

Friday 22nd November 2024

2024/25 No: 10



01904 768325 (option 3)



@RalphBPSch_York



www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk

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

Acting Headteacher's Message

Seasonal Celebrations

There are lots of Christmas festivities for the children (and yourselves) to enjoy in school over the remaining weeks of term. I wanted to share some dates with you, so that you are able to get them in your diary; we love being able to share these experiences with our children and their families. Please see the table located on the following page



Haxby & Wigginton Library

The benefits of using a library

Libraries are fantastic places to get your child engaged in reading and can be a great way to engage reluctant readers! Sometimes it can be difficult to find the right book to engage a child, but by spending some time in the library they can pick a variety of books to find the ones they like without you having to spend any money. Technology, especially in our current digital age, can be as beneficial as it can be a distraction. The benefit of a library is that it allows children to put their phone on silent and step away from the technology. While libraries offer people the chance to step away from the technology, on the other hand, if you don't have access to the internet at home then you can normally get online at the library. If your child needs to do homework on the computer, then the library is a perfect place to head.

With vast resources, books and supporting librarians, children can access knowledge that's not only useful to them, but also interesting; they are a place to learn new skills. Libraries run sessions and courses for adults and children. In our local Haxby & Wigginton library, you can find Under 5s Storytime, Lego Club and a reading cafe serving a variety of food and drink. Please visit <https://explore.york.org.uk/libraries/haxby-explore/> for more information.

Reading Challenge

The Bloodaxe Book Challenge, delivered in collaboration with York Explore Library and Archive, and Jorvik Viking Centre, launched on Saturday 16th November and runs until Saturday 11th January. The Bloodaxe author this year is Sophie Kirtley, with her fabulous book 'The Haunting of Fortune Farm'. Children just need to sign up, read/share four books by 11th January and they can receive stickers, a certificate and a chance to attend the author event with Sophie Kirtley in February half term.

I hope that you can have an enjoyable weekend.

Best wishes

Helen Stephenson












Car Users

Please ensure that, should you be using roads/streets near to school, you do not park illegally or in any way to cause an obstruction to pedestrians or other car users. It is not appropriate, on any occasion, to 'drop off' e.g stop the car and not park up correctly. Pick-up and drop-off times are busy outside schools, which can cause an increased safety risk to both children and parents. Please, please, please think of the safety of others. [Parked car concerns](#) can be reported by calling: 0800 1381119



Seasonal Celebrations

w/c 9 th Dec	<p>Christmas Nativity</p> <p>Reception: Wed 11th (2:45pm) Year 1: Mon 9th (2:30pm) Year 2: Tues 10th (2:30pm)</p>	
Thurs 12 th Dec	<p>Christmas Jumper Day (Supporting 'Save the Children' charity)</p> <p>Wear a Christmas/Festive jumper instead of school sweatshirt/cardigan (only). are entirely optional and will be collected via ParentPay.</p>	
w/c 16 th Dec	<p>Christmas Jumpers</p> <p>We welcome children to replace their school sweatshirt/cardigan (only) with a Christmas jumper throughout the week.</p>	
w/c 16 th Dec 8.55am	<p>Christmas Singing each morning (8:55am)</p> <p>Parents/Carers are welcome to wait in the playground, after drop off, and listen to their child(ren)'s year group sing on the following days (weather permitting):</p> <p>Reception: Thur 19th Year 1 & 2: Mon 16th Years 3 - 6: Wed 18th</p>	
w/c 16 th Dec	<p>Christmas Parties</p> <p>Please send your child in non uniform on the day of their party</p> <p>Reception: Weds 18th Year 1 & 2: Tues 17th Year 3 & 4: Tues 17th Year 5 & 6: Thur 19th</p>	
Mon 16 th Dec	<p>Grandparents' Christmas Craft Morning (9:30am -10:30am <i>or</i> 10:50am - 11:50am)</p> <p>We are really excited about this special craft morning! More information to follow.</p> <p>Please send your child to school with something old and long sleeved, to cover their regular uniform. <i>An old long sleeved top or an oversized shirt would be perfect.</i></p>	
Tues 17 th Dec 9.30am	<p>Upper Key Stage 2 Carol Service (Yr 5 - 6)</p> <p>At St. Mary's Church, Haxby</p> <p>More information to follow.</p>	
Wed 18 th Dec	<p>Christmas Dinner</p> <p>Please book via School Grid by Friday 6th December Click here</p>	
Wed 18 th Dec 1.30pm	<p>Key Stage 1 Carol Service (Yr 1 & Yr 2)</p> <p>At St. Mary's Church, Haxby</p> <p>More information to follow.</p>	
Thurs 19 th Dec 1.45pm	<p>Lower Key Stage 2 Carol Service (Yr 3 - 4)</p> <p>At St. Mary's Church, Haxby</p> <p>More information to follow.</p>	

Reminder: Friday 20th December 2024 is the last day of the school term.

Children return to school on Monday 6th January 2025.





There will be a **Christmas meal** served on **Wednesday 18th December**; This menu is live on SchoolGrid and meals should be booked in the same way as usual. As this day is always the busiest of the year for the school kitchen, there is a substantial amount of preparation required. With this in mind, Dolce are asking parents/carers to **please ensure that any bookings are made by Friday 6th December**. Thank you.

Should you have any questions, comments or suggestions regarding school meals, including the Christmas meal, please do not hesitate to contact Dolce Customer Care. Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm, on **01942 707709** or by email to customer care@dolce.co.uk

Under the 'Food' section on SchoolGrid you will also find the following links:

- **Review Dishes:** rate (in stars) the dishes your child has had.
- **Compliment the Cook:** leave a positive comment for the kitchen.
- **View Recipe Book:** Items listed A-Z with ingredients and method (also available when clicking the info symbol when pre-ordering).

This Week's Attendance



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

Not going to school every day can make your child more worried about going in.

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



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 25th 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

★★★★★
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 @tobybooktour



Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



This week, we have continued to explore our theme, '**Let's celebrate**'. The children have shared their own experiences of how birthdays are celebrated in your families (thank you for sharing these on Tapestry) and also learnt about how birthdays are celebrated differently around the world.

As part of our birthday theme, the children have had the opportunity to decorate birthday cakes, write a list of items they need for a birthday party, create their own wrapping paper and made playdough birthday cakes. We have also heard many children enjoying singing Happy Birthday to each other!

In **phonics**, we enjoy hearing the question, "Are we learning a new phoneme today?" Their continued enthusiasm for learning early reading skills is fantastic! This week, the teaching focus has been the phonemes **z, zz, qu and ch**. We have also learnt how to add **s** to the end of a word to change it from singular to plural, for example **cat-cats, hat-hats**. The children are also doing very well at learning 'tricky words'. These are words which cannot be read by sounding them out and can be practised at home on their tricky word cards. Hopefully, children are beginning to point out these tricky words to you.

In **maths** this week, the children have learnt about four sided shapes. This has included learning about squares and rectangles, and their properties. For example, a square has four sides which are the same length and four corners. The children have thoroughly enjoyed being creative in their maths work, making four sided shapes out of matchsticks and lollipop sticks, and printing squares and rectangles with Duplo bricks.



The children are currently enjoying PE lessons, each Friday, with Mr Stephenson from Total Sports. Over the last few weeks, they have practised their movement skills, learnt about different pieces of PE equipment and played many fun games. Each week, Mr Stephenson also chooses people to be awarded certificates.



This week, you should have received a letter (in book bags) regarding our nativity roles and detailing costume suggestions. Please do speak to us if you would like any help with finding a costume.

Reminder

Next Thursday, Class 1 will be visiting Haxby library to learn about the library and choose new books. Please remember to put the books and library card in their book bag. Thank you.

Thank you for your continued support.

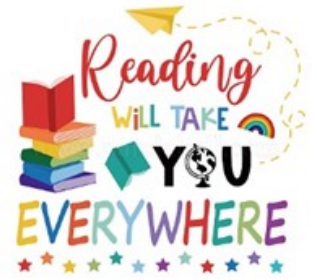
Mrs Robinson, Mrs Greenwood and the Reception team



Reception Class Visits to the Library

Our Class 2 children thoroughly enjoyed their first visit to Haxby Explore library on Thursday. The following information shows further visit dates which are planned in until February half-term.

Thursday 28 th November	Class 1	Thursday 16 th January	Class 2
Thursday 5 th December	Class 2	Thursday 23 rd January	Class 1
Thursday 12 th December	Class 1	Thursday 30 th January	Class 2
Thursday 19 th December	Class 2	Thursday 6 th February	Class 1
Thursday 9 th January	Class 1	Thursday 13 th February	Class 2



The library have issued cards for all children who are new to joining the library.

Please can we ask all children to remember their cards and books to return on the day of their visit, to avoid any disappointment?

Thank you



Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

It has been a very exciting week in Key Stage 1 and not just because of the snow! It was wonderful to see so many family members and friends join us for our incredible art afternoon on Monday. In particular, it was lovely to see just how quiet and focussed everyone was as they followed the tutorials to draw the characters from "Room on the Broom". You could have heard a pin drop! Well done to all the children and adults: the results were fantastic! In our art lessons, we have continued with our sketching and drawing of animals and characters from our class novel, "Emma Jane's Aeroplane." We have been following online drawing tutorials to make the shapes and then using different grades of art pencils to achieve different effects. We emphasised our outlines by adding pressure and then shaded using less pressure. The results have been **AMAZING**, especially the dragons! What was even better than the results, was the joy and pride our children felt when they were completing their work



In science, we were learning about life processes and what basic needs all living things require: including food, water and shelter. We started by looking at the difference between things that we want and things that we need, and the consequences of, for example, not having a TV compared to not having food. One of the ways we could think about this was in the context of looking after a pet, like a budgie. We created fact files about what we would need to do to enable our budgie to survive.

This is always a very exciting time of year for our Key Stage 1 children as we are starting to prepare for our nativity. The children have started learning the songs that we will be singing. We are excited to start rehearsing soon. We shall be sending the song words and scripts home over the next few weeks so please help your child to practise. It promises to be an amazing show!



Well done Key Stage 1. Keep being amazing!

Mrs Atkinson, Miss Griffiths, Mr Merrall and Miss Tattersley



Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

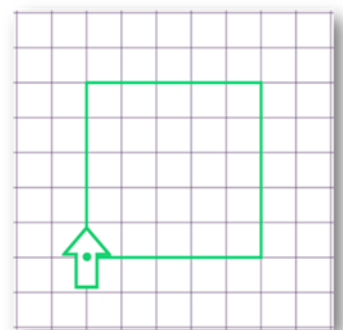
Year 3 and 4 have had another brilliant week.

This week, we have all thoroughly enjoyed constructing our roundhouses during our design technology focus week. The children began by referring back to their planning and sequence of actions that they completed last week and then quickly got to work. The perseverance, determination and skills that the children have shown this week have been amazing. They have measured pieces of wood accurately, used saws to cut them to the correct length, rolled out clay bases and constructed the outline of the house. Afterwards, they patiently created the exterior of the house using card and string to create the natural woven look; this was a lot trickier than we thought it would be. Lastly, came the roof, where the children needed to create a cone shape, including the smoke outlet hole in the middle. After all the parts were constructed and fixed together, the final touches were added such as hay covered floors inside the house. We are so proud of the children for their wonderful creations and we can't wait to show you them in person during our Stone Age classroom event on **Monday 2nd December**.



In French, the children have continued to work on their understanding of the names of animals and have built upon their previous learning by describing the colours of various animals. When describing an animal in French, the children learnt that the noun comes before the adjective so 'The grey rabbit' would be 'Le lapin gris'. To take this further, the children then learnt particular actions linked to the animals, for example 'le cheval' was linked to 'il galope'.

The computing focus for this half term is Logo, which is a text based coding programme. So far, the children have created shapes by entering multiple instructions (such as FD 5, RT 90, FD 5, RT 90, FD 5, RT 90, FD 5 to create a square) and have created letters (for example FD 8 RT 90 FD 4 RT 90 PU FD 4 RT 90 PD FD 4 LT 90 FD 4 LT 90 FD 4 to create the letter E). This week, the children have learnt about the repeat instruction and how this can be used to create regular shapes. Instead of the long code to draw a square, the children entered the code REPEAT 4 [FD 5 RT 90].



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 PE sessions with Mr Walton this half term, we have been developing our ball skills. This week, in pairs, we dribbled the football around the playground while our partner called out, "1-2!" This signaled to us to pass the ball, use quick reflexes and encouraged teamwork. Next, we expanded our groups into teams of 5-6 to play 'person in the middle'. We were each allowed only 2-3 touches to pass the ball to another teammate. If the person in the middle managed to touch the ball, the last player to kick it took their place in the middle. This evolved into a more challenging version of the game with 1-2 touches and two people in the middle. The session wrapped up with a 3-on-3 game with small goals. In this final challenge, we each had to touch the ball before attempting to score, emphasising the importance of teamwork and skillful play.



In history this week, we learnt about how the Anglo-Saxon and Viking period ended. Prior to the 'Battle of Hastings' in 1066, the leadership of England had once more come into question following the death of the childless king, Edward the Confessor. Though there were many contenders for the throne, we learnt that there were three who had the strongest claim: Harold Godwinson, whose father had ruled prior to Edward; William of Normandy, who had allegedly been promised the throne by Edward, and Harold Godwinson, who had been handed the crown by Edward on his deathbed. We learnt about the heroic defense of England by Harold Godwinson as he led his army from London to York to repel Harold Godwinson's invasion. Following his success in York, he then marched back to Hastings to attempt to repel William and his invasion force. Despite his best efforts, due to the fatigue of his soldiers, Harold was defeated and William (the Conqueror) was declared England's new king. As individuals, we had to decide who we felt was the rightful king of England and provide an argument for our choice.



In RE this week, we considered the gospels and their importance to Christians. We examined extracts from the New Testament and from these, derived Jesus's mission statement. We identified that he wished to help the blind to see, to bring liberty to the oppressed, to free those imprisoned, to bring good news to the poor and to tell people that God will bless them. As part of our lesson, we started to consider how Christians could follow these teachings in modern society.

Please do not hesitate to contact us or speak to us directly if you have any questions or concerns.

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



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Ralph Butterfield Primary School

For children starting school in September 2025,
we warmly invite families to come and visit us on

Wednesday 27th November 2024
4pm - 5:15pm





OPEN EVENT

*"Releasing the magic in our children,
staff and school community"*



Accepting applications from both inside and
outside of our catchment area

Come and tour our welcoming school, whilst
also taking the opportunity to meet staff

Headteacher talk is being held at **4:30pm**

Please email us for more information and to
register your attendance
RalphButterfield.school@york.gov.uk





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PTA News

We are pleased to announce the following PTA Committee members voted in at our EGM last Friday! Welcome to the team:

- Ben Lodge as incoming Chair
- Rachel Hawkins as Co-Vice Chair

• Second and Final Opportunity to Order Christmas Cards and Gifts!

The online shop CLOSSES MIDDAY ON MONDAY 25TH NOVEMBER

If you would like to order more or missed out the first time, **but are missing your proof reference number**, please contact the school or the PTA directly for help.

• ASDA Cashpot

Please do remember to please select Ralph Butterfield School in the 'ASDA Rewards' App when you shop and scan at ASDA. ASDA will donate (0.5% of your total spend) to our school! Please let friends and family know too!

This is a limited time opportunity for school to collect, which closes END OF NOVEMBER.



**you scan,
WE DONATE
££ TO
SCHOOLS.**

CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS **ASDA Rewards**

Download the Asda Rewards app and opt-in today

[Find out more](#)



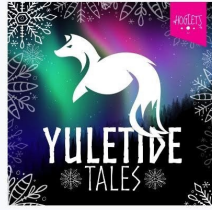
Snoozles Saves Christmas

Snoozles the Elf has been slacking off all year, and has nothing to put in Santa's sleigh on Christmas Eve! Sensory storytelling aimed at under 5s.
14 Dec - Acomb Explore



Yuletide Tales

A festive storytelling experience of yuletide tales set underneath the glittering Northern Lights. A cosy session aimed at 4 to 9 year olds.
21 & 23 Dec - multiple libraries



Winter Crafts

Enjoy creating a variety of seasonal projects, children can make and take their wintry creations.

30 Dec & 3 Jan - multiple libraries

The Great Paper Caper - A Seasonally Snowy Whodunnit



If you go down to the woods this wintry day, you're sure of a big surprise! A hilarious and creative adventure aimed at 4 to 8 year olds.

3 Jan - multiple libraries



Follow our story:



CHRISTMAS IN YORK FOR FAMILIES

York Mumbler been busy updating all their festive content for families, with lots of ideas and inspiration for things to do in York & beyond both now and over the school holidays.

[Click Here](#)

YorKAOS

KIDS' ART EXHIBITION

February Half Term @ SPARK*

Are you 5 to 11 years old?
Do you like creating art?

Join us at YorKAOS!

1. Create one amazing drawing, painting, collage, computer art, photo or video!
2. Take your art to an explore library at York Centre, Acomb, Clifton or Tang Hall during the last two weeks of January
3. Bring your friends and family to see your amazing art at SPARK*

Learn more at our website!
www.yorkaos.art

ORGANISED BY KIDS FOR KIDS!

Fundraising for CHILDREN IN NEED explore Libraries and Activities St Leonard's Hospice

Creative Literacies Hub

The Hub for Parents, Carers and Children

Want to discover fun and creative ways to enhance your child's literacy skills at home? Sign up for the FREE Creative Literacies Hub today!

Supporting Reading at Home
Who? Parents, Carers and Children aged 5-11.
What? The first 2 workshops are for parents and carers only although you are welcome to bring your child. In these workshops, we will show you ways of supporting your child to read a wide range of texts. Your child will join you for the remaining 4 sessions where you will read together.

Creative Writing Together
Who? Parents, Carers and Children aged 7-14.
What? For all 6 workshops you and your child will engage in creative writing sessions together. Through the workshops, you and your child will imagine settings, characters, and plots, writing from different points of view within your story-world. Your creative writing pieces will feature in an anthology, published by York St John University.

How Do I Sign Up?
You can self-refer by completing our online self-referral form. This is found by visiting the 'Children and Young People' page underneath the 'Groups and programmes' header on our website www.yorks.ac.uk/ysjcc (or use the QR code). When completing the form please ensure you state the age of your child, and the programme/s you would like to enrol on – you may sign up to both.

Est. 1841 YORK ST JOHN UNIVERSITY

Est. 2016 YORK ST JOHN COMMUNITIES CENTRE

E: ysjcc@yorks.ac.uk | T: 01904 876072 | www.yorks.ac.uk/ysjcc