

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

2023/24 No: 2



01904 768325 (option 3)



@RalphBPSch\_York



www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk

## Headteacher's Message

Good afternoon

Teaching children how to keep safe online is embedded in our curriculum and we take every opportunity to reinforce the importance of this. We also alert parents/carers to any issues that we become aware of and we can signpost to online safety information, including on our school website's [designated online safety information page](#). We also have a responsibility to ensure that our own IT systems keep children safe online in school, through effective filtering and monitoring. It is important that we share this information with you so that you can be reassured that your child is safe when using our in school technology.

### Filtering:

Our internet is filtered through a Smoothwall Firewall System managed by Vital, using an educational filter. This is a comprehensive filtering platform using dynamic and group based filtering, including new requirements around child safety and anti-radicalisation. It is designed to protect schools from inappropriate on-line content, as well as meeting or exceeding the current compliance and recommended safeguarding children legislation. The Smoothwall scans the copy, content and context of every web page visited, for unwanted material. It has 120 filtering categories which can be used to tailor the web browsing experience of all audiences, to ensure that harmful content is out of reach. These 120 categories are broken down even further into hundreds of sub categories, giving the system control of what is allowed through the filtering. As it is an educational filter, there are stricter filters applied to all content that is accessed. There are multiple levels of filtered access with the children's access being the most strictly monitored. This filtering system forms part and parcel of our current internet provision, so much so that it is not possible to access the internet via our school connection without passing through this filtering.

### Monitoring:

Smoothwall Monitor is a real-time, digital monitoring solution that flags incidents as they happen. Monitoring both keystrokes and screen views, designated individuals are informed, when users try to view or type harmful content. Should anyone enter something inappropriate, this is flagged up and can be tracked to the individual workstation and the person using it at that time. Detailed alerts and reporting are configured to alert the local authority (York) of an incident at a school, enabling a fast response to ensure children's safety. However, this is highly unlikely to happen because the filtering is designed to block everything automatically.

If you would like more detailed and specific information about Smoothwall, please contact us. This information will also be added to the school website, along with the above information, in the near future.

I hope you enjoy reading this week's newsletter and that you have a lovely weekend.

Liz Clark



## **Danger - vital information regarding TikTok and Facebook Messenger**

It has been brought to my attention that many children are accessing TikTok and using Facebook messenger. It is dangerous for children to be accessing these as there is no method of restricting what is done on them, via parental controls, in a secure enough way to ensure the children are safe.

**Children can easily be contacted by unknown people and they can easily be exposed to highly inappropriate videos.**

TikTok's emphasis on popular music means many videos include swearing and sexual lyrics, so it is not age-appropriate for primary school aged children to use on their own. This is just one example of inappropriate content they may view.

**It is required for a person to be 13 to use both TikTok, and Facebook** and even then, 'Common Sense Media' actually recommend 15+.

You can learn more about TikTok by [clicking here](#) to access the guide on our website. However, please be aware that even when using the 'family pairing' mode, school is of the opinion that this is not enough to keep the children safe when using the app; children under the age of 13 should not be using TikTok.

# Having screentime battles? Worried about online content?

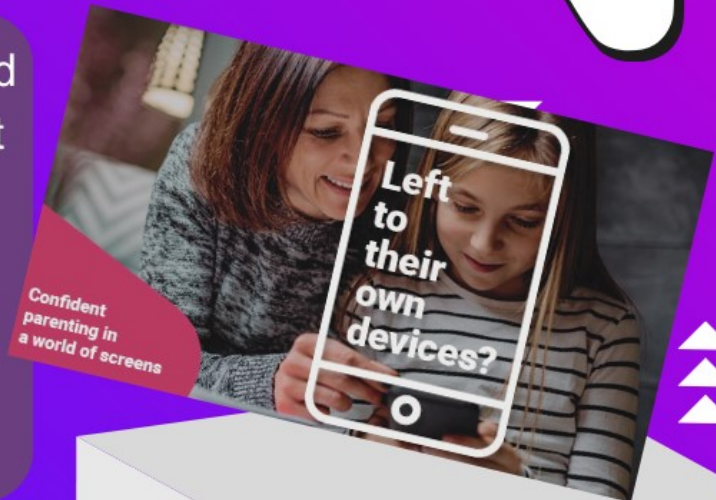


Join our **FREE** parenting event  
**Sat 7th Oct 9.30am-12 noon**  
**@ Gateway centre YO24 3BZ**

**SIGN UP NOW**



A video & discussion based event exploring the impact of the digital world on teenagers and children. Giving practical parenting advice on how to safely manage digital devices.



Sign up @ [www.fmy.org.uk](http://www.fmy.org.uk)  
Email: [jenwootten@fmy.org.uk](mailto:jenwootten@fmy.org.uk)



**FAMILY MATTERS YORK**



## Cycle to School Week



Next week is the national Sustran cycle to school week. We are encouraging families to consider cycling to school to save the environment and get healthier at the same time. Sustran are also encouraging children, parents/carers and other family members to make a pledge to cycle. If you'd like to make your pledge simply, go onto the website and complete the online form.

[www.bikeability.org.uk/cycletooschoolweek/](http://www.bikeability.org.uk/cycletooschoolweek/)

Do you want to save money, get healthier and protect the environment?  
As well as have lots of fun on the journey to school?

Then get involved with Cycle to School Week!

This year, Cycle to School Week will take place between **Monday 25 – Friday 29 September 2023**.

With support from our friends at Sustrans, we are celebrating the fun and freedom of an eco-friendly cycle commute, and encourage all families, pupils and teachers to get involved.



**Mrs Atkinson (PE leader)**

## Music Assembly

Last week we were treated to a wonderful assembly by Francesca who came and played the cello to the children and chatted a little bit about the instrument. The playing was stunning and was incredibly inspirational - thank you Francesca!

Francesca teaches the cello, in Haxby Village, and if anyone would like cello lessons, please contact her using the following details:

Email - francesca.mcdonald.cello@gmail.com Mobile - 07539319800



**Kirsten Griffiths (Music Leader)**



## Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



This week, the children in Reception have continued to learn about different families. They then developed their creative skills by making a model of someone from their family out of playdough and creating a lollipop family home picture.

Our phonics journey, this week, progressed to learning the phonemes (sounds) i, n, m and d. The children have also enjoyed playing phonics games such as touch your... in which the teacher 'sound talks' a body part, for example, touch your 'l-e-g'. This is a game which can be played anywhere!



In Maths this week, we have focussed on comparisons of sizes, mass and capacity through lots of practical activities. The children have listened attentively during carpet time and it was a pleasure to then see them apply their new learning and vocabulary when working independently in child initiated play sessions. A large teddy and small teddy made comparisons of sizes and amounts at their teddy bears picnic. The language evolved from 'Daddy Bear' to big or large bear. The children's mathematical vocabulary has blossomed throughout the week!

We are delighted that your child's Tapestry account is now up and running. All adults are enjoying uploading observations and photos of activities at school. If you haven't yet set up access to your child's account, please check your email as you should have received an activation link.



Please can we remind you that reading books need to be returned to school on a Monday and homework folders need to be returned on a Friday? Thank you for your help with returning these on the given days.

As advertised on last week's newsletter, we will be holding an EYFS parent/carer workshop on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 2.45pm. We look forward to seeing all who can make it. If you are unable to attend, please don't worry as the presentation will be emailed out to all parents/carers after the workshop.

Thanks for your support; we hope you have a wonderful weekend!

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



## Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

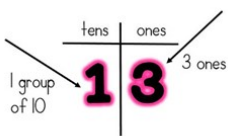
The good weather may have left us but the rain has done nothing to dampen the spirits of Key Stage 1 this week. We have seen so much enthusiasm from the children.



Following on from our exciting topic launch day last week, the children have been inspired by the story 'Bog Baby'. We have revisited the story and thought in detail about the wondrous, fantastical creatures. We looked at pictures from the book and described the Bog Baby in detail, thinking about adjectives to describe his physical characteristics and describing aspects of his personality, such as kindness and love. We then put all of these ideas

together into descriptive paragraphs. It was lovely to see the natural enthusiasm come through in the writing.

A large part of the Bog Baby story deals with how, despite the children's care, the creatures really need to be in their own habitat, and this fitted in perfectly with our science learning about living things and life processes. We learned about the seven things that ALL living plants and animals do (called life processes) and how these help us to determine whether something is alive, dead or whether it has never been alive. We started to look at which habitats suit different animals and why. A habitat provides an animal with its basic needs, such as food and shelter and we matched animals with their natural environments. This linked nicely with our geography work this week. We were looking at the human and physical features of an area (those that humans built and those that occurred naturally). We discussed how these features can vary throughout the world: a desert environment has very different physical features to a rainforest habitat.



In maths, we enjoyed getting practical as we learned about place value and the number system. We represented 2-digit numbers practically by showing the tens and ones and how these relate to the written digits. We also handled 3D shapes this week. We named them and described their features, including naming some of the 2D shapes we could see on their faces, which linked back to last week's work. Well done Key Stage 1: you really impressed us with your knowledge.

Key Stage 1 have been enjoying their music lessons on a Friday. The Year 1s have been getting moving as they 'felt the beat' of music, whilst the Year 2s have enjoyed their recorder lessons with Mrs Freitas. Please can we remind you that **the Year 2 children will need their recorders in school every Friday.**



**Please can we also remind you that homework and reading books need to come back into school each Friday, thank you.**

Thank you for another fabulous week, Key Stage 1. You have made such a great start to our new school year!

**Miss Griffiths, Mr Merrall, Mrs Atkinson and Mrs Reeves**

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

It has been another busy, exciting and active week in Lower Juniors, in which we have been learning about keeping ourselves healthy and safe online.

In science this half term, we are learning all about animals including humans. The children were able to identify that humans need food, water and air to actually survive and a balanced diet, exercise, plenty of sleep and to be hygienic (wash regularly and brush your teeth) to grow up strong and healthily. In our classes, we learnt that the foods we eat everyday can be split up into five main food groups and that each one provides our bodies with key nutrients. In our lesson, we were also set a fun task in our table groups where we had to collaborate to match lots of different types of food to their correct food group.



As another important component of keeping our bodies and minds fit and healthy is regular exercise, we completed the 'Cooper Run' virtual challenge. It is designed to strengthen our hearts and lungs and involved running around a 100m course as many times as we could in twelve minutes. Although it was very tiring, especially towards the end, the encouragement and support from our peers kept us going and we were very proud of ourselves when we crossed the finishing line.

**Did you know...?** When we exercise, 'feel good' chemicals, known as endorphins, flood our body which help to improve our mood, energy levels and our ability to focus and concentrate in lessons! With all these fantastic benefits to exercise, what are you all waiting for?

As we all work so hard in lessons every day, it important to sometimes give our brains a little break from all that thinking as they can get tired out just like our bodies do! To help with this and support our mental well-being, in PSHE this week we have all enjoyed taking part in a 'brainbreak' virtual challenge known as Plank Shoulder Taps. Working in teams, we had to see how many we could do in total in 60 seconds. To see what we did, watch this demonstration of the [plank](#).



In computing, our focus at the beginning of the new term is how to stay safe online. This week we have been looking at the reliability of websites and webpages and discussing how we know whether the information held on them is actually true or false. We learnt that it is really important to verify the websites we use, by checking with other sources and looking for signs that may indicate a 'spoof' website. We also now understand that it is vitally important, for our safety online, to only use reputable websites that we know well, trust and, most importantly, have been checked by our parents and carers. Our task in the lesson, was to design our own 'spoof' webpage all about the Ancient Egyptians. We then challenged our classmates to **verify** whether **all** the information we included was actually true or not.

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

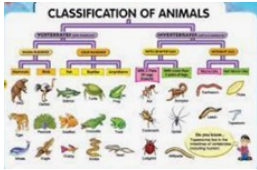
We hope that you have a relaxing weekend.

Mr Daniel, Miss Hodgson, & Miss Clapham

## Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)

The Year 6 pupils have amazed us with their positive approach to their final school year and are being great role models to the rest of the school. We are very fortunate that the Year 6 pupils have taken on responsibilities around the school.

The Year 5s are rising to the challenge of being an Upper Key Stage 2 pupil and have shown real determination and drive in these first few weeks.



In science, we have continued to build on our prior learning of living things and their habitats. This week, we sorted animals into their classification groups: reptiles, amphibians, fish, birds, mammals and insects.

Using secondary sources, we researched what life was like in the 1750s as part of our history topic. We recorded information about work, farming and education. As part of our learning, we compared life during that period with the current day.





This week in PSHE, we have been learning about different relationships. We learnt the meaning of key terms: gay, lesbian, bisexual and transsexual. Over the course of the lesson, we gained a clearer understanding of the '9 Protected Characteristics' which includes relationships. These characteristics are protected by law under the 2010 Equality Act.


Reminder, please can you ensure that your child has a hooded coat and suitable footwear in school each day, regardless of the weather conditions when leaving home.

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

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

Funded by UK Government  **YORK Learning**  
Family Learning 



### How Children Learn Maths in School

A free 10 week course to help support your child's learning. Enjoy learning with other adults in a fun and relaxed setting, increase your confidence and explore opportunities for further learning to gain up to date qualifications for yourself.

**Online Evening via Zoom**  
Mondays, 7pm - 8.30pm  
25 September - 4 December 2023

**Haxby and Wigginton Library**  
Tuesdays, 12.45pm - 2.45pm  
26 September - 5 December 2023

**Clifton Children's Centre**  
Thursdays, 12.45pm - 2.45pm  
28 September - 7 December 2023  
*Free childcare spaces available—book in advance*

01904 554277  
family.learning@york.gov.uk  
www.yorklearning.org.uk/family-learning

### This Week's Attendance



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