

Headteacher's Message

Good afternoon

Welcome to our first newsletter of the 2023-2024 academic year. Please do read our newsletter on a weekly basis as it often contains key messages and information not shared elsewhere (we do try to avoid overwhelming parents/carers with multiple individual letters!).

I am sure you will read in the phase pieces, all about how well the children have settled back into school this year – and they really have. It has been wonderful seeing the enthusiasm towards learning and the fun they have interacting with each other at break and lunch times. It really has been a positive start to the year.

Thank you for your support with the reminders shared in the 'Welcome Back' letter, particularly around uniform, which has been noticeably brilliant, and the healthy snacks at break time. Please be aware that we do allow assistance dogs on the playground and you may see one of these sometimes.

All schools have a 'School Development Plan (SDP)' in which there are objectives for the school to work on to ensure they are always striving to improve. We are proud of being a transparent school, sharing openly with parents/carers. Each September, we therefore share our SDP objectives with parents/carers and we share them with the children too. This year we will:

- Continue to research and use evidence based approaches to high quality teaching and learning.
- Review and improve school assessment strategies and systems for the foundation subjects.
- Continue to develop a cohesive plan that ensures children have skills, knowledge and understanding that supports them to succeed in life (cultural capital).

We understand how important it is for parents/carers to have as much advance notice of dates for events at school, as possible. On the next page, you will find a table of dates that we have planned in so far. Upcoming events can also be viewed on the calendar on our school website (scroll down the homepage); you can also access it by [clicking here](#).

When your child is unwell, it can be difficult deciding if they are fit enough for school or not. You may find it useful to read the NHS guidance around this. You can access this NHS guidance by [clicking here](#).

I hope everyone can enjoy the weekend.



Liz Clark



Parent/Carer Information

It is important that we have up to date information on file. Please can you let us know of any changes to contact numbers or addresses for either parent or carer? This helps us to ensure communication reaches all those who require it, both via regular post and telephone calls but also main communications through ParentPay.



Thank you.

This Week's Attendance



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

Upcoming Events

Date	Year Group	Event
Thursday 21 st September	Year 6	Year 6 Parents/Carers' Robinwood Residential Meeting 5:30pm – 6:30pm
Wednesday 27 th September	Reception	Early Years Workshop 2:45pm
Wednesday 11 th October	All	PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM) All welcome 9:00am – 10:00am
Wednesday 11 th October	Reception	Phonics and Early Reading Workshop 2:45pm
w/c 16 th October	All	Parents/Carers' Evening Week (face to face option) Reception – Year 6
w/c 23 rd October	All	Parents/Carers' Evening Week (online option) Reception – Year 6
Monday 23 rd October	Year 3 & 4	Lower Junior Football Afternoon (parents/carers invited) 1:30pm
Wednesday 15 th November	-	Open Event for Prospective Parents/Carers (Reception 2024 new starters) 4:15pm – 6:00pm
Tuesday 12 th December	Reception	Nativity for Reception Parents/Carers 2:45pm
Wednesday 13 th December	Year 1	Nativity for Year 1 Parents/Carers 2:30pm
Thursday 14 th December	Year 2	Nativity for Year 2 Parents/Carers 2:30pm
Monday 18 th March & Tuesday 19 th March	Year 6	Parents/Carers' Evening Week (face to face option) Year 6
Wednesday 20 th March & Thursday 21 st March	Year 6	Parents/Carers' Evening Week (online option) Year 6
w/c 15 th April	Reception - Year 5	Parents/Carers' Evening Week (face to face option) Reception – Year 5
w/c 22 nd April	Reception - Year 5	Parents/Carers' Evening Week (online option) Reception – Year 5
w/c 13 th May	Year 6	KS2 Statutory Test week

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

We are really pleased with how all the children in Reception are settling into their new school and classes. It has been a pleasure to be greeted by all the warm smiles each morning and the children are enjoying exploring all of the Reception areas.



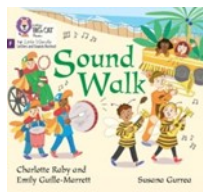
This week, we began our phonics journey and started learning the letter sounds for s, a, t and p. You can view the pronunciations they will have learnt for each of these letters by using this link https://youtu.be/-ZtjFIvA_fs The children have also begun to write these letters by learning a short rhyme (mnemonic). Please refer to your child's home learning sheet, for help with these. We look forward to continuing our phonics learning next week.

In PSED (Personal Social Emotional Development), the children have discussed our school community. There are lots of adults and children to meet. As part of this, the children all went on a walk 'beyond the hall'. We visited classrooms and said hello to children and adults. We all really enjoyed visiting Mrs Clark in her office!



We are really proud of how calmly the children have chosen and eaten their lunches since starting school. They have enjoyed following the new routines and trying new foods. Beef burgers and carrot cake were particular favourites!

In our areas of provision, the children have enjoyed creating pictures of their families, having their eyes tested in our role play opticians, building structures in the outdoor large construction area and learning how to use our sand kitchen. To develop their fine motor skills, the children have also been practising threading skills.



This week, your child has brought home a 'Reading for Pleasure' book and a scheme reading book. The 'Reading for Pleasure' book is for you to enjoy reading together at home. These are changed weekly, on a Monday. The scheme reading books are currently wordless. While sharing this book with your child, please discuss the picture and what the children can see. They can also use the pictures to make up stories. **Both books are due back on Mondays, each week, please.**

We apologise for the delay in setting up Tapestry. This is something which we are keen to set up as soon as possible, once all image consent has been received. Your help in registering for Tapestry is greatly appreciated.



If you would like to discuss anything, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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



Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)



Welcome back to a new school year everyone! It has been so exciting to be able to welcome our new Key Stage 1 classes. We have all been so impressed by how quickly all of the children have settled into their new routines and the effort that they have put into their learning. It has already been an exciting two weeks and we are all so full of optimism for what this new school year will bring.



We started this week with a bang: an exciting day to launch our new topic. We enjoyed the story "Bog Baby" by Jeanne Willis, which is about two girls who discover a magical creature on their trip into the woods. In the story, the girls rescue the Bog Baby and care for it... before realising that the kindest thing to do is to release it back into its home. We spent the day doing all sorts of fun activities, including going on a Bog Baby hunt on the field and using compass points to describe where we found the different

illustrations from the story. We had great fun making Bog Babies out of clay and decorating them with twigs and leaves that we collected from the school grounds. We also created a habitat model for them, which involved painting the inside of a shoe box and then decorating it with leaves, pebbles and shells.

In English this week, we recounted our topic launch experience and wrote about what we did, how we did it and which parts we enjoyed the most. It was clear that the children had loved the day because their writing showed how excited the children were starting this new topic.

On Friday we got musical. The Year 1s all came together to do music with Mr Merrall and Mrs Atkinson. We were learning to "find the beat" to a piece of music; this involved clapping and moving in time to different songs and pieces of music. The children enjoyed moving like different animals as they followed the pulse of the music. The Year 2 children had their very first recorder lesson with Mrs Freitas. Learning a new instrument for the first time is very tricky but the children did so well and impressed us all with their determination. We are all looking forward to seeing how they get on!



Thank you very much to all of the parents who have ensured that the children have all of the things that they need for school and that any items of clothing are named in case they get separated from their owners. We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that all children need an indoor and outdoor PE kit in school at all times. We have also started to send home Little Wandle reading books and homework books. Class 4 and Class 5's 'reading for pleasure' books will be sent home on a Friday, whilst Class 3 will bring their 'reading for pleasure' books on a Monday. Please can we ask that all reading books and homework are returned the following week. If you are unsure about anything to do with home learning then we are here to help! We are always around before and after school to answer any of your questions and further information can be found in the homework letter that was sent out this week.



Well done Key Stage 1! It is fabulous to see you all back in school safe and happy and we are looking forward to continuing our learning adventure together!

Mr Merrall, Mrs Atkinson and Mrs Reeves

Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

Year 3 and 4 have had a fabulous start to the school year! The children have been full of enthusiasm and have thoroughly enjoyed the start of our new topics.

The ZONES of Regulation

The children have had the opportunity to revisit their learning all about the Zones of Regulation which, as you may remember, were first introduced to all classes throughout the school last academic year. They were able to recall the 4 different coloured zones involved and the varying types of emotions each one represents. They discussed that there is no one 'right' zone to be in but that it is important to recognise and effectively manage their own feelings at different times throughout the day, both at school and whilst at home. In their classes, they brainstormed a range of strategies they could use to help us move from one zone to another when necessary to do so. These included reading a book, listening to music, exercising or taking some deep breaths.

In history, there was certainly no tutting, as the children were very excited to discover that they are going to be learning all about the Ancient Egyptians in the coming weeks. The first task was to find out what, if anything, they already knew about this period in history and then, of course, what they really were looking forward to finding out. The children really impressed us with their wide range of interesting and thoughtful questions, which, hopefully, they will be able to discover the answers to by the end of the topic. Using their chronological awareness from previous history learning, such as the Stone Age and the Romans, they were also able to accurately place the Ancient Egyptians on a timeline.



This half-term, the children are very fortunate to be having one of their weekly Physical Education lessons taught by either Mr Stephenson or Mr Walton, who are both specialist P.E. teachers. The focus will be on developing a range of football skills including passing and receiving, running with the ball and shooting. As well as this, they will be improving their tactical awareness and team work skills within small sided game situations. As the grass is often quite wet at this time of year, please can we ask that all children bring a plastic bag to put their outdoor trainers in and a spare pair of school socks.

Key information:

Reading for pleasure books will be changed on:

Class 6 - Wednesday

Class 7 - Tuesday

Class 8 - Wednesday



Reading books:

Children have now also been allocated a reading book which is appropriate to their current reading level. Unlike the reading for pleasure books, which have a designated return day each week, the children are given the responsibility to ask to change their book whenever they have finished reading it. Similar to the pleasure for reading books, each time it is changed, the child's individual reading record will be updated.

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

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 relaxing weekend.

Mr Daniel, Miss Hodgson, & Miss Clapham

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. After a lesson learning to use sketching pencils, we created some of our own versions of Lowry's 'matchstick people' and learnt how to draw perspective.

For the start of the academic year, we have refocused and built on our prior learning of the Zones of Regulation. Throughout the school day, we have opportunities to reflect on how we are feeling and the impact that this has on our well-being. Building on the strategies we have previously learnt, we are continuing to manage our emotions in order to be effective learners.

THE ZONES OF REGULATION®



This week in RE, we started our topic which focuses upon the big question, 'Why do some people believe in God?' We looked at census data for the population of the UK and the variety of responses regarding differing faiths. We learnt about what the terms theist, atheist and agnostic mean.

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

Mr Bennett, Mrs Fitzpatrick, Mrs Stephenson and Mr Tod



York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Children's Therapy Team

Speech Sound Development Workshop

When should I refer a child?

How are speech sounds made?

How do speech sounds develop?

What types of speech sound difficulties do children experience?

What can I do to support a child with speech sound difficulties?

This e-learning session is suitable for

- * Professionals that work with children with speech sound difficulties
- * Parents of children with speech sound difficulties

The course gives a brief overview of how speech sounds are made/develop and advice and strategies to consider when working with children with speech sound difficulties.

Cost: Free; to professionals and parents in the York, Selby, Scarborough, Whitby and Ryedale areas

Date and Time – Friday 13th October 2023 * 9.30am – 11.00am
OR
Date and Time – Tuesday 5th December 2023 * 3.45pm – 5.15pm

For more information to book a place, please contact us at yhs-tr.childrenstherapytraining@nhs.net

Please note this is an interactive session so you will need access to a camera and microphone to participate.

PTA News

Hello everyone and welcome back!



For those that are new - the school PTA (Parent Teacher Association) are a small group of parents/ carers and a teacher representative who organise lots of events throughout the year to raise funds for school. It's a great way to get involved and make a positive impact to school life. We have a [Facebook](#) page - which details all the latest news, and we also use this weekly newsletter.



Annual General Meeting

We have our **AGM** on **Wednesday 11th October at 9.00am** in the School Hall. Everyone is welcome!

This is where you can hear about what the PTA do and how to join the team. A nomination form will come out next week to sign up.

We have a number of committee / team members leaving next year so we really need some new members before they go to pass on all the brilliant work we do. Please come along – we are a very friendly and approachable group!

Ralph Butterfield Primary School PTA



Christmas Cards



I know...I'm sorry! Next week you will receive a template to draw a Christmas Card on, which is a wonderful opportunity for your child to create something special this Christmas whilst also raising funds for School.

You will have a week to complete this and they must be back in school on **Friday 29th September** (the sooner we get the designs in – the more commission we raise!) so get your felt tips and paint ready.



More details will come out with your design template.

Events coming up:

Disco – just finalising the date in October

Playground:

On the first day of term, we were really pleased to support the opening of our new play equipment. The PTA have fundraised and contributed a significant amount to this project which we have been delighted to do! It was wonderful to see how excited the children were.



Stikins Labels

If you need any new name labels...please use **Stikins**



These are fantastic sticky personalised multipurpose labels that you can stick to uniform, water bottle, lunch boxes, shoes etc and they don't peel off after being in the washing machine or dishwasher!

STIKINS offers up to **30% commission** to our PTA when you order using our Fundraising Number which is **16458**. Free delivery is also available.

✓ To order and raise funds for the school, visit: www.stikins.co.uk

✓ Please use our Fundraising Number **16458** when placing your order

You can also find the website on the PTA section of the School website (which can be found in the Community section).

Joanne – PTA Chair



The city of York is getting ready to host its **first ever Health Mela** which is a multi-cultural festival that celebrates health well-being, free health checks, taster fitness classes, diverse entertainment, crafts and delicious food. York Mela is a free event, and is open to anyone who wants to learn more, be entertained and meet new people!

- Date: Sunday 24 September 2023
- Time: 10am – 5pm
- Venue: Artists Garden (at the rear of York Art Gallery)

Highlights of the Health Mela Festival include:

- Health stand: on topics such as mental health, well-being, and preventive healthcare.
- Free Health Check: including blood pressure, BMI calculations, and more.
- Interactive Activities: engage in fun activities designed to promote physical activity and overall wellness.
- Cultural Performances: dance, music, acts, performances that showcase the rich diversity of our community and unique talented local artist.
- Culinary Delights: wide range of authentic and traditional delicious food.

The logo for Community Ties HWCA, featuring a stylized green leaf and the text 'Community Ties HWCA'.

Community Ties Youth Provision

Creative Crafting Club
Tuesdays, 6:00-7:30pm
Wigginton Old School
Ages 8-11

£1 Weekly Fee

Participants must have a registration form filled out to attend

The logo for Community Ties HWCA, featuring a stylized green leaf and the text 'Community Ties HWCA'.

Community Ties Youth Provision

Wednesday Youth Group
Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30pm
Oaken Grove Community Centre
Ages 10-13

£1 Weekly Fee

Participants must have a registration form filled out to attend

[Click here](#) for more information about the Community Ties Youth Provision

HAXBY TOWN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

RECRUITING BOYS AND GIRLS IN RECEPTION TO 1 YEAR

AGES: 4-6

FRIENDLY, ENCOURAGING, WELL-RUN CLUB TO SUPPORT CHILDREN'S LEARNING TO PLAY FOOTBALL, EXERCISE, AND MAKE FRIENDS



CONTACT FOR MORE DETAILS:
CLUBSECRETARY@HAXBYTOWN.CO.UK

TOTAL SPORTS FOOTBALL ACADEMY

2023-24 SEASON



Total Sports Football Academy has sessions for all abilities!!!

- Monday & Wednesday; for players looking to take the next step in their football journey
- First Kicks-Thursday; football for beginners, learning the basics
- Friday Night Footy; simply games games games



Sessions on every week at PlayFootball Roko

- FREE TRIAL SESSIONS AVAILABLE**
- just email to arrange
 - FA Qualified coaches who teach in primary schools

BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW AT;
WWW.TOTALSPORTSLIMITED.CO.UK



CLIFTON CYCLING CLUB



JUNIORS



Suitable for all children aged 8 - 18 years old - just bring a bike & helmet!

Weekly sessions on a traffic free, purpose built circuit. Free parking!

Supportive coaches, who specialise in Road, Track, Cyclocross and MTB.

COME RIDE WITH US



For more information please contact
goride@cliftoncc.org



cliftoncc_juniors



Clifton Cycling Club Juniors



DRAMA KIDS

Offering interactive drama classes we aim to raise confidence, self-belief and creativity.

Our imaginative curriculum incorporates role-play, improvisation and mini scripts to encourage confident communication skills and a positive approach to life.

The Development Through Drama Programme consists of hour-long classes weekly during term time.

Classes in Earswick (Saturday), Wigginton (Tuesday), Acomb (Wednesday), Heslington (Wednesday) 2 Trial Sessions for £20 <https://york.dramakids.co.uk> For more information contact Caryn – york@dramakids.co.uk / 07309 880805

