




Ralph Butterfield Primary School School Newsletter



Friday 22nd October 2021

2021/22 Newsletter No: 6

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 @RalphBPSch_York

 www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk

Headteacher's Update

Hello

What an extraordinary half term it has been again, for our children, parents/carers and staff. The levels of resilience and perseverance, and the patience and understanding, demonstrated by all, has been phenomenal. We have faced challenges that at times have felt insurmountable, but never have been, we have worried as members of our community have been poorly, and yes, at times, there have been tears! But once again, the Ralph Butterfield Primary School community have pulled together, drawn strength and support from each other and as the half term draws to a close, everyone is recovering well and Covid-19 case numbers are low (4 children continue isolation into the holiday week). We will enter the new half term with as much optimism, passion and enthusiasm for what we do, as ever. This is, once again, thanks to you, our parents/carers, for the numerous ways in which you have supported us, and each other, throughout the very difficult circumstances experienced.

We will start, (and hopefully continue), the half term without the additional measures of our Covid-19 outbreak management plan. We are adjusting our risk assessment that we adhere to daily, so that the two pinch points that bring the most children together (indoor whole school assemblies and lunch time) remain under additional mitigation that minimises mixing. Assemblies will remain in phases, not whole school, and in the lunch hall, children will still sit on class tables as far as is practicable. This will be reviewed if we find that we are not seeing further cases of Covid-19 in school as the half term progresses. We also want to enable the best possible chance for all Year 6 children due to enjoy the residential visit in November, being able to go (and the staff!).

As I highlighted last week, this half term has not been all about the Covid management! In classes and through remote education, we have seen children progress and flourish with their work and with their development, in wonderful ways. There has been laughter and fun and children have reported particularly enjoying the sport, the opportunities to be creative and the wonder of the class novels. A teacher visiting our school today commented 'this school has such a positive feel and a real buzz; it's wonderful'. What credit to the children to elicit such fabulous praise, on the last day of such an extraordinary half term!

I wish a lovely half term week for all of our families and we look forward to seeing the children return to school on Monday 1st November.



Upcoming Events

w/c 8/11/21	Robinwood Residential Trip (Yr6 pupils)
12/11/2021	Bags2School Collection

Absence due to illness

Please continue to advise us of any absences via our [online reporting form](#), which can be accessed via the school website (top right hand corner). We would be very grateful for any Covid-19 absences being reported as soon as practicably possible; the form can be accessed 24/7.

'It might not just be a cold' You will have received, earlier this week, a letter from Public Health which requested parents/carers to be on the lookout for additional symptoms in relation to Covid-19. Due to a rise in cases, within York, it is very important that we work together to take these additional precautions in regard to illnesses amongst our children. Please do get a PCR test for your child if they have any of the listed symptoms. Thank you.

COLD OR COVID?

Have you got any of these symptoms?



Runny nose



Continuous headache



Sneezing



Sore throat



Loss of smell (anosmia)



Fever

It might not be 'just a cold'.

Many of the symptoms of COVID-19 are the same as a cold. A positive lateral flow test is highly likely to be true, but a negative result might not be accurate. If you or your child have any of these symptoms, get a PCR test to make sure and help stop the spread of Covid.

To find out more about how to get a PCR test, please visit www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or call 119 between 7am and 11pm.



We ended this half term with a fabulous '**Seasons Week**', taking a closer look at Autumn! The trees are changing around us and the weather has definitely turned much cooler and the children have really enjoyed investigating these changes.



We began the week with a **colour walk**. The children went on an adventure around the school grounds to see how many colours they could find from natural items. They found fluffy, white feathers and rusty red leaves. We hope you enjoyed looking at these colour collections when the children brought them home on Monday.



The children enjoyed manipulating salt dough into cute, **hedgehog models**. It surprised us how the dough changed from soft and squidgy into a heavy, hard material once it had been in the oven. The children entertained us with the adorable names they gave their woodland creatures!

Next half term we will be learning about celebrations and so we ended this week decorating pumpkin models and talking about how some people celebrate Halloween. It was a pleasure to listen to the bubbling excitement about the upcoming holiday from so many of the children.



The children have been very enthused about all things Autumnal and so we have suggested that over the holidays they could collect '**autumnal treasures**'. This can be anything they find on their travels from conkers to pine cones! We will be sharing these treasures with the class in our first week back; we are looking forward to seeing what interesting things your child can find!



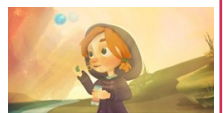
This half term has presented many surprises that the staff and children have had to overcome. We would like to acknowledge in this newsletter just how **incredible** and **resilient** your children have been. They are stars and they should be very proud of how well they have settled into 'big school'. Can we also take this opportunity to thank you enormously for your patience this half term. We are so grateful for your support. We hope you have a wonderful half term together and look forward to seeing you for an exciting half term leading up to Christmas!

Miss Knowles & the Reception Team

Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

Well done to everyone in Key Stage One for a brilliant week and for settling in very well over the last half-term.

This week in English, the children were inspired to write adventure stories by watching the video 'Bubbles'. They enjoyed the idea of floating around on their own bubble and exploring different parts of the world! While writing their own adventure stories, the children have tried to include adjectives in their sentences to describe settings, characters and objects. They have also been ensuring that sentences have correct punctuation.



Our RE lessons this week have continued to explore Christian belief and have mainly focussed on the stories told by Jesus which can be read in the Bible. The children have explored the meaning of these stories, for Christians, and enjoyed retelling them through drama and activities.

We wish you all a restful and fun half-term break and look forward to seeing you on 1st November.

Mrs Robinson, Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Reeves and Miss Keith.



*** A little reminder... Please find/keep a shoe box safe ready for when we need them, after half-term.

Thank you ***

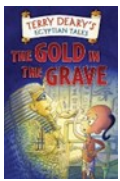
Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

What an amazing half term! Well done year 3 and 4, we are incredibly proud of the hard work, enthusiasm and resilience that you have shown over the last seven weeks.



Our 'All wrapped up', Ancient Egyptian topic has definitely been the highlight of this half term. It is lovely to hear the children talk about how much they have enjoyed history and see the enthusiasm they have for the subject. This week, the children have thoroughly enjoyed our Egyptian engineering challenge of constructing a pyramid from sugar cubes. During this activity, the children demonstrated brilliant resilience and excellent collaboration skills. When set the challenge, they were given no instructions on how to build a pyramid, therefore they had to create their pyramid using trial and error and apply their knowledge of the later forms of pyramids.

Over the half term, we have been impressed with the children's sensible attitude when discussing sensitive topics in PSHE. This week, we have delved further into the various forms of bullying and the children have maturely discussed how to prevent and respond to online and face to face bullying.



The children have also been incredibly engaged with, and enjoyed, our writing over the past few weeks that has linked to our class text 'The gold in the grave'. The children have done extremely well with writing brilliant character and setting descriptions.

We are all looking forward to continuing our 'All wrapped up' topic next half term and we have lots more exciting hands on, cross curricular activities planned.



Have a fabulous half term!

Miss Hodgson, Mrs Greenwood and Miss Clapham.



Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)

This week, we were visited by a local Humanist. He shared a little information about Humanism and the children were able to ask questions. We were incredibly proud of the way in which the children conducted themselves and showed respect to someone else's beliefs.



In maths, we have started to look at short multiplication, including solving single step multiplication word problems.

Well done to all of the Year 5 and 6 pupils for a positive approach to the first half term. We are proud of how they have risen to the challenges they have encountered and shown their ability to adapt and be resilient.



Please contact us or speak to us directly if you have any questions or concerns.

We hope that you all have a relaxing and restful half term break.

Mr Daniel, Mrs Stephenson & Mr Tod

Bonfire Menu—5th November

We will be offering a special Bonfire menu with delicious options on Friday 5th November. Please **remember, remember** to book your child/ren's meal that day to enjoy this treat!



PE—Walk to School Week

Thank you for taking part in the walk to school week; unfortunately we didn't win but the figures really showcase how committed you were to leaving the car behind and walking, talking and singing your way to school!



Collectively with all of the schools in York, you completed **13,204** walking journeys in the week!

Well done and thanks again for taking part.

Mrs Atkinson PE Leader

SCHOLASTIC

We are super excited to inform you that the new Scholastic book club catalogue has arrived and been given to your child today to bring home.

It gives you a brief snapshot of some of the fabulous books that are on offer, although there are hundreds more online to choose from no matter what your interests are or who your favourite author is.

Ordering through our schoolbook club also has the bonus that for **every £1 you spend** it will **earn 20p for school** in Scholastic Rewards, which is amazing, and all rewards are used to purchase new books for school. If you would like to place an order, please visit <https://schools.scholastic.co.uk/ralph-butterfield-primary/digital-book-club> and **place your order online by Sunday 7th November**. Your order will then arrive in school shortly afterwards and be distributed to your child safely. If you would prefer the books to bypass your child and be handed directly to you, please email the office so that this can be arranged. Please do not hesitate to ask Miss Clapham if you have any questions about the book club or ordering process.



Many thanks for your continued support of our Scholastic book club, the children love reading the new books in school that are purchased with the rewards you earn us.

Miss Clapham.

These are the current books of the month for 0 to 15 year olds.





Pumpkin Carving Competition



Boo! It's that time of year. Time to get your pumpkin carving skills ready. This is the second year of this 'spook-actular' competition.

Please carve a pumpkin at home and send a photo of it by email (please no children on the photos), along with child's name and year group, to ralphbutterfield.pta@gmail.com and make a donation by BACS to Ralph Butterfield School PTA (acc no 83116964, s/c 20 98 98, reference: Surname and Class).



Competition closing date is **Sunday 31st October!**

We will ask the School to choose a **1st prize** from **Reception/KS1** and then from **KS2**. Photos will be displayed on our PTA Facebook page and on the school website (without names).



Winners will receive a spooky prize! This is just a bit of fun for Half Term and hopefully raise money for our school. Please join in!

Bags2School collection will be on **Friday 12th November**, from 8.35am - 9.05am in the School playground.



Please keep any unwanted clothing, bags, bedding (not pillows or duvets though), shoes (tied together), hats, scarves, jewellery, curtains, towels and belts.

DON'T FORGET....to keep putting your blue TESCO coins

in our bin, located in EVERY Tesco store in York. We could ● ● ● win up to £1500. Please tell your family and friends too



Thank you for your support and have a wonderful half term break!

Joanne – PTA Chair



A Big Draw to Remember



23rd - 30th
October

 @YorkArmyMuseum

Come join in our 'Big Draw' for Remembrance Day 2021.

We've a huge canvas for people to doodle and draw memories, reflections and words of respect. Add a poppy, be inspired by our display and archive or something else.

 yorkarmymuseum.co.uk

 01904 461010  3 Tower St, York YO1 9SB

**YORK ARMY
MUSEUM**

TIME OUT FOR PARENTS: HANDLING ANGER IN THE FAMILY

4 Week Parenting Course
Starting
Tuesday 9th November
9.30 to 11.30am
at Hob Moor Children's
Centre, Green Lane, Acomb,
York, YO24 4PS

To book contact Helen on 07393 147 259
or email helenatkinson@fmy.org.uk
or for more info visit www.fmy.org.uk

www.fmy.org.uk

TIME OUT FOR PARENTS: HANDLING ANGER IN THE FAMILY

**4 sessions on managing
our anger and our
children's anger**
Starting
Tuesday 9th November
7.15 to 9pm
Online via Zoom

To book contact Helen on 07393 147 259
or email helenatkinson@fmy.org.uk
or for more info visit www.fmy.org.uk

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