



## Deputy Headteacher's Message

Good afternoon

As a school, we are always looking to find ways to share and showcase our children's work with parents/carers. As a minimum, weekly, you can read about what your child has been up to in our informative phase articles, within the newsletter. We really enjoy being able to invite parents/carers into phase events, such as our Lower Junior Football afternoon (Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October); there is an opportunity for all parents/carers to look at their children's work during the spring term (Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April). Best of all, is when we get to enjoy sharing class assemblies with parents/carers, as they're always sure to bring joy!

Each class will showcase some of their learning in a 15-20 minute assembly that parents/carers are invited to attend. These assemblies will start at 3pm. Of course, we do understand that not all parents/carers are able to attend all events depending on other commitments; we are hoping that in sharing all dates with good advance notice, this may support as many parents/carers as possible to come along. Your child/ren's class assembly date is shown in the table below. These dates will also be put on our school website calendar for future reference and we will share reminders nearer the time.

Date	Class
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Class 10
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	Class 5
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	Class 8
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Class 4
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Class 11
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Class 3

Date	Class
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Class 2
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Class 6
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Class 9
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Class 7
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Class 1

Thank you so much for all the donations for Harvest. As always, we have been overwhelmed by your generosity. Carecent collected the donations and they were overwhelmed by the amount of donations.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact us with any feedback or queries; we are always looking to be helpful (email: [RalphButterfield.School@york.gov.uk](mailto:RalphButterfield.School@york.gov.uk) or phone: 01904 768325 option 3).

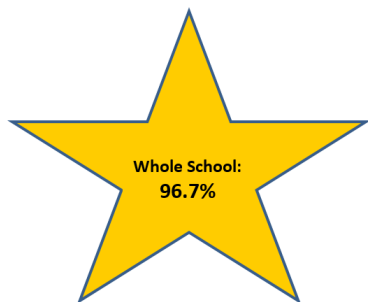
Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

Best wishes

*Helen Stephenson*



### This Week's Attendance



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

### School Meals

Please ensure that all school meals are booked by 9am on the day which they are required.

School meals must be paid for when booking; no child should have an outstanding balance for their meals. Thank you for your understanding.



### Phonics Workshop



We are delighted to invite you to a phonics workshop on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October. This will be held in the school hall from 2.45pm until the end of the school day. This workshop will focus predominantly on how we teach phonics in Reception and Year 1, how this supports children with their early reading skills (and beyond) and information about the national phonics screening check (Year 1). We understand that not all parents/carers will be able to attend this workshop so we will be sending out the presentation (to all Reception and Year 1 parents/carers) after this event via email. We look forward to seeing you.

# Phonics



### Walk to School Week

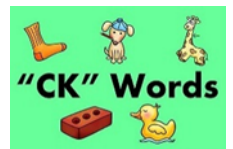
23rd-27th October is York walk to school week, where schools in the York area compete to see how many children they can encourage to walk, scoot or cycle to school that week; instead of taking the car. We would very much appreciate your support and to enjoy a little exercise every morning on the way to school. Each morning, the class teachers will record how the children have travelled to school. This will then be collated and sent to the council, who will let us know who the winners are. Please help to support your child and the school in this event wherever possible. Thank you.



## Walk to School Week

**Mrs Atkinson - PE Leader**

## Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



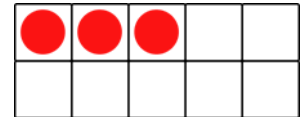
This week, in **phonics**, we have learnt four new phonemes; ck, e, u and r. It was exciting to be introduced to our first diagraph (2 letters that make one sound) 'ck'. We normally find this at the end of words. For example, duck, peck, sock.

We have continued to enjoy sharing **reading practise sessions** this week. The children have demonstrated an enthusiasm for sharing a book and discussing what they notice from the pictures. Sound hunts on the pages proved to be popular; "Can you find something on this page that begins with the 's' phoneme?" Maybe this is something you can play at home together? Reading books are sent home each Wednesday, to be returned the following Monday with reading for pleasure books, please.



During our PE lessons, we have been learning how to control a ball. This has included rolling the ball and stopping it in a balanced position and chasing and stopping a ball that a partner has rolled. We have practised these skills, pretending to be Sammy Squirrel. The children have pretended that the balls are nuts and that Sammy Squirrel is collecting them up ready for winter. We are also proud of how well the children are doing at getting changed independently. Well done.

In **Maths** this week, we have continued to explore the numbers 1, 2 and 3. This included counting and representing these numbers on a tens frame. We played a game which you could play at home too. Clap your hands and ask your child how many claps they heard or drop items into a pot and ask them to count the number of objects.



As part of our topic, Marvellous Me, we have learnt about people who help to keep us healthy. This week we thought about how to keep our teeth and eyes healthy. The children heard why this is important and then developed their role play skills in our opticians. Miss Dawson even had her eyes tested! We also practised placing 'teeth' into a playdough mouth, using tweezers. The children used great fine motor skills.

### We need your help...

The children are really enjoying being creative and making models. If you have any small boxes, clean pots, bottle lids or tubes, we would be really grateful if you could save and bring them into school. We find that this can significantly reduce the amount of recycling you have. However, we cannot guarantee that you will not receive more when your child brings home a stunning model!

Well done to the children for another fantastic week in Reception!

Mrs Robinson, Mrs Daniel, Mrs Greenwood and the Reception team



## Reception Autumn Challenge for Parents/carers

We would like to invite the parents/carers of the children in Class 1 and 2 to an Autumn challenge session. Families can choose to attend on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October or Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October. Parents/Carers are invited into the classes from 8.45 - 9.45am. During this time, the children will introduce their learning environment to their parent/carer and work together to complete Autumn themed challenges.

It would really support the smooth running of this event if only one parent/carer joins the child on only one of these dates. As I'm sure you will appreciate, our setting would struggle to fit 80 people at one time!

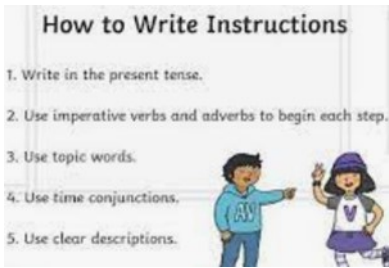
We look forward to sharing our learning with you.



## Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)



What a wonderful week we have had in Key Stage 1. It has been full of excitement and enthusiasm as the children have delved into microhabitats and got creative with art projects.



We started the week with some art and craft in English as the children decorated and made rattle snakes out of paper. They started with a template and then coloured them carefully and cut them before assembling them like a paper chain. The rattle snakes looked amazing and the children really enjoyed doing them.

Following this experience, the children discussed the process and wrote a set of instructions for making them. We focused on imperative verbs ("bossy words") and adverbs to communicate clearly what needed to be done. The children also used varied sentence types to write an introduction and a "you will need" list. Their enthusiasm shone through as they wrote amazing, detailed instructions.

In science we have been learning about different environments and habitats and the variety of life that they are home to. This week we looked at small scale microhabitats; under logs and stones and in gardens and hedgerows. We explored our school field to find these and drew labelled diagrams. We were fascinated by the array of wildlife that we found, from beetles and ants to worms and spiders. There is so much life and activity nearby that is easy to miss.



The sun is a vital part of any habitat and without it, there could be no life. We recognised the important role it plays by working together to create collaborative art pieces for our classroom walls. Each child was given a quarter segment of a sun and decorated it with patterns and colours. The care taken was simply amazing and the result was fantastic as the pieces were put together to create the finished pieces on our walls.

The children have continued to enjoy their weekly music lessons. Mrs Freitas has been full of praise for how well our Year 2 children are doing at learning how to play the recorder. Meanwhile, our Year 1s have been getting hands-on themselves with chime bars and triangles as they have played along to a piece of music in time with the pulse. They have also been rapping and moving to the pulse and enjoyed a pitch perfect-style rap battle against each other!



Well done Key Stage 1. It is so great to see so many of you loving your learning and taking each challenge in your stride!

Mr Merrall, Mrs Reeves, Miss Griffiths and Mrs Reeves

## Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

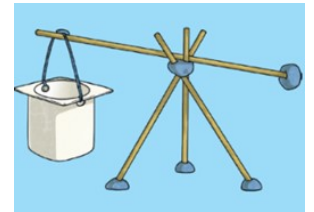
Another super fun and practical week in Lower Juniors!



In history this week, the children have learnt about how Ancient Egyptians communicated in writing and the importance of the role of a scribe. They were fascinated to find out that only 1 out of 100 Ancient Egyptians were able to read and write. The children soon discovered how hard it was to use hieroglyphics when they had a go at identifying the symbols used to spell out our school motto.

Afterwards, the children then tried to write in hieroglyphics and drew out the symbols to create the title 'The Gold in the Grave'. We all agreed that it was much simpler to use our alphabet and hieroglyphics were hard to remember and very time consuming.

After designing and creating a sequence of actions last week, the children made their own Shadufs this week. They measured the lengths of dowel accurately and followed the safety instructions brilliantly whilst using the saws to cut the dowel. The biggest challenge was to get the three pieces of dowel in the correct position to make the tripod. Fingers crossed that when they dry, they remain strong and stable. We are all looking forward to testing them out next week.



In computing, we started our Touch Typing unit this week. To begin with, the children learnt about how to sit at a keyboard correctly ensuring good posture. Afterwards, we looked at the layout of a keyboard and the positioning of the keys on the home row, top row and bottom row. The children showed great

perseverance during the activities. It's a hard skill to learn, remembering where all the keys are, keeping your hands in position on the keyboard whilst also trying to be quick and accurate at the same time. The touch typing activities can be accessed on Purple Mash, through the computing 2Type app if your child wants to practise more at home.

### Exciting event!

You will have received a letter this week about our Lower Key Stage 2 football event. We are all extremely excited and are really looking forward to our friendly inter-house football competition. We hope to see you on the sidelines for the afternoon on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October.



**Reminder:** Please ensure that the level appropriate reading book that has been issued to your child is in school every day. These books can be changed at any point during the week. Thank you.

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

## Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)

In our science lesson this week, we carefully considered the key characteristics of different animal groups. We initially sorted animals in to either vertebrates or invertebrates before subdividing these according to established criteria in to mammals, reptiles, amphibians, birds and fish. Once establishing this criteria, we discussed whether the animals were warm-blooded or not; if they give birth to life young or lay eggs; and if they had hair/fur or scales.



Using our scientific knowledge, and after learning how to take effective notes and producing some super sentences in our English lessons, we began to create our own paragraphs about mammals in our non - chronological reports. We used a range of grammatical features: different sentence types; a range of sentence openers; technical vocabulary; Year 5/6 common exception words and parenthesis.

In maths this week, Mr Bennett's and Mrs Stephenson's maths groups have continued to develop their understanding of formal column addition by adding several numbers together. This has also required the children to carry more than one ten, hundred, thousand etc. Once secure on this, the children have then had the opportunity to solve a variety of addition word problems thinking carefully about the number of steps involved in order to solve them successfully.



Mr Tod's maths group have learnt about negative numbers. The children had the opportunity to put the negative numbers in order, compare the numbers and find the difference between them.

The Year 5s thoroughly enjoyed their trip on Tuesday to the Merchant Adventurers' Hall to give the children real life experiences, consolidate their learning and provide them with a deeper understanding of the time period of the Industrial Revolution.

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

If you have any questions, queries or concerns please come and speak to us.

**Mr Bennett, Mrs Fitzpatrick, Mrs Stephenson & Mr Tod**



Was your child born between

**01 September 2012**

and

**31 August 2013?**

Apply online at:

[york.gov.uk/Admissions](http://york.gov.uk/Admissions)

**Before 31 October**



## PTA News



### Annual General Meeting

Ralph Butterfield Primary School PTA



Please do join us at our **AGM on WEDNESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER at 9.00am** in the School Hall. Everyone is welcome!

This is where you can hear about what the PTA do and how to join the team. A nomination form will come out next week to sign up.

We have a number of committee / team members leaving next year so we really need some new members before they go to pass on all the brilliant work we do. Please come along – we are a very friendly and approachable group!

### **WE REALLY NEED YOUR SUPPORT!**

### School Disco

We will have a school disco on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October** – a letter will come this week, so please take a look.

Timings will be:

4.30 – 5.30pm - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

5.45 – 6.45pm - Year 3 and Year 4

7.00 – 8.00pm - Year 5 and Year 6



The cost of the disco is just **£3 per child**, which includes a bag of tuck shop sweets. A letter has been sent out with all the details. Unfortunately, parents won't be able to stay at this event. Please bring a labelled water bottle and your dancing shoes!

### Prizes for our Christmas Raffle



We are looking for some raffle prizes for our big Christmas Prize Draw! You may be a business owner or work for a company that might be able to donate a prize. We would be so grateful and ensure we promote the business as much as possible locally. Please do get in touch if you think you can help at [ralphbutterfield.pta@gmail.com](mailto:ralphbutterfield.pta@gmail.com)

### Christmas Card proofs

The Christmas card designs have come back and they are amazing! Please read through the accompanying letter for all the details plus the card itself with all the unique codes on.

There are tea towels, teddies, cushions etc., you can purchase with your child's design on – these are great family Christmas gifts

The deadline for orders in Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October – you cannot order after this date so please order early!

Thank you for your support!





Free  
sessions!

**SKILLS  
FOR LIFE**  
**MULTIPLY**

Funded by  
UK Government

## Get Ready For Halloween!

Make your own sustainable decorations

Thursday 12th and 19th October

1pm to 3pm

The Discovery Room, New Earswick Folk Hall

**Ditch the plastic and be kinder to the  
environment this Halloween!**

**Come along to make Halloween decorations and  
get new ideas for your family.**

**BOOKING ESSENTIAL**

Get in touch with Helen to book your place:

email: [Helen.Jefferies@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:Helen.Jefferies@northyorks.gov.uk) or text: 07977599564

**Adult  
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