



Little Phoenix



The Newsletter of Yarm Pre-Prep

Number 295

31st January 2020

Mrs Speight's message ...

I would like to begin with a huge thank you to our Year 2 children who were guest editors of the Little Phoenix last week whilst I attended the CEOP Ambassador Course. The contents of this was how children and young people use the internet and mobile technology. CEOP's Thinkuknow education programme endeavours to empower young people through education and there is a range of resources for children from the age of 4 years. Please visit the parents section on the www.thinkuknow.co.uk should you need further information. I am sure that you will agree that our Year 2 children did a marvellous job composing my message and we may have many future journalists in the making. I imagine that they will be able to determine fake news! I have had so many compliments about our well mannered children this week as Years 1 and 2 have been out and about to MIMA and the Wesleyan Chapel. Good manners take you anywhere and everywhere and it is always such a joy to receive positive comments about our children being beautifully behaved, enthusiastic and ready to learn. The Reception children have enjoyed celebrating the Chinese New Year and I wonder if they can remember which animal was placed first in the race across the river? The Reception staff and children are also excited about the Maths Stay and Play on Wednesday, please do join us if you can make it. Have a wonderful, relaxing weekend.

Warmest wishes,

Jeanne Speight



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Year 1 trip to MIMA

On Tuesday, Year 1 visited Middlesbrough's Institute of Modern Art known as MIMA. The children explored the art gallery, looking at a variety of different pieces from paintings to sculptures. They participated in an afternoon workshop involving drawing to music and using different techniques and materials to make a large piece of collaborative art. A wonderfully, creative day!



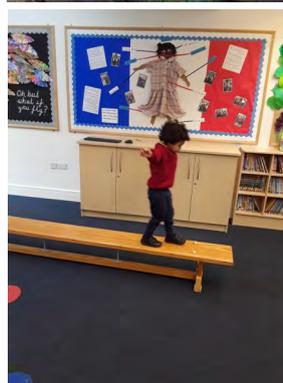
Wesleyan Chapel

Inspired by last week's work on world religions, the children in Year 2 made the short trip into Yarm to visit one of the town's best kept secrets! The Methodist Church was built in 1763 on the bank of the River Tees and has been at the heart of the community ever since. The children were allowed to explore this octagonal shaped building, having a chance to stand in the pulpit and even perform some of their favourite songs from Angel Express in the choir stalls.



Practise makes perfect!

We always provide a huge range of activities in Nursery to promote the children's physical development. In PE, Mr Simpson set up an obstacle course where the children had to balance, slide, jump and roll. In the outdoor area, the children are trying hard to cross the adventure trail independently, demonstrating good levels of resilience. This practice of their gross motor skills has a positive impact on their fine motor skills. Mark making in trays of sand or shaving foam is always a favourite with our children.



Happy Chinese New Year!

The Reception children have enjoyed exploring Chinese New Year. We were grateful to our friend Scarlett for explaining how she celebrated with her family. The children have eagerly exchanged written messages of good luck in their red envelopes, made dragons, played with cooled Chinese Jasmine tea and honed their fine motor skills serving the sticky rice. I wonder whether the children can remember which year it is? Can they tell you the story of the animals of the Zodiac?





Polite Notice

If your child is in after school care, please remember to provide them with a snack. We are sure you are aware that we are a nut free school.
Many thanks.



Gymnastic Club Cancellation

Gymnastics Club will be cancelled on Friday 27th March. End of term extras bills will reflect this cancellation.

School Menus

Our school menus are published termly on the website. These can be found at: <https://www.yarmschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Prep-Spring-Menus.pdf> should you wish to discuss these with your child/children.

The menus can also be found on year group notice boards around the school.



Wednesday 5th February

Reception Stay and Play Maths—8:45am till 9:30am

You are warmly invited to join us for our 'Stay and Play Maths' aimed at showing you how we develop mathematic skills and language in Reception.

We look forward to seeing you. Tea, coffee and croissants will be available.

Mrs Sawyer & Miss Grayson



2019/2020 Term Dates

Spring Term, 2020

½ term begins - Thursday, 13th February 2020
(after school)

INSET 3 - Friday, 14th February 2020

Pupils return - Monday, 24th February 2020

Finish - Wednesday, 1st April 2020 (after school)

Summer Term, 2020

Pupils return - Tuesday, 21st April 2020

Bank Holiday - Friday, 8th May 2020

½ term begins - Thursday, 21st May 2020 (after school)

INSET 4 - Friday, 22nd May 2020

Pupils return - Monday, 1st June 2020

Finish - Friday, 3rd July 2020

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.

Looking Forward



Wednesday 5th February

Reception Stay & Play Maths

Tuesday 11th February

Internet Safety for Parents - Studio Hall
8.30am

Thursday 13th February

Half Term begins (ASC as normal)

Monday 24th February

Pupils return to school