




Ralph Butterfield Primary School

School Newsletter



Friday 8th October 2021

2021/22 Newsletter No: 4

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 www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk

Headteacher's Update

Good afternoon

I always hope this newsletter finds our parents/carers well and looking forward to catching up on some school news. It has been a very challenging few weeks for many of our families and for school; I would like to repeat our heartfelt thank you to parents/carers for the incredible patience, understanding and support you have afforded us throughout this time. We hope that you have also continued to feel well supported by our school.



At the peak of our outbreak of Covid-19, 40 children and 9 staff were isolating. Unless the situation drastically changes over the weekend, we have 5 children isolating and all affected staff members have completed isolation (although some remain poorly and recovering at home). No classes are currently at threshold, and phase one of the outbreak management plan has been in place for well over 10 days. We are therefore in a position to lift the additional measures on this plan, from next week. Please rest assured that many sensible safety measures will remain in place, including adhering to the 4 control measures as set out in our risk assessment: ventilation, frequent hand washing, additional cleaning and keeping up to date with guidance and requirements.

The children have really enjoyed 'break the rules' day today; many thanks to our wonderful PTA for organising this in place of the previously planned disco, and to parents/carers for your donations in support of it. We are also pleased that the PTA Annual General Meeting can still go ahead on Monday (9 am); I look forward to seeing some of you there.

We are still really struggling to recruit new midday supervisors! This role is a wonderful one that I have really enjoyed supporting in the meantime. It is great having chance to interact with our fabulous children when they are on leisure time, and the positive difference that can be made to a child's lunchtime experience is very rewarding. Please help us spread the word that we are urgently seeking people to join our team of midday supervisors; if you or anyone you know is interested, please ask them to contact us here at school. Thank you.



I hope you can enjoy a lovely weekend.



Upcoming Events

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
21/10/21	School Photographer



This week we learnt about the **whale**. We were fascinated to learn just how big the blue whale is in particular – its tongue weighs as much as an elephant!!



We practised our scissor skills when creating a beautiful under the sea scene. This activity provided a great opportunity for the children to talk about the new information they had learned about many of the sea creatures, as they cut them out.

The children have begun guided reading sessions recently and we have been so pleased with how well they have all taken to the stories. The current focus is on their understanding of plot, characters and sequencing the events. This might be something you would like to explore at home too.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support. It is greatly appreciated.

Many thanks,

Miss Knowles & the Reception Team



Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

A super week in Key Stage One with lots of amazing work, but first we just wanted to say a massive well done to all the children, who although routines and people around them may be slightly different, they are all continuing to amaze us with their resilience and can-do attitude! Well done everyone!

This week in English, we have been learning all about instructions, what we use them for and how to write them. We have learnt to use time connectives and imperative 'bossy' verbs as well as numbering our short and clear sentences. Their skills have blown us away, as they have written some fantastic instructions of 'How to make a jam sandwich' and 'How to get ready for lunchtime'.



Our classrooms have been very busy in maths this week, as we learnt and developed our measuring skills using rulers. It was great to see everyone using a ruler to measure elements around the classroom as well as using amazing vocabulary to describe the objects they measured.

We put our sewing skills into action this week, from practising last week to making this week. Everyone is seeing their designs come to life, as they sew and decorate their super hand puppets!



Have a lovely, restful weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone for more fun-filled learning next week.

Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Reeves and Miss Keith.

*** A little reminder.... We wanted to give you plenty of notice as we are doing a super fun craft with a shoe box after the half term but wanted to let you know now so you can find/ keep a shoe box safe ready for when we need them.



Thank you

Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

Year 3 and 4 have had a great week and loved learning about Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics in history. We had fun using our skills to crack the code of some messages written in hieroglyphics. In addition, we also learned about cartouches and that these were the special oval outlines inside of which royal names were written. Then after a bit of practise drawing the necessary pictures, we wrote our names in hieroglyphics inside our own cartouches on paper and decorated them carefully. We are looking forward to making these in clay next week too!



In RE we have been finding out how Christians express their faith through music and the songs they sing. We found out about the hymns, songs and music that Christians use when worshipping together, but may also enjoy at home too. We listened to a selection of Christian music and thought about how it made us think and feel and discussed why having different types of music might be important to Christians.



In music, the year 3s have been broadening their knowledge of different reggae music by different artists. We have listened to and appraised another track called '54 - 46 Was My Number' by a group called 'Toots and the Maytals' talking about what we liked or didn't like about the track and picking out what instruments we could hear. Next, we played different rhythm and singing games using Bob Marley's Three Little Birds track to help us. Meanwhile, the year 4s have been improving their musical skills and perfecting playing notes E and D on their clarinets. This can be surprisingly tricky when you are trying to blow through the reed correctly and press your fingers hard enough on the right keys! They have also been asked by Miss Freitas to regularly squeeze a variety of squishy objects to help build up the strength in their fingers to improve their note playing.



Well done Year 3 and 4, you have had another super week!

Please do come and speak to us if you have any questions or queries.

We hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Miss Hodgson, Mrs Greenwood and Miss Clapham



Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)

In our PSHE learning, both in school and at home, we have carefully considered diversity and what this means. The children talked about our diverse society within school and the wider community.



This week, we learnt about the impact and resulting changes that occurred during the Industrial Revolution. We are looking forward to finding out about the lives of children within this time of change.

In science, we have continued to learn about animals; this week we have started to look at the life cycles of mammals and birds. Next week, we will explore and consider how the life cycles of amphibians and insects differ.



Please contact us or speak to us directly if you have any questions or concerns, especially regarding children returning to school after their isolation period.

Mr Daniel, Mrs Stephenson & Mr Tod





We hope to be able to hold our **PTA AGM** which is planned on **Monday 11th October at 9am** in the **School Hall**. We hope you will be able to join us. It will only take around 30 mins. We need people to join the PTA to ensure events can take place which raise money for school.

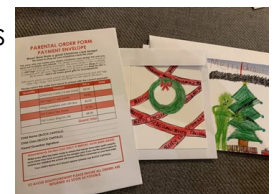
Please join us either as a team member or officer position – you can all make a big difference to the school and meet lots of lovely people.

Christmas Cards

Children will be asked to complete their Christmas Card design for Homework this week. Please ensure these are back to School by **WEDNESDAY 13th OCTOBER** in order for us to get them sent off to create proofs. Once we have each proof, we will send them to you with an order form. Reception children will complete their design in class! All money raised will go towards the school.

Thank you for your support!

Don't forget we have our own PTA [Facebook](#) page too – just click through using this QR code



SCAN ME

Joanne – PTA Chair



Walk To School Week 11th – 15th October

Next week is 'Walk to School Week'. We would like to encourage as many children as possible to walk, cycle or scoot to school during walk to school week and leave the car at home. Active travel to school is the perfect opportunity for children to learn about their local environment and develop their road awareness skills. It also provides an opportunity to get fitter, have fun meeting their friends and arrive at school ready to learn.



Thank you for your continued support
Mrs Atkinson PE Leader





Walk to School Week

11- 15 October

It's #WalkToSchool week next week, so why not choose an active way to travel to school - you could walk, wheel, scoot or cycle.

Help your school to win prizes and a trophy, every journey counts!





30th September 2021

Dear children and staff,

On behalf of us all at Carecent in York, I am writing to thank you for the amazing amount of Harvest gifts you have sent. They will all be very useful in our work. Thank you for bringing them over, with Mrs Clark's and Mr Todd's help. Your support and your prayers mean a lot to us.

As life in York goes back to something more like normal, coronavirus is still a concern for us. Many of our customers have long-term medical problems, so catching covid would be really dangerous for them. Because of this risk we are still hosting our breakfast sessions outside, but we hope that through the winter we will be able to come back indoors in some way.

We are thinking how else we could help. Our friends in Central Methodist Church are planning to offer afternoon sessions. We are also exploring setting up a medical room, so our customers would be able to see a doctor in a setting they are comfortable with. This is an exciting time to be part of Carecent!

Carecent has been running for well over thirty years. We have no funding other than through friends like you. You are helping us to care for people who do not have very much, and we are all very grateful for your kindness.

With kind regards and best wishes,

David Priestnall

David Priestnall
on behalf of Carecent

**Carecent, Central Methodist Church,
St Saviourgate, York YO1 8NQ
Tel 01904 624244 Email admin@carecent.org.uk
www.carecent.org.uk**



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

family
matters_york

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

family
matters_york

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JORVIK
VIKING CENTRE

BLOODAXE BOOK CHALLENGE

Sat 23rd October 2021 to Sat 15th January 2022

Are you brave enough to take part
in Eric Bloodaxe's book challenge?

Read books to collect stickers, get a certificate, and attend an exclusive meet the
author event at Tang Hall Explore library, on **Saturday 19th Feb 2022!**

This year's author is Cat Weldon
Author of **How to be a Hero**
And **How to be a Hero: Land of Lost Things**

MACMILLAN
Children's Books

See library staff to sign up for the Bloodaxe Book Challenge, a partnership
event between the JORVIK Group and Explore York Libraries & Archives.

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