

Friday 15th March 2024

2023/24 No: 23

 01904 768325 (option 3)

 @RalphBPSch_York

 www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk

The following NHS page helps parents/carers by providing guidance on common childhood illnesses: [click here](#)



Headteacher's Message

Hello

This week I would like to provide some clarification for parents/carers around swimming lessons at Ralph Butterfield Primary School. We currently meet the statutory requirement by taking Year 5 and Year 6 children who cannot swim 25 metres or more, for swimming lessons in the summer term. There are many schools who also meet the requirement this way, just as there are many schools who take whole years groups swimming. We do find that the vast majority of children attending our school take swimming lessons out of school hours; we are therefore fortunate to be able to invest the money in a wider range of sports e.g. visiting instructors, taster sessions etc. However, we understand that some parents/carers have a preference for whole year group, regular swimming lessons; as with all aspects of our provision, swimming remains under review. I will let you know of any changes to our swimming provision should there be any in the future.

We are looking forward to seeing Year 3/4 parents/carers at our production of Hoodwinked next week. The rehearsals promise a spectacular performance for all.

I hope everyone has a lovely weekend.

Liz Clark

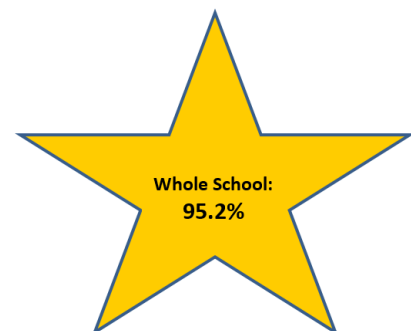


Due to their shape, grapes can be a choking hazard, for younger children especially. We would like to remind parents/carers that it is strongly recommended that grapes are chopped before being sent into school e.g. in pack ups, or as a morning snack. Please chop grapes in half **lengthways** and **ideally in quarters**. Thank you.

This Week's Attendance

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



Thank you for supporting your child to attend school as much as possible.



Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

This week has been 'The Three Little Pigs' week.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring building houses with a range of large construction materials and then using these to act out the story in our outside classroom. These have been fantastic! We have also created our own story using our developing writing skills, used a magnetic theatre to act out the story and explored the properties of different materials (sorting these into hard and soft materials).



Our phonics lessons, this week, have consolidated the teaching of a range of digraphs. We have practised reading and writing words with multiple digraphs, for example, **rub**bb**ish** and **far**mm**er**. We have also practised reading longer words containing the ending **-ing**. To do this, we practise reading the 'root word' **look** and then sound out and blend the ending **i-ng**. After splitting the word up to sound it out in two parts, we then blend the word altogether, for example, **l-oo-k-i-ng = looking**. This can be practised on our weekly phonics home learning sheets.

In **Maths**, this week, we have begun to understand the composition of the number 10. To do this, we have played games with a partner to match up number bonds to 10. During our independent learning time,

This week, the children enjoyed a walk into Haxby to study the signs of spring, as part of National Science Week. Even though it was a wet morning, the children still saw lots of signs of spring. We spotted new buds on trees, blossom, daffodils, tulips, very busy birds, changeable weather and plants beginning to grow. The children were all brilliant on the walk, looking after each other and following the rules to keep safe. Well done everyone!



Also, as part of science week, we have investigated which materials are strong enough to build a house and which blow down easily. The children experimented by using a range of materials. They had lots of fun!

Reminder

Next week, **Class 1** will be visiting Haxby library to change their books. Please remember to put the books and the library card in your child's book bag. If Class 2 children would like to return/exchange their books, please pop into any local explore library. Thank you.



Thank you for sharing the activities which the children enjoy doing outside of school. It is lovely to see their interests. This week, if your child has been out and about in our local area, we would enjoy seeing what they found.

Please do speak to us if you have any questions or concerns

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





Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

The children have all worked extremely hard this week as we near the end of a short but busy half term. The children truly shone as they displayed their independence and resilience in their learning and all staff were impressed and proud of them. There was lots of fun and earlier in the week, the children made Easter cards with lever and hinge mechanisms. As a group, we read instructions on how to make the cards, using a template, and how to attach the split pins to make the cards move correctly. The results were amazing and the children loved making them. They were then inspired to write their own sets of instructions, using photographs of the process. They applied all of their knowledge about the features of instructions, including the use of time connectives, imperative verbs and adverbs to create a sequence of clear, concise commands.



This week has been British Science Week. We loved conducting an “eggsperiment”, in which we had to test different materials to see which would make the best crash mat to protect Humpty Dumpty as he fell off his wall. There were lots of opportunities for us to practise our science skills, including making predictions, discussing fair tests and drawing conclusions from our results. The outcome was clear: bubble wrap made the best mat because of how it cushioned his fall and didn’t cause him to break, unlike the wood, fabric and plastic. On Thursday, we had a special visitor in assembly. Dr Mason is a real scientist and she amazed us with a series of science demonstrations, including burning holes in paper with kinetic energy and using chemical reactions to change the colour of liquids and create a foaming “elephant toothpaste” mixture.



This week in art, we started to look at sculptures and the way that they can convey a mood or idea. We learned about two famous sculptors: Barbara Hepworth and Andy Goldsworthy. We thought like art critics as we explored pictures of sculptures and thought about the materials and techniques used, as well as what they made us think of and the meaning behind them. After that, we practised some of the techniques involved with sculpting for ourselves, including rolling, weaving and plaiting. We practised using playdough, ready to design and make our own sculptures next week. Well done Key Stage 1. Keep up the good work into our final week next week!



Mr Merrall, Mrs Atkinson and Mrs Reeves





Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

A buzz of excitement has been building in Lower Juniors this week as the children entered their final week of rehearsals for their eagerly anticipated performance of Hoodwinked. Alongside this, the children have been busy in other areas of the curriculum too!



8-17 March
British
Science
Week
2024

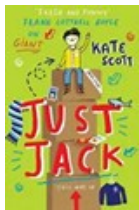


This week has been British Science Week with the overarching theme of 'Time'. The Year 3 and 4 children focused on nature and how, over time, areas can be developed and improved to encourage wildlife. To begin with, we discussed how everyone has a responsibility and an important role to play in looking after our planet and the plants and animals living on it. The children agreed that by working together, humans really can make a huge difference! Then, the children were posed the following questions: 'Can you imagine a better future for nature on our school grounds and, if so, what can you do about it? The children have had the opportunity to explore our grounds to see which particular areas are best for encouraging local wildlife to visit. Back in the classroom, the children were set the challenge of identifying an area of the school grounds that could be potentially developed or improved over time in order to attract a wider variety of wildlife to visit us. After some thought provoking discussion with each other, which ranged from bug hotels to bird feeders, the children were then able to use these ideas and suggestions to sketch their own plans showing how these improvements to our school grounds might look going forward.

In R.E. this week, continuing on with our 'Life is a Journey' theme, the children have been learning about how Jewish children mark becoming an adult. In general, we discussed some of the positives and negatives of becoming an adult and how their roles and responsibilities might change. The children then learnt about the Jewish ceremonies of Bar and Bat Mitzvah; this included how they prepare for the service, what happens during it and why it is such an important milestone in a Jewish child's life. They then all wrote a postcard to a Jewish girl, Me-Me, congratulating her on her Bat Mitzvah and becoming an adult within the Jewish community.



In maths, reading and spelling and grammar this week, the children have really impressed us with their positive attitude and determination when asked to recall lots of information they have been learning about throughout the whole term. Well done everyone!



Finally, the children have also continued to enjoy reading and uncovering more exciting secrets in our class novel 'Just Jack' as well as sharing their favourite 'reading for pleasure books' with their friends.

Please do come and speak with us if you have any queries, questions or would like to share any news with us.

We hope that you have a lovely, relaxing weekend.

Mr Daniel, Miss Hodgson and Miss Clapham



Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)



This week in science, we recalled and recapped our prior learning regarding the properties of materials. Through discussion, we identified that products are made based on the properties of the materials used. We noted that many of our water bottles are made of impermeable, transparent, durable and flexible materials. In additional discussions, we started to consider the suitability, safety and costs of the manufacturing process (e.g. a velvet chair may be more comfortable to sit on yet plastic chairs are easily and cheaply mass produced).

In RE, we learnt that many religions believe in the concept of judgement at the end of one's life. These religions offer guidance on how to live your life and believe that only God can judge a 'life's work'. Christians have different beliefs about what happens when they die. If they have lived a good life, following Christ's example, then their soul will go to a place they call Heaven, where they will be with God.



As part of Mr Tod's maths lessons, children have been comparing and ordering improper and mixed fractions. They used real life examples, such as considering pizza slices, to help them understand the concept. In Mr Bennett's, Mrs Fitzpatrick's and Mrs Stephenson's maths sets, children have looked at algebra including substitution, one and two-step function machines, and formal expression.

Please contact us or speak to us directly if you have any questions, concerns or news!

Mr Bennett, Mrs Fitzpatrick, Mrs Stephenson & Mr Tod



Autism Support for Parents from the Specialist Teaching Team for Autism

Wednesdays Summer 2024



Fortnightly Topic Talks Summer Term 2024:

Sleep Wed 17th April 10-11a.m. online & 1.30-2.30 p.m. in person
Anxiety Wed 1st May 10-11a.m. online & 1.30-2.30 p.m. in person
Managing Meltdowns 15th May 10-11a.m. online & 1.30-2.30 p.m. in person
Transitions Wed 5th June 10-11a.m. online & 1.30-2.30 p.m. in person
Successful trips out Wed 19th June 10-11a.m. online & 1.30-2.30 p.m. in person
Online Safety Wed 3rd July 10-11a.m. online & 1.30-2.30 p.m. in person

Parent Group: Topic Talks virtual (a.m.) and repeated in person (p.m.)

Topic Talks led by the Specialist Teaching Team for Autism, including time for questions and peer support.

Virtual: 10-11 a.m. On Microsoft Teams. Due to confidentiality issues, we will be unable to discuss named children during this time.

In Person: 1.30-2.30 p.m. at The YIKS All About Autism Hub, Clifton Children's Centre, (In front of Clifton Green School), YO30 6BF.

Fortnightly Phone line (mornings) and drop-in (afternoons) Summer 2024:

Wednesday 10th April 9 a.m. -12 noon & 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.
Wednesday 24th April 9 a.m. -12 noon & 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.
Wednesday 8th May 9 a.m. -12 noon & 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.
Wednesday 22nd May 9 a.m. -12 noon & 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.
Wednesday 12th June 9 a.m. -12 noon & 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.
Wednesday 26th June 9 a.m. -12 noon & 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.
Wednesday 10th July 9 a.m. -12 noon & 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.

Parent/Carer Phone Line and Drop-in

The Specialist Teaching Team Autism are offering parents/carers the opportunity to talk to a member of the team regarding general issues and concerns about children/young people with autism.

Phone line support: 9-12 noon 20 minutes is allocated per phone call.

In person drop-in support. 1.30-2.30 p.m. at The YIKS All About Autism Hub, Clifton Children's Centre, (In front of Clifton Green School), YO30 6BF

To book a 20 minute phone line call or to book your virtual place on a Microsoft Teams Topic Talk session, please email your name stating which Topic Talks you would like to book to: parentcarerautismsupport@york.gov.uk. For phone support, we require your name and a contact telephone number for us to call you. We will send you a time slot for your 20 minute call. If we receive a high volume of requests we may need to allocate spaces on the session on a first come, first served basis. This is an admin email address and we are unable to forward or respond to queries via this email. Bookings close the Thursday before the session. For in person drop-in sessions, you do not need to book and you are welcome to simply arrive on the day. Please be aware, sessions may be busy and you may need to wait to speak to a member of the team.