



# Little Phoenix



The Newsletter of Yarm Pre-Prep

Number 280

13th September 2019

Mrs Speight's message ...

Thanks to those of you who attended our Reception Stay and Play session last Friday afternoon. I am sure you enjoyed the opportunity to see the children in their learning environment. As always if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to come and see your child's Form Teacher or myself. Awesome activities and terrific trips are hot topics of conversation at the moment and the children are already enjoying a wide range of chances to enhance their learning. There truly is a club or activity for all to enjoy and participate in. I am delighted to inform you that there is now the opportunity for Year 2s to attend the Year 3 Prep Rugby from 8.10am and Years 1 and 2 to attend a Pre-Prep Running Club. Further details are on the back page. You should have received a flier for our Open Morning, please pass this on to your friends, family and colleagues. As you are aware, word of mouth is by far the best recommendation and we all look forward to showing visitors around our lovely school on the 28th September. Our Y2 children visited Durham Cathedral on Tuesday and their behaviour was exemplary with several members of the public stopping to comment on this. They were given a guided tour and even allowed to have a peep inside Professor McGonogall's classroom, such a treat for Harry Potter fans! Our Reception Children have enjoyed using Numicon, counting to ten and identifying one more or less. Perhaps you could try this at home with an array of objects or food items? Anyway, as always have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing you on Monday. Many of us are going to the Senior School Prize Giving and it seems as though those young adults were in the Prep School 2 minutes ago. Therefore, treasure every minute with your children, the time really whizzes by, our youngest children will be in Prep school before we know it!

Warmest Wishes, *Jeanne Speight*



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## Playdough Fun!

The Nursery children have enjoyed exploring their senses in the playdough and water area. They were presented with a selection of herbs including basil, mint and coriander. We talked about the different smells and then chose which herbs we would like to add to our playdough or to our potions. The children are developing their fine motor skills without even realising it!



## Durham Cathedral

Year 2 experienced a day filled with awe and wonder during their trip to Durham Cathedral. The guided tour of this historical building included exclusive access to the room used as Professor McGonagall's classroom in the Harry Potter films. Following a visit to the shop, the children studied some of the sculptures hidden around the cathedral before creating some clay faces of their own during the afternoon workshop. Magic!



## Wednesday Woods

Wednesday afternoons are fast becoming a weekly highlight with our trip to the woods. The children began noticing signs of change in nature and thoroughly enjoyed making the most of the space and scale offered by play in the woods. We explored the properties of cylinders by rolling logs and were fascinated by excavating the soft rotten stumps. The big tree was busy with children eager to test their climbing skills.



## Woodland Mobiles

Year 1 thoroughly enjoyed their first Woodland session. The children loved familiarising themselves with the outdoor environment and made many lovely observations of how the woods have changed since summer. The children also enjoyed an art activity, creating natural mobiles which will be hung under our Year 1 canopy.





**A Message from Dr H Williams**

With the new term now underway, I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that the Yarm School term dates for 2019/20 and 2020/21 can be found on the school website. I would also respectfully remind parents of the school policy not normally to permit requests for holiday absence during term time. Absence from School is very disruptive to individual pupils and to the rest of the class and its teachers. We are fortunate to benefit from longer holidays than most schools, but our teaching time is sacrosanct and absence taken for holidays will not normally be granted unless there are exceptional circumstances. Such consent must be requested in writing in advance before any booking is made, to Mrs Speight. Thank you for your support of this policy which maintains continuity of attendance and teaching for everyone.

**Polite Notice**

Please could we remind all parents that children are not to press the green push pads on the entry/exit doors. Many thanks as always for your co-operation.

**Drop In Sport Sessions**

We are delighted to announce from 8.10am on a Wednesday, Year 2 are invited to join Year 3 up on the Prep Astro for Rugby sessions. You do not need to sign up, please just come along and join in!

Secondly, Mrs Speight & Mr Davies will be holding a Running Club from 8.10am on a Friday. Again, there is no need to sign up.

We hope to see many of you there. What a fantastic opportunity!

For those who arrive at school before 8.10am, a member of staff will escort the children up to the Prep school.



**Looking Forward**



**Saturday 21st September**

Stokesley Show

**Monday 23rd September**

Year 1 trip to Foxglove Covert

**Wednesday 25th September**

Reception trip to Ormesby Hall

**Saturday 28th September**

Open Morning 9am till 12noon

**Friday 4th October**

Nursery Open Afternoon 1.15pm till 2.30pm

**Tuesday 15th October**

Year 1 Beach clean at Redcar

**Thursday 17th October**

Pre-Prep Halloween Disco

Nursery & Reception 3.30pm till 4.30pm

Year 1 & Year 2 3.30pm till 5pm

**Friday 18th October**

Half-term begins (after school)

After school care as normal

**Notice from Nurse Jess**

Please could I 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 the last episode.

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

