

Friday 23rd May 2025

2024/25 No: 31



01904 768325 (option 3)



@RalphBPSch_York



www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk

Acting Headteacher's Message

Good afternoon

Welcoming Our Wonderful Parent/Carer Visitors

It is always a joy to see our school community come together, and one of the loveliest ways this happens is when parents visit to share their interests, talents, or careers with the children. These special sessions not only enrich our curriculum but also spark curiosity and open our children's eyes to the wide range of possibilities that lie ahead of them, whether that's exploring unique hobbies, learning new skills, or discovering the many different kinds of work people do. Hearing real-life stories helps children to see that learning doesn't just happen in the classroom, and that their own futures can be shaped by passion, perseverance, and creativity. This week, we were especially fortunate to welcome Mrs Calpin (Frasier and Arnold's Mum) who came in to talk to the children about her fascinating hobby of beekeeping. The children and staff were absolutely buzzing with excitement (pun intended!) as they learned about how bees live, how honey is made, and why these small creatures are so important to our environment. Mrs Calpin even brought in some of her equipment and photos from her hives, which made the experience even more engaging and memorable. A special thank you also goes to Frasier for assisting Mum during the assembly.

Looking ahead to next term, we are excited to have some special assemblies planned where parents and carers will be coming in to talk about their experiences of speaking a foreign language and working as a barrister. These are wonderful opportunities for children to broaden their understanding of the world and be inspired by the different journeys people take.



If you have a job, hobby, or skill you would be happy to share, we would love to hear from you. Please contact me via the school office if you would like to get involved.

As we come to the end of this half term, we would like to wish all our parents/carers a restful and enjoyable break. We hope you have the chance to spend some quality time with your families and enjoy the (hopefully!) sunny days ahead. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Tuesday 3rd June**, refreshed and ready for the final half term of the year.

Best wishes

Helen Stephenson

We Are Proud to Be an Elklan Communication Friendly Early Years Setting!



We are thrilled to share some exciting news with you, our Early Years setting has officially been awarded Elklan Communication Friendly Status!

This national recognition means our school is now formally acknowledged for being a place where all children including those with Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) are supported in the very best way. Achieving this status involved a lot of dedication and teamwork. Many members of staff have taken part in specialist Elklan training and, just as importantly, they've brought that training to life in the classroom. By using what they have learned in their daily practice, they are helping make our school a place where all children can communicate confidently and thrive.

We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all our staff for their incredible work, and an extra special thank you to Mrs Robinson, who has led this project with passion and determination. Her commitment, many additional hours, and belief in what this means for our children have been key to our success.

A Polite Reminder to Help Keep our School Safe

We kindly ask for your support in helping us maintain a safe and calm environment for all our pupils and siblings during drop-off and pick-up times.

Recently, we've noticed a number of children climbing on walls, running across grassy areas, and mounting wooden structures around the school site. While we understand that children are excited and wanting to play with friends, we must ask that they remain on the tarmac playground area only.

Please remind your children:

- **Not to climb on** the wooden outdoor shelter or the new wooden hut on the playground. (They are very welcome to **sit inside** them, but climbing is not allowed.)
- **Not to use bikes or scooters** on school grounds.
- **Not to roam around unsupervised** - we ask that all children stay within the playground area and are closely supervised by their accompanying adult.

It's important to remember that lessons are still ongoing, and pupils in class need a quiet and focused environment. Above all, we want to ensure the safety of all children on site.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support in keeping our school a safe and happy place for everyone.

Ralph Butterfield Primary School achieves the 'Platinum' School Games Award!

We are delighted to announce that we, Ralph Butterfield Primary School, have achieved the School Games Platinum Mark Award for the 2024/25 academic year.

The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

We look forward to applying once again in 2026!





Ralph Butterfield Primary School

has achieved the Platinum School Games Mark award for their commitment and engagement in the School Games for 2024/25.

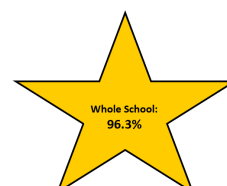


Going to school **every day** makes it easier for your child to keep up in lessons.

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



This Week's Attendance



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

Transition from Reception to Year 1

On **Wednesday 25th June**, Mrs Robinson and Mrs Atkinson would like to invite parents/carers to a meeting about transition from Reception to Year 1. We understand that you may have some questions about this next step in your child's academic journey and we shall also share valuable information about the transition plans and how your child will progress onto learning through the National Curriculum.



The meeting will take place in the school hall at **2:15pm** and will be finished by the end of the school day.

Following the meeting, all materials shared will be emailed out to all Reception parents/carers.

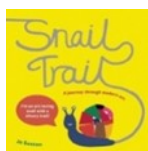


Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Our focus this week has been 'minibeasts that live on the ground'. One of our favourite themed stories has been Snail Trail! This story has led the children to practise positional language, such as, under, over, next to, between and through.



During the week, the children have had varied opportunities to learn about snails and slugs. These have included minibeast shaped addition with Numicon, rolling playdough to create snails, cutting snail spirals, exploring garden habitats and learning about the mucus which some minibeasts use to help them move.



Continuing to focus on snails, we have also explored the later work of the artist Henri Matisse. He used paper and scissors to create his paper collage pictures. The children used their scissor and design skills to create their own Matisse style snail pictures. These look amazing!

In phonics, we have learnt new spelling patterns including adding a suffix onto the end of a root word. For example, **twisting** and **helped**. (Root word =twist/Suffix=ing). When learning to read words with these new suffix endings, as always, we have discussed how we use the words and their meanings. New tricky words learnt this week are, **out** and **today**. We have also continued to practise the tricky words which we have learnt throughout the year. You can continue to do this at home by using the tricky word cards.

In maths, we have focussed on subtraction methods to solve a calculation. To calculate number sentences, the children have used tens frames and number stories. We were very impressed that the children are now able to tell a subtraction story themselves using the language, first, then and now.

The children have brought home their broad bean plants this week and we hope they grow into sturdy beanstalks. The children are very excited to discover if there is a castle at the top! If you would like to share the progress of the plants, please do so by adding an update on Tapestry.



Reminders

During the week beginning, 2nd June, **Class 2** will be visiting Haxby library to select new books. Please do return any books due over the half-term holidays. This can be done at any Explore library in York.

Next term, our **PE days** will continue to be Thursday/Friday (alternate weeks).

Please don't hesitate to discuss any questions or concerns with us.

Mrs Robinson, Mrs Greenwood and the Reception team



Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)



This week, the children have taken part in the virtual tri-golf competition. They completed and scored points in four 60 second timed challenges: 'Tunnel Ball', 'Finders Keepers', 'Zone ball' and 'Drive for show, putt for dough'. Out of the four challenges, the children found 'Tunnel Ball' the easiest. They had 60 seconds to putt the ball as many times as they could through different coloured cones. 'Finders Keepers' required a higher level of accuracy as the children needed to hit a selection of spaced-out cones with the ball and collect as many cones as they could. Again, 'Zone ball' increased the level of skill required as the children not only needed to hit the line of cones but there was only one yellow cone in the row for them to gain maximum points. For their final challenge, 'Drive for show, putt for dough', which was definitely the most challenging, the children were required to chip the ball over the cone to earn the chance to putt the ball into the hoop and gain extra points. Impressive levels of resilience were shown throughout all of the activities as it wasn't easy.

In PSHE this week, the children have continued to focus on ways of improving their mental health and their understanding of the connection between taking part in calming activities to promote good mental health. During the lesson, the children took part in a carousel of five activities that could improve their emotional wellbeing. The activities included, reading, doodling, creating positive affirmations, mindful colouring and journaling. Everyone enjoyed the activities and felt calm at the end of the session! Reading, mindful colouring and doodling were our favourites.



On Wednesday, we had an amazing day full of Roman activities delivered by our fabulous visitor Catherine from 'History to Life', who arrived in character, dressed as a Roman called 'Flavia'. Throughout the morning, the children explored and sketched a range of artefacts. These included everyday Roman items such as swords, different forms of pottery, helmets and money. Afterwards, all the three classes then split up into groups and played some Roman games including 'Knucklebone' and a board game called 'Duodecim Scripta'. We then had a go at using a reed pen and cursive script and learnt about Vindolanda tablets which are some of the oldest handwritten documents in Britain that have provided information about Roman Britain. After lunch, the children suddenly became part of the Roman army and, after exploring the equipment and weapons that the Romans used, we had a go at some of the drills. They then discussed how British Celts were different to the Romans with how they fought and the equipment they had. We quickly decided that the Romans were a lot better protected and organised. We ended the day with a question and answer session, where the children showed off their fantastic knowledge about the Romans. **A massive thank you to the PTA for funding this day; we all had an awesome day and loved the hands-on learning experience. Thank you!**

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

We hope that you have a lovely weekend

Mr Daniel, Mr Povey and Miss Clapham

Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)

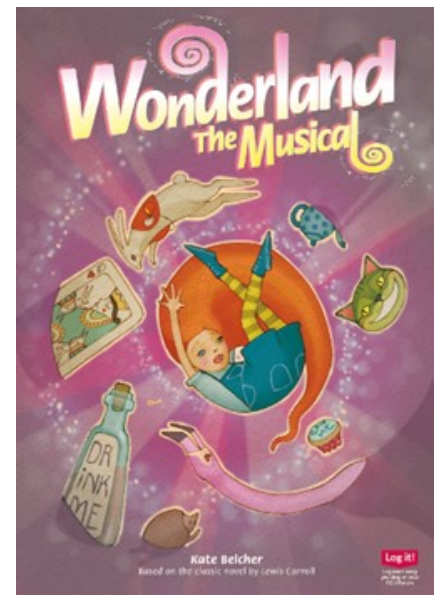


Our focus in English this week has been on editing and redrafting our writing. We have been able to identify where we can make improvements with regards to punctuation, word choice and cohesion using our improved understanding gained from English lessons throughout the year. Looking back at some of our earlier work, we recognised how much we have improved as writers.

Wonderland the Musical

This week we held auditions for the Year 6 pupils. We were blown away by the talent of our classmates. The staff are working hard to try to find a role that everyone will feel comfortable with following discussions about the different types of role: speaking, singing, speaking and singing, or a non-speaking/singing role.

Although there are only a few well known named characters, we found that there were lots of other larger parts. Year 5s will have supporting roles and are part of the chorus.



As part of our work in Science, we have started by focusing on the changes that human beings experience as they develop to old age. We investigated and ordered a timeline of human growth and development. We identified key milestones, including that of being a newborn child and living at an advanced age. We also investigated the changes to the body, as humans get older, as well as comparing the life expectancy of different animals.

Have a lovely, restful half term.

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

Mr Bennett, Mr Carpenter, Mrs Fitzpatrick and Mr Tod



York RUFC Girls



Girls aged 7-19

Come and give rugby training a try when our new season kicks off on 3rd September...

Wednesday nights
18.30 to 19.30
York Sports Club, Clifton Park, YO30 5RE





Have fun

Develop your rugby skills

Build fitness and friendships

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Be part of a team and a growing community

Get the opportunity to play matches

Contact us for more information at YorkRUFCgirls@outlook.com

Follow us on Instagram: @yorkrufcgirls

Like us on Facebook: York RUFC Girls

WOMENS & GIRLS RUGBY TRAINING SESSION!



Join us for an exhilarating experience at our Women's and Girls' rugby back to basics session!

Whether you're a seasoned player or a curious beginner, this event is perfect for everyone looking to dive into the world of rugby. Embrace the camaraderie, build your skills, and unleash your enthusiasm on the field. Our friendly and supportive community is dedicated to empowering women and girls through sport, fostering both physical fitness and personal growth. Don't miss out on the chance to be part of a dynamic team environment where fun and excitement are guaranteed as our club York RUFC hosts the Official Women's world cup trophy at our grounds on the 2nd of June!

Lace up your boots and get ready to tackle fun head-on! All abilities are welcome with age ranges from junior girls 7-11, Teenagers, walking rugby, touch rugby, T1 rugby, right the way through to our Women's first team.

Date - 2nd June. Time - 6-7.30 pm. Place - 1st Team Pitch.
Location - York sports club, YO50 5ER



ALL ABILITIES
ENCOURAGED!!



Womens QR code

Girls QR code

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