

Acting Headteacher's Message

Hello

Growth Mindset

At Ralph Butterfield Primary School we believe our children deserve to grow up being happy, healthy, well-adjusted individuals in life, and to find success in whatever they intend to do. We aim to do our best to help them get there, which is why Growth Mindset is a priority in our school.

Growth Mindset is based on research conducted by Dr. Carol Dweck. Her research points to people having one of two mindsets: Growth or Fixed.

Fixed Mindset: "In a Fixed Mindset, children believe that their basic abilities, their intelligence, their talents, are just fixed traits."

Growth Mindset: "In a Growth Mindset, children understand their talents and abilities can be developed through effort - teaching persistence."

Developing a growth mindset is extremely valuable at a young age. In introducing growth mindset strategies we are enabling children to take a positive outlook on every aspect of life. Teaching growth mindset can improve academic performance, increase social behaviour, and enable children to manage anxiety.

An example of growth mindset put into practice: *'I cannot paint that picture.'*

By teaching the children to include 'yet' and changing the statement to 'I cannot paint that picture yet' we give the child the confidence, that they have our support and faith that eventually they will be able to paint the picture.

Growth Mindset is applicable across all subjects throughout school. Throughout daily lessons and activities all staff encourage children to keep on task and to have a 'can do' attitude.

This shows children how to support their peers and encourage them to have persistence, not only at school but at home as well.

We work to enable children to become confident and be able to tackle situations by using their growth mindset to overcome obstacles that come their way. They learn to use their growth mindset strategies and language to support their peers when they witness a fixed mindset approach.

Today Class 5 parents/carers have enjoyed sharing their special class assembly (it was fabulous) and on Friday 7th February, it is the turn of Class 9 (3:00 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](#)).

Overleaf are the dates of some upcoming events. Where necessary, additional information will follow nearer the event.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

Best wishes, *Helen Stephenson*

DEVELOPING A GROWTH MINDSET



INSTEAD OF....	TRY THINKING....
I'm not good at this	What am I missing?
I give up	I'll use a different strategy
It's good enough	Is this really my best work?
I can't make this any better	I can always improve
This is too hard	This may take some time
I made a mistake	Mistakes help me to learn
I just can't do this	I am going to train my brain
I'll never be that smart	I will learn how to do this
Plan A didn't work	There's always Plan B
My friend can do it	I will learn from them

Upcoming Events

Thursday 30 th January	Years 5/6 Mosque Trip - pm
Friday 31 st January	PTA Break the Rules Day
Monday 3 rd February	Years 5/6 Mary Poppins @ Joseph Rowntree School - am
Tuesday 4 th February	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check Meeting @ 3:30pm
Thursday 13 th February	PTA Discos
Friday 14 th February	Last day of term
Monday 24 th February	School closed - staff training day
Tuesday 25 th February	Children return to school
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day
Friday 21 st March	Red Nose Day
w/c 24 th March	Year 6 Parents/Carers' Evening Week
Tuesday 25 th March	Lower Junior Production (further information to follow)
Wednesday 26 th March	Lower Junior Production (further information to follow)
Friday 4 th April	Last day of term
Monday 21 st April	Bank holiday – school closed
Tuesday 22 nd April	All return to school



Parking

Please park safely, respectfully and legally near our school

Vehicles are parked illegally if they are 'in or adjacent to' Zig Zag lines outside of schools, **this includes dropping off**. Parking services can issue a [parking ticket \(penalty charge notice, or PCN\)](#) for those who do so [click here for more information](#).

To report a vehicle, which is parked illegally, call the **Parking Hotline** on: 0800 1381119



Lost Property

Please help us to find owners for our unclaimed, unnamed lost property; any items not claimed by Friday 31st January will be donated to charity.

In order for items to be reunited with their owner, **we really need things to be labelled clearly**, with the child's full name (or first name and initial of surname). Thank you.

The lost property box is also full of jumpers and cardigans, unnamed; any unclaimed uniform items (with logo) are passed on to our Parent Teacher Association for their 'pre-loved' sales.



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 many 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. Linked to our jungle work, the children have painted symmetrical tiger faces, written animal riddles, made number and pattern snakes and used their cutting skills to create parrots and monkey hanging decorations. What a busy week we've had!

In **phonics** this week, the new phonemes learnt have been **ur (as in curl)**, **ow (as in owl)**, **oi (as in boil)** and **ear (as in hear)**. We have continued to learn the catchphrases for each new grapheme and these are also on your child's homework sheet this week. More tricky words have been practised and also new words have been sounded out and read. New tricky words are, **my**, **by**, and **all**. We are very proud of how the children are making fantastic progress with their phonics knowledge and reading. Thank you for your support with this at home.



In **maths**, the children have been investigating 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, Noah's Ark and Jungle Animal Pairs. The children then used their knowledge of making pairs to consolidate their understanding of odd and even numbers to 10, as the week went on.



On **Friday 31st January**, we would like to invite you to our next stay and play with the children between 9 – 9.45am. This is an opportunity for the children to show you around their classrooms and enjoy sharing their favourite activities. In the morning, please drop your children off as usual so they can become settled into their usual routines. We will then ask you to sign in for safety purposes before joining your child in the classroom. We greatly appreciate 1 adult for each child, to avoid our classrooms becoming overcrowded. We look forward to seeing you.



Reminder

Next Thursday, **Class 2** will be visiting Haxby library to return their 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





Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)



Key Stage 1 has been a busy and exciting place to be this week. We have been learning all about Chinese New Year, which takes place between the end of January and the beginning of February. The exact date changes because it is based on the lunar calendar but the celebrations last for 15 days! We learned about the celebrations and how they are based on the idea of cleaning away things from the old year, chasing away bad luck and preparing for the new year and welcoming in good luck. We also learned that each year is named after a different animal, based on a Chinese fable.

This year is the Year of the Snake and so we made paper chain snake decorations, making sure to use the colours red, black and yellow (gold) because they are considered to be lucky colours. We loved making them and decorating our classroom with them.

In English, we used this experience to write detailed instructions about how to make a snake decoration. We sequenced the steps and used photographs to help us structure the process. As well as an engaging introduction, we included a sequence of commands that included time connectives, imperative verbs and adverbs to clearly tell the reader what to do. What an amazing job the children did!



On Friday, Class 5 entertained their family, friends and the rest of the key stage with their amazing class assembly. There was so much to marvel at as they took us with them on their learning journey through the year so far. The Year 2s showcased their recorder skills and the Year 1s performed one of our favourite songs from music this year: "Hey You!" There were also demonstrations of ball skills and gymnastics positions, which they learnt in PE, and they shared some of the amazing artwork they have produced. It was an amazing show and we were all so proud of the incredible job that the narrators did of speaking clearly in front of an audience.

You may have noticed a new adult face around in Key Stage 1 recently. Miss Ryan is a beginner teacher and she is working with Key Stage 1. She is enjoying getting to know the children, just as they are excited to have a new adult work with them. Well done Key Stage 1. Keep being the fabulous, friendly shining stars that you are!

Miss Tattersley, Mrs Atkinson and Mr Merrall



Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

It has been another busy and exciting week in Lower Juniors.



In PSHE this week, the children were asked to define their understanding of the word community and think carefully about the different groups that make up, and contribute, to their own communities. In our classes, the children discussed how people can make a positive and valuable contribution to their local area including such things as making donations, raising money, volunteering, visiting local care homes and

helping with projects such as developing a community garden. The children also considered the benefits of helping out in your local community. They came up with some great ideas including the opportunity to meet new people, inspiring others to get involved as well the chance the learn lots of new skills.

In Geography this half-term, our theme is entitled 'I'm a Survivor' which will involve the children looking in detail at different climate zones around the world.

This week, the focus has been on the children using atlases to locate tropical rainforests and researching their key features including the climate conditions, the types of animals and plants that live there and other fascinating facts. Did you know that the canopy in the Amazon Rainforest is so thick that when it rains, it takes around ten minutes for the water to reach the ground?



In English this week, the children have started writing their own stories entitled 'The Wizard's House in the Woods'. Firstly, they looked carefully at the model text and were challenged to identify the writing features contained within it. Having then written their own version of an exciting introduction, the children were asked to recall and practise the golden rules for setting out and punctuating dialogue. The final task of the week, was to describe the main setting of our story using a variety of expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials. The children produced some wonderful written work and are already looking forward to writing their own problem, solution and ending to their wizard stories next week!

The RSPB Big School's Bird watch started at the beginning of January. All three classes have taken part in it over the last two weeks. To begin with, the children viewed a selection of pictures of a variety of birds including sparrows, robins, blackbirds, magpies, starlings and blue tits to help them to be able to identify them. They also thoroughly enjoyed learning some key facts about these birds, including what they liked to eat and their typical size. Afterwards, the children headed out onto the field with their recording cards to see what birds they could spot on school grounds. We were very lucky and spotted some black birds, pigeons, robins and a lot of seagulls!



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, Miss Clapham, and Mr Povey

Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)



In English this week, we have been writing character and setting descriptions. Before writing, we collated ambitious vocabulary and a range of features: similes, metaphors and examples of personification. We then used this knowledge to write cohesive and descriptive paragraphs.

In geography, we have started learning about 'The Force of Nature': earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanoes. This week, we learnt about earthquakes, including, how they are caused and the impact that these catastrophic events have on the population, infrastructure and the economy of the countries affected.



In RE, we have been learning about Hajj, which is the pilgrimage to Mecca. As part of their faith, Muslims should undertake this pilgrimage at least once in their lifetime. Pupils learnt about the Kaaba and other important landmarks. They also learnt about the throwing of stones at the three pillars in Mina which represents the rejection of temptation.

Next Thursday, we will be going to York Mosque. Please remember to wear suitable socks (as we will need to take our shoes off) and bring a water bottle to school. We have spent some time preparing for the visit and have started to consider what question we could ask whilst there.



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

Mr Bennett, Mrs Fitzpatrick, Mr Tod and Mr Carpenter

This Week's Attendance



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

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



FAMILY MATTERS YORK

We know your families and relationships mean the world to you.

We know it's not always easy.

We're here to help!

We can support you to take steps towards positive changes.

FREE Parenting courses on topics to meet your needs.

Peer couple support to get your relationship back on track.

Find out more

www.fmy.org.uk info@fmy.org.uk

The Retreat Clinics **Pave the Way Families**

FREE SIGNPOSTING EVENT FOR SUPPORT SERVICES, LOCAL FAMILIES, PARENTS & CARERS.

Join us at York St Johns Creative Centre where local support services will be available to give advice and information on mental health, neurodiversity, legal support, parents who are finding their early parenting journey a challenge, financial or health concerns, women's refuges, family abuse support, and much more.

Attending services include:
HomeStart, York Integrated Care Board, Citizens Advice, Big Future Foundations, IDAS, York SENDIASS, The Retreat Clinics, SJPLAW, York Maternity Voices Partnership, Raise York / FIS, Foundation Positive Choices Services...

**4TH FEBRUARY
DROP IN FROM
2PM - 6PM**

**AT YORK ST JOHN
CREATIVE CENTRE**
Lord Mayor's Walk, York, YO31 7EX
what3words: ///nanic fish names

BOOK NOW

SCAN ME

York Residents' Festival

Reminder, the annual York Residents' Festival returns this weekend (Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th 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, please present a valid York Card, student card or identity card that proves York residency. If presenting an identity card, this 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.visitryork.org/residents-festival>.



Clare's Kitchen Cookery Club @ Ralph Butterfield's Free Taster Session



Cookery Club runs on a Tuesday after school until 5.25pm. Our team of little chefs plan, prepare and bake their own food. We do all kinds of recipes from pizzas to gingerbread. We are offering a **Free Taster Session** this term to pupils years 1-6, on a first come first served basis. To redeem this invite, contact Clare at clare@clares-kitchen.co.uk or whatsapp 07813182216. You will simply need to complete a booking form! This offer is only for those pupils who have not previously attended Clare's Kitchen.

Clare's Kitchen has been delivering Cookery Clubs in schools since it was founded by Clare in 2014. See us in action on social media;

Facebook <http://facebook.com/clareskitchenyork>
Instagram @clareskitchenyork

Holiday Activity Session

Wednesday 19th February
12.30pm - 2.00pm
at New Earswick Folk Hall

Come along and make music with Billy, the TrashBang! Man, at our junk percussion workshop.

Have fun and share lunch in a family friendly space. Most suitable for children aged 3-12yrs. **FREE** pack up lunch, snacks and a cooked meal to take away, pre-book only. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Limited places available, please book your space by contacting the Folk Hall reception in person or on 01904 769621

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