




# Ralph Butterfield Primary School

## School Newsletter



Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

2022/23 Newsletter No: 38

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 @RalphBPSch\_York

 [www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk](http://www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk)

### Headteacher's Message

Good afternoon and welcome to the final newsletter of this academic year!

#### Fond Farewells

The end of a school year always includes some fond farewells, as people move on to pastures new. Of course, this always comes with a mixture of sadness as they leave us, but happiness for them as they pursue new opportunities.

For our Year 6 children, that new opportunity is, of course, secondary school. Many years have gone into preparing them for each new step in their education and this is one of the biggest milestones. We will miss them; we are so proud of how they have come through the pandemic and worked hard to ensure they are ready for Year 7. We wish each one of them the very best and every happiness as they move on.

It is difficult to find the words to write for Mrs Linda Dickinson, who retires on Monday. Linda has been the most wonderful, outstanding teaching assistant and part of Ralph Butterfield Primary School for an incredible 25 years. In that time she has had such a positive impact on thousands of children's education and wellbeing and the lasting effects of this on those lives cannot be overestimated. Linda is looking forward to spending more time with her family and going on adventures, travelling.

We also say farewell to Mrs Julie Mountain, who is taking a new step in her career at a local secondary school. Julie has been invaluable in supporting so many of our children's pastoral needs, particularly in the aftermath of the pandemic. We know that so many children will always remember Mrs Mountain for the care and support they received at their time of need. We wish Julie lots of luck in her new job and we are so pleased that other children will continue to benefit from her expertise.

It is farewell also to Mrs Alison Addison, who has worked at our school for many years, as a midday supervisory assistant and then on the catering teams. Alison has been a highly caring and considerate team member and alongside Linda and Julie, will be much missed.

#### Welcoming Hellos

In September, we are very much looking forward to welcoming new team members. Miss Jen Poulter has worked on supply with children in Reception this year and will continue to do so in September, having been appointed as a Ralph Butterfield Primary School teaching assistant. Miss Emily Addison, whom some of you will know from Kids Club, will be job sharing this post with Jen. We also welcome a new face in Mrs Bibiana Aristizábal, who has been appointed as a teaching assistant and will also be working in Reception from September.

#### Transition Social Stories

Our phase teams for the next academic year (Reception; Key Stage One: Y1/2; Lower Key Stage Two: Y3/4 and Upper Key Stage Two Y5/6) have worked hard to create useful photo stories. Please share these with your child/ren over the summer break to support them with transition and returning to school in September. These can be found on our school website class pages and can be accessed directly through the links below:

[Reception Social Story](#)

[Year 1 and 2 Social Story](#)

[Year 3 and 4 Social Story](#)

[Year 5 and 6 Social Story](#)

#### Term Dates

Term dates are now available for both the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 academic years on our website. You can also access these by [clicking here](#).

#### Thank you

Any school community is very special, incorporating parents/carers, teachers, support staff, leaders, governors, the wider locality, all working together in the best interests of the most important stakeholders of all, the children. But I know that the Ralph Butterfield Primary School community is extra special due to the nature of all of those people working together so efficiently, but more than that, with such genuine care and dedication. As this school year draws to a close, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to every member of our community for the numerous ways in which you have supported our

school to ensure the best possible experiences and outcomes for our children. We are a team, and together we really do achieve so much more. I am looking forward to working with everyone again in September, always striving to be the very best that we can be for your amazing children.

Please be aware that over the summer break, emails will not be seen and phone calls will not be taken from 4:30pm on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July until 9:00am on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

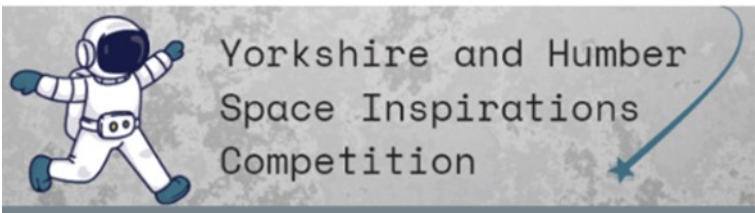
We look forward to welcoming the children into school on the first day of the new term, **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September**. (Don't forget the children are in school next Monday first though!).

I do hope that everyone can enjoy some family time together over the next few weeks.

Liz Clark

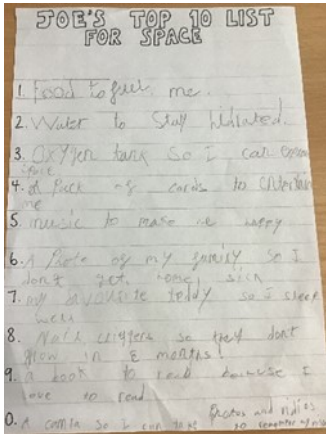


Science Competition



At the beginning of June the children were offered the opportunity as part of their homework to enter the Yorkshire and Humber Space Inspiration Competition. They had a choice to either create a list of ten things to take into space, design a Mars Day Logo or a Space Day Logo for 2024. We had numerous fantastic entries and were really pleased with the effort and thought that the children had put into their designs. **We are immensely proud to be able to announce that we have three prize winners.**

**A HUGE congratulations to Joe, Rudr and Scarlett who won prizes for their amazing entries!**



Joe (Year 2)



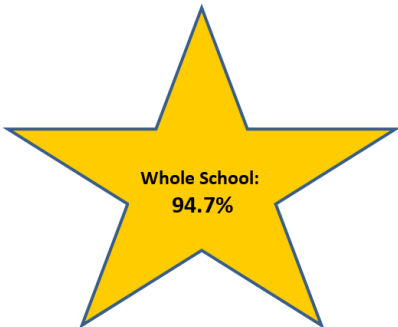
Rudr (Year 3)



Scarlett (Year 1)

Miss Clapham  
Science Subject Lead

This Week's Attendance



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



Menu for Monday 24th July

Option 1: Cheese & tomato pasta  
Option 2: Vegetable Bolognese  
*Jacket potatoes and sandwiches available*

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Dessert: Biscuit

## Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

This week, we reflect on a fantastic year with Class 1 and Class 2. As we write this newsletter piece, we have many different emotions swirling around. We are extremely proud of the progress which every child has made. We feel happy and grateful that both classes have settled so quickly into life at school and embraced the opportunities which have been offered. As a team, we are confident that the children are ready to take their next step on their learning journey into Year 1. However, we are also sad to see the children leave Reception as they have been a joy to teach and work with. Thank you all for your support during the year.



We have all thoroughly enjoyed our first year of phonics and early reading. Following the Little Wandle scheme has enabled our Reception children to firmly embed phonics knowledge. We have been blown away by the progress in reading and writing this year.

This week, the children in Reception have enjoyed reading with some older children. During the first visit, the Year 5/6 children read stories to the Reception children and then on the second visit, they swapped over. It has been fabulous to see the older and younger children interacting with each other and share a love of reading.



In our literacy lessons this week, the children have planned a visit to the beach this summer. We thought about what we take to the beach and then packed our bag. They drew pictures of the items and labelled them. Then they wrote a sentence about what they like to do at the beach. We hope you get to go to the beach during the holidays!

Your child's Tapestry learning journals have now been converted into PDF files ready to be downloaded. These will be a fantastic keepsake of the children's first year in school. This week, you should have received a link from Tapestry to download this document. If you have any difficulties, please let us know on Monday.



*The children have thoroughly enjoyed their library visits and we hope you have enjoyed reading the books chosen. If you have any outstanding reading books, please return these to Haxby Library during the holidays.*

This week, we bid a fond farewell to Mrs Dickinson who is retiring. She has worked in Reception for many years and been an integral part of this year's Reception children's experience. Thank you, Mrs Dickinson, the time, determination and care which you have shown have helped Class 1 and 2 children to reach their potential this year.

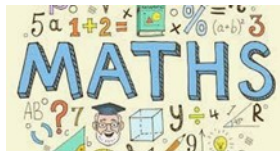
**We wish you a great holiday and look forward to seeing you all (as Year 1s) in September.**

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



## Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

It has been a wonderful journey full of fun, laughter and learning but we are finally here: the last days of the year! What a year it has been too! From Haxby to Antarctica, from the Coronation of King Charles III to a visit from Florence Nightingale: this year has had it all. We are so proud of all of our wonderful children and to have been part of the learning journeys they have all been on!



It has been an exciting last week indeed. In maths, we have all been consolidating our learning with fun activities. Classes 4 and 5 have been using their varied maths skills to solve puzzles and crack mysterious cases. Meanwhile, Class 3 concluded their space adventure: “Rad Gravity and the Chocolate Truffle Trouble”. In this exciting adventure, the children had to help the hero Rad Gravity travel back in time and stop an evil robot’s plan to change time by turning the fruit factory into a chocolate factory. They travelled to different planets and used their maths skills to fix the time machine. Then the story concluded in an epic climax that saw the evil Zanos trapped in his own chocolate truffle! Whew! We are all going to need a summer holiday after all that excitement!

We have also been learning about money skills, specifically how to look after it and make sensible choices about spending it. We learned where money comes from and how we need it to pay for our homes, bills, transport and food as well as the fun things we can use it for. We applied for jobs in the classroom and around the school and some of us even got paid when we did them! What a great way to learn about jobs and employment. The fun didn’t stop there. We made money boxes when we were learning about savings and got a chance to make good decisions about wants and needs when we ran our own paper chain businesses! Each team were given a small amount of money and were tasked with buying the materials and resources needed to make paper chains which could be sold back to the teacher for a profit. It was just like a task on The Apprentice, with the team making the most money being crowned the winners!



On Thursday, lots of us took the opportunity to take to the stage and showcase our talents in the end-of-year talent show! We were treated to a dazzling display of dancing, singing, joke-telling, gymnastics... you name it! It was amazing to see such a variety of acts but even more amazing to see the confidence with which our Key Stage 1 children performed to an audience.

That is it for another year. It was sad to say goodbye to some of our children as they left for Key Stage 2 but we let them go with pride as they take the next steps on their learning adventures. For our Year 1s, this is an exciting step as they become the most senior children in Key Stage 1. We are so proud of everything that our wonderful children have achieved this year. Well done everyone. Enjoy your very well-earned rest and we look forward to seeing you after the summer.



**Mr Merrall, Mrs Atkinson and Mrs Reeves**



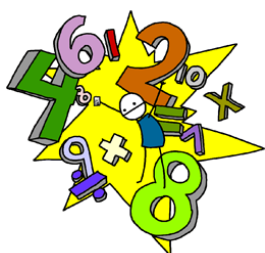
## Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

What a superb last full week of the school year!



In PSHE, we have continued to delve into 'Economic Wellbeing' and careers. The children read the description of numerous jobs, which included a pharmacist, nursery teacher, electrician, paramedic, construction worker and librarian. Then, the children worked collaboratively to discuss the skills these jobs needed such as being caring, good communication skills, resilience and teamwork. They found that multiple jobs required the same skills. Once we listed various skills a job may require, the children picked out the one they believed were relevant to the jobs they wanted to do in the future.

Our RE topic this half term has been all about why people pray and how prayer is observed in the Christian, Hindu and Muslim faiths. After learning about the rituals, special objects and traditions, we read prayers and watched short clips of each one. We then compared the three prayers and identified the similarities and difference between the religions and how they pray.



In maths, all three classes have rounded off the year by looking at data handling. They have delved into different forms of graphs, including pictograms, bar charts and line graphs. The children have had a go at both interpreting graphs and constructing their own. Later in the week, they used all of their maths knowledge, calculation and detective skills to solve maths mysteries. Working collaboratively, they completed a series of calculations to solve clues to give them answers which helped them to deduce the final answer to a mathematical conundrum.



The children's creativity has continued to shine through this week whilst creating their year overview. After discussing all of the wonderful things that they have taken part in and achieved this year, they created their own A3 artistic spread of the best bits of the year for them. It was brilliant to see full pages of annotated drawings.



An absolutely fabulous year, WELL DONE Year 3 and 4!

We hope that you have an enjoyable weekend and if we don't see you in person on Monday we wish you a lovely summer holiday.

Mr Daniel, Miss Hodgson and Miss Clapham

## Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)

### Year 5

Once again, our Year 5 children have had a great week and had lot of laughs and fun too. It has been lovely to see how they have matured this year. We are looking forward to them being excellent role models for our younger children next term and taking on the extra responsibilities that come with being a Year 6. We look forward to seeing them all back with us in September.

### Year 6

It is time, once again, to say goodbye to our Year 6 children. And, once again, we are really sad to be doing so. This year's leavers have worked incredibly hard with self-motivation, determination and a high level of resilience. We have enjoyed our transition work with the help of Matt Messias and our visits to our secondary schools. The children have also had a lovely time walking down memory lane, reflecting upon their time at Ralph Butterfield Primary School before writing about their funniest, scariest, happiest, proudest etc.... memories.

It has been our pleasure to work with these Year 6 children and individually, every one of them has so many achievements to feel proud of. Of course we will miss them, but it is also with joy that we can say they are ready to go and succeed at secondary school. We wish them all well and hopefully we will continue to hear how they are getting on in the future.



To all parents and carers, we would like to say a heartfelt thank you for all your support and positivity throughout the year for us all.

We all wish you a happy and restful summer.

**Mrs Barker, Mr Bennet, Mrs Craig, Mrs Fitzpatrick, Miss Gibson, Mr Gallagher, Mrs Mountain, Mrs Stephenson & Mr Tod**

# Goodbye & good luck



## PTA News

We have had another wonderful PTA year!

The events wouldn't happen without volunteers and I would like to say a huge thank you to the PTA team who choose to give their time, ideas and energy to ensuring we can run nice events for the children. It does really require a team effort to put on events so we need parents and carers to step forward to give some of their time for this to continue.

I would like to say a special thank you to Lindsey Houston, Clare Parr and Caroline Carter as committee members – the amount of time and effort they give is extraordinary. Also, goodbye and thank you to Caroline, who after 12 years on the PTA has her final daughter leaving school. Caroline's contribution to the PTA and to school life has been tremendous – she has owned Christmas cards for many years – making thousands for the school just by herself, plus been part of every event in some way. She will be very missed, but no one deserves a bit of time off more. I'd also like to thank her family who have all been very much involved in PTA life over the many years.

As people leave the school we are always looking for new people to join our very friendly team – please email [ralphbutterfield.pta@gmail.com](mailto:ralphbutterfield.pta@gmail.com) if you would like any info or are thinking of joining. We will also have an AGM early next term when you can come along and join then. It's a really great way to meet other parents/carers in school and get involved. All the committee have older children so the transition to new committee members will need to happen over the next year or so.



This term we raised £635 for the Father's Day secret room, £440 for the outdoor disco, £720 for the Parvin Night, £133 for Bags2School and a wonderful £3,074 for the Summer Fair. In a year where costs have soared and the cost of living crisis is affecting everyone, we appreciate the support and are pleased to grateful to find ways to keep costs down so more money is able to be spent in school. Spending has included paying for the installation of new laptops, a new laptop charging unit, coaches for school trips, author visit, history actor visits, new starter book bags and even some jigsaws. We are really excited to be helping fund the new fixed playground equipment too.

Thank you to Mrs Robinson who is a wonderful PTA teacher rep and is always accommodating to our ideas and requirements and a final thank you to Emma and the school office team.

I am very pleased to tell you that we made an amazing **£12,019** this year for school and look forward to school spending it all next year! Have a super summer holiday and see you in September.

**Joanne – PTA Chair**





HEAD OVER TO YORK MUMBLER  
TO FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING  
ON THIS SCHOOL HOLIDAY.

WHAT'S  
ON IN  
YORK



FREE  
THINGS  
TO DO



CHILDCARE  
& HOLIDAY  
CLUBS



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OUT MORE & JOIN  
THE NEWSLETTER



If you're looking for ideas of what to do with your kids over summer, including days out, free activities, what's on in York and also childcare options, York Mumblers have got it all on their website [here](http://here). They've even created a handy calendar that you can [download here](http://download here) to plan your summer holidays and some inspiration [here](http://here) if you want it all planned out for you!