



## Headteacher's Message

Good afternoon

### A Fond Farewell

We are sad to be saying goodbye to Mrs Mowbray today, as she leaves her school secretary role at Ralph Butterfield Primary School, after eight fabulous years with us. I am sure that you would agree Mrs Mowbray has been a credit to the school, always putting the children first and supporting parents/carers admirably with a wide range of queries, requests and situations. Mrs Mowbray has become very adept at multi-tasking, responding to bells, buzzers and phone calls often all at the same time! (We know how you will miss that buzzer Mrs Mowbray!).

Whilst we will miss Mrs Mowbray, we are happy for her that she will be able to enjoy more time with her family and in pursuing her own interests. She has also assured us that she will be back as a volunteer to help with such as school trips, which we will look forward to. I am sure you would all wish to join me in saying a big thank you to Mrs Mowbray for all she has done to support everyone in our school community and to wish her every happiness for her next chapter.

### Visitors

On Monday, we were fortunate to have a visit from a local barrister who led an inspiring whole school assembly about the work that they do. Everyone was thrilled to see and learn about the court dress that is worn and some younger children even had the opportunity to try on the wig and other garments.

On Tuesday, we were visited by Shamim Eimaan and Sara, who led an assembly for Years 1-6 and then held workshops for the upper junior children. They told the story of their journey to York from Uganda in 1972, as refugees. Year 5/6 children had the opportunity to ask some questions; Shamim and Sara talked about what obstacles they faced on their journey and what it was like to settle in an unfamiliar place. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to develop their understanding and it was lovely to receive an email from Shamim later stating 'Your school is amazing and the children are a credit to your school'.

I would like to say thank you very much to our visitors who came along and helped to inspire our children in different ways this week.

### Thank You PTA

I would like to say a very big thank you to our amazing PTA, for everything they do and this week, especially for organising the wonderful quiz night at the Parvin. The venue was packed and it was great to see everyone together having a fun time, whilst also raising funds for the school. Thank you to all who attended this event but also to everyone for supporting any of the PTA events throughout the year. Our PTA are so incredibly committed and hardworking; not every school has this and we are very grateful to the team.

### Important - Leave of absence requests for holidays

Recently, we have had an increasingly high number of leave of absence requests for holidays in term time. Throughout the year, we have shared information with parents/carers about the Department for Education's (DfE) updated direction for schools on attendance. I would like to share a reminder today, that should you choose to take your child/ren out of school for a holiday in term time, this will be regarded as unauthorised absence and a fine may be issued.

We would politely ask that parents/carers choosing to take their children out of school for term time holidays understand that a Penalty Notice is now more likely to be issued by the Local Authority. This means being subject to a fine of either £60 per parent/carer per child (if paid within 21 days) or £120 (if paid after the 21st day but within 28 days). Each parent/carer can be issued with a notice for each child so two parents/carers with two children can potentially be issued with four notices.

Where a Penalty Notice is issued, we would also politely ask that parents/carers remain respectful with school, that this is in line with policy and DfE national guidance. Thank you.

**Continued overleaf**

## Headteacher's Message Continued....

Circumstances eligible for consideration for authorisation are limited to:

- Illness
- Medical or dental appointments which unavoidably fall during school time (evidence is requested)
- Religious or cultural observances
- Family emergencies
- Other personal, exceptional, circumstances

Please [click here](#) to view our Attendance and Absence policy.

Please [click here](#) to view the City of York Local Authority information on school attendance.

Please [click here](#) to read the DfE document 'Working together to improve school attendance'.

I hope everyone is able to have some enjoyable family time together over the half term break and we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June.



Liz Clark



## Please Support no Scooting or Cycling in the Playground

The playground is very busy at drop off and pick up times. It is really important that children (and adults) are not scooting or cycling across the playground, as tempting as this might be. It is too easy for a young child to run their bike or scooter into someone's ankles or for someone to stumble, unsuspecting of a scooter suddenly appearing/whizzing by them. We would be very grateful if you could please support us with this by asking your child/ren to dismount/mount outside of the school gates, avoiding putting staff in the difficult position of needing to speak to children in front of their parent/carer on the playground. Thank you.



## Upcoming Dates

School events can always be viewed on the calendar on the home page of our school website but we thought it might be useful to also share some key dates here, for the final half term of the year!

Event	Date	Time
Class 6 Assembly	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	2:45pm – 3:15pm
Class 5 Assembly	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	2:45pm – 3:15pm
Y5/6 Production	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	2:00pm
Y5/6 Production	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	5:30pm
Y5/6 Production	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	5:30pm
Year 2 Recorder Concert	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	9:10am – 9:30am
PTA Summer Fair	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Y3/4/5/6 Sports Day	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	approx. 9:15am – 11:00am
Reception & Y1/2 Sports Day	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	approx. 9:15am – 11:00am
Year 6 Graduation event	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	6:00pm

Details for specific events will follow nearer the time.

## Vacancies

We have exciting opportunities to join the staff team at Ralph Butterfield Primary School. Please see below for brief details of our **term time only** vacancies and [click here](#) to view the full applicant packs.

**School Secretary** We are looking for a caring, enthusiastic and committed school secretary to join our friendly administrative team. The hours are Wednesday 12 - 4pm, Thursday and Friday 8:30am - 4pm, totalling 17 per week over 3 days. This is a term time only vacancy.

**Teaching Assistant** We have a wonderful opportunity for a positive and caring Teaching Assistant to join our warm and supportive staff team. The successful candidate will primarily be providing 1:1 support for a Reception child with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). We anticipate that there will also be opportunity for the successful candidate to provide general support across our Reception classes. This post is for 30hrs and 50mins each week.

**Midday Supervisor** We are looking to recruit two caring, positive and proactive Midday Supervisory Assistants (MSAs) to join our friendly staff team. We have 2 Monday - Friday contracts available (6.25hrs pr week), but would also love to hear from those interested candidates who can perhaps only offer 2-3 days a week.



## Little Wandle Reading Books

Can we please request that you return the Little Wandle scheme reading books each week? Your child(ren)'s phase will have a day that they wish for these to be returned. Our policy is that your child(ren) will only have one book at home and that a new one will not be issued until the previous one is returned. We require books to be returned timely as subsequent groups will need these for their reading sessions the following week. Last year, when we began teaching Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised, we spent £5664.00 on reading books; it is not sustainable to replace books on a regular basis.



Your help in keeping all school books in a good condition and safe is appreciated. It would be helpful if all Reception and Key Stage 1 families could please check at home for any forgotten books which belong to school.

If you are unable to return a book, please don't hesitate to speak to school staff about this. **Thank you.**



## Water Bottles

May we please request that you ensure your child/ren bring to school a named water bottle? As the weather will be (hopefully!) warming up, having access to water regularly is essential. **Thank you.**

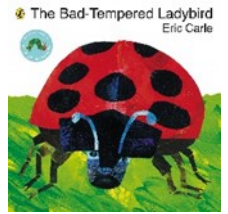


### This Week's Attendance



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

## Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



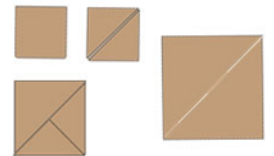
Our focus this week has been minibeasts that fly, particularly ladybirds and bees. One of our favourite themed stories has been 'The Bad Tempered Ladybird'. The children have also enjoyed using non-fiction texts to learn facts about the life cycle of a ladybird and bee. This has led them to learning many new words, such as, larva, pupa, shed and emerge.



We were lucky to borrow some amazing resources, from a local biologist, to enhance our learning about bees. The children explored a honeycomb from a hive and learnt that this was made from wax. They enjoyed looking at a bee keeper's suit and Mrs Dickinson loved wearing it on Monday! We also borrowed a bee's nest (complete with dead bees) to investigate how a bee makes their nest – the children were fascinated by this and understood the reason why we couldn't touch it. The children really enjoyed seeing these at first hand.

This week, in phonics, we have assessed the children's progress with learning how to blend to read words with adjacent consonants. The children have done very well and are showing their developing reading skills both in their phonics and reading sessions. We will continue to learn how to read these longer words and tricky words in the remainder of the summer term.

In Maths, we have continued to explore 2D shapes. This has included recalling their names and simple properties. The children then experimented with squares and triangles to create new shapes and name these. The children also enjoyed creating their own quilt, inspired by the story 'Grandpa's Quilt'.



It was our last session with Mr Walton this week. The children thoroughly enjoyed completing 'Mr Walton's Obstacle Challenge'. They used their jumping, running and listening skills and worked very well as a team. Mr Walton said that the children have all worked so hard this term and he is very proud of them all.

Class 1 have enjoyed their second visit to Haxby Library, this week. They returned and changed their books. After half-term, Class 2 will visit the library to choose new books. Thank you for your help with this.

We hope you all have a lovely half-term break and we look forward to seeing what you have been doing in Tapestry updates.



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

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



## Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

We have enjoyed yet another lovely week in Key Stage 1. The sun has been shining and our children have displayed a positive attitude to their learning, just as they always do.



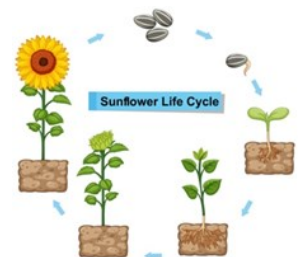
In English, we have unleashed our imaginations and launched characters on some adventures around the world in creative story writing. We were able to create our own characters and think of perilous problems for them to solve in order to help animal friends. There were some wonderful ideas, all brought to life with exciting language choices and rich description. It was lovely to see so many children enjoy the creative process and have fun with their writing.

It was also good, this week, to get more 'hands on' in maths with some work on measuring. This included the use of rulers for measuring length, as well as scales for mass and jugs for capacity. We developed our skills at reading scales accurately and recording measurements using standard and non-standard units, all whilst using the appropriate vocabulary to accurately describe the measurements we were taking.



In PHSE this week, we have continued to look at ways to keep ourselves safe. This included what to do in an emergency, how to make a 999 call and in what type of situation we would need to do so. Hopefully, this is a skill that we will never need to use but it is vital knowledge. We also revisited the theme of online safety. This time we were learning about the age restrictions that are on TV shows and films, video games, social media and gaming platforms. We looked at the PEGI rating on games and how they keep different age groups safe from accessing inappropriate content. We then thought about what we would do and who we would tell if we ever saw something that upset us.

We have been enjoying looking at plants both large and small in our science work recently. We learned about the parts of a plant and the role they play as well as using our classification skills to sort trees and plants using a classification key. We have also planted sunflowers this week, making sure that they were given plenty of water for over the half term holidays. We are so excited to see what they will look like when we come back!



Well done Key Stage 1. Please keep yourselves safe and enjoy a lovely week in the sunshine (we hope). We look forward to seeing you all for our final half term of the year.

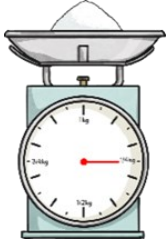
Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Reeves and Mr Merrall.



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

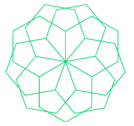


As part of our English and science work, the children have been learning about plants. In English, the children have been learning about the lifecycle of a plant; from the roots breaking through the seed coat to the seeds being dispersed to start the lifecycle all over again. This week, the children used the scientific knowledge they gained to write about the process in a 'How do plants grow?' explanation text. The children did a fantastic job at recalling information about germination, pollination and seed dispersal to create their own paragraphs and diagrams of a plant's reproduction.



Over the last two weeks, PSHE has focused on being healthy; both mentally and physically. As part of this topic, the children have learnt about the importance of a healthy balanced diet. To help us understand the contents of our food, to support us in achieving a balanced diet, we have learnt about the food traffic light system and studied food labels. To demonstrate the hidden sugar that can be found in food and drink, we weighed out the amount of sugar in various drinks. The children were shocked to learn how much sugar is in fruity drinks.

In computing, we have been building upon our previous lessons by creating a named procedure to create a pattern. After recalling how to create shapes in 2Logo, the children created a procedure which allowed them to create shapes without writing the full sequence out each time. Once a procedure for a shape was created, the procedure (drawing of the shape) could be repeated to create a pattern. The children had a lot of fun exploring the patterns that could be made.



A super week Year 3 and 4 - Well done!



### Reminder for Class 6 parents / carers

All of the children in class 6 are looking forward to you joining us for our class assembly on **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June** at 2:45pm in the school hall.

**Mr Daniel, Miss Hodgson and Miss Clapham.**

## Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)



Following our assembly with Shamim Eimaan, who spoke to us about Ugandan refugees and their journey to York in 1972, we took part in a series of activities. We were able to answer a quiz, look at some artefacts from the 1970s and pack a suitcase as if we had to leave in a hurry. These were then searched by Mr Tod or Mr Bennett, who played the part of soldiers.

In history, we looked at what archaeologists found, how they learnt about the Mayans and their way of life, and that we now know a lot about the Mayans from the evidence they left behind. We then looked at some key dates and facts about these people to create our own timelines.



This week we held auditions for the Year 6 pupils. We were blown away by the talent of our classmates. The staff worked hard to try and find a role that everyone would feel comfortable with following discussions about the different type or role: speaking, singing, speaking and singing, or a non-speaking/singing role. Although there are only a few well known named characters, we found that there were lots of other larger parts. Year 5s will have supporting roles and are part of the chorus.

In art during the first week back after the half term holidays, we will be taking part in a global drawing campaign 'Draw with Denmark'. The theme is 'Green Together' and the children will be creating pictures focusing on how we can save the planet and how we can create a sustainable and greener world. The children will be able to create either a drawing, collage, painting or animation. If your child would like to produce a collage, they may wish to bring in items from home.

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

## PTA News



Thank you to everyone who came to the PTA Quiz Night at the Parvin – it was a great night, with good food and some tough questions! We had over 75 parents and teachers attend which was great and raised a whopping £720 for school.

Next term we have a busy one as well.....

### Secret Gift Room

We will be holding our Secret Gift room on **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023**, with Father's Day on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June. We will have a selection of gifts (some more generic) so the children can purchase something for someone special. A letter will be sent out after half term,



### We will also be holding the following:

- ◆ Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June – Outdoor Disco
- ◆ Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June – Non-Uniform day, collecting for sweet and alcohol tombola
- ◆ Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July – Summer Fair 6-8pm

### Ice Pop Friday!



Every Friday (or near enough) from 9<sup>th</sup> June or the rest of the school year we will be selling ice pops after school on a Friday

**20p each** with all profit going to school

### TEDDY/ SOFT TOY REQUEST

**We looking for your help!** Do you have lots of good quality teddies and soft toys that you don't need anymore? These will really help with some of our Summer Fair stalls. Please bring them in to school and they will really help!



Thank you!



# Clean Air Day 2023

**Let's take steps to protect our health from air pollution this #CleanAirDay on 15th June 2023.**

Even though we can't see it, air pollution impacts our health whatever age we are. Children are especially vulnerable to the effects, with air pollution linked to low birth weights and poor lung development; it can even contribute to reduced intelligence and mental health issues.

Clean Air Day 2023 aims to highlight that improving air quality not only benefits our physical health and the environment but can also protect our mental and brain health.

The good news is there are simple steps we can all take to help us avoid toxic air and cut down on the pollution we cause. Any reductions in air pollution that we make will lead to health improvements for us and in our local community – we all have a part to play!

## What can you do to improve air quality outside school

On Clean Air Day (Thursday 15th June), we would encourage you to walk, cycle or scoot to school if possible (or walk part of the journey from a nearby location). Walking is an easy and accessible way to improve physical and mental health and helps to improve local air quality.

If you have to drive to school, please help to improve air quality by always switching off your engine whenever you are waiting and politely remind others to do the same. To find out more about York's anti-idling campaign visit <https://www.york.gov.uk/EngineOff>

The Personal Air Pollution Calculator is a free to use online tool to work out how much pollution you produce, how you can reduce it and protect your health: <https://calculator.cleanairhub.org.uk>

To find out more about air quality and how to improve it, visit the national Clean Air Hub website: <https://www.cleanairhub.org.uk/>







## Half Day Workshop for Parents and Carers

### 'A Morning with Ronnie Pinder – Autism Clinician'



A guest interviewer asks **YOUR** questions to Ronnie Pinder  
(Please submit your question by 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023)

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

**10.00am to 1.00pm**

The Bar Convent

17 Blossom Street, York, YO24 1AQ

**VOLUNTARY DONATIONS WELCOME**

To book your place please email;

[enquiries@livingautismfoundation.org](mailto:enquiries@livingautismfoundation.org)

(please include 'Autism Workshop'  
in the subject heading)

**Previous Feedback: 100% positive**

- Excellent presentation
- Good interactivity
- So helpful, insightful
- A wealth of information
- Added hugely to my understanding



# HAXBY TOWN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

RECRUITING BOYS AND GIRLS IN RECEPTION TO 1 YEAR

**AGES: 4-6**

FRIENDLY, ENCOURAGING, WELL-RUN CLUB TO SUPPORT CHILDREN'S LEARNING TO PLAY FOOTBALL, EXERCISE, AND MAKE FRIENDS

CONTACT FOR MORE DETAILS:  
[CLUBSECRETARY@HAXBYTOWN.CO.UK](mailto:CLUBSECRETARY@HAXBYTOWN.CO.UK)

