



Little Phoenix

The Newsletter of Yarm Pre-Prep



Number 287

15th November 2019

Mrs Speight's message ...

I have been touring many families this week, particularly after school and it seems appropriate to mention some of the extra-curricular clubs Pre-Prep offers. The families were impressed by what they saw and spoke about the polite, engaged children they observed in Mindfulness, Construction and Cookery Clubs. They also observed our Rugrats walking very sensibly up to the Prep School to participate in their rugby. I wish you could have seen their faces when I said, "There is also a group of children who are currently at the local riding stables." Whilst touring, it always prompts me to reflect on how fortunate our children are, as they have so many opportunities to experience new activities and broaden their horizons. Enthusiasm always shines through as they are prepared to have a go even if they are a little hesitant at first. Many thanks to Miss Grayson and Mrs Sawyer for the Stay and Play about Phonics in Reception and I am sure you found the morning informative and helpful. I would also like to thank the Pre-Prep team for supporting our Nursery Outreach Session. Twelve children from Flora House Nursery in Darlington attended a lovely session in our woods. Mr Pearce assisted with the fire and the children enjoyed Wendy's delicious cookies and hot chocolate! The Autumn term reports go live on the portal on Monday at 4pm, please do take the time to read these as they provide an informative account of your child's progress. I am looking forward to seeing you during the parent consultations and am available to meet should you have any outstanding questions. Have a lovely relaxing weekend, it's only 39 days until Christmas!

Warmest Wishes,

Jaane Speight



Follow me on twitter: @YarmPrePrep

Choose Kindness

We have spent lots of time talking about how cool it is to be kind in Year 1. The children have been busy carrying out random acts of kindness and thinking of how they can help others. 1P have created their very own kindness poem and 1H made some lovely happy hearts. Well done, Year 1!



By 1P

Kindness is...

- Kindness is caring for people
- Kindness is smiling at people
- Kindness is helping people when they fall over
- Kindness is playing with friends
- Kindness is helping the teachers
- Kindness is smiling at someone, it makes them happy
- Kindness is taking turns at Numicon
- Kindness is helping people when they are sad
- Kindness is helping people when they fall
- Kindness is talking to people
- Kindness is playing with new friends
- Kindness is smiling if someone is sad



Fine Motor Skills in the Woods

The simplest of things sometimes bring us the most joy. The Reception children thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of finding two sticks and joining them together using twine. The wrapping, twisting, threading and focus required are all such important skills to build fine motor strength. With the winter sun shining through the autumnal colours we all had a little think about how lucky we are to spend these special times in the woods.



Cool to be Kind Week

This week we have been spreading kindness even more than we usually do in school. We have made kindness our focus for this week, encouraging the children to think about little acts of kindness that can brighten our days. Taking time to reflect on how it feels to be kind and to receive kindness has helped the children consider how good deeds support our well being. We hope the children will extend their acts of kindness to the home or community. If they do, please let us know. We would love to hear about the kind things they do.

**Cool
to be
Kind**



A Surprise Gift

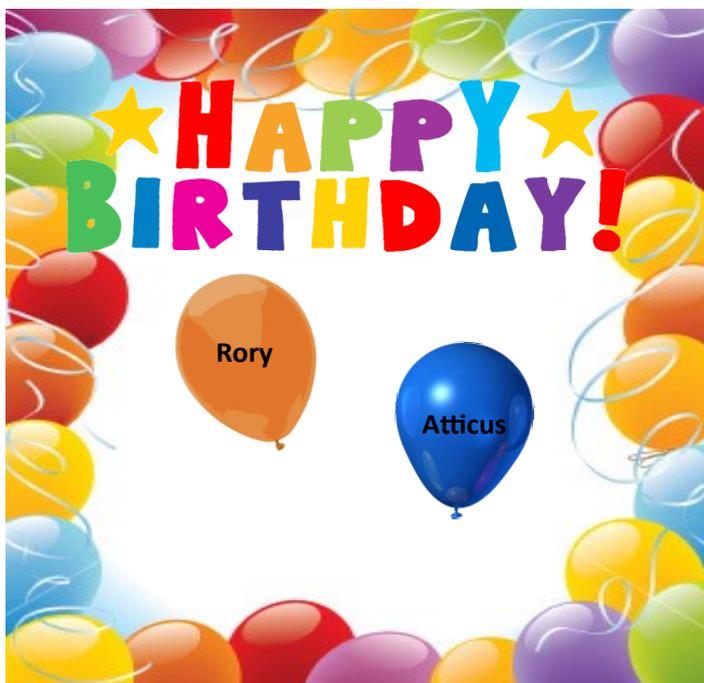
A little bit of kindness can go a long way! Year 2 decided to take a break from their hectic Nativity rehearsal schedule to create a small gift for each of the children in Reception. After using their craft skills to make some colourful hearts, they decorated each one with a special personalised label. Mrs Sawyer made some special 'kindness' jars and we have been choosing random acts of kindness to show how much we care.



Fun Filled Days

Another fun filled week in Nursery! We have been mark making, counting, playing with Numicon, transporting leaves, scooping and pouring rice and even got to investigate ice on these frosty mornings! There is never a dull moment in Nursery!





Uniform (worn by all):

All children should now be wearing winter uniform:

Blazer – navy blue with red piping, burgundy V-neck sweater, **school quilted coat (school pattern only)**, scarf/hat (optional, school pattern only). Black sensible shoes should be worn by boys and girls (no heels for girls)

Boys: Pale blue shirt, long or short sleeved with tie (school design). Grey shorts, Grey trousers (**optional**) with Uniform Shop socks – grey with stripe.

Girls: White blouse (school pattern only) with a red tartan pinafore. Grey tights or socks with matching hair accessories.

The Uniform Shop is open every day except Friday during term time from 1pm – 5pm and at published times during holidays. The Uniform Shop accepts cash, card or cheque payments.



Looking Forward



Saturday 23rd November

Senior School Christmas Craft Fair - 10am till 4pm

Monday 25th & Tuesday 26th November

Parents' Evening - 4pm till 6pm

Saturday 30th November

Christmas Masquerade Ball - 7pm till late (PAA)

Wednesday 4th December

Year 1 & 2 Nativity - 6pm start (PAA)

Tuesday 10th & Wednesday 11th December

EYFS Christmas Performance - 2pm till 3pm (Studio Hall)

Friday 13th December

End of term

Christmas Jumper Day

No after school care

Volunteers Needed - Masquerade Ball

Volunteers are needed to help set up tables and props on

Friday 29th November from 2pm
&
Saturday 30th November - morning

Please contact Miss Algate if you can give up some of your time.

P.E Lessons

Every week Mrs Redhead-Sweeney takes our children for P.E. They have been learning about body shape and balancing using different parts of the body.






Save The Date

Christmas Indoor Market

Saturday 23rd November

10am till 4pm

Yarm School

Donations are needed for the bottle tombola stall




Polite reminder

We have noticed that some water bottles have juice added rather than pure water. Could we please remind you that water bottles should only contain water in line with our school policy.

Many thanks as always for your cooperation.