

Friday 20th December 2024

2024/25 No: 14



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@RalphBPSch_York



www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk

Acting Headteacher's Message

Good afternoon



Well, here we are at the end of the autumn term already. I would like to give my heartfelt thanks to all of you for the support and encouragement that you have extended to me throughout this term.

I would like to say a thank you to our parents /carers for continuing to work with us so openly and for the wonderful support you give to our school in so many ways. It really does mean a lot to us and makes such a positive difference for the children. We are providing your children with a caring and nurturing environment in which your child's personal development and academic progress can thrive. Hopefully over the last couple of weeks you have had opportunity to enjoy a festive activity with us. However, we fully appreciate that this is not possible for everyone. Please be reassured if you (or a family member) were not able to attend, the children have all thoroughly engaged in, enjoyed and been supported by staff and peers alike to enjoy the magical last week of term. The grandparents' Christmas craft morning on Monday was absolutely fabulous, with over 150 grandparents joining us for each session. Thank you for the positive feedback we have received.

We love to get involved in community events whenever we can and have done so this term through the choir singing at the Christmas Tree light's switch on and at Haxby Hall. The children have also shown their support and developed their understanding through theme days/weeks including mental health, anti-bullying and Children in Need. I must also give a special mention in relation to the Carol Services on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. These were simply beautiful, helped of course by the wonderful acoustics and charm of St Mary's Church. A special thank you goes to Mrs Bennett too for all her hard work and the additional hours she has given freely in order to teach the children the songs for all the Carol Services.

We would also like to thank Santa for finding the time, during his busiest time of the year, to visit our Reception and Year 1/2 Christmas parties. The children and staff were so surprised and happy to see him; we wish Santa, his reindeers and all Santa's helpers all the best for next week.

It is important that all staff have a good break this Christmas so that they are ready and refreshed for January. Please be aware that the school telephone lines will be closed from 4:30 pm today and any emails after this time will be responded to from Monday 6th January onwards.

If, over the break, you have a concern that a child is vulnerable or at risk of significant harm, please contact the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) in York on 01904 551900. There is an option for members of the public to press for advice.

I hope that everyone is able to enjoy the festive season in the ways that bring you most joy. We look forward to seeing the children back in school on Monday 6th January 2025.



Best wishes

Helen Stephenson

This Week's Attendance



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

Going to school every day makes it easier for your child to keep up in lessons.

For more information on school absence in York visit:
www.york.gov.uk/SchoolAttendance



Health Watch - York



Attached to this newsletter are contact details and information regarding various avenues of support over the seasonal period. Support can be obtained with: Mental Health, Medical, Food, Holiday Activities, Support for Carers, Bereavement, Warm Spaces and other services.

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



Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

The children have thoroughly enjoyed welcoming the Christmas tricky word elves. They have now said goodbye and are making their way back to the North Pole and our tricky words knowledge is now even better than before! The term ended with such a fabulous array of Christmas activities. The classes enjoyed the Christmas crafts, the delicious Christmas dinner, fantastic dancing and games at the party as well as performing Christmas and Nativity songs on the playground. Lessons and activities this week have all had a Christmas theme to celebrate the season. We are very proud of how well all the Reception children have settled into their first term at school. They enter school with a smile each morning and really enjoy all of their learning. I'm sure you will have seen the progress made in our early reading journey and we look forward to this continuing in the new year, when they begin to learn long vowel digraphs.



Reminder—Thursday 9th January 2025

Class 1 will be visiting Haxby library on the first week back at school.

If children have library books, please do return these over the Christmas holidays before they are overdue!



We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

Thank you for your support during the autumn term.

Mrs Robinson, Mrs Greenwood and the Reception team

Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

Happy Christmas everyone!

It has been a very busy journey but we have arrived at the end of term and can all enjoy a wonderful Christmas break. This week has been the most magical yet with lots of incredible activities, from grandparents' craft morning to the church service. But the children have shone like Christmas stars and ended the term in style.

This week, they have been wowing us with their construction skills, working on wool Christmas decorations in DT. Following the design process, the children looked at pictures of finished products before designing one of their own. They then replicated their design on a section of wood to show them where to hammer the nails. They did this with adult support (you will be relieved to know!) but all managed to hammer the nails in themselves. They then wound wool around the nails several times to bring their colourful creations to life. The children have evaluated their product for themselves but when they come home, I am certain we will all agree that they did an absolutely amazing job!



On Tuesday, the children enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon at the Key Stage 1 Christmas party! The afternoon started in a magical way with a very special visitor indeed. Father Christmas had parked his reindeer nearby and came in to see us all, answering some of our questions and leaving a present for each child.

When we come back to school in the New Year, there will be some changes to the timetable in Key Stage 1 with regard to PE days. Class 3 will have PE on a Tuesday and Wednesday each week. Classes 4 and 5 will have PE on a Wednesday and either a Monday or Tuesday. Please ensure that all kit is available in school at all times and that your child(ren) have both indoor and outdoor kit, as we shall still be doing outdoor PE throughout the winter months. We would also like to remind you to please ensure that all PE kit is clearly named. Please continue to ensure that all reading books, homework and reading for pleasure books are brought back into school on a Thursday so that they can be organised ready to be handed out on a Friday each week.

From all of us in Key Stage 1, we would like to give a heartfelt congratulations and thank you to our wonderful children for all of their achievements so far this year and to all of the people at home who have supported them. We wish you all the very best for the holidays and look forward to seeing everyone again in the new year.

Mrs Atkinson, Miss Griffiths, Mr Merrall and Miss Tattersley



Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

What a wonderful, festive week the children have had in school this week!

In addition to the craft morning and singing on the playground festivities, the children enjoyed their Christmas party which took place on Tuesday morning. During the party, the children played party games and danced to festive songs. Class 7 was open for crafts and a film for those who wanted to participate in calmer, quieter festivities.



In English, the children have focused on using inverted commas to punctuate speech. They began by learning the 'Golden rules' for punctuating speech correctly. Then, they had a go at editing some pre written speech and then finally developed their own speech ideas based on an image of a lego house.

Thank you to all the Year 3 and Year 4 children for a wonderful term and to all parent/ carers for your continued support.

We hope that you have an amazing holiday and enjoy the festivities.

Mr Daniel, Miss Hodgson, and Miss Clapham

Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)

As part of our Design and Technology unit, we have been developing our sewing skills using a variety of stitches: running stitch and blanket stitch. We created some wonderful Christmas decorations as part of Christmas craft morning.



After all our hard work this autumn term, we all enjoyed having the opportunity to relax and spend time with friends across both year groups during our Christmas party.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a relaxing holiday. Thank you for all your cards, gifts, kind messages and support throughout the term

Merry Christmas

Mr Bennett, Mr Carpenter, Mrs Fitzpatrick and Mr Tod

LITTLE LEAGUES FOOTBALL totalsports

@PLAYFOOTBALL, ROKO, YORK

3 WEEKS FREE!!

Football match sessions every week for children in Years 1&2 and Years 3&4 at Playfootball, Roko, York!!

Scan the QR code to book your free taster and for info on times & days

www.totalsportslimited.co.uk

JOIN OUR WEEKLY MATCHES!!

SESSIONS FOR CHILDREN IN YEARS 1&2 AND YEARS 3&4

Join us every week at PlayFootball, Roko, York, for our Little Leagues sessions. Little Leagues is perfect for children who want to play lots of matches and don't want to do a lot of training! We put you into equal teams at the start of the sessions, you then play other teams during the block competing to win the Little League Trophy! Separate sessions for children in different age groups, play matches against your friends every week!! Open to children from all schools and all clubs!!

3 WEEKS FREE!!

JOIN OUR FA QUALIFIED COACHES!

Scan the QR code to book your free 3 week taster and for info on times & days

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GIRLS FOOTBALL totalsports

MAKE FRIENDS!

HAVE FUN!

PLAY FOOTBALL!

@PLAYFOOTBALL, ROKO, YORK

3 WEEKS FREE!!

Football sessions every week for girls in Years 3-6 at Playfootball, Roko, York!!

Scan the QR code to book your free taster and for info on times & days

www.totalsportslimited.co.uk

WEEKLY GIRLS FOOTBALL SESSIONS

FOR GIRLS AGED 7-11

Join us every week at PlayFootball, Roko, York, for our weekly girls football sessions! Perfect for girls in Years 3-6 who want to meet new friends, have fun after school, develop their football skills and play lots of matches! Suited for girls of all abilities and from all schools. Join our FA qualified coaches for fun, friendly and brilliant football activities!

3 WEEKS FREE!!

JOIN OUR FA QUALIFIED COACHES!

Scan the QR code to book your free 3 week taster and for info on times & days

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