



Little Phoenix



The Newsletter of Yarm Pre-Prep

Number 309

20th November 2020

Mrs Speight's message ...

Wearing 'Odd Socks' on Monday launched our Anti-Bullying Week and the children loved showing and wearing their socks, it proved the perfect opportunity to talk about how unique we are. Year Group Assemblies were held and the children discussed the differences between, rude, mean and bullying behaviour. As always, the children demonstrated their maturity and respect for their peers. Our youngest children made reference to this special week as 'choose to be kind'. However, in Pre-Prep we always encourage our children to 'think of others' which is intrinsic within our school values of being resourceful, ambitious, respectful, compassionate, responsible, and staying safe. Our Year Group nativities have been ordered and the children are beginning to listen to the songs and learn their lines. Mr Brooks, our PAA manager met with the teachers about the filming of these. Unfortunately, we won't be able to invite you to 'live' performances this year in the PAA. However, the nativities will take place in the Studio Hall, I'm sure you will have noticed the stage which Mr Evans and Mr Vardy have kindly assembled for us. We look forward to sharing the details of how you can view them virtually in due course. Have a wonderful relaxing weekend. I'm looking forward to my Saturday night viewing of Strictly!

Warmest wishes

Jeanne Speight



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Kindness

As part of Anti-Bullying Week the children in Reception have been discussing the word 'kindness' and what it means to be a good friend. It was great fun celebrating differences as we paraded proudly around school in our odd socks on Monday. The children also enjoyed making their own 'kindness cards' in the writing area, practising their letter formation and learning some new 'tricky' words before handing them to a friend.



It's cool to be kind

The Year 1 children have embraced kindness week. We have been thinking about how we can treat each other and simple acts of kindness we carry out each day. 'Odd sock day' was the perfect way to celebrate our differences. The children loved sharing the story 'Perfectly Norman' and having discussions about their uniqueness.



Spread Kindness Like Confetti

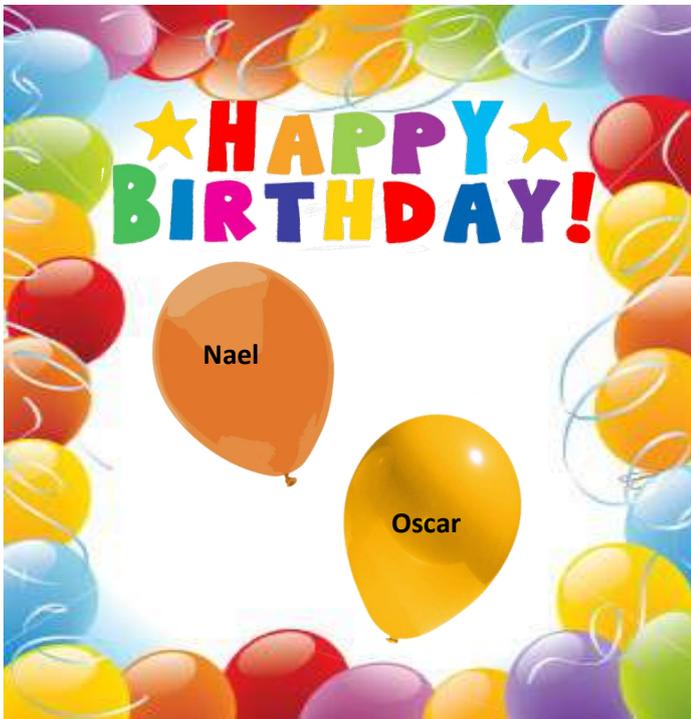
In Year 2, we have been thinking about kindness and celebrating our differences as part of Anti-Bullying Week. We started this theme on Monday by wearing odd socks and there were certainly a wide variety, from polka dots to stripes! We explored what "bullying" really means by discussing several scenarios and the Year 2 children are now aware that bullying is intentional, repeated and an imbalance of power rather than a one off 'mean' action.



Messy Play

We have been proud of all the Nursery children with their independence. In the 'wet area' of Nursery, there are many opportunities to be creative and also to get messy. The children are learning to select their own resources independently, wash paint pots and brushes themselves and also make their own playdough. This week, they chose to flavour it with the treacle tart scent. It was almost good enough to eat! I wonder what the children can do independently at home?





Polite Reminder - Extra layers for the woods

In the colder weather, please provide an extra jumper or fleece that can be worn with 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.

Holiday School Dates

No Christmas Holiday School 2020

Please note: Due to the late finish of the Autumn Term (Friday, 18th December) and the timing of the annual closure of school for Christmas (Wednesday 23rd December), there will be NO Christmas Holiday School this year.

Easter Holiday School 2021

Monday 29th March—Thursday 1st April

Summer Holiday School 2021

Monday 12th—Friday 30th July

YPSSC Pre-loved Uniform

Need school uniform? YPSSC have plenty of pre-loved stock with all money raised going back to the children through YPSSC events. Simply order online using the link below.

<https://tinyurl.com/y2yfwmy8>

2020/2021 Term Dates

Autumn Term, 2020

Finish - Friday, 18th 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)

Parking Notice

You may have noticed a staff presence on The Spital before and after school which is to encourage members of our school community to park sensibly, safely and considerately. We have had a number of parents pleased with our response in ensuring that the safety of our pupils is paramount. Thank you for your cooperation and support with this matter.

Christmas Collection for Billingham & Stockton Borough Foodbank and Little Sprouts

Monday 30th November - Monday 7th December

This year we will be collecting items to donate to Billingham and Stockton Borough Foodbank and Little Sprouts to help and support local families over the Christmas period. The following items are required by the foodbank: Christmas food gifts, chocolate, biscuits and toiletries such as shampoo and shower gel.

Donations open from Monday 30th November and will be kept in year group areas. The closing date is Monday 7th December.

Please ensure any items are brought in in carrier bags.

