

### A message from Mr Sawyer

It was most fitting to end this half term with a range of assemblies and challenges based around being resourceful, one of our core School Values. We see being resourceful as being able to overcome problems through collaboration with others and through developing independence and a natural curiosity in the world around us. The importance of being resourceful cannot be underestimated at this present time. As a community we have had to pull together in the last few weeks and I remain indebted to all of the staff team for their superb efforts and extremely grateful to all parents for their support. As a result, School has continued to flow and most importantly our pupils have been given an abundance of opportunities to work together and embrace many exciting challenges.

I do hope that you have had the chance to catch up with your child's Form Teacher this week in our online parent consultations. There will be a further opportunity to do so later this term after the release of the Autumn Term reports. We really do value working with all families as the pupils benefit so much through a sustained home school partnership. With this in mind, please note the parent information website which can be accessed through this [link](#). It provides useful curriculum information and strategies to support learning at home.

On behalf of the team, I wish you all a safe, relaxing and enjoyable break over half term. We look forward to seeing the pupils return to school on Monday, 2nd November ready for action!

*Bill Sawyer*

#### Head's Challenge:

I have no feet to dance, I  
have no eyes to see, I have  
no life to live or die but yet I  
do all three. What am I?

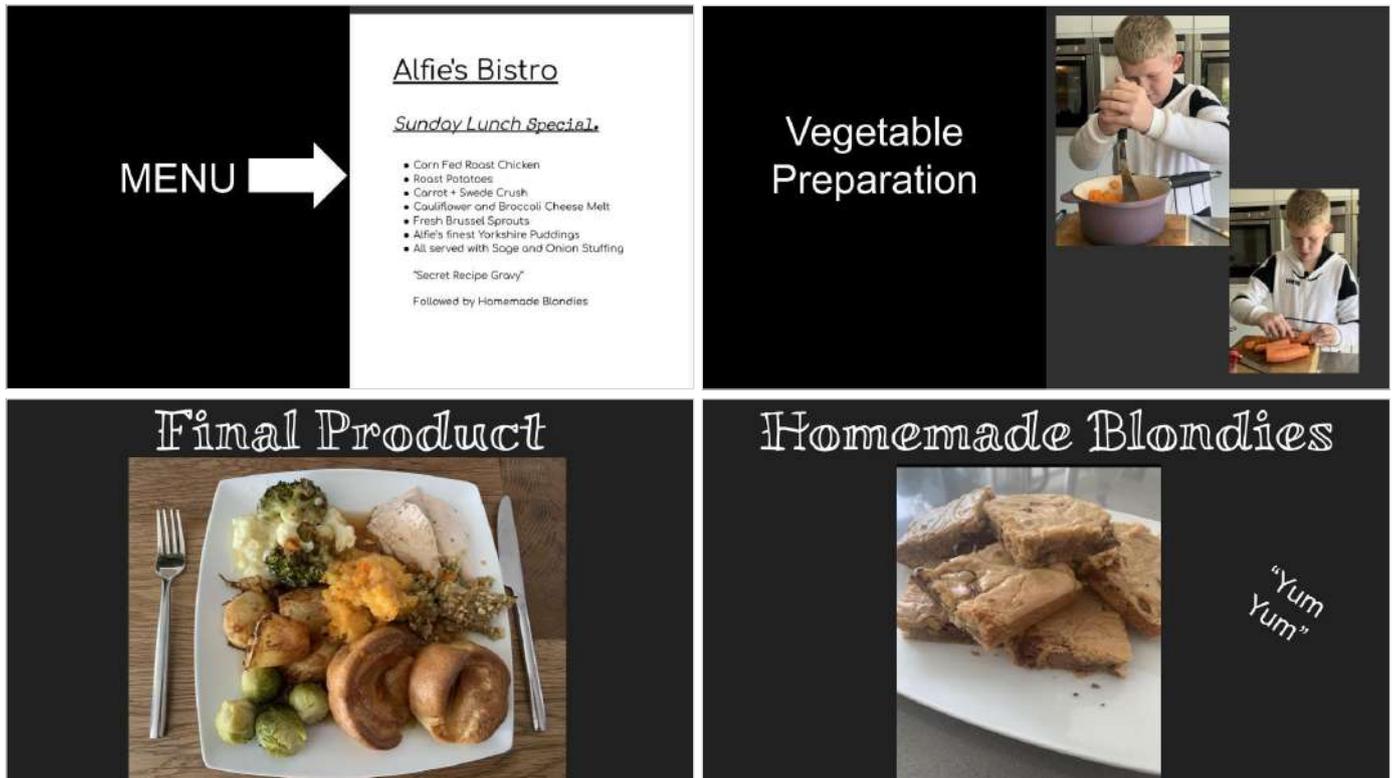
#### Photo of the Week:

More exciting trips to the Senior School woods have been taking place recently. Photos and some inspiring poetry can be found in this issue.



## Year 6

Plenty of great homework has been going on in Year 6, including Alfie (6H) making the Sunday roast!



6H have been writing poetry about earthquakes and the school values.

Everything is shaking quake quake quake.

All the ground is moving quake quake quake.

Rivers are flooding quake quake quake.

The plate tectonics are shifting under our feet quake. quake quake.

Help the people to get to safety quake quake quake.

Queues of people looking for shelter quake quake quake.

Upset children, scared adults quake quake quake quake.

All the people are scared for their lives quake quake quake.

Keep the windows closed quake quake quake.

End the quake quake quake.

Oscar L.

### The school values

John came into school,

Looking like a wreck,

Didn't feel so happy,

Scabs all down his neck,

He walked through the school gates,

And gave the teacher a smile,

But he didn't tell him that he was feeling vile!

He fell off the climbing wall and was told to be safe,

His friend checked on him and asked if he had a chafe.

Compassion was key to being very kind,

When he was going crazy Myles told him to rewind.

Spencer was respectful,

But John didn't care.

He flunked his exams,

Which he said was very rare!

At least John was ambitious,

He boasted all the time.

He wanted to be in Mauritius,

Because he liked being a mime!

John was not responsible,

He forgot his homework.

He pretended he was invisible

When the teacher quirked!

Never was he resourceful,

Luke commented on that.

The teacher gave it a miss

And frowned like a cat!

So John was not a good kid,

The only thing that he did.

Was when he was asked to do his homework,

He said "I'd rather quirk!"

Noah C.

Inspired by their visit to the woods, 6G wrote some autumnal poetry.

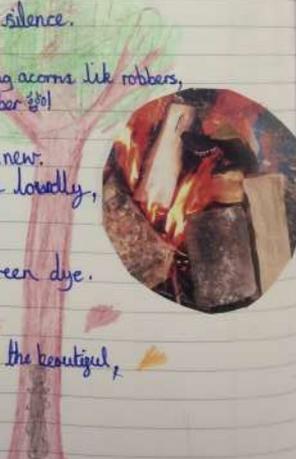
Song of Silence

Autumn is here,  
and it has birthed new life.  
And the leaves laugh as they dance gradually to the ground,  
What a delightful sound!  
But beneath all that sound,  
The song of silence.

The sunny walks in the moors,  
I enjoy eating the smores.  
Children giggling as the wind plays with their hair,  
With flashing colours through the air,  
The sound is immense,  
But underneath that the song of silence.

The tricky squirrels carrying stacking acorns like robbers,  
Please be careful about what you clobber!  
When the trees become bare,  
Dusting of the old to bring in the new.  
When the flocks of birds stampede loudly,  
Sometimes I feel quite cowardly!  
When the winds howl and cry,  
And the trees have lost their green dye.  
Through all hustle,  
And the bussel.  
Just shut your eyes and listen to the beautiful,  
SONG OF SILENCE.





Autum comes and goes.

Autum comes and goes,  
with the chilly breeze ripping my toes.  
The towering trees peering over me,  
Autum feels so free.  
The warmth of the nearby fire,  
Makes my spirits higher.  
The winds howling fiercely at me,  
As rushing leaves I see.

The clouds spitting on my face,  
as the leaves fall into place.  
The leaves catch the wind,  
and they start to spin.  
Acorns fall to the ground,  
while robins dance around.  
Pine cones bury in the leaves,  
after falling off their bare trees.

The fire's smoke waters my eyes  
as are summer <sup>starts</sup> spirits <sup>starts</sup> summer dies.  
The birds in famished flight,  
fly towards the light.  
Autum is a beautiful sight,  
Oh, so wonderful and bright.  
It has its highs and lows,  
Autum comes and goes.

Monday 12 October

Wonder of the Woodland

As the Summer leaves I feel the Autumn breeze,  
Conkers fall off the trees and the rivers freeze.  
Oak trees stood tall and proud and tall,  
Golden leafs crashing down making quite a fall.

Smoke is a fierce dragon ready to strike,  
Roasting marshmallows over a crackling fire, like a rough like.  
Children rushing over for a snack,  
Whilst hungry animals stock up for their winter snack.

Over the years, life has changed,  
Sites have grown to a larger range.  
Breaking glass as people trash the wood,  
Disgusting trash hiding in the mud.






Amazing October

**AUTUMN**

Soft slow breeze,  
Whistling through trees.  
Hungry animals hustling for food.  
Whilst colourful flowers begin to bloom.

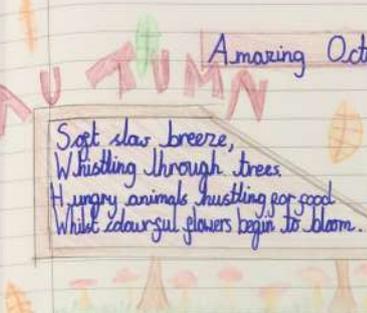
Crunchy, crispy leaves,  
changing off tall trees.  
Wind dancing through the air,  
but she likes to play with my hair.

As I walk past the woods,  
it starts to rain past my head.  
I smell roasting marshmallows,  
Hopefully theres no mud in my toes.

hot chocolate

**LEAVES**








## Autumn

I hear the ear-splitting sound of a raven screeching,  
His friends adding their thoughts to the din,  
The sheltering children trying to overrule the noise.

The image of the gnarled trees waving, stood in front of me,  
Their autumnal leaves swooping down to the already leaf  
strewn ground,  
The bark slowly moulding off its home.

The attractive smell of burning marshmallows filled my  
nostrils,  
Their smoke making me cough,  
And their smell drawing me in.

I feel the mud on my fingertips getting drier and drier,  
It's forever crumbling back down,

And the mud gets sucked into the ground as a stretched-out  
worm comes up.

The everlasting taste of the smores in my mouth,  
Tastes as good as anything could taste  
As the last chocolate piece fades away.

*Luca S.*

## Autumn

I hear the Autumn breeze  
flowing gently round the trees,  
the voice of mother nature calling  
throughout a woodland of leaves.

I see the red, orange, golden leaves  
flowing, sweeping across the forest floor,

I see a vision, a bundle of leaves  
which had fallen from the Autumn trees  
the sight of birds chirping in the wind,  
singing nature to sleep.

I feel the ..... bark of a tree,  
flowing rapidly down like a stream  
I touch the spiky leaves which point like knives,  
glistening brightly beneath the Autumn skies.

I taste the gooey marshmallows,  
melting gloriously in my mouth,  
the crunchy biscuits crumbling as they are so moist.

I smell the wind and burning fire,  
the marshmallows, cookies and cream,  
sitting on logs, living the dream,  
beneath us an eternity of Autumnal leaves.

*Bella Y.*

Also in Year 6 this week, the children have been retelling an event from a different perspective.

It was a bitter autumn morning, but that didn't stop me and Tommo from walking out to the fiery red woods, from enjoying a wonderful afternoon, little did I know that my life was about to end.

We were in the woods, I was busily hacking at a tree, Tommo was playing in the newly fallen leaves, my shift was nearly over but that didn't stop me from cutting down one more, what was the harm in that? It started to sway perilously so I stepped back and put down my axe, that was a day's work done. I looked around for Tommo, he wasn't by the rabbit hole or playing with the fallen branches, he was in the trees line of fire, I felt fear, anger, sadness and loss like I'd never felt before. It was a split second decision, but as soon as the realisation hit me, an elephant couldn't have stopped me from reaching my son and in one swift movement whipping him out the way. Then everything ended. Just as it had begun. With nothing. That was the end of my life...

*Sophie P.*

## Google 'Be Internet Legends' Assembly

We were very lucky last week to be invited to a whole school assembly run by Google ParentZone.

The Google Be Internet Legends assembly teaches Key Stage 2 pupils the skills they need to be safe and confident explorers of the online world.

The assembly focused on the five core pillars of the Be Internet Legends educational programme which we use during computing lessons over the course of the academic year, incorporating characters from an imaginary world called *Interland*. The pillars are:

**Be Internet Sharp:** Centred around the importance of thinking before sharing, evaluating whether a piece of information is private or not, and bearing in mind who will be able to see what is shared.

**Be Internet Alert:** Teaching pupils how to spot phishing scams and how to report them, be able to tell what is real and what is fake, and to think critically about information found online.

**Be Internet Secure:** Focused on keeping personal information safe by creating unique passwords, combining characters, numbers and symbols.

**Be Internet Kind:** Encourages pupils to spread positivity online, speak up against and report bullying, and teaches them how to identify inappropriate behaviour.

**Be Internet Brave:** About standing up when witnessing something inappropriate online, and to speak to a trusted adult about any concerns.

The assembly was presented to us live via YouTube, with the hosts interacting with the classes via the 'chat' function on the video. Afterwards, the children have been given some opportunities to play *Interland*, which is available free and online to play at any time ([g.co/interland](http://g.co/interland)) and reinforces our learning.

*Mr Stone*



# PE and Games News

It has been fantastic to see the pupils throw themselves into this half term with such enthusiasm! Whatever the lesson content and however hard it has been, they have all embraced the fitness challenges and made huge improvements. The year 3s and 4s have enjoyed some fantastic weather for their cricketing lessons and we hope they can enjoy some cricket fixtures in the Summer 2021! **After the break they will all play hockey so will need shin pads and mouth guards.** The Year 5 and 6s have played netball, hockey, cricket, football and rugby and will continue with these traditional sports after half term. In terms of fitness we have been impressed with the vast majority and their eagerness to run. Inter class competition is rife especially amongst Year 6 as they try to out do their fellow classes.

Over the holiday we are encouraging all pupils, staff and parents to try to get outside and do 30 mins of moderate exercise 4-5 times a week if at all possible. It would be a shame to lose the fitness built up over the last 6 weeks and have to start again with some pupils. I was so impressed to hear of pupils completed the 'Couch to 5k' over the summer beginning at week 4 and absolutely smashing it! Wouldn't it be something if we could get every child to be able to run non-stop for a couple of miles!

*Mrs Redhead-Sweeney and Mr Underwood*



There has been plenty of sporting action across the Prep School this week, ranging from running to gymnastics via hockey!



Year 3 netball club has been a highlight of Wednesday afternoons for many of the children. Thanks Miss Ni Chaoilte!

### Year 4

4N have been continuing our dive into Black History Month by looking at some key figures from black history.

**John Kent — First British Black politician**  
 From: Jamaica  
 Born: 1805  
 Died: 20th July 1886 (81 years old)  
 His police work: British colonial  
 Born where: Jamaica  
 Nationality: British  
 Interesting facts:  
 1. Began his police duties in Mississippi in 1835.  
 2. Mr Kent his father the same the first black politician in the UK

**Joe Clough**  
 What was he? ... We work together  
 BLACK MATTER BLM  
 We are a Team Black and White

**JAMES PETERS**  
 He played for Arsenal from 1907-1908, Derby from 1903-1904 and England from 1906-1905.  
 James Peters was the first black man to play for the England national football team.  
 Date of Birth: 7 August 1910  
 Date of death: 26 March 1954  
 Parents: George Peters and Hannah Gough

**MARGARET BUSBY**  
 Margaret is 75-76.  
 BLM  
 black lives matter  
 Ghana  
 She was the first black woman to be a Member of Parliament in the UK.  
 Don't judge! There's more to you than your skin color!  
 all lives matter  
 BLM  
 BLM  
 BLM

# Year 5

Year 5 had a terrific time in the woods last week as part of our Woodland Week.

In the woods, we did three very fun things. First we had to collect some interesting objects. Once we did that we were asked to put them in order and then we were going to prepare a speech to the teachers who we were going to pretend they were the Britain's Got Talent judges! After we did that the judges chose who was going to perform it for the whole year. The next activity was to collect as many sticks as we could to make a portrait of a famous character. Everyone else in the year then had to guess who it was.

*Orson S.*

When we went to the woods it was fantastic! We started off by getting into groups and finding different interesting objects and bringing them back to our own spot. After we were back from searching, we were given the task of ordering them in any way we liked. It was very fun and every group was unique. For our final task, we had to make a creative portrait of someone we all knew. We all had wonderful fun in the woods!

*Ella F.*

Year 5 went to the woods and we did lots of fun activities such as making portraits only using woodland items. The best bit was that we worked with people that aren't in our class.

*Felicia J.*

It was a good experience to be wild in the woods.

*Emily E.*

I really enjoyed being in the woods. My favourite part was creating the portrait. I learned to be resourceful whilst I was in the woods.

*Jake D.*

Last week, we went to the woods. We collected lots of sticks to make portraits of famous people! We had a great time and I want to go back!

*Thomas P.*



# Prep Bacculaureate

The Yarm Prep Bacculaureate is back in full swing this year, with children from Years 3-6 already embarking on a number of tasks and projects. Here, Jude and Eva (both in Y5) have been busy making cakes!



# Year 3

Year 3 have been transforming themselves into Minpins!



## MEDICAL/DIETARY UPDATE

It has been some time since we asked you to update the details that we hold regarding your child(ren) so that we can continue to support them effectively in school.

It is your obligation to ensure that we are kept up to date and it is particularly important in relation to the dietary and medical information we hold. Please visit the Parent Portal to check/amend as appropriate.

We will assume that if amendments are not made before 30th November 2020 the data we hold is correct.

Thank you for your support with this matter.

*Mrs Wheatley*

## COVID-19 (coronavirus) absence: A quick guide for parents / carers

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
 <p>...my child has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child shouldn't attend school</li> <li>Child should get a test</li> <li>Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result</li> <li>Inform school immediately about test results</li> </ul>	<p>...when child's test comes back negative</p>
 <p>...my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child shouldn't attend school</li> <li>Child self-isolates for at least 10 days from when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms)</li> <li>Inform school immediately about test results</li> <li>Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</li> </ul>	<p>...when child feels better, and has been without a fever for at least 48 hours</p> <p>They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell / taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.</p>
 <p>...somebody in my household has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child shouldn't attend school</li> <li>Household member with symptoms should get a test</li> <li>Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result</li> <li>Inform school immediately about test results</li> </ul>	<p>...when household member test is negative, and child does not have COVID-19 symptoms*</p>
 <p>...somebody in my household has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child shouldn't attend school</li> <li>Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</li> </ul>	<p>...when child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during the 14 days</p>

\* Symptoms include at least one of a high temperature; a new continuous cough; a loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste. See more at: [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms)

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
 <p>...NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms* or confirmed COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child shouldn't attend school</li> <li>Child self-isolates for 14 days (as advised by NHS Test and Trace) – even if they test negative during those 14 days</li> <li>Rest of household does not need to self-isolate, unless they are a 'close contact' too</li> </ul>	<p>...when the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during those 14 days</p>
 <p>...we / my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not take unauthorised leave in term time</li> <li>Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel</li> <li>Provide information to school as per attendance policy</li> </ul> <p><b>Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child shouldn't attend school</li> <li>Whole household self-isolates for 14 days – even if they test negative during those 14 days</li> </ul>	<p>...when the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed for the child, even if they test negative during those 14 days</p>
 <p>...we have received advice from a medical / official source that my child must resume shielding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child shouldn't attend school</li> <li>Contact school as advised by attendance officer / pastoral team</li> <li>Child should shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again</li> </ul>	<p>...when school / other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again</p>
 <p>...I am not sure who should get a test for COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only people with symptoms* need to get a test</li> <li>People without symptoms are not advised to get a test, even if they are a 'close contact' of someone who tests positive</li> </ul>	<p>...when conditions above, as matching your situation, are met</p>

For further information:  
[www.gov.uk/backtoschool](https://www.gov.uk/backtoschool)

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

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

## Reminders

### After School Care

If you need to make any late changes to your after school arrangements, please contact [Miss Richardson](#) or [Miss Algate](#).

Mr Stone

### Headphones

Please could children bring in a pair of headphones or earphones. These are to remain in drawers and be used when children are working on particular activities on Chromebooks.

Mr Stone

Yarm School has recently become part of Parent Zone's Digital Schools Membership programme, recognising our commitment to keeping our pupils safer online and making sure we work with you to achieve this.

## Key Dates for the Autumn Term

<b>Mon 2/11</b>	Pupils return Activities Carousel 2 begins for Year 3
<b>Wed 4/11</b>	School Council (1pm)
<b>Tue 10/11</b>	Dr Kathy Weston webinar (see previous page)
<b>Wed 11/11</b>	Remembrance Assemblies Curiosity Emporium (1pm)
<b>Fri 13/11</b>	Flu immunisations for Y1-6
<b>Mon 16/11</b>	Anti-Bullying Week Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Alliance
<b>Mon 30/11</b>	Reports released to parents
<b>Wed 2/12</b>	Year 3/4 Poetry Competition
<b>Mon 7/12</b>	Parents' Evening via Google Meet

## Parent Zone—Free for parents!

Our Digital Schools membership gives you FREE access to Parent Zone's Parent Lounge with:

- Online training;
- Expert advice and information on all things digital;
- Access to a free help service for all of your tech questions.

To get started, go to: <https://parentzone.org.uk/parents/discover-parent-lounge>

- Click on ENTER PARENT LOUNGE
- Click on the pink ADD TO CART button
- On the next page click CHECKOUT. You'll be

asked to enter your email address.

On the next page you will need to enter the coupon code YarmSchool to ensure you have free access. Please click ADD COUPON once the code has been entered. The code gives you a 100% discount.

I cannot recommend the Parent Zone service highly enough. In this day and age, when we are teaching the children how to be good online citizens and how to stay safe online, it is imperative that parents are in the loop too. Parent Zone offers this support.

Mr Stone

## Awards and Celebrations Assemblies

We held our values and endeavour certificate assemblies last Friday. Our congratulations to all of the children who have received an award!

Form	Values	Endeavour
3A	Joseph A.	Kavan S.
3C	Anwita D.	Amelia C.
3D	Yasmeen S.	Lolwa S.
4J	Harriet B.	Lucy W.
4N	Akansha M.	Violet M.
4P	Darcey-Rue R.	Louisa P.
5B	Namitha N.	Freddie B.
5P	William F.	Lucia C.
5W	Ben P.	Charlotte F.
6G	Tabitha L.	Mattia L.
6H	Noah C.	Rose D.
6L	Laurie E.	Sophie P.

## Parent Curriculum Information Site

<http://bit.ly/yarmpreparents>

The new parent curriculum information site will contain overviews and guidance booklets for English and mathematics, in addition to other links and curriculum details. It will be updated regularly so do keep checking back!

Mrs Pawluk

The answer to the Head's Challenge from  
last time was: An X-ray.