

# School Newsletter



Friday 26th January 2024

2023/24 No: 17







The following NHS page helps parents/carers by providing guidance on common childhood illnesses: click here

## Headteacher's Message

Good afternoon

## Important - a change of location for extra-curricular club pick up

We have heard, and agree with, parent/carer voice that waiting to pick up children from an extra-curricular club at the gate by the car park can be unsafe, particularly when there is more than one club. **From Monday 29**<sup>th</sup> **January, please wait on the playground to pick children up from clubs**, entering the large playground via the pedestrian gate that leads onto this (the one with a ramp and railings). You will find this gate is closed but unlocked at the 'end of club' times; thank you for closing the gate after yourself. Please be aware that there may be some teething problems whilst club providers and parents/carers get used to the new arrangement.

#### **Positive Press**

It was lovely to see Ralph Butterfield Primary School in the York Press this week, with a mention for the children's positive outcomes in reading, writing and maths. <u>Click here</u> to read the article.

We also have a mention on the BBC website this week and even appeared on Look North! This was due to the amazingly thoughtful drawings our children created for the #DrawwithDenmark 'Green Together' project last academic year. 15,000 children from UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) creative cities, in 14 countries around the world, sent their drawings to Viborg as part of this brilliant project. From all of these, one of our Year 6 entries was selected as one of only 6 winning entries, with the drawings then animated. These animations were shown at exhibitions in Cali, Columbia and in Paris. We are very proud of Isobel and her beautiful winning entry, now a powerful animation, conveying such a positive message of hope and support for the world. Some of our entries, including Isobel's, are on display at Haxby and Wigginton Explore Library until Easter, if you would like to have a look. They are displayed alongside entries from Lord Deramore's Primary School, who also had a winning entry – well done York! You can click here to read the BBC article and click here to view the Look North piece.

#### **Parent Governor**

The deadline for parent governor nominations was last Friday. I am pleased to share that Mrs Amy Crundwell has been duly elected to the position of Parent Governor and we look forward to welcoming Amy onto the governing board.

I hope everyone is able to enjoy a lovely weekend.

Líz Clark



## Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

you for your support with this at home.

As part of our 'Amazing Animals' theme, this week, we have taken a visit to the desert to find out about the animals that live there. The children have enjoyed our text of the week 'Meerkat Mail' and other desert themed stories and factual texts.



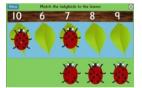
'Meerkat Mail' tells the story of Sunny who decides to explore new places to live. He quickly realises that home is the best place! Inspired by 'Meerkat Mail', the children have written their own postcards to describe the desert and written a list of essential party items for Sunny's welcome home party.



The children are becoming very knowledgeable about the amazing animals which live around the world. We hope they are enjoying sharing this knowledge with you. If you have been impressed by their knowledge and understanding of this topic, we'd love to hear about it on Tapestry.

In **phonics**, this week, the new phonemes learnt have been **ur** (as in curl), ow (as in owl), oi (as in boil) and **ear** (as in hear). We have continued to learn the catchphrases for each new grapheme and these are also on your child's homework sheet this week. More tricky words have been practised and also new words have been sounded out and read. New tricky words are, **my**, **by**, and **all**. We are very proud of how the children are making fantastic progress with their phonics knowledge and reading. Thank

In **maths**, this week, the children have learnt how to make the numbers 6, 7 and 8 using smaller numbers. This helped the children to understand early adding through counting the dots on dominoes and arranging the spots on a ladybird. The children have also investigated pairs through a variety of different activities. They have made pairs with practical equipment, grouping the objects into twos and then counting how many pairs there are. Also, they have enjoyed playing pairs matching games, matching up pairs of socks and jungle animal pairs.



One of our favourite maths games on the interactive whiteboard is 'Ladybird Spots'. This is available free online at Topmarks. If you would like to play this with your child, please follow this link <a href="https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/ladybird-spots">https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/ladybird-spots</a>

#### Reminder

Next Thursday, **Class 1** will be visiting Haxby library to return their books. Please remember to put the books and library card in their book bag. Thank you.

Thank you for your continued support.

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



## Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)



Key Stage 1 have been enjoying their topic "When I was Your Age", which looks at how life has changed over time. After enjoying their work on Victorian toys last week, they read the story "The Old Toy Room" in English. Children sequenced and retold the story, making their writing exciting by adding verbs, adverbs and adjectives to their stories. The stories they wrote were exciting and packed full of detail. In maths, this week, the children have been learning about

time, focusing on units of time, including days of the week. They have also been working on their times table recall and application; we are focusing on the 2, 5 and 10 times tables so please help your children by practising these at home.



After learning about toys in the past, our history work moved on to looking at buildings through time, including schools and houses and how they have changed over the last few hundred years. It was so interesting to see how the design of buildings has changed with the times. In PE, we have been developing our balance and coordination

skills in gymnastics. Using the apparatus the children put their skills into practise by performance different gymnastic shapes. We navigated small apparatus safely with control, thinking carefully about the way we could move both on and around it.





On Tuesday we had a special visitor in school to talk about Sikhism in assembly. It was very exciting and interesting to hear about being a Sikh.

Well done to Class 4 who had their class assembly on Friday. It was a great showcase of all the wonderful work that they have been doing this year, including musical performances by Year 1, who performed the song "Hey You!" and the Year 2s, who exhibited their recorder skills. The children performed, narrated and sang with such confidence, it was amazing to see just how much we have packed into this year already!

Well done Key Stage. You always make us so proud to part of your learning adventure!

Mr Merrall, Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Reeves and Miss Griffiths





## Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

It has been another industrious week in Lower Juniors. In Geography the children concluded their 'Rivers Deep, Mountains High' topic by learning to correctly identify the key physical features of a mountain including the base, summit, face, snow and tree lines and a plateau. They then worked collaboratively in pairs to try match each one of these new pieces of vocabulary with its



correct definition. Using this knowledge, they were then able to complete a labelled diagram, which helped them to embed their understanding further. The children seemed to have really enjoyed this Geography Unit and we have been impressed with their recall skills throughout.

In P.E., all three classes have competed in the Pentathlon virtual competition. It required the children to complete the five activities shown below:

			XI	* *
10m × 10m	Speed bounces	Standing long	Chest push	Vertical jump
shuttle runs		jump	throw	

The children approached each challenge with positivity and determination. Although everyone found certain activities more challenging than others, they all tried their very best in each one. It was lovely to see each child's individual strengths, be it running, jumping or throwing, shining through! Well done, everyone!



In computing this half term, we are learning how to develop a variety of presentation skills using Microsoft PowerPoint. Having created a blank presentation page, the children learnt how to add text boxes and then how to alter the style, size and colour of the font of words within these. They particularly enjoyed experimenting with Word Art. The children then explored the 'design tab' to choose a design they would like to use for their slides about their favourite foods and animals. The children went on to learn how to add media in the form of pictures and sounds effects.

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 an enjoyable and relaxing weekend.

Mr Daniel, Miss Hodgson, and Miss Clapham

## Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)

In English, we have been writing an independent explanation text about the pollination and fertilization process. Children recalled their prior learning in science from last term whilst also including all the English writing features taught. Our particular focus was to make sure that we

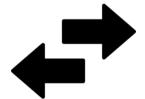


wrote a cohesive piece of writing with a range of varied sentence openers, punctuation higher-level scientific vocabulary and Year 5/6 spellings.

Continuing our learning of light in science, we planned an experiment to be able to explain how shadows change over the duration of the day. Unfortunately, our recent weather has hampered our ability to carry out this experiment. We will keep you updated!



We recalled our prior learning knowing that a shadow is formed when an opaque object is placed between a light source and a surface; the shadow falling on the surface has the same shape as the opaque object. The base of the shadow always touches the base of the object.



In French, we have been learning about how to give directions: turn left, turn right and go straight on. We are starting to learn how to give directions to a friend to move from one area within the school to another. We will eventually be able to give directions from a specific starting point in Haxby to school, explaining which buildings we have passed on route.

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

Mr Bennett, Mrs Fitzpatrick, Mrs Stephenson & Mr Morris





### Can you help?

We've discovered a precious bunny toy and are eager to reunite it with its owner. The fluffy grey bunny with floppy ears and a ribbon bow was recently found in the lost property box, but could have been lost for some time.

If your child is missing their beloved bunny companion, please contact the school office to claim it. We understand the emotional connection children have with their toys, and we want to ensure that this furry friend finds its way back home.

Let's make sure the bunny and its owner are happily reunited!

Thank you.

## PTA News

## **UV Clow DISCO**

We have our UV disco on **Thursday 1**<sup>st</sup> **February**, tickets will cost £3.00 and include some sweets. Vegan sweets will be available, so children can request these. To get the best out of the disco we encourage children to wear, if they have them already, neon colours or white. There will be a few glow items on sale like glowsticks. A letter will be coming out shortly with full details. Please ensure your child brings a labelled water bottle with them.

#### Timings:

4.30pm - 5.30pm - Reception, Year 1 and 2

5.45pm - 6.45pm - Year 3 and 4

7.00pm - 8.00pm - Year 5 and 6



## **Bags2School Collection**

Our next collection will be on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**, from 8.45am - 9.00am in the School playground.

If you are having a sort out please keep – any unwanted clothing, bags, bedding (not pillows or duvets though), shoes (tied together), hats, scarves, jewellery, curtains, towels and belts.



#### **Charity Fashion Show**

We are excited to be collaborating with Haxby Playgroups, to host a Charity Fashion Show with Hearts Boutique on **Thursday 7**<sup>th</sup> **March 2024**.

This will be a wonderful evening where you can purchase some lovely clothes, enjoy a few drinks and all the money raised will be split between Ralph Butterfield School and Haxby Playgroups.

Hearts Boutique offers a fabulous fashionable range of ladies clothing and accessories; having something that will appeal to all styles and budgets. They will also be bringing a selection of homeware items and children's clothing.

Tickets will be £7.50 each, which includes a drink on arrival and there will be refreshments sold on the night (cash or card payments). Doors will open at 6.30pm, with the show starting at 7pm and it will take place in our School Hall.

A letter will be out next week which will detail how to get tickets – we hope you can all attend!

Thank you



All proceeds from the event will go to Ralph Butterfield School and Haxby Playgroups

#### THURSDAY 7TH MARCH 2024

DOORS OPEN: 6.30 PM|START: 7.00 PM
RALPH BUTTERFIELD SCHOOL

TICKETS ARE £7.50 PP AND INCLUDE A DRINK ON ARRIVAL

For tickets, please contact: gracie.k@haxbyplaygroups.org.uk
Payments can be made via bacs: Haxby Playgroups CIO
Acc No: 65856804 Sort: 08-92-99







@ Wiggington Primary School during February half term



