



The Phoenix Flier

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

Issue 615

Friday 27th September 2019

Head's Message

Looking through this edition of the Phoenix Flier you get a real sense of the relish that our pupils display for school life and the adventure they all enjoy through the range of opportunities each week offers. It is clear that they develop a willingness to throw themselves wholeheartedly into every experience presented to them.

Whether they are embracing a whole school workout for the NSPCC, competing on the sports pitch, attending one of our three choral groups or learning about our local area in one of the many trips that we run, their keen and open-minded approach helps them get so much out of each and every day. They display a thirst for knowledge, challenge and exploration which is often free from the fixed ideas and behaviours we allow to develop in ourselves as adults. As much as we lead by example as adults, it is also important that we recognise the superb qualities in our pupils and take their lead in these areas.

Next week we have our Harvest assembly at which we will be collecting items for the Billingham and Stockton Foodbank which is run by the Trussell Trust. The need for your generous donations is ever present. Between April 2018 and March 2019, the Trussell Trust's food bank network distributed 1.6 million three-day emergency food supplies to people in crisis. This was a 19% increase on the previous year, with more than half a million of these going to children.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Bill Sawyer

Head's Challenge

600 hens lay on average 600 eggs in eight days, how many eggs do 200 hens lay on average in two days?

Photo of the Week:

Year 6 enjoyed a fun-packed afternoon at the Senior School last week as they participated in the annual Taster Afternoon. Chemistry, Design Technology and Outdoor Education samplers gave the children a flavour of what to expect come next September. More pictures and comment can be found in this issue..



NSPCC Workout



A huge well done to all of the boys and girls for taking part in a rigorous, twenty minute workout. We worked through five exercises led by a team of motivators (i.e. staff). Superb effort—the grand total to be announced soon! Please start to return the NSPCC envelopes with the sponsorship money.

Miss Darbar

Sweaty, hot but happy, I kept doing the workout and I really enjoyed it.

Wilf D.

The workout was tiring but it was worth it. It was also great fun!

Anushri W.

It was very tiring, however it was also great fun.

Ewan P.

I loved the workout and I think it was fun because it was for a good cause.

Tilly P-H.

My favourite exercise was the stretching up and touching toes. It was excellent and I hope we raise lots of money for the NSPCC.

Emily E.



I really enjoyed the NSPCC workout because it was very exciting.

Oliver M.

I liked the workout because it was great fun doing something as a whole school—even though it was tiring!

Luke W.

It was fun because I enjoyed doing the squats.

Zach B.

I enjoyed doing the side stretches and the forward lunges, which I am used to doing at football.

Freddie B. and Namitha N.



Year 6 Senior School Taster Event

I really enjoyed the Senior School experience. My favourite event was the outdoor education because we got to try and make hot chocolate on a camping stove. I also really liked DT because we got to make a pencil case.

Manya R.

I loved the taster day. We did three activities: DT, chemistry and outdoor education. I liked the DT the most because we made and decorated a pencil case. I also liked the barbecue.

Aryan N.

I loved the chemistry because we got to see Mr Harandon's hands on fire! We also used many different things we have not used in science before.

Oscar T.

When we went to the Senior School we all had a great time taking part in three different activities. I loved experimenting with gases in chemistry. I can't wait until next year.

Darcey A.

I enjoyed the senior school taster session. It was amazing. Outdoor education was fascinating; we either had to make hot chocolate or set up a tent. In chemistry we set Mr Harandon's hands on fire by using different gases! It was the evening of the year.

Shlok A.

I really enjoyed the taster afternoon. I am excited for everything that is waiting for me at the Senior School.

Lillandra A.



Safety Week Wrap

I enjoyed meeting the Dog's Trust lady and learning about how dogs are just like humans.

Dora B.

I enjoyed the canal and river trust taught us about the dangers that can happen.

Beatrix A.

I thought the policeman was interesting when he taught us about anti-social behaviour.

Fenwick M.

I remember the childcare number. It was 0800 1111.

Lucy W.

We really enjoyed safety week and we're very grateful it was put together for us. We learnt all about the dangers that can happen if you're around things when you don't know about them.

Wilf S.



Nurse Lanfranconi

Pupils and parents will want to join me in congratulating Nurse Lanfranconi on her recent appointment to a position in the NHS School Health team. Their gain is certainly our loss and, while there will be an opportunity for us to formally thank her before she leaves, it is right that I acknowledge the enormous contribution she has made to the wellbeing of our pupils, the confidence of our staff and the efficiency of our systems. Her warmth and energy is infectious!

Jess has touched many aspects of the school community in her role and we are already undertaking the important task of recruiting the right personnel to follow in her footsteps.

Dr Williams

Aldi's Kit for Schools

ALDI'S KIT FOR SCHOOLS

**There are 20 prizes of £20,000 to be won.
All you have to do is get stuck in!**

From 6th September, Aldi's Kit for Schools promotion is giving 20 primary schools the chance to win £20,000 to kick-start a health legacy for their school. What's more, every school who enters by completing their Aldi's Kit for Schools poster will also receive an exclusive school sports kit! Collect a sticker with every £30 spent in store and fill up your school's poster for a chance to win.

Every time you spend over £30 in any Aldi store you'll receive a Team GB sticker. Take your stickers to school to help complete your poster. Once complete with 300 stickers send the poster back to us to receive an exclusive sports kit and to be in with a chance to win £20,000 for your school.

If you receive any stickers, please pop them in to Miss Richardson or Miss Algate.

Mrs Redhead-Sweeney

Clubs and Activities

GYMNASTICS: Please note that there will be NO gymnastics on Friday 18th October. End of term extras bills will reflect this cancellation.

Parent Zone Digital Schools

Our Digital Schools membership gives you FREE access to Parent Zone's Parent Lounge with:

- Online training
- Expert advice and information on all things digital
- Access to a free help service for all your tech questions.

For more information on how to join the Parent Zone Parent Lounge, go to the Online Safety Guidance for Parents section of our Parent Portal.

NSPCC O2 internet safety booklets will be sent out to parents in the coming weeks too.

Mr Stone



After School Care

After School Supervision begins at 3.45pm with an outdoor play time for all registered children. Following this, children are usually supervised in two groups to complete homework and/or other quiet tasks - Years 3/4 and Years 5/6 – normally in 4P and the Science lab. Attendance is confirmed with pupils during morning registration.

We offer late supervision for pupils between 4.30pm and 6.00pm for those children who are not able to be collected by 4.30pm. After School Care is located in the Science Lab until 5pm and the Pre-Prep thereafter. It is supervised by Miss Emma Jeffries and Prep School staff. A register is taken and a modest charge is made for this facility. A drink and snack are provided for pupils who attend. Any children not collected by 5pm are placed in After School Care at the Pre-Prep and are charged thereafter.

The care costs are as follows: 4.30-5.00pm - £2; 5.00-5.30pm - £3 (in addition to previous charge); 5.30-6.00pm - £3 (in addition to previous charge). Children involved in clubs until 5pm, children involved in fixtures and children whose siblings are involved in Prep School clubs and activities are not charged until these activities have finished. If a club or fixture is cancelled and parents have been contacted in good time (i.e. prior to lunchtime), parents of children who then go into After School Care will not be charged.

After School Care costs are added to the end of term charges bill for each family.

Please note the phone number for after school care: 01642 792584. It would help us enormously, if you are running late after 5pm, that you could contact this number to let us know your estimated time of arrival.

Mr Stone

Harvest Collection – 4th October

Harvest Collection for Stockton and Billingham Food Bank

Friday 4th October 2019

We are looking forward to welcoming Stockton and Billingham foodbank to our Harvest Assembly this year. They will be talking to the children about how their charity helps families in the local community. Based in Billingham town centre, the charity runs a variety of outreach projects to support the increasing need of emergency food supplies across the whole of Stockton.

We have offered to run a collection to support this worthwhile cause, and would like to invite the families of Yarm Prep School to take part. If you would like to donate an item to Stockton and Billingham foodbank, we are looking to

collect non-perishable items such as, fruit juice/squash, tinned tomatoes, tinned fruit, custard, rice pudding, pasta sauces, tinned fish, cereals, sugar, coffee, jam, soup, tinned vegetables and meat. The collection will also be open to donations of toiletries, toilet roll, washing up liquid, washing powder, and nappies.



The collection point will be located at the Prep School Hall, and will be open for donations before school on Friday 4th October.

Thank you, in advance, for your support and generosity.

Miss Darbar

Medical Reminder

Please could we remind you that as a school we follow the Department of Health Guidance on Infection Control in Schools. This guidance states that the recommended period of time to be kept away from school for diarrhoea and/or vomiting is 48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting.

Your support in this area will help to reduce the spread of infection in school.

Nurse Lanfranconi

Prep Baccalaureate

Thank you to those children and parents who have shared their interest in the Yarm Prep Baccalaureate. Booklets will be going home with children early next week. Further information is included below.

The Yarm Prep Baccalaureate (YPB) provides children with an opportunity to develop values, skills and attributes that are key to their own personal development and a 21st century society. It is based around the School Values and also leans on Education for Social Responsibility (ESR). ESR is aimed at developing independence, a sense of community and a willingness to help others. At its heart, however is a desire to instil an appreciation of the environment and the importance of caring for it, not just for now, but for future generations to come.

With support from parents the children are encouraged to attempt the tasks and develop their skills, both at home and school. These are to be signed off by a teacher, but it is up to the child to ask the teacher to tick tasks off when they have been completed.

There are also a series of open-ended project tasks that each

child can complete at home, or at school as part of the YPB club. Evidence of these is required—no more than one side of A4—so they can be included in the School Values portfolios (which can be seen outside Mr Stone's office).

The YPB is meant to be fun! Sharing experiences with parents, the children will gain satisfaction by completing activities.

Mr Stone

Top Tips

Please find below some suggestions and ideas to continue facilitating your child into the Prep School. While these are not definitive answers (and we certainly don't want to be teaching you how to 'suck eggs'!), we hope these tips will be of use. **If in doubt, please contact the school office.**

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD IF:

They have lost an item of clothing?

- Get them to check the changing rooms and any other rooms they may have been to;
- Get them to check (in this order): their locker, the lost property shed opposite the minibuses and the staffroom.
- Ask Mr Stone to put it on the daily notices.

Parents can help by making sure all items are named.

Pick-up arrangements after school have changed?

- Contact Miss Richardson in the school office. She will pass the message on to both your child and his/her form teacher.
- If your child has forgotten about a match or an activity they are involved in, or a club/fixtures has been cancelled, we will contact parents via email and/or announce postponements on our various Twitter pages. We endeavour to give you as much notice as possible with these.

They come home from school upset about something?

- Talk through things with them and see if there is a sensible solution you can suggest to them. Everything can be solved, so it is important to look positively at what the best way forward is. School can help with this.
- Encourage them to speak to their form teacher. They will listen attentively and compassionately and suggest ways to deal with the matter.
- If your child initially needs support in approaching their teacher, then do come and kick this off, either by email or coming in to see the teacher yourself.

They/we are late for school?

- Report to the school office, where Miss Richardson will ensure your child is signed in and registered.

They are not coming in to school?

- Contact the school office to let them know. It is perfectly fine to leave a message and/or send an email.
- Please do not be alarmed if Miss Richardson, Miss Algate or Mr Stone contact you if your child is late or absent. It may be that a message has been missed if it has been sent to a form teacher (school is normally extremely busy in the morning), and we simply want to make sure that all of the children are safe and well.

They are spending too long on a piece of homework?

- Put it down and revisit it again later.
- Make a note in their pupil planner to explain to the teacher that is taking too long.
- Timings for homework pieces are included in the curriculum booklets handed out at the start of term. If in doubt though, please do drop the teacher a line.

They are very coy about sharing details about school?

Don't worry! Some children are not as keen as others to share every detail of their day at school. This does not necessarily mean that something is wrong!

Don't bombard them with questions, particularly early into term and during busy periods when they are getting into new routines and may well be tired.

A simple "Rate your day out of 10" can be enough and may well lead to further discussion.

If details need confirming regarding a school matter and your child cannot solve it or does not know the answer, please contact your child's form teacher, Mr Stone (pastoral matters and activities) or Mrs Pawluk (academic matters). While we understand that messaging groups such as those on *WhatsApp* can be useful, Yarm School does not use this as a form of communication. If in doubt, please contact the school direct.

PE and Games News

Under 11 Hockey

Last Friday, the U11A and B teams travelled to Barnard Castle for two hockey fixtures against the home side and Ashville. Our first match was against Barney, whom we'd never beaten before and knew this was going to be our toughest match all season. Nevertheless, we beat them 2-1! Special shout out goes to player of the match, Tilly P-H as

goalkeeper. Without her cracking saves, we'd never have had a victory against them. In defence, Ivy A and Eva L were putting the ball out wide every time and that's how we scored. We also had a few short corners and I managed to tap one past the keeper with the help of 'magic Mara's' strong and accurate passing. She was centre-mid all game and didn't get one break!



Next up was Ashville and we knew it was going to be a scrappy game, but Mrs Redhead-Sweeney told us to tire the ball out, not ourselves. Gracie R-H did a sensational job as centre forward in the first half (a position she doesn't usually play). Claudia C and Sienna S rotated on and off the wings along with some other players and they would always pass it down the line and another goal was scored by the excellent Claudia C.



Last but not least, I have to mention Darcey A's technique of 'dive and score', because she literally tripped, her stick tapped the ball and it slowly rolled past the keeper and we'd done it, we'd won 4-0! Two wins out of two!

Naila K.

Under 10 Rugby

I was proud to manage my team to victory against a challenging Teesside High U11/10 Rugby team. We played extremely well as a team and showed great commitment. We could work on our passing, but these are things to master in training.

Special shout-out to Myles Burton for brilliant bravery after a half-time injury and to Luke Elliot and Atsushi Yamaguchi for

scoring lots of tries and excellent leadership. We won 7-5. Keep working hard boys!

Noah C.



Under 10 Hockey

Yarm A vs Ashville was such a good game! I was captain and I felt like I did a great job. I thoroughly enjoyed watching and experiencing all of the excitement. I enjoyed looking around me and seeing all of the concentrated looks on faces. I also enjoyed the hot sun beaming on us while we played. We were sweating like mad! The score was 7-3 to us or something like that. The best part was having fun with all of my friends and playing four quarters of eight minutes. I hope everyone else enjoyed it too!

Sienna H.

Under 11 Rugby

The U11 boys enjoyed a trip to Barnard Castle for a triangular with the hosts and Ashville Prep. We were able to split into a number of teams with the size of the squad that travelled. In what were hard fought matches the boys did themselves proud for their first competitive fixture of the season. Both fixtures with Barnard Castle were finely balanced and the boys enjoyed the friendly competition. As the boys gained more experience over time, their confidence grew. This allowed them to compete more at the breakdown and contest for the ball.



In the next match the boys faced a very strong Ashville team. I am pleased to say that although they faced some strong tackling they never gave up. Indeed it was telling that towards the end of the game one of the games that the boys went through 9 phases of play to keep the ball. This is something we can definitely work with for the next fixture. Special mention goes to Jasman Sidhu and Mohammed Elgali who the boys identified as the most improved players on the pitch and Isaac Akouwah. Well done to all.

Mr Underwood

Under 10 Clegg Cup Rugby

The U10 boys attended the Barnard Castle Clegg Cup Festival on Saturday on what turned out to be a stunning day in Durham. In a very competitive festival the boys produced some outstanding rugby. Their support play, distribution and movement into space was excellent.



To come away with five wins and two losses is excellent at this stage of the season, yet it also shows there are some areas of improvement. This is a challenge that I know the boys will embrace and I look forward to helping them progress further throughout the year. Well done.

Mr Underwood



Above: Under 9 girls relax following their recent hockey fixtures against Queen Mary's.

Chess Success!

We all offer our congratulations to Natasha Pointon (Year 5) who spent last weekend taking part in the UK Chess Challenge's National Final – the Terafinal in Daventry. Having

won the school round in March and the Teesside Regional round in May, she went on to do so well in the Northern Finals in July that she was awarded a place in the 6 round National finals. Playing against the very best chess players in the UK,



Natasha scored a very credible 3 points out of a possible 6. Three points in that sort of company is a magnificent achievement – so very well done Natasha.

Mr Grundmann

I was excited to travel down to Daventry (south of Coventry) to play chess against people who had qualified from three tournament in the school rounds , the megafinal and gigafinal like me. We stayed at a hotel for a night to get ready for the day coming. I had an amazing experience at the terafinal. I was playing against people who were much better than me but I came away with 3/6 wins and more knowledge and experience . The games were 20mins with a 10 second increment per move. I am really keen to get play and get better at the game.

Natasha P.

Boggle Hole report

On Tuesday the 17th of September, 6G and 6H went to Robin Hoods Bay, Yorkshire. On the bus journey, my friend James and I chatted and played cards. After an hour and a half, we finally arrived! Excited, we ambled off the coach towards the beach. On the beach, Mr. Grundmann pointed out the massive boulders of granite and he told us that they had come all the way from Norway to stop erosion and flooding. After that, we learned about how the headland of the cliff was made of stronger rock than the rest of the cliff.

We then looked at the huge sea wall that protected Robin Hoods Bay from falling into the sea. Ferociously, we sprinted towards the wall, pretending to be the sea. Sadly the only things that stuck to the wall were the limpets! Mr. Grundmann then explained to us that the wall was specially designed so the curve took all the energy out of the wave, therefore protecting the town.

Raring to go, we were ready for the next activity; rock pool

dipping. Quiet like ants, we roamed around, searching for marine life. My group found a velvet crab with only five legs, some hermit crabs, and even an edible crab, but the real catch of the day was Mr. Underwood's lobster. We were all in complete awe when he showed it to us.

The next phase of our trip was learning about the boulder clay. After taking the stones out and dipping it in some water, it felt like the same clay that we use at school for pottery!

After walking a short distance, we reached the cave. Although we were all peering in questioningly, we couldn't enter the cave because of the danger that the rocks could come crashing down at any minute. Instead, Mr. Grundmann explained to us how caves are formed. It all starts off with a tiny crack but water uses hydraulic action to make the hole bigger and eventually a tunnel is formed.

After a short while, we advanced into the village. The streets were like a labyrinth! They were extremely narrow and there were hardly any cars. I was amazed at how hard it would have been for the police to catch smugglers in the 19th century. I could just imagine criminals sprinting down little side streets. Before we knew it, it was time to get back on the coach. Boggle Hole was really good fun and I am sure I will remember it until I am old.

Isaac A.



STEM Festival

We are very excited to be attending the 'Bring It On' STEM Festival at the Beacon of Light, Sunderland on Wednesday 9th October. The children in Years 5 and 6 were invited to apply for a place, and we were so impressed with some of the answers on the application forms we'd like to share them with you all.

Can you name a well-known engineer who has inspired you and explain why?

Marie Curie, who was a scientist, was the first woman to ever win a Nobel Prize (she also has been the only woman who has ever won two Nobel Prizes). She discovered radioactivity, which then lead to the development of x-rays and the use of portable x-ray machines. She inspires me because her work and medical treatments have cured and helped a lot of sick people.

Naina A.

A well-known engineer who has inspired me is Robert Jarvik, because he is one of the world's best biochemical engineers and developed the world's first working artificial heart, which is another reason why I want to be a biochemical engineer.

James G.

Elon Musk because he created a world famous car that is very good for the environment and it is eco-friendly. He is the co-founder of Tesla which uses 99% battery charge. It is amazing how he and his co-engineers found a way to make a car run on full battery.

Ava H.

We are very much looking forward to getting involved with more than 80 engineering businesses from all over the region who are showcasing real-life engineering on the day.

Mrs Shepherd

Head's Challenge solution from last week: I am a god, a planet and I can measure heat. What am I? Mercury



Billingham & Stockton Borough foodbank

HARVEST 2019

Non-perishable items such as, fruit juice/squash, tinned tomatoes, tinned fruit, custard, rice pudding, pasta sauces, tinned fish, cereals, sugar, coffee, jam, soup, tinned vegetables and meat. The collection will also be open to donations of toiletries, toilet roll, washing up liquid, washing powder, and nappies.

Let's work together to give a helping hand to local families!

Please send any items above in for our collection on Friday 4th October!

GOURMET DINING EVENING

Saturday 16th November
The Princess Alexandra Auditorium Atrium

GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY FOR JUST £40

Amuse-bouche x Chicken and Ham Hock Ballotine with onion chutney and thyme focaccia x Poached Lobster Tail with compressed watermelon and saffron mayonnaise x Roasted Beef Fillet with Mustard Crust with a red wine reduction and a beetroot and potato gratin Butternut Squash and Courgette Tagine (V) with fragrant couscous All main courses are served with seasonal vegetables x Exploding Chocolate Cake with an orange mousse and candied zest x Cheese and Biscuits served with a winter chutney

Yarm School Association is hosting a Gourmet Dining Evening. Come along to experience Chef Richard's culinary delights. Tickets cost £40 and lounge suit or equivalent attire is required. Dining will begin between 19:00 - 19:30.

Coming up

— SEPTEMBER —

Sat 28	Open Morning (9am-12noon)
Mon 30	Y3 and Y5 Woodland Week Arkwright House Duty

— OCTOBER —

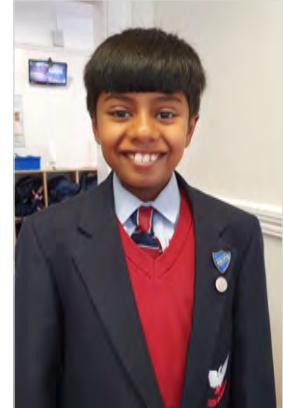
Tue 1	Year 3 walk to Yarm (P1-2) U8 Girls' Hockey Workshop with Durham High (home; 2.15pm start)
Wed 2	U9 Mowden Rugby Festival (away; 2pm start, 4.30pm return)
Thu 3	YPSSC (Mrs Pawluk's room; 4pm) U9 Rugby v Cundall Manor (away; 3pm start, 4.30pm return)
Fri 4	Harvest Assembly (Prep Hall; 10.20am) U10/11 Rugby v The Chorister School (away; 2pm start, 4.30pm return) U11 A/B Hockey v Bow (Senior Astro; 2.15pm start) Nursery Open Afternoon U10 Hockey workshop with Teesside High (Prep Astro; 2.15pm start)
Sat 5	Yarm Team Chess Championship (Prep Hall; 10am-2.30pm)
Mon 7	Brunel House Duty Open Week House Table Tennis *new event*
Tue 8	U8 Rugby v Chorister School (home; 2.30pm) U8 Hockey workshop with Ashville (away; 2pm start, 5pm return) Year 4 trip to Yorkshire Sculpture Park (5pm return) *new event*
Wed 9	Bring It On STEM Festival (Sunderland) Curiosity Emporium (Lab; 1pm) HMC U11 Rugby (GSAL; 10am start, 4pm return) HMC U11 Hockey (GSAL; 11am start, 4.30pm return)
Thu 10	U9 Rugby v Choristers (away; 2.30pm start, 5.30pm return) *new event*

Celebration Assembly

	Values	Endeavour
3A	Miguel RM.	Matthew R.
3D	Emma A.	Wilf S.
4C	Namitha N.	Zach B.
4J	Aisling T.	Yuhe T.
4P	Kit F.	Avighna A.
5L	Ellie W.	Freddie G.
5N	Bella Y.	Kabir G.
5P	Seren A.	Banming Y.
6B	Sam S.	Charlie B.
6G	Betty K.	Carmen H.
6H	Myles W-J.	James G.

Peer Mentor of the Week

Name: Shlok



Class: 6H

Favourite subject: DT

Best thing about school: All of the opportunities.

Favourite cheese: It's a spicy red cheese (can't remember the name!)

Most exciting thing to happen in

my life so far: Going to watch England beat New Zealand in the Cricket World Cup.

When I am older... I want to be Prime Minister!

Writing or typing? Typing

Ketchup or mayo? Mayo

Sun or snow? Sun

One wish: To see a stop to pollution as I want to see a cleaner world.

Mr Grundmann nominated Shlok this week. He was struck by the help and support offered by Shlok to a Year 3 boy who had spilt their lunch in the dining hall. "His help was genuine and unprompted by anyone," said Mr Grundmann.

If you see one of the peer mentors going beyond the call of duty, please let Mr Stone know! We are always open to nominations for Peer Mentor of the Week from pupils, parents and teachers.