

Friday 29th November 2024

2024/25 No: 11



01904 768325 (option 3)



@RalphBPSch_York



www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk

Acting Headteacher's Message

As the school holidays are getting closer, children's use of technology increases: tablets, smartphones, game consoles and smartwatches. It is important that parent/carers look at ways to ensure that their children use these devices safely; this includes setting parental controls and understanding that video games have PEGI ratings similar to the classification for films. Other things that you may want to consider is managing screen time so that you can monitor the amount of time being spent on each device.

Online Safety

We all know that it is vitally important to chat with children, on an ongoing basis, about how to stay safe online. However, it can also be difficult to keep up with what they are using their devices for. These conversation starter suggestions can help:

Ask your child(ren) to tell you about the sites they like to visit and what they enjoy doing online. What games do you and your friends like to play online? Can you show me the websites you visit the most? Shall we play your favourite game online together?

Ask them about how they stay safe online. The children should be able to share with you what they have learned in school about this as it is visited regularly, both within the curriculum and as opportunities/challenges arise. What tips do they have for you, and where did they learn them? What is OK and not OK to share? Having regular conversations can help make sure that the children are empowered and you feel reassured.

Ask them if they know where to go for help. Where can they go to find the safety advice, privacy settings and how to report or block on the services they use? There is a wealth of support online for staying safe.

Think about how you each use the internet. What more could you do to use the internet together? Are there activities that you could enjoy as a family?

From time to time, different apps become a focus for us so that children understand what is and isn't ok. Many of the sites are not suitable for primary aged children, despite them being easy for them to use. Coping with the content of messages/images received on social media is a regular area of discussion in school, particularly with our older year groups. There are varying recommended age limits for different social media sites: 16 yrs old – WhatsApp; 13 yrs old – Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat, TikTok. [Click here](#) for a handy guide for parents/carers produced by internetmatters.

We do have a dedicated [online safety information](#) page on our school website that you may find useful. This includes guides for a wide variety of apps.

Choir

Well done to the choir for representing the school and singing so beautifully at the Christmas tree light switch on in Haxby last night. Not only did you sing the songs chosen by the school but you also accompanied the band 'Generation Groove' and the community choir. It was lovely to hear you all and see the joy on your faces whilst you sang. Thank you to all parent/carers for accompanying your child on a cold but festive evening. The choir have already been invited back for next year!

Best wishes *Helen Stephenson*

Election of Parent Governor

Further to my recent letter about the election of a Parent Governor, I am writing to tell you that the votes were counted by a member of the school governing body, on behalf of myself the Returning Officer. Thank you to both candidates for their nominations and to all who voted. I am pleased to announce that Mr Hugh Richards has been elected Parent Governor.

Mrs Stephenson



Music Update

Choir



Last night the choir performed at the Haxby Lights switch on. It was rather cold, but this didn't stop the children from singing their hearts out! They performed four pieces by themselves and then sang with the band *Generation Groove* and the community choir. The children were absolutely amazing in both their singing and their behaviour. I am incredibly proud of them!

York Minster Christmas tree festival

The York Music Hub has created a York school's singing Christmas tree. Schools in York recorded a short piece of music and then these have been turned into little sound bites that you can access through a QR code on each bauble. Go and see if you can find our Christmas tree bauble, the children sound fabulous!



The festival is open to the public from Saturday 30th November until Sunday 5th January and is free to York residents with proof of your address.

Miss Griffiths - Music Leader



Nerf Competition

On Wednesday after school, a group of 8 Year 5/6 children went to Huntington Secondary school to play in a Nerf competition. They played one other school for two hours in a range of different games:



some solo rounds, pairs, fours and then squads. They had great fun building defence barriers for the team to hide behind and I think one of their favourite highlights was right at the end when it was adults verses children (I certainly enjoyed that part!). Overall, we were victorious and won 167 v 137.

Well done and thank you to the children who took part and represented Ralph Butterfield Primary School as well as the parents for coming and supporting.

Mrs Atkinson - PE Leader

Going to school **every day** helps your child to get good qualifications, which will help them to get a job.

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.

Changes to the Catering Staff Team

We have, today, said thank you and goodbye to our school cook, Chloe, as she moves on to pastures new. Chloe will be missed by both staff and children. We are very grateful to other members of the Dolce kitchen team for stepping up to fulfil the school cook role and responsibilities, whilst a permanent replacement is recruited.

Christmas meal (Wednesday 18th December)

Please remember that any bookings need to be made, via the [SchoolGrid](#) system, by **Friday 6th December**. Thank you.

Payments

A polite reminder that paid school meals are charged at £2.75 per day. Payment is required at the point of booking, via the [SchoolGrid](#) system. Please ensure that your account is kept up to date, to ensure that your child is able to receive the school meal they have chosen. All bookings and associated payments are managed by Dolce. School has limited access to information regarding outstanding accounts; you may receive text reminders directly from school, by way of us supporting to achieve a smooth dinner service. Thank you.

Dolce Customer Care

Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm, on **01942 707709** or by email to customer care@dolce.co.uk



Christmas
LUNCH

December 2024

MAINS
Roast Turkey, Stuffing & Chipolata
Puff Pastry Christmas Cracker (VG)

SIDES
Homemade Roast Potatoes
Carrots
Peas
Sprouts
Gravy

DESSERTS
Sticky Toffee Pudding & Custard (V)
Reindeer Shortbread (VG)
Fresh Fruit

dolce



FOR AGES 5-11

Christmas Holiday FOOTBALL

YORK CITY FOOTBALL CLUB FOUNDATION

York City Foundation's Holiday courses are designed for both boys and girls aged 5-11 years, who are enthusiastic about football. Ideal for beginners and young players looking to develop their skills, in a fun, engaging, safe and friendly environment.



JOIN YORK CITY FOUNDATION FOR SOME HOLIDAY FOOTBALL FUN

10AM TO 3PM

RECEIVE A YCFC GOODIE BAG

£14 PER DAY

Monday 23rd December	1 Day	£14
Millthorpe Secondary School YO23 1WF - Indoor Sports Hall		
Tuesday 24th December	1 Day	£14
Millthorpe Secondary School YO23 1WF - Indoor Sports Hall		
Thursday 2nd - Friday 3rd January 2025	2 Days	£28
Millthorpe Secondary School YO23 1WF - Indoor Sports Hall		

ONLINE BOOKING AVAILABLE FOR ALL COURSES AT
officialsoccerschools.co.uk/yorkcity








Advance booking is required and is available online up to 48 hours prior to the course start date unless sold out. We regret we cannot offer a refund for illness or other reasons for non-attendance.

YORK CITY FC FOUNDATION OFFERS FOOTBALL HOLIDAY FUN COURSES EVERY SCHOOL HOLIDAY AT VARIOUS VENUES ACROSS THE CITY

Bookings for February Half Term & Easter 2025 will go live from **Wednesday 8th January 2025** via officialsoccerschools.co.uk/yorkcity.

Check out our social media for the details in advance.

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.





Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Following on from our nativity work, we have also continued our '**Let's Celebrate**' theme by exploring the Christian story 'The Christmas Story'. The children have focussed on the characters in the story in our areas of provision through small world, role play and writing. They have also enjoyed making Christmas story spinners which we hope are helping the children to retell the story.

In **phonics** this week, the teaching focus has been learning the digraphs **sh, th, ng** and **nk**. The children are continuing to work very hard to learn how to sound out and blend words and are enjoying being able to read labels, captions and short sentences. We are so proud of their enthusiasm and progress.

The children have been practising their writing skills by writing CVC words and beginning to write short captions. They learn to do this by segmenting the word into sounds and then recording the letters in the order which they are heard in the word. For example, web = w-e-b. The children are doing this very well and have begun to write short words independently.



In **maths** this week, we have learnt about the number zero. The children sang songs which counted down to zero, for example, five little speckled frogs and ten green bottles. They also experimented in making zero with their fingers and adding and subtracting zero to other numbers.

This week, we have also enjoyed a visit from Toby Glover, a children's author. He read the children some of his stories and spoke to them about his job as an author. We also welcomed students from the Music Education Group from York University who ran a music session with the children. They enjoyed playing musical instruments and singing songs.

Reminder

Next Thursday, **Class 2** will be visiting Haxby library to return their books and choose new ones. Please remember to put the books and library card in their book bag. Thank you.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any queries or questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Mrs Robinson, Mrs Greenwood and the Reception team

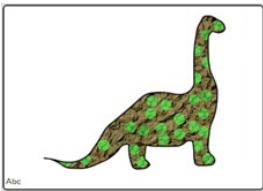




Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

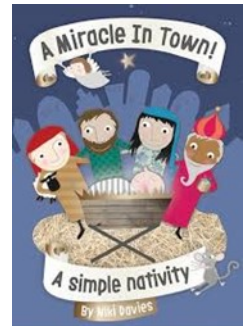
What a busy and exciting week it has been in Key Stage 1!

This week we have been on an adventure around the world in English as we put ourselves in the shoes of Emma Jane from our class novel and flew around the world visiting different cities. We wrote diary entries in character, using first person perspective and wonderful adjectives to describe what we could see, hear and feel at each location. We also included our feelings to convey what a wonderful adventure we were having. The children's writing was so vibrant, it was clear that they had really enjoyed the story.



In computing, we have been learning about instructions and how computer programs work. We learned that a set of instructions is called an algorithm and that a set of algorithms makes a program. For a computer, the instructions need to be very precise, so we practised by giving each other instructions on how to draw pictures and paint on the computer in a particular way. Without instructions, our pictures were all different so we could really see what a difference it made when they were given instructions to follow.

The nativity is really coming together now. We have continued to practise the songs and are improving each day. We also managed to get into the hall and start putting the show together, ready for the stage to go up. What an incredible job our children did too! Some of the children with speaking parts knew their lines off by heart and their voices were so loud and clear. As well as this, the dancers have learned their moves and did a great job, as did the musicians who accompanied the songs in time to the beat. It is very exciting to see it coming together and we can't wait to share it with our families and friends!



Have a wonderful weekend and we shall see you on Monday for another fabulous week of learning!

Mrs Atkinson, Miss Griffiths, Mr Merrall and Miss Tattersley



Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)



During our REAL PE sessions this term, the children are focusing on the social aspect of PE whilst developing their dynamic and static balance through a variety of activities and games. They have been developing both partner and cooperation skills and teamwork by listening to and receiving feedback. They showed support and helped each other whilst giving praise and encouragement. Our other PE unit is REAL Gym where the children are focusing on the personal aspect. They have been amazing at challenging themselves and showed great

perseverance whilst using the five gymnastic shapes (pike, straddle, straight, tuck and star) to create floor sequences and balances both individually and with a partner. It has been wonderful to see the amazing teamwork and cooperation during our PE sessions.



Our RE topic this half term has been about the importance of family life and festivals for Jewish people. The children were introduced to the topic by identifying different festivals. They then had to decide whether or not they were religious events. They then recalled the creation story and identified the importance of the 7th day - God rests. The children then delved into this further and learnt about Shabbat in more detail. They looked at some of the traditions that families take part in such as a special family meal, eating challah bread, sharing blessings or spending quality time together without any work.

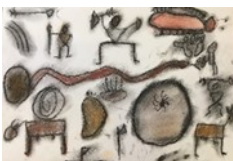


In PSHE this week, the children have learnt about how to respond to peer pressure and dares that make them feel uncomfortable. To begin with, in groups, the children noted down their initial thoughts on what to do when they are under pressure to do something that makes them feel uncomfortable. They then played



thumbs up, thumbs down to indicate whether or not they agreed with a variety of statements posed to them. Afterwards, in groups, the children discussed some scenarios that delved into the different forms of pressure they may face and talked about how telling a trusted adult about a situation is always very helpful.

A wonderful week, Year 3 and 4. Well done!



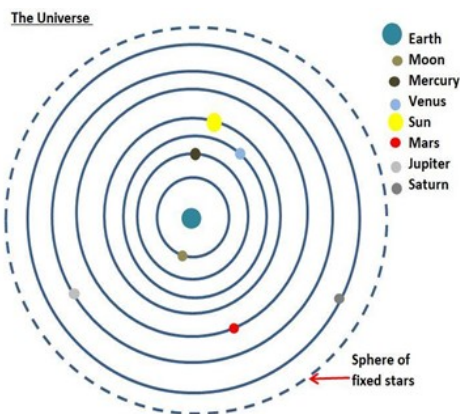
Reminder - The children and staff are looking forward to welcoming parents / carers to our Stone Age open classroom event on **Monday 2nd December at 2:50 pm** to view the children's cave drawings and round houses.

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 wonderful weekend.

Mr Daniel, Miss Hodgson, and Miss Clapham

Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)



As part of our science this week, we have been learning about the orbit of planets around the sun. The children investigated the views of a variety of famous scientists throughout the ages and discovered that, through their observations, some scientists originally concluded that the Earth was the center of the universe and constructed the 'geocentric model'. With time, and better technology, scientists soon realised that the sun was the centre of the solar system and began to collate evidence to support this theory.

In computing this week, we have continued to develop our own games. As part of this week's lesson, we learnt how to choose appropriate 'skins' for use on our 'sprites' (the moving monsters, people or objects in our games). In order to broaden the range of images we had access to, we learnt how to download an image from the internet. Once downloaded, we were taught how to use Purple Mash to make the backgrounds invisible so that they would fit seamlessly into our game.



In RE this week, we considered the importance of love in Christianity. As a class, we thought about love as a concept and reflected on our own views, asking questions such as what is love? What difference does love make? How do we recognise love? How do people show love to friends, community or the wider world? We were then given the opportunity to respond artistically, linking to the artist Jim Dine's beautiful work on hearts (seen at the Tate). We created our own compositions whilst quietly considering what love meant to us.

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

Mr Bennett, Mr Carpenter, Mrs Fitzpatrick and Mr Tod

Year 5/6 Police Talks

Our Police School Liaison Officer, will be coming in to school to talk to all children in Year 5/6:

- The first talk will be with our Year 6 children, on Wednesday 4th December, and will be about County Lines / No More Knives; this talk is offered to all Primary Schools. When the Year 6 children transition up to secondary school, they will receive further inputs on these subjects.
- The second talk, to all Year 5/6 children, will be on Monday 20th January and the topic of discussion will be Hate Crime.

Please do contact any of us at school if you wish to discuss the content covered, or anything else regarding the above.

PTA News



We are pleased to tell you that last week's school disco raised a fantastic £476!!!

Not much other news to report from the PTA so we thought we would share one of the teams recipes for the weekend! Hope that you enjoy!

ONE-POT MEXICAN RICE (serves 4)

FOR THE RICE

- 1tbsp olive oil
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 1 celery stick, finely chopped
- 1 pepper (any colour), deseeded and finely chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- 300g basmati rice, rinsed
- 1tbsp paprika
- 2tsp ground cumin
- 1tsp garlic granules
- 1tsp dried oregano
- Pinch of chilli flakes (optional)
- 1tbsp tomato purée
- 200ml passata
- 450ml hot vegetable or chicken stock
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 400g can kidney beans or black beans, drained and rinsed
- 198g can sweetcorn, drained

SERVING SUGGESTIONS

- Grated cheese; freshly chopped coriander; sliced fresh chillies; hot sauce; lime wedges

1 Heat the oil in a large, heavy-based pan with a lid over a medium heat. Add the onion and celery, turn the heat down to low and fry for 3-4 mins, stirring often. Add the red pepper and a splash of water. Cover and cook for 10 mins or until the vegetables are tender.

2 Add the garlic and cook, stirring, for 1 min. Stir in the rice, paprika, cumin, garlic granules, oregano, chilli flakes (if using) and tomato purée. Cook, stirring, for 1 min.

3 Stir in the passata, stock, kidney beans and sweetcorn, then season with salt and pepper. Bring to the boil, cover and cook over a low heat for 15 mins or until the rice has absorbed all the liquid and is cooked through. Keep an eye on it, adding an extra splash of water or stock if it's drying out before the rice is tender.

4 Fluff with a fork and serve sprinkled with grated cheese, chopped coriander and sliced chilli or hot sauce, if liked, with lime wedges for squeezing over.

TIP

Try using a Mexican-style seasoning sachet instead of the paprika, cumin, garlic granules, oregano and chilli flakes, if liked. You can use any canned beans you have in the cupboard.