

### A message from Mr Sawyer

It has been excellent to see all the children return after the break keen to tackle the next half term of adventure. Whilst it has felt like the nights are beginning to draw in and the temperature has begun to drop, this hasn't dampened the fires that burn brightly in terms of the pupils' enthusiasm for each school day and the positive spirit they display. The distribution of personal Chromebooks to the older pupils has certainly sparked much fervour and this has allowed for the broader access of shared devices to the younger age range across the School. It is an exciting step for the School to take and one that will allow for the wider use of technology where it can add impact and elevate the learning experience for our pupils. We are fortunate to be in such a position, and I look forward to seeing how Chromebook usage develops in the next few weeks and months.

Next week we turn our attention on Wednesday to our annual act of Remembrance. Whilst this year it will be different in some ways, we will still stop and consider the sacrifices others have made for us and reflect on how lucky we are to live in peaceful times. Families and generations have had to endure hardship, suffering and loss during times of conflict and when loved ones are engaged in active service with the Armed Forces. It is therefore only right that we honour The Fallen each year and ensure every future generation understands the importance of doing so.

*Bill Sawyer*

### Head's Challenge:

By making just two cuts with a pair of scissors, how would you turn the cross into a square? You should have no pieces left over and one complete square. 

### Photo of the Week:

There has been plenty of work going on in recent weeks to ready our allotment for planting season. Here, our Eco Club, who meet on Wednesdays with Mrs Jennings, have been busy pruning and clearing! More photos inside.



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](#).

## Year 5/6 Poetry Competition

Congratulations to all of the children who took part in the poetry competition for Years 5 and 6 this year, which took place prior to the half-term. The finals afternoon heard some wonderful recitals and those who reached this stage of the competition deserve full praise.



**Year 5 Overall Winner—Ben P.**

**5W—Daniel H.**

**5B—Ella F.**

**5P—Claudia P.**

**Year 6 Overall Winner—Rose D.**

**6H—Connie G.**

**6L—Eliash W.**

**6G—Ava R. and Amelie S. (joint winners)**

## October Holiday School

The children had a lovely week in and around the school grounds for Holiday School during the half-term. It was an opportunity for them to discover our allotment, which is located next to the school. It was also a chance the them to clear it up and ready it! Bonfires, woodland events, dance and all sorts of other activities were enjoyed by the children.



## Eco Club

Eco Club have also been busy on the allotment with Mrs Jennings! They have been clearing it in preparation for planting tulips, daffodils and strawberry plants.



## Year 6

6G have been embarking on some recount writing in recent weeks, focusing on an ideal day spent in the countryside.

“Are you OK in the back there?”

Mum was looking in the car mirror as I stared out of the window. My stomach was churning. This October half term my mum drove me and my brother up to Dalby Forest to enjoy a beautiful day at Go Ape. We decided to do in the first week of half term because we did not know if we were going to go into another lockdown in the second week and we wanted to make the most of it.

I told my mum how nervous I was, and she told me that everything was going to be ok. Reassured, I believed that, and it gave me a boost of confidence. “We have made it!” I shouted when we saw the first sign.

Arriving at Go Ape, I learned how to clip myself on to the wire safely, so I did not fall off. During the instructions, I saw a teenager on a dizzyingly high zipline and realised that I was going to be going on one of those. I was horrified of making any mistakes because I knew that there is a very high chance that it could result in death.

Screaming, the teenager came through a thick bunch of green pine trees and then magically disappeared into another cluster of trees and branches. Nervously, I knew when I was up there, I would probably be fine. Suddenly, I had a quick brainwave and it popped into my head that he was heavier than me so that would mean that he went faster and as I was lighter, that would mean that I would go slower. That also gave me another boost of confidence.

Afterwards, I reached the first zipwire of the trail and realised I had been dramatic about how high it was. After all, previously I have jumped off the high diving board and cliffs into the sea! It was my turn. My heart was pounding as I soared over the glamorous trees down low beneath me. Everyone watched and pointed as I flew through the blue sky. They looked like tiny pieces of walking dust.

Loudly, “Woo Hoo!” I screamed, acting as if I was not nervous (which I was). Collapsing onto the forest floor, I had a rough landing as I had performed a half turn in mid-air.

I had overcome my fears and was glad that I was nervous on the journey to the forest, but then brave. Travelling home in the car, I felt different than when I had arrived there. The first car journey, I felt nervous. Travelling home that evening I felt tired but happy that I had completed my goals for that day.

*Jake W.*

## Coming Up

### Children in Need—Friday 13th November

Next Friday we will be raising money for Children in Need with a sponsored 'Big Chill'. All children are invited to come to school in cosy loungewear and/or casual clothes ready to take part in an afternoon of mindful activities including yoga, meditation, journaling and other relaxation remedies. Please bring a £1 donation and drop it into the bucket at the gate on your way into school.



Thank you for your support.

*Miss Darbar*

### Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Alliance—Monday 16th November



Anti-Bullying Week begins on Monday 16th November and we will be using the week to raise awareness of bullying with the school community.

On that opening day, we are inviting all children to wear odd socks for the day, as an opportunity to encourage everyone to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes them unique! Children do not have to raise money to take part in this day as the most important thing is the message of Odd Socks Day.

*Mr Stone*

### **Bitesized stars!**

Luke P., Ben P. and Louisa P. are the voiceover stars of some of the new content on the BBC Bitesize! The children auditioned for voiceovers for the KS1 and KS2 geography content and, from over 100 children, Luke and Ben were selected for the male characters—James and Ben. If you also listen carefully to the KS1 hedgehog, you will notice that the laugh belongs to Louisa! When the BBC came to do the recording, they heard Louisa laugh and said “we must have that!”

The lessons—and the voiceovers—can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

*Mr Stone*

### Year 3

Year 3 thoroughly enjoyed the Big Chill at the end of half-term. They started with some meditation, then chose a relaxing area to read, use their journal or be mindful.



Year 3 popped to the woods for a scavenger hunt.



<b>COVID-19 (coronavirus) absence: A quick guide for parents / carers</b>		
<b>What to do if...</b>  <p>...my child has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*</p>	<b>Action needed</b> <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>	<b>Back to school...</b> ...when child's test comes back negative
 <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) - <i>even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</i></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) - <i>even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</i></li> </ul>	<p>...when child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during the 14 days</p>
<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: <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms">www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms</a></p>		

  

<b>What to do if...</b>	<b>Action needed</b>	<b>Back to school...</b>
 <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](http://www.gov.uk/backtoschool)

## 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

**Tue 10/11** Dr Kathy Weston webinar (see previous page)

**Wed 11/11** Remembrance Assemblies

Curiosity Emporium (1pm)

**Fri 13/11** Flu immunisations for Y1-6

Children in Need Day

**Mon 16/11** Anti-Bullying Week

Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Alliance

**Mon 30/11** Reports released to parents

**Wed 2/12** Year 3/4 Poetry Competition

**Mon 7/12** Parents' Evening via Google Meet

Activities Carousel 3 begins for Y3

Activities Carousel 2 begins for Y4-6

## 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	Thea S.	Noah WT.
3C	Trisha K.	Annika S.
3D	Zara P.	Ella L.
4J	Amelia O'C.	Ellie Mae G.
4N	Rehan K.	Matthew R.
4P	Ciara W.	Daisy N.
5B	Avighna A.	Elena FR.
5P	George F.	Rosie C.
5W	Tabitha B.	Ewan G.
6G	George W.	Minu PM.
6H	Adam P.	Atsushi Y.
6L	Ellie W.	Oliver D.

## 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: I am fire.