

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021

2021/22 Newsletter No: 13

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 @RalphBPSch\_York

 [www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk](http://www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk)

### Headteacher's Message

As this autumn term draws to a festive close, there is much to be celebrated. The children have been able to settle into a school way of life that has, on the whole, looked a lot more 'normal' to that of the previous 20 months. There is an inspiring, positive buzz and a welcoming warmth across school, with wonderful, interactive teaching and learning taking place. The children are keen to show and talk about what they are learning and are clearly proud of the steps of progress they are continuing to make. They are working, playing and generally enjoying school with enthusiasm, determination and a positive attitude.

None of this is possible without the fantastic support of our parents/carers; thank you so much for engaging with us so positively, as we work together with best endeavors to support every child to achieve well, feel good and to shine in their unique ways. We are really looking forward to a time, hopefully in the not too distant future, when you can come into school again; we would love for the children to be able to share some of their achievements with you in the spring term, Covid-19 allowing.

The work of our PTA has been phenomenal once again, as I am sure you will agree when you see the total of funds raised this term alone. Thank you for supporting these events; one way in which some funds are being used is for every teacher to have the opportunity to work with their class on what their children would like that benefits them specifically, which is really special. On a bigger scale, we are very excited that the PTA will be able to support our whole school development plans, including looking to make our playtimes more engaging and also to create a library.

I am sure you would wish to join me in also thanking our staff for their work and care, in a term that has continued to have challenges far beyond the usual demands of the job. Staff have been just amazing, coping in the absence of colleagues, such as teachers working to provide remote education, sometimes for multiple classes, in addition to teaching all day. There is never a complaint or a grumble, just a passion for ensuring children are well looked after and receiving the best possible support and education, both at home and in school. I must take this opportunity to specifically mention, and thank, Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Richardson and Mr Wright who have provided supply cover, in some cases daily, since September. This has provided consistency for the children, for which we are very grateful, and these teachers really have been brilliant members of the team, albeit on a temporary basis.

I am delighted that this week we were able to offer the children a wide range of festive activities, including providing an opportunity for you to enjoy seeing your child(ren) singing on the playground. Hopefully this made you smile and gave you a warm glow; the children loved sharing these songs with you and it felt very magical.

For a prolonged period of time now, circumstances have been so very challenging for everyone, in many different ways; whether or not you celebrate Christmas, I do hope that this time of year can be a peaceful and enjoyable one for you. And once again, thank you, for the wonderful ways in which you contribute to our most special school community.



## Covid-19 Test & Trace

In a change from pre-September 2021, schools no longer carry out contact tracing; this is completed by NHS Test and Trace only. Therefore, if your child is deemed to be a close contact, you will be contacted directly by them in the days following a confirmed positive PCR test. It is also important therefore to emphasise that if your child does test positive for Covid-19, you must inform NHS Test and Trace of the children your child has been in contact with at school.

As per updated guidance (from 16<sup>th</sup> December) any pupils, aged 5 and over, identified by NHS Test and Trace as a contact, are advised to take daily Lateral Flow tests for 7 days. Results should be reported online, to <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>. If any of these tests are positive they should self-isolate and parents/carers are to then work with Test and Trace to identify their contacts. As long as they are testing negative, and not showing any symptoms, children can continue to attend school during this 7-day testing period.

If your child does test positive for Covid-19, please notify us at school as soon as you can. It is vital that we are able to monitor numbers of cases effectively and respond in a timely fashion as appropriate. You can inform us via our online absence reporting form at any time, including over the festive break ([click here](#)). Thank you.

## Updated School Menu

Mellors have now produced an updated menu for our return in January. They have adjusted the meal choices to include favourites from previous years and those since September, whilst still adhering to the Food Standards in Schools. We intend for the menu to continue until Easter and then Mellors will once again update the menu with meal choices to capture the season. The menu has been uploaded onto the website.



## Upcoming Events

11/01/2022	Year 6 Information Meeting 6pm
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## PE News



As a school we would like to say a huge thank you to our PE specialist, Abi Topliss who has been in school every Thursday throughout the Autumn term supporting the teachers and children during PE lessons. Abi has been amazing and put a lot of time and effort into the dance club who took part in the dance festival in November. From January Abi will be working full time for create development to further her career through a different avenue. **Thank you, Abi.**

## Virtual Competition Results

We have entered a lot of virtual competitions this term. Below are the results of how we have scored overall for the east of York.

**Y3/4 Archery** - York East - 3rd place



**Y5/6 Tri Golf** - York East- 3rd place

**Y3/4 Tri Golf** - York East- 8th place



**Y5/6 Cooper run** - York East - 3rd place

**Y3/4 Cooper run** - York East - 4th place

**Y1/2 Cooper run** - York East - 1st place



**Y5/6 Squat Knees Raises** - York East - 3rd place

**Y3/4 Squat Knees Raises** - York East - 3rd place

Well done everyone!  
Mrs Atkinson, PE Leader

## E-Safety at Christmas

As Christmas is getting closer, children and young people all over the country will be writing lists to Santa or giving hints about what they would like under the tree.

Technology is now an extremely popular item on many children's lists with tablets, smartphones, game consoles and smartwatches likely to be asked for this year.

Whilst we want children to enjoy their presents, it is also important that parents/carers look at ways to ensure that their children use these devices safely. This includes setting parental controls and understanding that video games have PEGI ratings similar to the classification for films. Other things that you may want to consider is managing screen time so that you can monitor the amount of time being spent on each device. This is useful for meal times or during the school holidays.

Finally, once the tinsel has come down and we welcome the New Year, please make sure that you talk to your children about online safety.

For support and advice please go <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

**Mrs Stephenson**



## EYFS

This week got off to an exciting start when we sang to our grown ups on the playground.

Thank you for your support. It was the first time the children have sung to an audience and we couldn't have been prouder of how well they managed it. We even added some cheeky dance moves in!



We had a blast at this year's Christmas party. The children enjoyed playing games such as musical statues and Christmas corners. Pass the parcel was definitely a highlight! We had a good old boogie session to our favourite Christmas tunes and ended the party with a surprise video message! Santa had heard about our party and wanted to send his love and some early Christmas presents to our children as they have been so very good this year!

In addition to all the wonderful Christmas craft activities the children have been consolidating their knowledge of numbers to 6 and the sounds they have learnt so far in phonics through lots of Christmas themed activities.

The children have worked incredible hard, through a term filled with surprises and we would like to take this opportunity to say a massive well done. They are all super stars and we wish you a wonderful Christmas together.

Thank you for all your kind wishes and gifts, the team really appreciate it. It is truly a pleasure to teach your children.



**Miss Knowles, Mrs Greenwood & the EYFS team**



## Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

The children have thoroughly enjoyed a busy week in the lead up to the end of term. During the week, they have enjoyed a range of Christmas themed activities including using their number skills in maths to solve mysteries and Christmas themed writing activities.



All children had great fun making their own Christmas party headbands and then enjoyed playing party games, dancing and playing a class game of pass the parcel. They have also been amazed to receive a special message from Father Christmas, dedicated to Ralph Butterfield, and a present for each child (sent by magic dust). We would like to thank the PTA for helping Father Christmas with this special gift delivery.

We hope you have all enjoyed receiving our class nativity plays...as much as we enjoyed filming them! We're sure your family will love to watch the children performing and singing while they retell the Christmas stories. The children have also relished the opportunity to perform a selection of their nativity songs to you on the playground this week. Thank you for your support at these times.



Over the Christmas holidays, you may want to take the opportunity to continue to use our online provision. As a reminder, your child has an account and levelled activities on,

**Phonics Play** - <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

Username – ralph1

Password – Butterfield

**Bug Club** - <https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>

Your child will have their own unique login details.

**Numbots** - <https://play.numbots.com/#/intro>

Your child will have their own unique login details.

**TT Rockstars** - <https://trockstars.com/>

Your child will have their own unique login details.



We wish you all a Happy Christmas, a restful holiday and look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

**Mrs Robinson, Mrs Reeves and Mrs Atkinson**



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

What a magical week and a great end to the autumn term!

The children in year 3 and 4 have enjoyed a mixture of seasonal activities this week, including participating in party games, getting creative making window decorations and competing in friendly quizzes. The children's Christmas cracker jokes that they wrote for their homework were amazing and they created great outbursts of laughter in all of the classrooms when we shared them on during our Christmas party.



The children have completed two page spreads on their Ancient Egyptians topic, 'All wrapped up' and the science topic 'Animals including humans' this week. They did amazingly, sharing their knowledge and recalling information that they have learnt throughout the term. They included fantastic drawings, labelled diagrams, bullets points of key information and the presentation skills were great. The children really impressed us with how much they had remembered and the wonderful details that they recalled.



Well done Year 3 and 4 for a great last week of the autumn term!

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday!

**Miss Hodgson, Mrs Greenwood and Miss Clapham**

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



In order to prepare for our end of term carol service, we have learnt and practised some new songs which we have enjoyed performing to our families/carers. We were proud of the children's performance. It was lovely to see all your smiling faces.

For our final week of the term, we have learnt some new sewing stitches and used these to make a decorative Christmas tree hanging ornament. Throughout this experience, we have learnt the value of patience and resilience.



After all our hard work this autumn term, we all enjoyed having the opportunity to relax and spend time with friends across both year groups during our Christmas party.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a relaxing holiday. Thank you for all your cards, gifts, kind messages and support throughout the term.

*Merry Christmas*

**Mr Daniel, Mrs Stephenson, Mr Tod & Mrs Walker**

## PTA



Thank you, we have had a fabulous term and raised an amazing **£4,036** for the school. I really want to say a huge **thank you** to the PTA members who give their time and effort to the school so much.

£145 Bag2School	£465 Break the Rules Day
£120 Stikins label commission	£71 Pumpkin Carving Competition
£250 Company Donation from Aire Logic	£350 Christmas Film Night
£538 Christmas Cards and Gifts	£850 The BIG RB Christmas Prize Draw
£646 Christmas Eve Treat Bags	£228 Hot Chocolates after school
£124 Second Hand Uniform sale	£249 Chocolate tombola

But it is not always about raising money, it is also about trying to organise fun events that the children will love and even though we haven't been able to have a Disco or Christmas Fair this year, we have organised a few nice events and treats. ***Have a truly wonderful and restful Christmas.***

### Save the Date in 2022...

Friday 28th January

**BREAK THE  
RULES  
DAY**



Thursday 10th February

**YEAR 1-2  
FILM NIGHT**



Friday 11th February

**BAGS 2  
SCHOOL  
COLLECTION**



Monday 21st March

**QUIZ NIGHT  
at the Parvin  
Restaurant**



Thursday 24th March

**MOTHERS DAY  
SECRET  
ROOM**



Thursday 31st March

**DISCO**

