



Headteacher's Message

Good afternoon

Thank you for supporting our non-uniform day in aid of BBC Children in Need today. Donations are entirely optional; if you are able to, please make your donation via ParentPay.

Our open evening for prospective parent/carers on Wednesday of this week was a lovely, positive event that was well attended. Thank you so much to those families whose children returned to school to help us showcase what we have to offer. They were amazing at talking about their experiences of our school and the Year 6 tour guides were simply stunning. No one promotes our school as well as the wonderful children who attend it!

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. WhatsApp, for example, is used by millions all over the world, but did you know the recommended age for the use of this App is 16 years old? It is not suitable for primary aged children, despite it being easy for them to use. Coping with the content of messages/images received on WhatsApp is a regular area of discussion in school, particularly with our older year groups. [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.

I am delighted to share that PACE (Parents Against Child Exploitation) will be visiting us on **Friday 12th January 2024 2:15pm – 3:15pm** to deliver a workshop for parents/carers in our school hall. We are hoping this will be really well attended by parents/carers. The workshop will be really supportive in helping everyone understand the dangers online, both known and unknown, and how to keep children safe online, with information coming directly from experts.

I hope everyone can enjoy their weekend; hopefully the weather will be a little kinder for getting out and about.

Liz Clark



Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



This week, we have continued to explore our theme, '**Let's Celebrate**'. The children have learnt about the Hindu festival of Diwali. We heard the story of Rama and Sita which is remembered during the festival and also retold the story by sequencing the events in our Literacy lesson. They also found out how Hindu people get ready for the festival by cleaning their house, preparing special foods and choosing special clothes to wear. We also found out that diya lamps are made and lit during the festival. The children had great fun making their own diya lamps and decorating them.

As part of our work on understanding the world, we have also explored the work of charities, focusing specifically on Children in Need. We have learnt the meaning of the words, donation, money, charity and Pudsey! Some of our areas of provision have also provided children with the opportunity to further develop their learning with Pudsey Bear. In the maths area, they have ordered Pudsey bears and counted sets of objects to match Pudsey's number. In the fine motor area, children have threaded around Pudsey's face and in the creative area, they have coloured, cut and stuck together their own Pudsey.



In **phonics**, it is fantastic to see the enthusiasm for learning that our children display. They continue to be excited, on a daily basis, when we learn new phonemes. We are also so pleased with how the children are retaining and using the GPCs learnt so far in their reading and writing! We have learnt four new phonemes this week; **v, w, x and y** and new tricky words.

In **Maths**, this week, the children have continued to explore their understanding of number with a focus on the number 4 and 5. They have experimented with addition skills by finding different ways that these numbers can be made. For example, a ladybird can have 3 and 2 spots making 5 altogether.



This week, the children have also begun to learn our nativity songs. We hope they will soon be singing them to you at home!

We are delighted to see that parents/carers are beginning to use Tapestry. We hope you are enjoying seeing all the wonderful learning that your children are doing at school each day. If you would like to add an observation of something that your child does at home, please do. We would love to see it! Also, please do ask if you have any questions about how Tapestry works.



Thank you for your continued support.
Mrs Robinson, Mrs Daniel, Mrs Greenwood and the Reception team

Please turn over to read details of our upcoming visits to Haxby library

Reception visits to the library

Our Class 2 children thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Haxby Explore library on Thursday. The following information shows further visit dates which are planned in until February half-term.

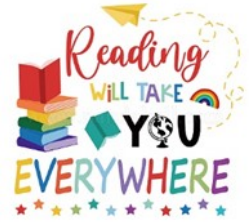
Class 1
Thursday 23rd November
Thursday 7th December
Thursday 21st December
Thursday 18th January
Thursday 1st February

Class 2
Thursday 30th November
Thursday 14th December
Thursday 11th January
Thursday 25th January
Thursday 8th February

The library have issued cards for all children who are new to joining the library.

Please can we ask all children to remember their cards and books to return on the day of their visit, to avoid any disappointment?

Thank you.



Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

It has been another busy week this week. Our Key Stage 1 children have been working hard and shining in everything they do!

We have been enjoying using our new fixed playground equipment since the start of the year. We can all agree that it is a fantastic addition to our school and this week we have been finding out more about how it was constructed. We learned about some of the planning that went into it and the ways in which it was made. We then wrote newspaper articles about this amazing news, including facts and even quotes from Mrs Moss, who was instrumental in its organisation. What a fantastic job the children did!



This week we have taken part in the nationwide tournament "England Rocks" on TTRockstars. This involved children from across the whole school logging on and trying to get the best times they could on their times tables. The times from our school then get compared to those in other schools across the whole country! Whether we win or not, it was amazing to see all the children working so hard and having fun as they learned and practised

their multiplication and division facts. Thank you to everyone who helped their child to practise at home.

In music, Year 2 have been continuing with their recorder lessons with Mrs Freitas. She has been really impressed with their hard work and attitude and they are making excellent progress. Year 1 have been learning about improvisation in their music lessons. This is the skill of creating your own rhythms and melodies rather than copying back what you heard. This is a hard skill but they tried really hard. They have also been learning a fun song that includes lots of different musical elements.



Please may we just give a quick reminder that each class will be doing PE on the following days?



Class 3- Monday, Thursday

Class 4- Monday, Tuesday

Class 5- Monday, Thursday

Please make sure that your child has their PE kit in school on the required day (both indoor and outdoor, as we may still be going outside) and that these are named clearly. Please ensure that hair is tied back and earrings are removed at home or tape is applied. This information is also on the school website, as is an

overview of everything your child is learning in school.

Well done Key Stage 1. It is great to see how well you are doing and how hard you continue to work.

Mr Merrall, Miss Griffiths, Mrs Reeves and Mrs Atkinson

Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

Another busy yet very enjoyable week in Year 3 and 4!



This week has been Anti-bullying Week. At the start of the week, all the children fully enjoyed taking part in a BBC Teach live lesson based around the theme 'Make some Noise'. During the live lesson, the children delved into various scenarios and discussed whether the situation in the scenario fell under the category of bullying or banter. The children discovered that if a situation involved intentionally hurtful behaviour, which was repeated, the situation was likely to be bullying.

Lower Key Stage Two participated in the TT Rockstars England Rocks competition this week. Each child had one hour of TT Rockstars time to answer as many age appropriate questions as possible. Hopefully, as a school, we will have done well when all the scores are collated and compared.



In history, the children have continued with their Ancient Egyptian topic by learning how the River Nile was used. They discovered, not only was it used for farming and irrigation, but it also provided drinking water, a mode of transportation and it created trading links to other parts of Egypt. Once the children learnt about each one of these uses, they ordered them on a continuum of importance. There was a debate regarding the most important use. Some children believed that the Nile providing drinking water for the Ancient Egyptians was its most important use whilst others argued the land being fertilised by the river was more crucial. At the other end of the continuum, some children believed that making mud bricks from the silt in the Nile was least important whereas others believed it was its contribution to growing papyrus which was used to make paper.

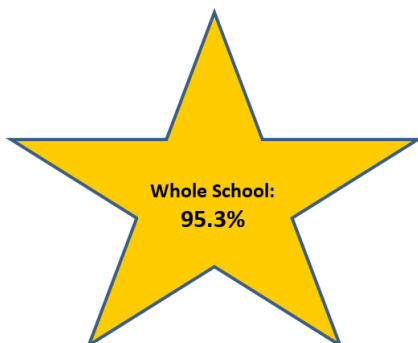
Please do come and speak with us if you have any queries, questions or would like to share any news with us.

We hope that you have an enjoyable and relaxing weekend.

Mr Daniel, Miss Hodgson, and Miss Clapham



This Week's Attendance



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



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

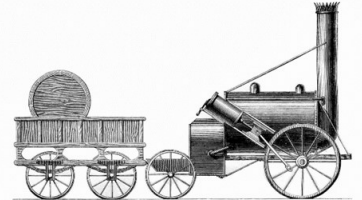
Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)



This week, as part of our RE lessons, we have been learning about Christian churches and how they differ from one another. We compared the aspects of an Anglican Church and Baptist Church by using clues to label a floor plan of a church; this included identifying a location for a font, altar, baptism pool, raised platform and other features. We then read a description of the features found in these different churches to identify which one was the Anglican church and which was the Baptist church.

In history, we are beginning to learn about the development of the steam engine. We have a greater understanding that, over time, transport changed and became more efficient.

From the first railways in the mid-1500s, that were used in mines to move coal and mineral ore through tunnels, to George Stephenson's 'Locomotive No 1', we learnt that inventions progressed from large stationary engines to smaller, mobile but more powerful machines.



As part of our English lessons, we have been writing diaries. In order to ensure that we can write in a diary style, we have looked at a variety of examples and discussed the necessary features: chronological order, colloquial language, writing in the first person, fronted adverbials and the inclusion of personal reflection and/or feelings. We then collated notes about our residential to Robinwood (Year 6 children), or our experience of a fair and/or firework display (Year 5 children). We then converted these notes into high quality sentences using a variety of features learnt so far, in preparation for our own diary entry.

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

Mr Bennett, Mrs Fitzpatrick, Mrs Stephenson and Mr Tod

Christmas Collection Drop off day

Thursday November 30th 9am-4pm
Haxby and Wigginton Methodist Church

ITEMS NEEDED:

Salvation Army: Toys and gifts for children (especially aged 8 and over) and their parents.

Haxby Food Share need items for hampers:

Christmas Crackers, Christmas sweets/chocolate, crisps, nuts, biscuits for cheese, yorkshire pudding mix, mince pies,

Christmas pudding, custard, cranberry jelly, gravy

pots/granules, tinned veg, fresh orange juice. Gluten free or vegan items. Or cash donations to buy fresh items.



Say hello
to Santa!



PTA News

Christmas Eve Treat Bags

Order forms have started to go out for our Christmas Eve Treat Bags and Baubles



This year we will have a Treat Bag on sale for £5 and then as something a little cheaper, we are selling a hand created bauble which has the contents for a hot chocolate on Christmas Eve, with special Ralph Butterfield Primary School ribbon – these will be £3 each.

Once again – those receiving free school meals will receive a Treat Bag (only) free, if they would like one.

Please put completed forms in the PTA box, which is outside the school office.



Christmas Concert



Get your tickets now for this wonderful Christmassy event!

On **Friday 8th December** we will be welcoming **York Concert Band** for an evening of live music!

The Christmas concert will be in the school hall, from 7pm - 9pm, with a short interval. Tickets are £6.00. During the interval, we will be selling refreshments and there will be a small raffle, with some wonderful prizes.

Cash and card payments are available on the night.



Please come along and bring family and friends to really get in the Christmas mood!

Get your tickets early on the following link: [CHRISTMAS CONCERT TICKETS](#)

Any queries please email ralphbutterfield.pta@gmail.com

Bags2School

A Bags2School collection will take place on **Thursday 30th November** – when we ask you to bring in unwanted clean and usable old clothes, sheets, towels, bags and paired shoes. These are collected and raise money for school.

If you are having a sort out – please do keep it for us!

