



Headteacher's Message

Good afternoon

How lovely that our summer term has started with a backdrop of sunshine! As always, the vast majority of children have returned to school with a smile and a continued positive attitude towards their learning. This was also noted by an LA advisor who, by invitation, spent the day with us on Tuesday, specifically reviewing our maths teaching and learning with us. We are very proud of the children who always engage so well with visitors and are themselves proud to show off their work and talk about their learning.

Yesterday, the kitchen staff team also received very positive feedback following a City of York Council monitoring visit. These visits happen termly and are incredibly thorough, covering areas such as health & safety, food storage, menu content, dietary requirements and overall dining experience. We are very grateful to our Mellors colleagues, especially Emma & Wendy (as known by the children), for their ongoing efforts amidst staffing shortages. Mellors are looking for temporary staff members to join their team; you can find additional details within this newsletter.

I can also share today that we have another vacancy for a parent/carer governor as the term of office for a current parent/carer governor is ending. Being a parent/carer governor is a fantastic way to be more involved with the school, supporting its work as well as providing appropriate challenge. Please look out for more information about this next week.

I can share that as it stands, on Thursday 27th April and Tuesday, 2nd May, the next two planned days of National Education Union (NEU) strike action, our school will remain open to all classes. Some classes may be taught by a supply teacher and the regular curriculum may not be followed. Please be aware there is always the chance of last minute changes on these days.

I hope you enjoy reading all about what our children have been up to across the school this week in the following phase articles.

Wishing you a lovely weekend,

Liz Clark



Job Vacancies (School Kitchen)

Our catering provider, Mellors, has some vacancies within our school, with a variety of hours/flexibility being available. Should you be interested in joining this welcoming and friendly team, please contact Sarah Weston, via email, at sarahw@mellors.co.uk. Please also feel free to contact Emma Moss (School Business Manager) for an informal conversation. Thank you.



Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

We have been delighted to hear about all the wonderful activities which you did during the Easter holidays. Thank you also for uploading some of these to Tapestry so we can see and comment on these. Please feel free to continue to add.

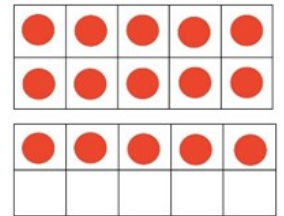
This week, we have started a new topic 'In the Garden'. The children will be exploring how plants grow, learning about animal life cycles and finding out who lives in the garden. We look forward to sharing our learning with you throughout this topic.



Our new topic began this week by learning about the life cycle of a bean. The children enjoyed reading the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. Then they planted their own bean. We hope they grow!

In Literacy, the children also used their knowledge of how a bean grows and their planting to write instructions for how to plant a bean. They practised using their letter formation and segmenting skills to write the captions/sentences. We are very pleased with how keen everyone is to practise their writing.

In Maths, this week, the children have shown fantastic skills when working with numbers up to 20. They have used tens frames to count amounts within 20 and sometimes beyond. We also explored 2D shapes, matching shapes which were the same but also maybe slightly different, for example, squares which were smaller and bigger and squares twisted round.



This week, we have also recognised the upcoming national day, St George's Day. The children learnt why this day is significant and enjoyed making their own dragons.

We have also thoroughly enjoyed using our outdoor classroom this week. The outdoor classroom provides children with opportunities to explore their skills and develop their learning in an outdoor environment and sometimes on a larger scale. As the weather becomes warmer, we will obviously be using this area more frequently. If your child has a cap which they could wear at school, we would appreciate them having it in their book bag. Please pop their name on it. Thank you

Please don't hesitate to ask any questions or to share information with us.



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

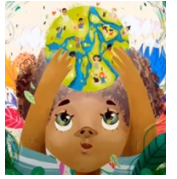


Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

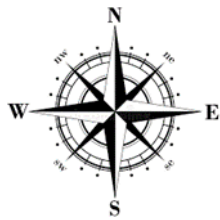
Welcome back—it was so lovely to see everyone again; back, rested and raring to go for our summer term. All of the teaching staff in Key Stage 1 have been delighted at the positive attitude (and sunshine!) that the children have brought back with them and we are looking forward to seeing the great things that we achieve together this coming term.



We started on Monday with a look at our 'Big Question' of the half term, which is "should everyone have to think the same way?" This was based on the British Value of tolerance and linked to our school value of mutual respect. We started by investigating the differences between ourselves and our friends and thought about



how they make us unique and special. We then thought about what mutual respect and tolerance would look like across the nation and globe and designed flags to celebrate all of the wonderful ways in which people are different.



We also kicked off our geography topic 'On Our Doorstep' with some practical fieldwork. We learned about the four compass points and how they relate to the direction we are facing in the world. We used these to explore the school field and describe the positions of continents that were hidden in different locations. We even challenged ourselves to describe positions in eight compass points! We then used our continent knowledge to construct our very own balloon globes. It was challenging but great fun!

This geography work fed directly into our maths work on position and direction. We used mini figures to represent us as we placed them on maps and position wheels and used them to enact directions, movements and turns. This helped us to think abstractly and understand that directions such as 'left', 'right', 'forwards' and 'backwards' are relative to the individual. We also used the language of rotation to describe turns of different sizes.



This clear directional language was also useful in our English work this week. We were learning about instructions and the need for clear, well-organised directions to help the reader follow a process. We focussed on the use of imperative verbs ("bossy words"), chronological order and the use of relevant, concise descriptive language to communicate clearly.

Now that we are back at school, please could we take the opportunity to remind everyone that P.E kits are required in school at all times. A lot of our P.E this term will take place on the school field which, particularly this half term, could still be wet and muddy when we do our lessons. It is therefore vital that children have appropriate clothing to change into and footwear that is suitable for slippery, dew-covered grass. We would also like to ask again if every child could please bring a toilet roll into school by the end of next week for use in one of our upcoming science experiments!

Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Reeves and Mr Merrall.



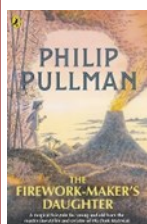
Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

Year 3 and 4 have had a fantastic start to the summer term!



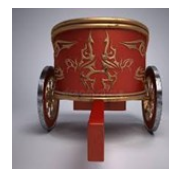
We have been extremely busy this week rehearsing for our performance of 'Wiz Wham Alakazam'. The children are doing amazingly well with remembering their lines, song words and when to enter and exit the stage. We are delighted with how their acting skills are coming along and it is all starting to come together brilliantly. We are all really excited about performing it to you on the 3rd and 4th of May. Please continue to encourage your child/ren to learn their lines and practise their parts. Thank you to everyone who has already brought their costumes into school. If you haven't already sent your child/ren's costume into school, we would appreciate it if you could do so as soon as possible. If you need a helping hand with the costume, please speak to your child's class teacher.

In English, the children have been focusing on their narrative writing skills and the key features included in stories. They have revisited their Wizard stories that they previously wrote so that the story structure was familiar to them, allowing them to focus on the finer details. Each day we have looked at a different writing feature. This included using fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases to add description, using inverted commas accurately to punctuate speech and using subordinating conjunctions to extend sentences. After practising using the writing feature, the children then edited their previous story ensuring that they were making improvements to their writing.



All three classes have started their new class novel this week, 'The Firework-Maker's Daughter' by Philip Pullman. The children were immediately hooked with the story about the firework-maker Lalchand and his daughter Lila who doesn't just want to be a firework-maker's daughter but a skilled firework maker herself. To do so though, Lila still needs to learn a lot and face massive challenges to get through her apprenticeship. We can't wait to continue reading and see where Lila takes us on her adventure to become a skilled firework maker.

During our final design and technology session on our Roman Chariots, the children evaluated the model building process. Whilst evaluating their models, the children thought about their initial designs and whether this was a true representation of their end model, they considered the skills they had learnt and discussed how they could improve aspects of their model if they were to create another.



Mr Daniel, Miss Hodgson and Miss Clapham.

Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)

We have welcomed back all our children and hope that you all had a lovely Easter.

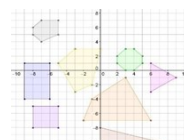


In our English this week, our new genre is the writing of formal letters. We understand that even though technology is used to communicate in today's society, there is still a need to be able to write formal letters: job applications, university applications and letters of complaint. We compared informal and formal letters in order to identify the necessary vocabulary and grammatical features required. We have revisited the use of modal verbs, subjunctive form and passive voice which provide levels of formality.

This week in maths in Mr Tod's class, the Year 5s learnt about volume. Using cubes, they were able to identify the volume of different objects and then went on to look at the capacity of liquids in jugs and containers.



In maths, Mr Bennett's maths group have been working on time (am, pm, 12hr, 24hr, digital time and timetables), reflecting shapes within 4 quadrants and identifying lines of symmetry in shapes.



All year 5 and Year 6 children in Mrs Stephenson's maths group, have consolidated their knowledge on finding areas of shapes. The Year 6 children in Mrs Stephenson's maths group, have also looked at the volume of cubes and cuboids.



Our Geography topic this term is all about Mexico. The Year 5 children started by reading a world map and identified cities in Mexico, surrounding oceans and neighbouring countries to Mexico. This week, the children had a closer look at Mexico and compiled fact files comparing Mexico and the United Kingdom: land sizes, population and flags.

Mr Bennett, Mrs Stephenson and Mr Tod.



Welcome back, we hope you had a lovely Easter break. We have a busy term starting with a **Film Night on Thursday 27th April**. A letter has been sent out for full details – please take a look about details about pick up and mobile phones.

MOVIE NIGHT

Years 1-3 **Years 4-6**

📅 **27** April 2023 🕒 Year 1-3 - 4.30 - 5.45pm
 Year 4-6 - 6.00 - 7.20pm

Tickets on the Door - £3 including crisps or popcorn and Haribo sweets
 Hot Dogs - £1 extra (vegetarian hot dogs available)

Kings Coronation Pin badges

We will be celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III on 6th May 2023 and like we did for the Queens Jubilee we will be giving each school child a pin badge on a special card as a memento (these will be free for all school children). These will be given out from 28th April 2023.



A letter will go out shortly about these and if you want to purchase additional ones for siblings etc not in school – these will be £1 each (first come first served basis)

Quiz Night at the Parvin Indian Restaurant

Thank you for all the tickets sold for our Quiz Night at the Parvin Indian Restaurant in Haxby on **Monday 22nd May 2022 at 7pm** with all profits going to the school. This will be a fun night with friends or an opportunity to meet other parents/carers!



It will cost **£20 per person** which includes a fantastic Quiz and a delicious three course meal.

We just have a couple of tables for 4 left and 1 table for 5 left! Please email Ralphbutterfield.pta@gmail.com for tickets and details of how to pay.

Bags2 School collection – Friday 26th May

We would love you unwanted cloths, sheets, paired shoes etc. If you are having a sort out, please do save these for us and bring them along. All money raised goes to school.



DO YOU KNOW THE SIGNS OF TYPE 1 DIABETES?

TOILET
THIRSTY
TIRED
THINNER

We call them the 4Ts. If you or your child are weeing more often, constantly thirsty, more tired than usual, or losing weight for no reason, it could be a symptom of type 1 diabetes. If left undiagnosed, type 1 diabetes can be fatal. If you're experiencing any of the 4Ts, ask your doctor for a test immediately.



Scan the QR code or visit diabetes.org.uk/the4Ts

DIABETES UK
 KNOW DIABETES. FIGHT DIABETES.

© Diabetes UK 2022. Product code: 102035EINT

KNOW THE '4 T'S' OF TYPE 1 DIABETES - IT COULD SAVE A CHILD'S LIFE

It's really important to be able to spot the most common symptoms of type 1 diabetes early.

Unfortunately, we know that too many people – mostly children and young people – are not diagnosed until they are in diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA), a life-threatening condition that requires urgent medical attention.

Early action is important and it's good to know the '4 T's' of type 1 diabetes:

TOILET – GOING TO THE TOILET A LOT.

THIRSTY – BEING VERY THIRSTY AND UNABLE TO QUENCH THE THIRST.

TIRED – FEELING MORE TIRED THAN USUAL.

THINNER – LOSING WEIGHT OR LOOKING THINNER THAN USUAL.



If you notice these signs and symptoms, you should contact your doctor **straight away**.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE SUPPORT...

Join our 'Friends of the North' Diabetes UK Facebook group where you can find peer support and the latest information from Diabetes UK, locally and nationally: [Diabetes UK chat: Your Friends in the North | Facebook](#)

Or use your mobile phone to scan the QR code:



Contact us:
 North of England team: 01925 653281
 Diabetes UK Helpline: 0345 123 2399 (Mon-Fri, 9am-6pm)

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

If you would like copies of the poster or the A5 leaflets, please contact north@diabetes.org.uk.

For more information about Diabetes UK visit www.diabetes.org.uk/The4Ts

We have resources to help you support pupils who have type 1 diabetes. Find out more about how we can support schools and our resources to help [Diabetes in schools resources | Diabetes UK](#)

DIABETES UK
 KNOW DIABETES. FIGHT DIABETES.

PERFORM ON STAGE THIS SUMMER

WITH THE HELEN O'GRADY DRAMA ACADEMY



CONFIDENCE · COMMUNICATION · CREATIVITY

One of the greatest life skills we can give our children is the ability to communicate confidently.

At the Helen O'Grady Drama Academy, children can learn to do this whilst having an enormous amount of fun. If you want to provide your child with the best possible start in life we can help!

Our classes help our students to:

- Build **confidence** and **self esteem**
- Improve **speech** and **language** skills
- Develop **social interaction** skills
- Improve **listening** and **team work** skills
- Increase **creativity**
- Improve **lateral thinking** skills



BOOKINGS NOW BEING TAKEN FOR OUR PRODUCTION TERM

CLASS LOCATIONS:

EARSWICK VILLAGE HALL - SATURDAY
 9.15 – 10.15 (5 – Year 3); 10.25 – 11.25 (Years 4 – 6)

☎ 07309 880805 / 01904 492998

✉ york@helenogrady.co.uk

WWW.HELENOGRADY.CO.UK



Happy Healthy Holidays



WHAT: Holiday Football Fun Course

WHEN: Tuesday 30th - Friday 2nd June

WHERE: Huntington Secondary School YO32 9WT

TIME: 10am to 3pm

REFRESHMENTS: Water, snacks and packed lunch will be provided

WHO: Families eligible for benefits-related free school meals living in York



How to book: Enter the following code Yorkie23 at https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/yorkcity/york-city-courses/multi_activity.html

This secures your space and means you are COMMITTED to attend all course dates. You can book one or both courses. Spaces are LIMITED with bookings closing Friday 19th May 4pm. These FREE Holiday courses are designed to give young people the opportunity to get active this school holiday. Please note that if you booked onto a previous course and did not take up your space we reserve the right to withdraw bookings.