



### Headteacher's Message

Good afternoon

Prior to parents' evenings, parents/carers will have an opportunity to view their child/ren's work. Today, I would like to draw your attention to a change of date regarding this (originally shared in September). These 'book looks' will now take place on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March** and **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March**, between 3:20/25 pm and approx. 4:00 pm. There is no need to make an appointment or let us know you are coming, simply come along to your child's classroom between these times, if you are available to do so.

Face to face parents' evenings are then in the week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> March and online parents' evenings in the week beginning 27<sup>th</sup> March. At these meetings you will be able to discuss your child/ren's progress with the class teacher. I will write to you with full details nearer the time. Please remember that whilst we have to statutorily offer two 'official' opportunities for parents/carers to meet with teachers, we are very approachable and do encourage you to check in about your child at any time throughout the year (in relation to their progress or any other matter).

As shared in the email earlier this week, I will share with you information regarding the precise impact of the teacher strike dates on our school as soon as I am in a position to do so - it will be different for different schools. Teachers who belong to the striking union are not obliged to share with me whether they intend to strike or not; we are working on different plans for different scenarios, all of which aim to minimise impact on provision for the children.

I also thought you may be interested to know, if you are not aware already, that the annual York Residents' Festival returns next weekend (Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January), with some offers continuing all week. This is an opportunity for York residents to visit many of our wonderful local attractions, for free! To get involved in Residents' Festival, all you need to do is present a valid York Card. If this is an identity card, it must clearly state 'York' (e.g. driving licence or older person's bus pass). For a full list of offers and further information about how to access the events, offers and deals, visit <https://www.visitork.org/residents-festival>.

I do wish for everyone to have a really lovely weekend.

Liz Clark



### This Week's Attendance



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

### ParentPay

We use ParentPay for all our school communications; please do let the school office know if there is a parent/carer who would benefit from also being registered with the system. Thank you.

School meals are to please be booked daily, or anything up to a full term in advance, via ParentPay. Thank you to those parents/carers who are regularly booking their child(ren)'s meals via ParentPay and making any associated payments.

## Parent Governor Vacancy

You will have seen, from the letter sent last week, that we have an exciting opportunity for one of our fabulous parent/carers to join our Governing Body. One of our Parent Governors' terms of office has ended and therefore we will be holding an election to appoint a Parent Governor to our school's Governing Body. Being a Parent Governor is a brilliant way for you to be involved in supporting our school and contributing to its development, as we lead it forward with an inspiring vision.



If you feel that you would like to be a Parent Governor (I hope you do) and would like to have a chat about it, please do get in touch with school and either Mrs Clark can talk to you or we can arrange for you to talk to one of our current Parent Governors. Throughout your term of office, you would have support from the Local Authority's Governance Service which provides guidance, assistance and a comprehensive training programme. The closing date for nominations is **9:00 am on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023.**



## Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

As part of our 'Amazing Animals' theme, this week we have taken a trip to the jungle. The children have enjoyed our text of the week 'Rumble in the Jungle' and many other jungle themed stories and factual texts. They have also looked on a world map to find where the jungles are and talked about the features of a jungle.



zoom to the moon

In **phonics**, this week, the new phonemes learnt have been **oo (as in zoom), oo (as in book), ar** and **or**. We have enjoyed learning the catchphrases for each new grapheme and these are also on your child's homework sheet this week. We have also learnt new tricky words. These are words that cannot be sounded out as some of the sounds make a sound not expected. The words learnt have been, **was, you** and **they**. Your child may start spotting these words around them.

In **Maths**, this week, the children have investigated pairs through a variety of different activities. They have made pairs with practical equipment, grouping the objects into twos and then counting how many pairs there are. Also, they have enjoyed playing pairs matching games, matching up pairs of socks and jungle animal pairs.

On Thursday, we celebrated the festival of Chinese New Year. The children enjoyed reading stories, exploring the year of the rabbit, completing craft activities, running the Chinese restaurant in our role play area and retelling stories related to the festival. It was an action packed day with lots of area of provision activities too, including, repeating pattern snakes, chop stick and noodle skills, lucky money envelope counting and play dough rabbit building. We hope our families celebrating Chinese New Year enjoy their celebrations this weekend.



The children have all enjoyed continuing on the learning journey this week.



Thank you for your continued support.

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

## Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

What a busy week it has been in Key Stage 1! There has been so much going on that we don't know where to start!



This week, the children have done lots of work looking at different aspects of health, from how we can take care of ourselves to who can help look after us. In English, we wrote some fantastic stories based on "Ruby's Worry", which is about looking after our mental health and how talking about things that worry us can make us feel better about them. We created our own characters and wrote stories about them in which they dealt with a worry of their own. The children did a great job and really impressed us with their imaginative ideas.

In history, we were learning about a famous person from the past: Florence Nightingale. We learnt all sorts of fascinating things about her life and how her ideas improved conditions in hospitals to this day.



We also enjoyed a visit from Mrs Cameron, who is a dentist. She told us all about the kinds of foods that are good or harmful for our teeth and how we can look after them. We found the session fascinating and would like to say a **huge** thank you, to Mrs Cameron, for giving her time to come and talk to us.

Mrs Cameron isn't the only visitor that has come to see us. Joe Barr, from the English Cricket Board, has already done some fun cricket sessions with Year 1 and 2; he will be working with us for this half-term and he has been simply fantastic. We have also been very busy learning about multiplication, repeated addition and arrays in maths, as well as reading scales and measuring length and mass.



Whew! What a busy week! We are so proud of everyone for their hard work and determination. We hope you all have a lovely weekend and look forward to another productive week, next week.

Please do come and see us if you need anything.

**Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Reeves and Mr Merrall**



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



This week, the children in Year 3 and 4 thoroughly enjoyed sharing their Stone Age roundhouses and their cave paintings as part of our open classroom event. During the event, the children were able to recreate some of their original cave drawings using pencil and charcoal, which demonstrated their newly learnt drawing skills.

During our science lessons this week, the children explored habitats found within the school grounds and gathered information about animals and plants. The children chose to present the information they gathered either through annotated observational sketches or note taking. Afterwards, each class discussed the environmental changes habitats are facing and what we, as humans, can do to help animals and plants survive.



All three classes have been getting creative in their writing this week. In English, the children have been working hard to develop a story based on two characters discovering a cottage that is home to a mysterious wizard. When describing the wizard's cottage to the reader, the children used adjectives and prepositions to make their writing engaging and exciting.

A special well done to Class 7 for their wonderful class assembly. The whole class worked together brilliantly, to create a fantastic assembly that show-cased all the wonderful work they have done so far this year.

**Wishing you all a lovely weekend.**

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

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



In science, we have learnt about the discovery of electricity and how it was eventually harnessed and made available to power our appliances. We then went on to draw circuit diagrams, using the correct scientific symbols to represent each component.

As part of our R.E. lessons, we have been learning about Islam. In this week's lesson, we learnt that Muslims fast (Sawm) during Ramadan. The month of Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. Throughout this period, Muslims will donate to charity, fast during daylight hours and meet with their friends and family.



In computing, we have been developing our understanding of coding. We have been using 'else/if' commands to create games with time limits and scores.

On Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January, we have been invited to Joseph Rowntree School to watch their dress rehearsal of Matilda. This will take place during school hours. Children should be in school uniform but will need appropriate footwear and a coat for the walk.



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

### Break the Rules Day



We are looking forward to the '**Break The Rules Day**', on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January**. Get the nail polish out, hair chalks prepped and orange squash ready....

For every rule broken, you need to pay 50p. Please see the letter for full details

We will be collecting money in the playground on the day



**Bags2School collection** will be on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**, from 8.45am - 9.00am in the School playground.

If you are having a sort out as it's the new year please keep – any unwanted clothing, bags, bedding (not pillows or duvets though), shoes (tied together), hats, scarves, jewellery, curtains, towels and belts.



### UV Glow DISCO

On **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February** which will cost £3.00 and include some sweets. Vegan sweets will be available. To get the best out of the disco we encourage children to wear white or neon colours if they have something already. There will be a few glow items on sale like glowsticks. A letter will be coming out shortly with full details

4.30pm - 5.30pm – Reception, Year 1 and 2

5.45pm - 6.45pm – Year 3 and 4

7.00pm – 8.00pm – Year 5 and 6

Thank you

