




# Ralph Butterfield Primary School School Newsletter



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

2021/22 Newsletter No: 1

 01904 768325

 @RalphBPSch\_York

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

## Headteacher's Update



Hello and welcome to our first edition of the Ralph Butterfield Primary School newsletter of the new school year! I am sure that you have been missing your children after time spent with them throughout the summer break, but it has been wonderful to have them back in school! I am delighted to share that, whilst there will always be children for whom it is more challenging returning to school, our school is full of happy, positive children who are enjoying time with their friends, and yes, although they won't always admit to it, enjoying their learning!

### Working Together

We are, of course, monitoring and supporting all of the children with their emotional and academic needs; it is really important to us that our whole school community works as a team, so that we are always able to give children the best possible provision for their needs. Please remember that we are very approachable here at school and we look forward to working closely with you, in the best interest of your child(ren), throughout the coming year: you can share quick messages with adults on the playground at drop off/pick up, visit the office, email us ([ralphbutterfield.school@york.gov.uk](mailto:ralphbutterfield.school@york.gov.uk)) or telephone (01904 768325 option 3).

### Covid-19

When a child has tested positive for Covid-19, we will notify all the parents/carers of children in that class, that this is the case. This week, we have had 3 positive cases in Key Stage Two and the parents/carers were notified accordingly. We all wish the affected children and their families well. I would just like to share a reminder that we do have an outbreak management plan, that we would use if the number of positive cases reaches particular thresholds; this can be viewed on our school website in the 'News' section. Detailed in this plan are the additional measures that would be considered, in consultation with Public Health.

### Drop off/Pick up times

Thank you for supporting us by waiting in zones at drop off and pick up times, as this helps with a more effective use of the playground space. If you have more than one child, please use the zone nearest your youngest child's classroom in the first instance. It has also been great that so many parents/carers are utilising the 10 minute window of time in the morning (08:45 – 08:55) and arriving at the latter end of this; thank you. At the end of the day, as mentioned, it helps to utilise the zones.

### Parents' Evenings

Next week you will receive a letter detailing arrangements for our first parent/carer and teacher meetings of the year. This first one is an opportunity to chat about your child's wellbeing, how they have settled into working, and their interactions with others. These particular meetings are ten minutes in length but wider conversations can be arranged for other times (remember – we are always approachable!). In response to your survey feedback after the online meetings in lockdown, we will be offering parents/carers a choice of either a face to face or an online meeting. The success of this will then be reviewed in time for our spring term meetings.

### Thank you for bearing with us

Thank you for bearing with us whilst our catering team find their way with the new catering company and settle into new routines and procedures. I can confirm that the food looks (and smells) absolutely delicious and it has been wonderful to see SO many choices on offer for the children. It is unfortunate that additional challenges have presented themselves, including key kitchen equipment breaking down. We have also had some issues around deliveries, as other sectors are also experiencing at the moment. We do appreciate how frustrating unexpected changes can be for our families; thank you for patience and your understanding that when circumstances beyond our control emerge, we do make best endeavours with what we have. The change to meal options is temporary and we are doing all we can to ensure it is for as short a time as possible.

I hope you enjoy reading all about what our children have been doing across the school and don't forget to follow us on Twitter (@RalphBPSch\_York) for snippets throughout the week.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend (hopefully some of this lovely sunshine will stay with us).

Liz Clark



## Upcoming Events

27/09/21	Donations for Carecent
05/10/21	Year 6 Robinwood - Parent/Carer Information Evening (5:30pm)
11/10/21	Parent Teacher Association (PTA) AGM (9am)
w/c 11/10/21	Parents' Evening Week - online appointments
w/c 18/10/21	Parents' Evening Week - face to face appointments



## School Wellbeing Service



We'd like to draw your attention to The School Wellbeing Service (SWS) which works alongside our school. School Wellbeing Workers (SWW) are managed by the Local Authority (LA), clinically supervised by Child Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS), and linked to a cluster of schools. Their focus is to work with children, young people and school staff around emerging and developing mental health needs. The SWS is in the process of updating their website which can be found on the YorOK website – link : <https://www.yor-ok.org.uk/sws.htm>. This has sections for young people, parents/carers and professionals which link to useful mental health support services, helplines, apps and website. The parent/carers and professionals section also has links to useful mental health training. The SWS website will continue to be updated with further useful information and therefore we are keen to promote this resource with our parents/carers.

Julie Mountain (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant)



## EYFS

Ahoy there me hearties!! We started our first theme this week all dressed up as pirates. We walked the plank and then swam to the bottom of the sea! It was fascinating to hear all the existing knowledge the children had, which will be a wonderful stimulus for our theme 'under the sea'. We are all really impressed with how well our new starters have settled into school life - superstars!

**Miss Griffiths, Mrs Greenwood, Miss Knowles.**



## Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

The Year 1 and 2 children have made a fabulous start to their school year. We have been very proud of how independently the children have approached each day at school and how they are showing great excitement in their learning.



To begin our Autumn theme 'To the ends of the Earth', the children became explorers and searched around the playground to find stickers to fill up their learning journey passports. Then we discussed what each picture represented. For example, a sticker with a picture of 'The Minions' represented 'friendship'. The children really enjoyed finding out what they will be learning this term.

They have already made a great start with their Geography study of polar regions. To begin this, the children rotated around all three key stage one classes to complete polar themed activities. The children learnt about where polar bears and penguins live and completed fantastic craft activities. They also learnt about living in the polar regions in igloos and made their own miniature version. We are looking forward to learning much more about the world and polar regions over this term.



We appreciate support from all parents this week. Please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher if you have any questions or queries.

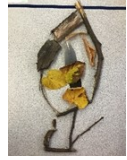
**Mrs Robinson, Mrs Atkinson and Mrs Reeves**

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

What an amazing start to the school year for Year 3 and 4! They have thoroughly enjoyed the practical and group activities they have participated in.



We have done lots of work on our 'All wrapped up' history topic that is based on the Ancient Egyptians. We started the topic by organising a timeline, creating questions based on what we wanted to find out and by looking at some artefacts. We quickly realised that we could find out a lot of information about the past using secondary sources of information.



Art was a massive hit with the children and teachers. Our sculptures topic started by looking at some of the fascinating work created by Andy Goldsworthy, an environmentalist who is well known for his natural sculptures and photographs.



Inspired by his work, we went in search for natural items within the school grounds to create our own mini sculptures. We can't wait to design and make our own more detailed sculptures using a wider variety of natural materials over the coming weeks.



Free code gibbon

Our computing topic this half term has enthused us all. The children have begun to use Free Code Gibbon on Purple Mash to create their own codes. This week's task was to write a code that involved two animals moving across the screen, making noises and colliding with each other. A lot of trial and error took place but the children really enjoyed the challenge.



Well done Year 3 and 4 for a great start to the school year! You have settled into your new classes and routines brilliantly.

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



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



We've kicked off our theme, 'Industrial Revolution' by looking at the work of Lowry and recreating his style of character as we begin to study the landscape of cities at the time.

In science, we have continued to build on our prior learning of living things and their habitats. Over the coming weeks we will learn about how animals can be grouped according to their characteristics, their life cycles and how to identify them using classification keys.

Alongside this, we've used our personal journals to reflect on our own attitudes to learning, thoughts, feelings and emotions as we enter a new school year and in PSHE we have started to look at the different types of loving relationships.

All 3 classes have started working with our sports specialist, Mr Stephenson, from 'Total Sports', who will be working on team building and resilience. Class 10 are also fortunate enough to begin the term working with the PE specialist, Mrs Topliss, on our REAL scheme of work.

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 this first few days.

If you have any questions, queries or concerns please come and speak to us.

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



We have an exciting term ahead of us starting with a **Coffee Morning** to welcome all our new parents/carers with children in Reception, on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October** at 9-10am in the school hall.

It will be a very relaxed event where you can get a tea or coffee and meet other new parents. Mrs Clark and some of her senior leadership team will join us. We hope you can join us and younger children are very welcome too!

We also have a **School Disco** planned on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October** in the School Hall

4.15 – 5.15pm - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

5.30 – 6.30pm - Year 3 and Year 4

6.45 – 7.45pm - Year 5 and Year 6



The cost of the disco is just **£3 per child**, which includes a bag of tuck shop sweets. A letter will come out shortly

Unfortunately, parents won't be able to stay at this event, but for the first disco, as it will be Reception's first big event, we will have a few Reception adults who will stay to ensure they are happy.

Our **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** is planned on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November** at **9am** in the **School Hall**. A letter has been sent out and we would love for you to come along to find out what we do. You may be interested in joining the team or even one of the Officer positions. It will only take around 30 mins.



**Christmas Cards** – We are once again asking children to

design their own Christmas Card (this will be done in school this year and not sent home to complete) which Class Fundraising Ltd then create a proof card which will be safely distributed to you. We ask you then to place an order for Christmas cards, mugs, tea towels, tags etc. The more you order, the more money the school will make!



Finally, the PTA have our own [PTA Facebook Page](#). This is a closed group where you can keep up to date with events, initiatives, second hand uniform sales etc.



**Joanne – PTA Chair**



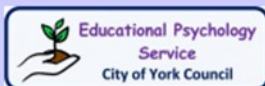
## Music Lessons

We would like to continue to offer 1-1 instrumental music lessons in school and we now have five fabulous teachers who can teach the children a huge array of instruments including flute, clarinet, saxophone, bassoon, trumpet, trombone, horn, euphonium, guitar and violin. If you would like your child to start learning an instrument, you can collect a letter from the office for a part to fill in and return to register your interest. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any more questions about music lessons.



**Miss Griffiths – Music Lead**





### Educational Psychology (EP) Support Line

A confidential telephone support service, staffed by Educational Psychologists, to talk through questions or concerns about children and young people's wellbeing or learning.

Open to all parents/carers of children with additional needs or SEND, living in the City of York, and practitioners working with children who live in/attend an educational setting in York.



Calls of up to 30 minutes, available during term time:

Wednesday mornings 9.30am-11.30am

From 8<sup>th</sup> September - 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021

To book a slot, please e-mail: [EPsupportline@york.gov.uk](mailto:EPsupportline@york.gov.uk)

with your name and a contact telephone number.

On the following Wednesday morning, we will e-mail you with a time slot for your consultation. Booking for each session will close on Tuesdays at 5pm. Spaces are allocated on a first come, first served basis.

*Please note: the helpline offers short slots to talk with a psychologist about particular concerns; unfortunately, within the time available, we cannot advise on complex situations where different agencies need to work together to support a child or young person.*



**Everyone  
invited**



## ECO SATURDAY

**25<sup>th</sup> September 10am -2pm**

**On St Mary's Church Lawns**

**Are YOU worried about Climate Change?**

**How can we make a difference?**

**Come and join the conversation**

**Meet people who can offer some ideas**



**TIME OUT FOR PARENTS: HANDLING ANGER IN THE FAMILY**

**family matters\_york**

**4 Week Parenting Course**  
Starting  
Tuesday 28th September  
12.45 - 2.45pm  
at St. Mark's Church  
Howard Drive, Rawcliffe  
YO30 5UZ

To book contact Helen on 07393 147 259  
or email [helenatkinson@fmy.org.uk](mailto:helenatkinson@fmy.org.uk)  
or for more info visit [www.fmy.org.uk](http://www.fmy.org.uk)

[www.fmy.org.uk](http://www.fmy.org.uk)



**TIME OUT FOR PARENTS: THE PRIMARY YEARS**

**family matters\_york**

**5 sessions looking at some of the issues and how to survive!**  
Starting  
Thursday 23rd Sept  
7.15 to 9pm  
Online via Zoom

To book contact Helen on 07393 147 259  
or email [helenatkinson@fmy.org.uk](mailto:helenatkinson@fmy.org.uk)  
or for more info visit [www.fmy.org.uk](http://www.fmy.org.uk)

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