooms (Years 1/2 in the hall) and took great pride in sharing their work. It was wonderful to see their excitement as they talked confidently about what they have been learning and to watch families enjoy the chance to celebrate their achievements together. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend and support the children, and we also acknowledge that it isn't possible for all families to attend for many different reasons.

Remembrance

Our children showed such thoughtfulness and respect during Tuesday's act of remembrance. They gathered together on the playground at 11am to observe a two-minute silence, demonstrating real maturity and understanding. It was a calm and meaningful moment for our school community, and the children should feel incredibly proud of how they conducted themselves.



Open evening for prospective parents/carers

On Tuesday 25th November, we are holding our second open evening for prospective parents/carers with children starting school in September 2026. If you know anyone, who was unable to attend our earlier open evening, please share the date. Thank you.

I hope that you can have an enjoyable weekend.

Best wishes

Helen Stephenson



Not going to school every day can make it more likely for your child to get involved in crime or antisocial behaviour.

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



● ● ●

Community Visit



On Friday morning, the children of Class 8 spent a wonderful hour, full of fun and laughter, with the residents of Haxby Hall Residential Care Home. They spent this special time chatting to the residents, sharing stories with them, showcasing some of their work they have been learning about back in the classroom and sharing some of our favourite songs and movement break dances. It was so heart warming to see the adults joining in with the actions to our songs 'Amazing Egyptians', 'Superman' and

'Music Man!' The children lit up the room with their energy, positivity and infectious enthusiasm which in turn brought a smile to the residents faces and really helped to brighten up their day. Not only this, but it has helped the children to develop empathy, self-confidence, communication skills and a deeper understanding of the community in which many of them live. They began as strangers and left as friends, a truly magical thing to witness! Over the course of this academic year, every class in the school will be given to opportunity to visit Haxby Hall and spend time with the residents. This important and valuable community link is at the heart of our school core value of 'respect for others' and provides a wonderful opportunity to encourage meaningful connections between generations. You will be notified by text when it is your child's class turn to visit and please take a moment to ask your child all about their experience. Please come and speak to me if you have any questions or comments to make about this community project.

Mr Daniel

● ● ●

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



This week, we have continued to explore our theme, '**Let's Celebrate**'. The children have respectfully learnt about Remembrance Day and Odd Socks Day where they found out about the significance of both special times. The children created their own poppies using printing and loose parts. They also enjoyed wearing their odd socks and finding out about anti-bullying through stories and songs.

As part of our work on understanding the world, we have also explored the work of charities, focusing specifically on Children in Need. We have learnt the meaning of the words, donation, money, charity and Pudsey! Some of our areas of provision have also provided children with the opportunity to further develop their learning with Pudsey Bear. In the maths area, they have ordered Pudsey bears and counted sets of objects to match Pudsey's number. In the fine motor area, children have threaded around Pudsey's face and in the creative area, they have coloured, cut and stuck together their own Pudsey.



In **phonics**, it is fantastic to see the enthusiasm for learning that our children display. They continue to be excited, on a daily basis, when we learn new phonemes. We are also so pleased with how the children are retaining and using the GPCs learnt so far in their reading and writing! We have learnt four new phonemes this week; **v, w, x and y** and new tricky words.



In **maths** this week, the children have continued to explore their understanding of number with a focus on the number 4 and 5. They have experimented with addition skills by finding different ways that these numbers can be made. We have enjoyed singing many counting songs which both count on 1 more and count back with 1 less.

Reminder

Over these last two weeks, the children have enjoyed their first visit to Haxby Explore library. If your child wasn't able to take out books during this first visit, speak to your child's class teacher. Next week, **Class 2** will be visiting Haxby library to change their books. Please remember to put the books (to return) and the library card in your child's book bag. Thank you.

Thank you for your continued support.
**Mrs Robinson, Mrs Daniel, Mrs Greenwood and the
Reception team**



Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

As always, the children in Key Stage 1 have been shining brightly as they have taken part in some fabulous learning. Continuing our work on habitats, especially polar regions, we have been learning all about polar bears. We learned all sorts of fascinating facts about them. For example:

- Did you know that polar bears are the largest land predator in the world?
- Did you know that their fur is not white but see-through? It only looks white because it reflects the snow.
- Did you know that polar bears overheat when they run, despite the cold air temperature?



We watched some videos and read fact files to learn about them and then wrote information texts. We learned the features of non-fiction writing, such as factual writing, technical vocabulary, the use of subheadings and grouping our facts into paragraphs. We then used these to write fantastic, fascinating reports.



From one habitat to another, from a large creature to a small one: in science this week we conducted a practical investigation to see what conditions woodlice prefer. For this experiment, we divided a tray into four sections, with each section having a different condition. One quarter of the tray was dark and damp, another dark and dry, another light and damp and the last one light and dry. We collected live woodlice and put them in the tray to see which of the four sections they would go to. Afterwards, they were all released without harm back into the wild. It turned out that they preferred the dark and damp conditions because this mimicked their natural habitat. They will be loving this week's dark and damp weather then!

In Key Stage 1, we have been lucky to have enjoyed PE sessions led by Mrs Topliss from Real PE. She is working with us this half term to work on dance and movement skills. We have experimented with different ways of moving and the path that we can make on the ground. We experimented with moving in straight lines, zig-zags, curves and spirals. We also made different standing shapes, ground shapes and thought about movements between them. We have done this both individually and with a partner, thinking about creative ways we can mirror each other's movements or do the opposite to them. It has been great fun and we showed some amazing creativity and presentation in our shapes.



Please can we remind all parents/carers that their children need an indoor and outdoor P.E kit in school at all times. The indoor kit consists of a plain white T-shirt, shorts and plimsols, whereas the outdoor kit has warm PE trousers, a plain white T-shirt, a sleeved top and trainers. If children wear earrings, they also need to be provided with their own tape to cover them up. Please ensure that all items of clothing are named, including shoes. We would also like to remind the families of the children in Class 3 that on **Friday 21st November they will be performing their class assembly**. This is a special presentation of the work and learning that they have been doing so far this year. It will start at 2:55pm and it would be great to see as many of you there as possible. We can't wait!

Well done everyone. It was lovely to see you all back in school and we are proud of what a great start you have made to this half term.

Mrs Atkinson, Miss Tattersley & Mr Merrall

Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)



On Monday, we were delighted to welcome parents, carers and grandparents to our open classroom event, where the children proudly showcased their learning about the Ancient Egyptians. The pupils were full of excitement as they shared their knowledge of this fascinating period of history and involved their guests in some of their favourite activities from the topic.

In the hall, the children had a *splashing* time testing out their shadufs, which they had carefully planned, made and evaluated during their Design and Technology lessons. Alongside this, it was wonderful to see so many adults taking on the challenge of building their very own pyramids using sugar cubes!



Back in the classroom, the children proudly displayed their clay cartouches and expertly taught their adults all about hieroglyphics, even helping them to write their own names on cartouches and crack the secret message (The Valley of the Kings). Adults, we were very impressed with your artistic skills!

It was fantastic to see so many of you join us for this special event. Thank you for coming and we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!

This week has been Anti-Bullying Week, with this year's theme being 'Power for Good'. To start the week, on Monday, children and adults came to school wearing odd socks and the children designed their own odd socks as a reminder that each and every one of us is unique and special in our own way.



Throughout the week, each Lower Key Stage 2 class took part in the BBC Anti-Bullying online lesson and completed an accompanying activity booklet. Through this, the children explored their own unique powers such as courage, kindness and speaking up for themselves and others. They also discussed different scenarios and decided whether statements about bullying were true or myths. To finish the session, each child created their own anti-bullying pledge, designing it proudly on a badge to represent their commitment to using their Power for Good. The children engaged brilliantly with the online lesson and activities, showing an excellent understanding of how small actions can make a big difference.

Our computing topic this half term is 2Email. This week, the children have been thinking about methods of communication and discussed the advantages and disadvantages of each. They then recorded their ideas on a mind map using 2Connect in Purple Mash. Throughout this topic, the children will learn how to use their email safely, open and respond to messages, use their address book and attach documents.



2Email

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 lovely weekend.

Mr Daniel, Mr Carpenter, and Miss Clapham



Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)

Year 5 and 6



This week, as part of our RE lessons, we have been learning about Christian churches and how they differ from one another. We compared the aspects of an Anglican Church and Baptist Church by using clues to label a floor plan; this included identifying a location for a font, altar, baptism pool, raised platform and other features. We then read a description of the features found in these different churches to identify which church was Anglican and which was Baptist.

In our history lessons this week, we have been learning about what life was like for children who lived and worked in factories and workhouses during the Industrial Revolution. Children often had to work long hours doing tiring and unpleasant jobs such as cleaning, sewing or picking apart old rope to make new materials. They were given very little to eat and the food they did receive was of poor quality and basic—often just porridge or bread. The conditions were strict, and any small mistake could lead to severe punishment. Following this, we read through a range of different historical accounts of children's life in the factories. We then debated the potential bias of these statements and how they could be viewed by Parliament in their decision making prior to the introduction of the 1833 Factories Act.



As part of our English lessons, we have been writing diaries. In order to ensure that we can write in a diary style, we have looked at a variety of examples and discussed the necessary features: chronological order, colloquial language, writing in the first person, fronted adverbials and the inclusion of personal reflection and/or feelings. We then collated notes about our residential to Robinwood (Year 6 children), or our experience of a fair and firework display (Year 5 children). We then converted these notes into high quality sentences using a variety of features learnt so far, in preparation for our own diary entry.

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

Mrs Aspery, Mr Bennett and Mr Tod





TOGETHERNESS



Understanding your own adolescence

Emotional health in teenagers explained

For teens and preteens:

Understand your adolescent brain development and what to do with it

Private wellbeing pathways for teens online. Wherever and whenever you need it

Free for you with the access code: RAISE



togetherness.co.uk/learn

From understanding to thriving: for everyone.



TOGETHERNESS



For healthier relationships and happier lives

Your online learning journey to emotional resilience for the every day

Proven to make a difference for emotional wellbeing.

For your parenting and important relationships

Free for you with the access code: RAISE



togetherness.co.uk/learn

From understanding to thriving: for everyone.



TOGETHERNESS



Understanding your teenager's brain

Grow emotional resilience in adolescence. Together.

- Learn about the impact of adolescent brain development
- Find ideas for connecting, talking and problem solving together
- Build confidence in having conversations that care for mental wellbeing

Free for you with the access code: RAISE



togetherness.co.uk/learn

From understanding to thriving: for everyone.





TOGETHERNESS



Understanding your child: from toddler to teenager

For confident, resilient, emotionally intelligent children

Online learning proven to make a difference for families.

Helping you understand more about child behaviour, big feelings and build your confidence in parenting

Free for you with the access code: RAISE



togetherness.co.uk/learn

From understanding to thriving: for everyone.



TOGETHERNESS



Understanding your child with additional needs

Building emotional health together for you and your unique child.

An online learning pathway to help you and your child thrive.

Free for you with the access code: RAISE



togetherness.co.uk/learn

From understanding to thriving: for everyone.





**NOVEMBER 2025 INFORMATION SESSIONS AT SEND CENTRAL IN
COLLABORATION WITH YORK PARENT CARER FORUM**

Monday 3rd November 1pm- 2pm – Barriers to School Attendance

An information session led by the Educational Psychology Team around understanding barriers to school attendance and how to support your child or young person when they are experiencing significant barriers to school engagement.

Friday 14th November 1pm- 2pm- Welfare Rights- knowing what you may be entitled to as a family who have a child with SEND.

An information session around the benefits that are available to families who have children and young people with SEND, a general overview to make sure you know what you should and could be accessing and if there are gaps the opportunity to book in for a follow up appointment that is personalised around claiming any benefits you may be missing.

Friday 21st November 1pm – 2 pm- Elective Home Education

An information session led by our Local Authority School Attendance Lead and a SEND navigator from the Parent Carer Forum around Elective Home Education.

Monday 24th November 1pm- 2pm- ADHD a Guide for Parents

An Information Session led by CAMHS that looks at what ADHD is. There will be a focus on looking after yourself, practical tips for helping at home and supporting your child's educational development, general tips for supporting at school.
Understanding sleep and ADHD, tips and hints.

There will also be a consideration of the referral and assessment process and what comes next.



**WELLBEING IN MIND WORKSHOPS AT SEND CENTRAL FOR CHILDREN
AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH THEIR PARENTS OR CARERS WHO ARE
ELECTIVELY HOME EDUCATED AT SEND CENTRAL- NO NEED TO BOOK
JUST COME ALONG**

24th November 2025 Sensory differences workshop 11am- 11.45pm.

This workshop will be run by the wellbeing in mind team and is for parents/carers to attend with their children/young people. It will be an informal opportunity to explore sensory differences and strategies to support sensory needs. The workshop will run for 45 minutes. Teas, coffee, soft drinks, and biscuits available.

15th Dec 2025 Identifying and responding to big feelings 11am-11.45

This workshop will be run by the Wellbeing in Mind Team and is for parents/carers to attend with their children/young people. This workshop will provide opportunity to explore and normalise big feelings and consider strategies to help regulate in the moment. Teas, coffee, soft drinks, and biscuits available.

All held at SEND CENTRAL, Children's Centre on the site of Clifton Green Primary School,
Water Lane York YO30 6JA Tel: 01904 555076 Email: SENDCENTRAL@york.gov.uk

**DECEMBER 2025 INFORMATION SESSIONS AT SEND CENTRAL IN
COLLABORATION WITH YORK PARENT CARER FORUM- NO NEED TO
BOOK JUST COME ALONG**

**Wednesday 3rd December 1pm- 2pm – Supporting your Neurodivergent Child
through the Festive Period.**

An information session led by the Autism Specialist Teaching Team around how to best to support your child through the festive period when life and routines may look very different over the festive period.

**Friday 12th December 2025 1pm- 2pm – an Information Session about Post 16
Education and Employment Pathways.**

The City of York Council Skills Team will offer an information session on support and pathways that may be available for young people Post 16 in York. The session will include information about the Specialist Learning and Employment Advisor Team (SLEAT) and the support they might be able to offer, as well as information about Post-16 employment pathways such as Supported Internships.

**Monday 15th December 1pm-2pm Understanding local support for children and
young people with Sensory Processing Differences:**

An informal session describing local provision for sensory processing differences and the Lets Make Sense Together resources. Led by Jayne Young, Ruth Ayres and Emilie Meynell from Children's Therapy Services, York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals.

All held at SEND CENTRAL, Children's Centre on the site of Clifton Green Primary School,
Water Lane York YO30 6JA Tel: 01904 555076 Email: SENDCENTRAL@york.gov.uk



● ● ●

● ● ●

• • •

• • •