



# Ralph Butterfield Primary School School Newsletter



Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022

2022/23 Newsletter No: 12

01904 768325 (option 3)

@RalphBPSch\_York

www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk

## Headteacher's Message

It has been a joy this week to see the Reception and Year 1 and 2 children delight their audience with their Nativities, for the first time in 3 years (albeit with some last minute rescheduling!). It was just wonderful to see such confidence and joy in the children's performing, as well as listening to the fabulous singing. Thank you so much to all of the children for undertaking their parts so beautifully, to the parents/carers for supporting costume provision and to the staff for teaching the songs and creating such a lovely Nativity.

Here is a reminder of further Christmas festivities for the children next week, with additional important information below:

Date	Event
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Whole School Christmas Craft morning
	Reception Christmas party afternoon
Tues 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Year 1 & 2 Christmas party afternoon
Weds 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	★ Reception, Y1 & Y2 Christmas Celebration at St Mary's Church 1:30 pm – approx. 2:30 pm
	Year 5 & 6 Christmas party afternoon
Thurs 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	★ Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 Christmas Celebration at St Mary's Church 9:30 am – approx. 10:30 am
	Christmas Dinner Day
	Year 3 and 4 Christmas party afternoon
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Last day of term ( <i>usual finish time</i> )

### Christmas Celebrations at St Mary's Church

At St Mary's church, the children will be singing for/sharing readings with you and there will be opportunity for parents/carers to join in with some Christmas carol singing too.

If you are able to join us for your child/ren's Christmas celebration at St Mary's church, please be at the church in good time and **please fill up pews from the back**. We would really appreciate it if as many people as possible sit on each pew as there are a *lot* of children for us to then seat on arrival. Please don't be offended if we need to ask anyone politely to move; I know you will understand we need to prioritise seating for the children. Thank you.

The children will walk to the church from school, with a good ratio of adults to children. We also have additional adults specifically supporting our crossing of Usher Lane.

If we need to seek your permission for your child to take part in our Christmas celebrations at St Mary's church, your child's class teacher will be in touch. This will only be where your permission was not given at the start of the year as part of the local area plan, in which we received your permission to take your child/ren out of school for local area visits.

**However, if you do not wish for your child/ren to take part in the visit to St Mary's, please let your child/ren's class teacher know as soon as possible.**

## Headteacher's Message continued...

### Phase Christmas Parties

Please rest assured that there is nothing that parents/carers need to do or provide for these; class teachers are simply planning for all children to enjoy some fun and party games in the hall, with their friends and peers. The children will already be wearing a Christmas/non-uniform jumper; not further changing into party clothes provides more party time! Where possible in relation to available staffing, a quiet space, will also be provided for any children who prefer a quieter environment, with calmer activities. The parties are in school hours and do not impact the end of school time.

### Welcome to the team!

We are delighted to have some new additions to our staff team from January. Please join me in welcoming Mr Paul Merrall, who will be working 2 days each week as part of a job share with Miss Griffiths. Mrs Alison Fitzpatrick will, in addition to her current role in school, be teaching 2 days each week in Year 5/6, to cover staff for their statutory non-contact time. This week, Miss Emily Addison has joined our midday supervisory team (MSA) – a very welcome addition. We do have a vacant position within our MSA team; please contact us if you or someone you know may be interested. Thank you.

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend,

*Liz Clark*



## Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



We are so very proud of all the children; they certainly put on a sparkling performance of 'I-spy Christmas'. Their singing was beautiful and they have done an amazing job learning all the different Makaton actions. Thank you again for all your help with the costumes.

In **phonics**, this week, we have been revising and consolidating the learning of the forty sounds taught since the beginning of the Autumn term. What an achievement! We continue to work very hard to learn how to blend words for our reading and segment words into different sounds we can hear in our writing.



In **Maths**, this week, the children have been investigating number bonds to five. We have been finding a 'hidden' number, an example of this would be...if there are 5 Christmas decorations and 2 are on the tree, how many are left in the box?

Christmas activities have begun in the Reception classrooms this week and we have enjoyed lots of Christmas learning in our independent play. We have been matching Santa to his reindeer using the right numbers; decorating trees, Christmas small world play, designing Christmas trees in the loose parts area. The most popular activity this week has definitely been a scissor control activity where the children had to cut Father Christmas' beard following the lines carefully.



We are looking forward to lots more Christmas activities next week, including our Christmas craft morning, Christmas party and of course Christmas dinner!

We will collect all the reading books in next week for the holidays. Please return all **Little Wandle** reading books and **Reading for Pleasure** books.

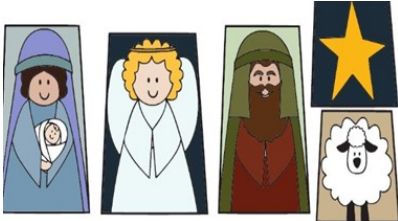


Thank you for your continued support.

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

## Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

Well, what a week! We are so proud how the children conducted themselves in the Nativity. They performed amazingly with their acting, dancing, narrating and singing skills. Thank you to all of the parents who came and watched and helped with costumes.



In English, we have taken the nativity theme and written riddles based on characters from the story.

Can you guess one of the children's riddles-?

I'm one of three.

I came from afar.

I followed a star.

I came bearing gifts.

Who am I?



We also wrote acrostic poems and paragraphs about Christmas scenes using descriptive language.

In PE on Friday with Mr Stephenson the children worked as teams to compete against each other using balls skills, dodging and tactical skills. All of the children stayed energetic for the whole session and had lots of fun.



Please do not hesitate to come and see us about anything.

**Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Reeves and Mr Merrall.**



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



The children in Year 3 and 4 have all completed the Ultimate Warrior Challenge over the last two weeks. The children completed a series of timed fitness challenges including star jumps, step ups, shuttle runs and two footed jumps. We all enjoyed getting active and taking part in the virtual competition.

During our science lessons this week, the children have planned and carried out a sound proofing investigation using sound boxes, a variety of materials and data loggers to record the level of sound. The children worked brilliantly together and cooperatively planned their investigation and decided within their teams which roles they took on board.



All three classes have been working hard on their multiplication skills this week. They have been recalling multiplication facts, recognising different ways of presenting known multiplication facts such as using arrays, repeated addition and grids. They have also learnt how to multiply by 10 and 100 which will really support them moving forward with more challenging and formal questions.

We regret that the open classroom event was cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. We will be rearranging this for early in the new year so that the children can still share their fantastic art / DT work with you.

**Wishing you all a lovely weekend.**

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



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

7 | 2 9 8 2

As part of our maths this week, we have been learning about division. We have been taught both short and long methods and how to apply these to solve problems; this includes real life situations where we have to round in context to find the correct answer.

In science, we have concluded our work on space and the Earth by collating all our learning into one document by using our recall and remembering strategies. We were given the freedom to present our work however we wanted and many of us chose to include some exciting diagrams.



### Blog

In computing, we have started to switch our Viking and Anglo-Saxon blogs 'to live' so that we can look at each other's work. We will have the opportunity to leave positive comments and constructive feedback in order to improve our blogs further.

**Date for your diary:**

**Year 6 parents/carers information meeting Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 6pm - 7pm.**

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

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

## PTA



We hope the children enjoyed the **Christmas Film Night** last week, we raised an amazing **£542**.



On Friday we hosted **York Concert Band** for their Christmas performance. They played carols, Christmas music and some popular show-tunes. It was an uplifting night with 50 instruments performing. It was a completely new event for us to host and it was fantastic to be able to welcome members of our wider community into school.

We hope those who attended enjoyed it and we raised an amazing **£467** for the school.



### Christmas Card order update

We are hoping that you have received your Christmas cards, wrapping paper, tags and mugs today. We have been told that tea towels and teddies will follow early next week. We are really sorry once again that Class Fundraising has caused such delays this year – we hope it hasn't caused too many problems for you!

Email: [Ralphbutterfield.pta@gmail.com](mailto:Ralphbutterfield.pta@gmail.com)



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](http://www.york.gov.uk/SchoolAttendance)



### This Week's Attendance



# TIME OUT FOR PARENTS: HANDLING ANGER IN THE FAMILY

4 Thursday sessions  
Starting 12th Jan 2023  
7.30 - 9.30pm  
Barnabas Centre  
Salisbury Terrace, York  
YO26 4XP



**family**  
matters\_york

This course, led by trained facilitators, will help you to better understand, recognise and manage anger in your family and give you the chance to share your own thoughts and ideas. You will quickly see you're not alone!

For more info contact Jen Wootten  
Tel: 07393 147259  
Email: [jenwootten@fmy.org.uk](mailto:jenwootten@fmy.org.uk)

# TIME OUT FOR PARENTS: HANDLING ANGER IN THE FAMILY

4 Monday sessions  
Starting 16th Jan 2023  
12.45 - 2.45pm  
Clifton Children's Centre,  
Kingsway North, York,  
YO30 6BF



**family**  
matters\_york

This course, led by trained facilitators, will help you to better understand, recognise and manage anger in your family and give you the chance to share your own thoughts and ideas. You will quickly see you're not alone!

For more info contact Jen Wootten  
Tel: 07393 147259  
Email: [jenwootten@fmy.org.uk](mailto:jenwootten@fmy.org.uk)



# TIME OUT FOR PARENTS: CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

5 Thursday sessions  
Starting 12th January 2023  
9.30 - 11.30 am  
St Lawrence's CE Primary  
School  
Heslington Road, York  
YO10 5BW



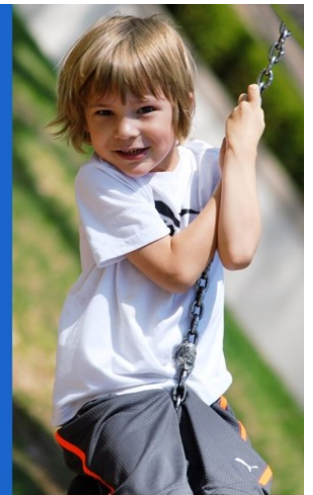
**family**  
matters\_york

Come along and share ideas and experiences with other parents. Learn from each other and from our evidence-based course material. Understand more about some of the particular issues involved in parenting a child with additional needs, helping you and your child to thrive.

For more info contact Jen Wootten  
Tel: 07393 147259  
Email: [jenwootten@fmy.org.uk](mailto:jenwootten@fmy.org.uk)

# TIME OUT FOR PARENTS: THE PRIMARY YEARS

5 Thursday sessions  
Starting 12th Jan 2023  
7:15 - 9pm  
Online via Zoom



**family**  
matters\_york

Join us in discovering ways to better support your child as they grow. This course uses evidence based information which will help you understand your child as they begin to learn how the world works and how to manage their feelings. It's a great opportunity to share ideas with other parents and learn that you're not alone!

To book a place or for more information contact Jen Wootten  
Email: [jenwootten@fmy.org.uk](mailto:jenwootten@fmy.org.uk) Tel: 07393 147259