



Little Phoenix



The Newsletter of Yarm Pre-Prep

Number 293

17th January 2020

Mrs Speight's message ...

As the clubs and activities have commenced, the week has flown by. The children have loved taking part in the many activities on offer. Rugrats has been a particular favourite as has Pre-Prep Strings. With a huge range to choose from, there is something to meet the needs of all children's interests. Running Club always brightens up my Friday and we enjoyed our first time Reception Runners! Well done, fresh air and exercise are so important to help with our learning and wellbeing. Open Day was a great success and I am delighted our Year 2s enjoyed the morning. Enthusiastic, articulate guides always play a huge role during our Open Events, they are wonderful ambassadors of the school. It just seems like yesterday when I toured the school and registered my own daughter's name. Time flies, I can't believe she will be sitting her GCSEs in May. Treasure these early years, as in the blink of an eye they will vanish. Time spent reading bedtime stories, playing and talking to our children is of the utmost importance. Who doesn't love a bedtime story?! Thanks to those parents who attended the resilience talk from Dr Kathy Weston, you should have received her notes by now. I wonder how many of you have called a family meeting as a result of attending the event? Have a wonderful, relaxing weekend whatever your plans may be.

Warmest Wishes,

Joanne Speight



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Dough much fun!

Nursery children have had a great time in the Factory Area, where they have been busy making their own playdough. They have followed a series of instructions and listened well. With 3 turns of flour and 1 turn of salt using the dispensers, the children then investigated how much water was needed. There were many different consistencies of dough. As the dough became more malleable, the children added scents and colours, talking about their choices with friends. We look forward to seeing more of this next week with ever increasing independence.



Exploring Winter

The children have been exploring Winter. We discussed the seasonal changes which the children had already observed and learned new concepts such as the migration of some birds to warmer climates. The children used their scientific investigation skills to predict and test which objects slid best on ice. In the absence of real snow (fingers crossed!), we created our own. We then built homes for the Arctic animals. On our visit to the woods we made a 'Stick Man' or 'Stick Lady'. I am sure the children have already brought them home for you to meet!



Shields of Glory

Year 1 have loved designing and creating their own Tudor shields. The children thought about what they wanted to display on their shields, including symbols used in Tudor times.

"My shield has an A on it. That's so people know I'm part of the Askew family", Jack

"On my shield is a tornado and an angel. It represents love and friendship", Bella

"My shield has lots of dragons on to make it scary", Evelyn

"On my shield is a horse and some music because I like to dance", Emily Q

"I've put 'Be Brave' on my shield. That way people will see it and know I am brave!", Holly

"My shield represents King Henry VIII. I have built my own castle at home", Henry St



Wintery Woods

Winter's cold grip has taken hold of the school woodlands and it doesn't seem to be letting go! The Year 2 children have been looking at the signs of winter by observing the changing features of the trees during their weekly woodland session.





Polite Reminder - Extra layers for the woods

In the colder weather, please provide an extra jumper or fleece that can be worn with, preferably under, your child's waterproof clothing for the woods. It is also useful if they have a hat suitable to wear in the woods. We suggest that these are 'old' items as they will undoubtedly get dirty. As always, please ensure that any items sent to school are named.

EYFS Fundraiser - Australia Day

THURSDAY 23RD JANUARY

The children in EYFS have shown great concern for the animals affected by the Australian bushfire. They have expressed an interest in helping them so on **Thursday 23rd January** the Nursery and Reception children will be organising a small fundraiser. This will include baking and selling some bread and biscuits and a sponsored Kangaroo hop in the playground.

Wildlife information, Rescue and Education Service (WIRES) is the largest wildlife rescue & rehabilitation charity in Australia. Children are asked to bring 50p to support the cause.

All children in Pre-Prep (N-Y2) are welcome to join this worthwhile cause.

Friday 24th January, Prep school are hosting a further event to support WWF. Pre-Prep children are welcome to wear **one item** of Australian themed clothing.... colours of the Australian flag, a cork hat, sunnies, surfer shorts - be as creative as you would like! **However, we do not expect a donation because our children will be participating in the bake sale as above.**



P.E With Mrs Redhead-Sweeney

We thoroughly enjoy our PE lessons with Mrs Redhead-Sweeney. We explore large and small apparatus as well as practising our athletic skills. These lessons are at the Prep school twice a week and prepare us for games lessons in Year 3. During the course of the year, we learn many new skills which lead to team games such as: hockey, rugby, netball, football, cricket and a wide range of other sports. We love games!



Looking Forward



Wednesday 22nd January

Tempest class photographs

Thursday 23rd January

EYFS Fundraiser - 50p for a biscuit or toast

Friday 24th January

Australia Day - one item of clothing

Tuesday 28th January

Year 1 trip to MIMA

Year 2 walk to the Wesleyan Chapel

Wednesday 5th February

Reception Stay & Play Maths