

Acting Headteacher's Message

Network Rail

Contextual Safeguarding is an approach to understand, and respond to children's experiences ensuring that our children are taught how to keep safe within the community in which they live. Due to the fact that there are two level crossings in Haxby, on Monday we welcomed Chloe, Community Safety Manager, from Network Rail into our school. Chloe talked to the children about the importance of staying safe near railway lines and rail crossings. In an age-appropriate way, the children were provided with valuable information on how to recognise and avoid dangerous situations, such as staying behind safety barriers and never playing near tracks. The children were encouraged to always follow safety signs and signals, and to understand the risks of crossing railway lines when it is not safe to do so. This visit was an important reminder for all of us about the vital role safety plays in protecting ourselves and others near railways.

Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week 2025 is taking place next week, from 3-9 February. Children's Mental Health Week was launched by the children's mental health charity, Place2Be and focuses on the importance of promoting good mental health and wellbeing for children. This year, Children's Mental Health Week is focusing on **Know Yourself, Grow Yourself**.



The more we can understand about ourselves, the more prepared we are to express our emotions and take on life's challenges. Being self-aware means getting to know and understand what we are good at, what we find difficult, our likes and dislikes, what makes us happy and what may cause us to be sad. It is also about understanding what makes us unique and what are our fears, hopes and dreams. In class throughout the week, we will be encouraging the children to discover how getting to know who they are can help them build resilience, grow and develop.

Additional information can be located on the [Place2Be website](https://www.place2be.org.uk) where there are some practical tips to support your child's well-being and behaviour from child mental health experts.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes *Helen Stephenson*



Healthy Snacks

As part of our commitment to promoting healthy eating habits and ensuring the safety of all children, we kindly ask that you send only a healthy, nut-free snack with your child for their break time. This helps support their well-being and avoids any potential allergy risks for other children. Where appropriate, please keep this snack separate from your child's packed lunch. We appreciate your cooperation in helping create a safe and nutritious environment for everyone.

Thank you for your understanding.





World Book Day

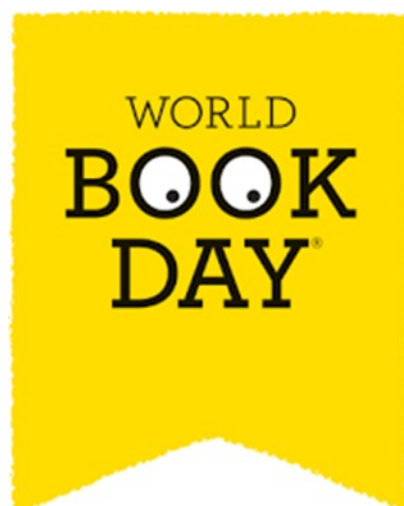
Thursday 6th March

A message for all children 'You are a reader'!

World Book Day changes lives through a love of books and shared reading. Throughout the week, children will be taking part in a variety of reading and English activities. On the day, your child(ren), may choose to dress as their favourite character from a book, giving opportunity to utilise a costume they already have. Alternatively, they may choose to dress as a 'word' from a book e.g. blue: wearing all blue clothes, sporty: wearing their PE kit, freezing: wearing hat, scarves and gloves. This supports the use of items that you already have in a wardrobe. Please do not feel that there is any expectation for the purchase of a costume.

This year, World Book Day have a fantastic selection of brand new and exclusive £1 books for 2025 that children and young people can get for FREE with their £1 token. We all want every child and young person to believe they are readers and to give them the opportunity to have a book of their own that they have chosen for themselves. The World Book Day £1 book tokens will be valid from **Thursday 13th February – Sunday 23rd March 2025**.

Find your nearest <https://booksellers.org.uk/wbd>



WORLD BOOK DAY
6TH MARCH 2025

MAINS

- Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs & Pasta
- Katsu-in-the-Hat Quorn Dippers & Rice (V)
- Wheres Wally's Wrap bar (V)
- Jaqueline Wilson Jacket Potatoes (V) (VG) (GF)

SIDES

- Walliams Super Sleuth Slaw
- Golden Snitch Sweetcorn
- Snozzcumber Salad Bar

DESSERT

- Mr Messy's Ice Cream & Sprinkles (V)
- Queen of Hearts Jam Tart (VG)
- Fresh Fruit (VG) (GF)

dolce

Books featured: *Matilda*, *The Worst Thing About My Sister*, *War Horse*, *Michael Morpurgo*.



Sports Clubs

It is lovely to see such interest in the sports clubs that we provide in school; many of which we, as a school, pay for. As a school, we work hard to provide opportunities for children to build their resilience. One important way for children to grow and develop is by engaging in a variety of activities. When they take part in different opportunities, they are able to explore new interests, build skills, and gain valuable experiences that contribute to their overall growth. When making a choice as to whether your child would like to take part in a PE club, please talk to them and discuss what the club likely involves and the expectations in attending. E.g. learning new skills, competing against children who are not your close friends and those from another year group.



We have had a few situations recently where parents/carers have signed their child/ren up to a club and then they have decided that they no longer want to attend. When this happens, we are not always able to offer the place to another child as we do not control the booking systems.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Atkinson
KS1 Teacher & PE Leader

This Week's Attendance



Not going to school every day can make it more likely for your child to get involved in crime or antisocial behaviour.

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

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



Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

As part of our 'Amazing Animals' theme, this week, we have taken a visit to the desert to find out about the animals that live there. The children have enjoyed our text of the week 'Meerkat Mail' and other desert themed stories and factual texts. 'Meerkat Mail' tells the story of Sunny who decides to explore new places to live. He quickly realises that home is the best place! Inspired by desert animals, the children enjoyed learning the names of animals and plants in the desert. We played Kim's Game to practise these.



In **phonics** this week, the new phonemes learnt have been **air (as in hair)** and **er (as in letter)**. We have also learnt the new tricky words **are, sure** and **pure**. Some of the new words read have had double consonants, for example letter, bigger. The children have embraced reading longer words very well and are really enjoying continuing their reading progress.



In **Maths** this week, the children have learnt about doubles. They have learnt that 'double' is where we have two of the same thing or number. They have identified doubles on two dice and spotted doubles on dominoes. The children have also begun to calculate the total of doubles, for example, double 2 is 4.

This week, we have also celebrated the festival of Lunar New Year. The children enjoyed reading stories, exploring the year of the snake, completing craft activities, running the Chinese restaurant in our role play area and retelling stories related to the festival. It was action packed with lots of area of provision activities too, including, repeating pattern snakes, chop stick and noodle skills and play dough dragon building. We hope families celebrating Lunar New Year this week also enjoyed their celebrations.



We are continuing to teach and encourage children to zip up their own coats and we are very impressed with their progress. Over this half term, we shall also be continuing to encourage and teach children to use their knife and fork correctly at lunchtimes. This is a key life skill which is also detailed in the early learning goals for Reception children. Your support at home with developing this skill would be greatly appreciated. Maybe you could chart your child's progress on Tapestry to share with us.



Reminder

Next Thursday, **Class 1** 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)

It has been a truly amazing week in Key Stage 1 this week, full of wonderful learning opportunities and fun. On Monday a visitor came in from Network Rail to talk to us about how we can stay safe near railways. There were videos and stories that explained why staying safe was so important and these also pointed out the hidden dangers near railway lines, level crossings and in railway stations. Our visitor showed us the special equipment that rail workers need to wear and answered questions. The children were so interested and displayed great curiosity and respect when they were asking her questions.



On Tuesday, we had a very exciting day as we launched our new topic, which is all about Florence Nightingale. Florence was a nurse in the past who helped to transform the way hospitals are run and patients are cared for, thanks to her revolutionary efforts to improve standards of hygiene. We learned a little bit about her and then did some fun activities as part of our topic launch. We made time lines with Miss Tattersley to sequence the events of her life and think about how she was feeling during each one. We made a nurse's bag with Mr Merrall and ordered photographs of medical equipment, sorting them into past and present. And, because her diligence in caring for her patients by lamp light earned her the nickname "The Lady with the Lamp," we made paper lanterns with Mrs Atkinson. We had an amazing time and used the experience to inspire our recount writing, in which we described all the exciting things we had done.



In RE, we have been looking at sacred texts from different religions and thinking about what we can learn from them. We started by looking at Christian bibles, we learnt that they are made up from several books and they have stories in them. We enjoyed the story of "The Good Samaritan" and thought about how parables give us a lesson to live by, such as caring for people who need help even if they are not your friend. We also looked at a Torah scroll, the sacred text for Jewish people. We were fascinated to learn that it is so sacred that it should not be touched with bare hands and that a scribe may take up to two years to write each one in Hebrew with no mistakes allowed at all. We shared another story, "Jonah and the Whale (Big Fish)," which appears in both the Torah and the bible. We thought about what it might teach people about God and how to live.



Well done Key Stage 1. You have been amazing this week. Keep up the great work!

Mr Merrall, Miss Tattersley and Mrs Atkinson



Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

It has been another brilliant week in Lower Key Stage 2.



In computing this week, the children have created their own stop motion animations using 2Animate on Purple Mash. To begin with, to provide some inspiration, they watched a Wallace and Gromit 'Cracking Contraptions' clip as an example of a stop motion animation. In between the laughter, the children came up with some fantastic ideas of what they could do for their own stop

motion clips. They applied their knowledge of animations and the Purple Mash tools in 2Animate brilliantly during the task. This included selecting different pen sizes and colours whilst drawing, using the onion skinning tool to show the position of objects on the previous slide, selecting backgrounds and adding sound effects. Afterwards, they shared their stop motion clips to a class display board so that they could view each other's.



During our science lesson this week, the children thoroughly enjoyed getting out and exploring the habitats found within the school grounds. They gathered information about animals and plants that they found and chose to present the information they gathered either through annotated observational sketches or by taking notes. Afterwards, each class discussed the environmental changes habitats are facing and what we, as humans, can do to help animals and plants survive. The children came up with some wonderful ideas to look after our school grounds and support the local wildlife. These included ideas such as ensuring that there are bird houses, insect log piles and hedgehog houses in our local area to provide ideal habitats for animals to thrive in.



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 Clapham and Mr Povey



PTA News – Dates for The Diary!

-- **UV Glow DISCO** – Thursday 13th February

This 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 neon colours or white (if they have something already). There will be a few glow items on sale like glowsticks. A letter will follow with further details.

Timings: 4.30pm - 5.30pm – Reception, Year 1 and 2, 5.45pm - 6.45pm – Year 3 and 4, 7pm - 8pm – Year 5 and 6

- **Easter Raffle**

The PTA will be holding a fund-raising raffle before the Easter holidays. We should be grateful for any donations! If you have any unwanted, un-used Christmas gifts, vouchers or alcohol we would appreciate any items that would be suitable to offer as prizes. Please contact the PTA if you can help!

- **Outdoor Summer DISCO** – Friday 2nd May

- **Non-uniform Day** – Friday 27th June – for this we will request donations for the Summer Fair (chocolate or bottles of alcohol) for prizes.

- **SUMMER FAIR!** – Friday 4th July.

Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)



In English this week, we discussed how to combine our existing sentence and paragraph work where we described a character and a setting. We thought about what the character was doing whilst within the setting and what features we need to add to make a cohesive paragraph.

In science, we conducted a fair test using electricity. The children were able to identify one variable which they wanted to change and then investigated the impact, of this changed variable, on a range of electrical components such as bulbs and buzzers.



This week, we visited York Mosque. It was a fascinating visit that drew together our learning from our R.E. lessons in class. We were able to identify different aspects of the mosque and had the opportunity to ask the Imam questions. A huge thank you to the PTA who funded the coach and made this trip possible.



On Monday 3rd February, all children need to wear school uniform, sensible footwear and bring a coat with a hood for our walk to Joseph Rowntree School where we will be watching Mary Poppins. We will be walking regardless of the weather conditions.

Reminder - Class 9's class assembly will take place on Friday 7th February at 3pm in the hall. This is an opportunity for us to show you what we have been learning. We hope you can join us!



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

Mr Bennett, Mr Carpenter, Mrs Fitzpatrick and Mr Tod

AMAZING HALF TERM ACTIVITIES FOR BOYS & GIRLS AGED 5-13

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- HEADLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL
- HUNTINGTON SECONDARY
- MANOR SECONDARY

ALL VENUES RUNNING ENERGY PROGRAMME. MANOR RUNNING FOOTBALL ALL WEEK AND SWIMMING ON AT ARCHIES ON SELECTED DAYS-
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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

Supported by:

Folk Hall
TrashBang!
JRHT