



# Little Phoenix



The Newsletter of Yarm Pre-Prep

Number 305

9th October 2020

Mrs Speight's message ...

The penultimate newsletter before half term has given me the opportunity to write about our children's social collaboration. Our Pre-Prep children have spent a considerable amount of time planning for our forthcoming Halloween party and this has included solving several problems such as what to do when decorations fall down! The children have also suggested many activities they could do in preparation, all of which involve taking turns, sharing fairly and helping one another. The foundations of these key skills are fundamental in ensuring that our children are well prepared to work as part of a team in the future and I know you will agree are so important. The Year 2 children have taken great pride in displaying their posters for our themed day and the teachers have equally enjoyed observing the children as they show their parents their art work at morning drop off. Next Thursday will be a 'Terrific Thursday' and I'm sure there may be some strange occurrences which may even include ghosts, witches and wizards. News hot off the press, we are delighted to welcome back Dr Weston on Tuesday 10th November. For further details please see overleaf. Have a wonderful relaxing weekend and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Warmest wishes, *Jeanne Speight*

 Follow me on twitter: @YarmPrePrep



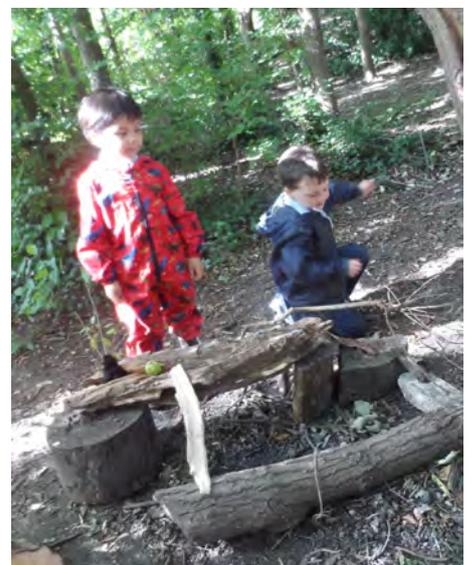
## Autumn Arrives!

Autumn has well and truly arrived at the Pre-Prep and the children in Reception have been making the most of the change in season by taking a trip to the school field for a spot of apple picking! After collecting a basket full of fruit, they then made their own streamers from coloured paper and performed a traditional harvest dance to welcome the new season.



## Autumn in the Woods

We have enjoyed many autumnal visits to the woods recently. The children in Year 1 have relished these sessions and demonstrated a real love for the outdoors. Some of our favourite activities have been: making shelters for small world characters and using natural objects to create pieces of framed artwork. We have also identified and described the seasonal changes to our woodland.



## Together as one

It has been another extremely busy week in Year 2. We have continued to read our book 'Here We Are' and have reached the pages about our community and what it means to belong. We are beginning to appreciate how lucky we are and also that we have a school community where we are all valued and have something to offer. The children were able to relate this discussion to one we had previously about 'belonging' and it was lovely to hear what they think of our school community. There are definitely some budding philosophers in both 2J and 2B. I am sure you will agree from their drawings that we are certainly individuals and we definitely "come in many shapes and sizes!"



## Do you know your numbers?

The children in Nursery love numbers! We sing nursery rhymes, count how many children are in our Family Group, count out cups and snacks and we love to explore Ten Town. In Family Time, the children have identified numbers 0-10 and matched them to the correct Numicon shape. I wonder which numbers they can identify at home? Perhaps they could help to lay the table or count out the correct number of plates, knives and forks.





### After School Care Pick Up

When arriving to collect your child from After School Care please ring the bell and state your child's name/s and their form which will assist the staff members on duty. Thank you for your support.

### Nursery & Reception collection time

- Please note after Half Term, Nursery & Reception children will finish at 3.15pm.
- Please collect your child/ren at this time from the usual area. After School Care will remain as normal.
- Many thanks for your continued cooperation.

### Halloween Themed Day

#### Thursday 15th October

Children may wear face paints to compliment their costumes. We are looking forward to a very 'Spoo-ooooktaclular' day!



### 2020/2021 Term Dates

#### Autumn Term, 2020

- ½ term begins - Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020 (after school)
- Pupils return - Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020
- Finish - Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020 (after school)

#### Spring Term, 2021

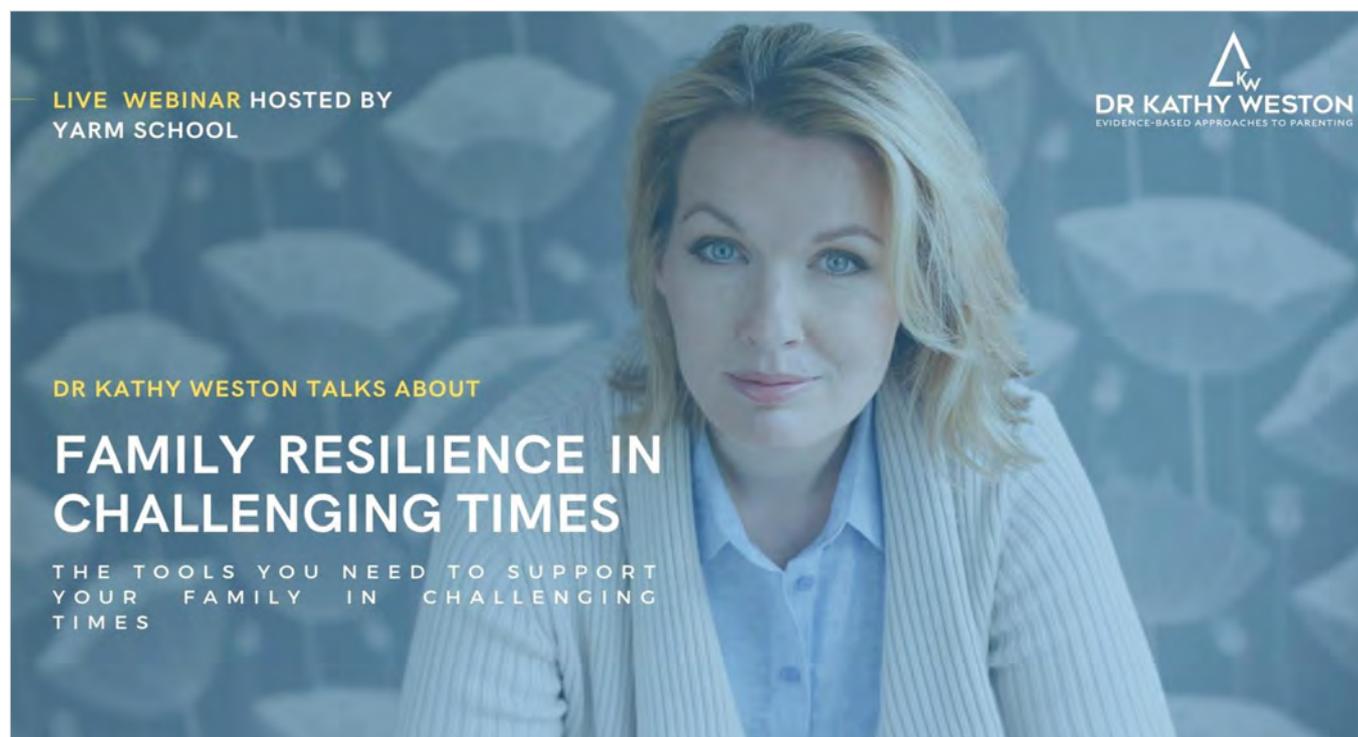
- Pupils return - Monday, 4th January 2021
- ½ term begins - Thursday, 11th February 2021 (after school)
- Pupils return - Monday, 22nd February 2021
- Finish - Friday, 26th March 2021 (after school)

#### Summer Term, 2021

- Pupils return - Thursday, 15th April 2021
- Bank Holiday - Monday, 3rd May 2021
- ½ term begins - Thursday, 27th May 2021 (after school)
- Pupils return - Monday, 7th June 2021
- Finish - Friday, 2nd July 2021 (12 noon)

Following on from a very successful parent talk in January of this year, the School is delighted to announce a further talk for parents by one of the UK's leading experts on parental engagement in children's lives and learning. Dr Kathy Weston is a published author, writer, award winning radio broadcaster and a regular speaker at educational events across the UK. In this live webinar Dr Weston will look at a range of factors that contribute to family resilience and how to help our children navigate some of the challenging circumstances they face. Her advice is backed up by extensive research but is delivered in an informative and engaging manner. In essence, it will provide simple, clear advice to help your children flourish in school and life. If you are interested in attending, you can find out more below or register for the event here: <http://bit.ly/DrKathyWeston> (Please note that a charge of £3 will be added to your termly extras bill as a contribution towards the cost of the session).

*Mr Sawyer*



Click [here](#) to register in advance for the webinar.

In this live webinar, Dr Kathy Weston will give evidence-based tips on how to think about family resilience during challenging times, such as ongoing COVID-19 Crisis.

Dr Weston will look at factors that contribute to family resilience and practical steps that parents can take to help children become emotionally resilient. She discusses the relationship between resilience and academic achievement in general and touches upon the issue of digital resilience. She will talk about how to build positive self-esteem and how to give your child the tools they need to cope with failure.

She will discuss topics such as parental and child anxiety, adaptive strategies for coping, how best to manage the transition back to school after long periods of home learning and how thinking 'outside the box' can help children thrive at the current time.

Dr Weston will use the recent evidence-based tips, to give you the tools you need to support your family.

Places will be allocated strictly in order of registration so be sure to register now to save your space.

For more information about Dr Weston please visit her website [here](#).