



# Little Phoenix



## The Newsletter of Yarm Pre-Prep

Number 327

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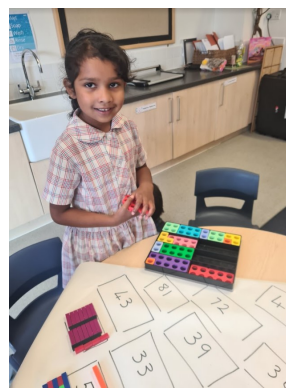
### Mrs Speight's message ...

A very warm welcome back to you all, I do hope you had a lovely summer holiday. The children have enjoyed telling me about their summer adventures. It has been a joy having them back. They are clearly very excited about being in school, I love to hear their comments, observations and questions! We have managed to have a whole Pre-Prep assembly, the first since before the pandemic. It was such a special moment for the team both staff and children alike. Mr Davies choreographed the dance of the week and we were all impressed with the children's dance moves. The children in Reception have settled into school extremely well and are getting used to their new routines. I wonder which is their favourite part of the day? They were excited to be going to the woods on Wednesday. I do hope you found the Parents' Information Evening helpful but please do not hesitate to ask any questions which may have occurred to you since that time. We are very much looking forward to seeing our Year 2 parents on Monday evening. Have a lovely relaxing weekend, I'm looking forward to celebrating my husband's first Great North Run!

*Joanne Speight*



Follow me on twitter: @YarmPrePrep





## Nursery Explorers

What a wonderful week we have had in Nursery. We have welcomed many new children as well as seeing lots of familiar faces back for their second year in Nursery. The children have been listening to lots of stories, singing Nursery Rhymes and exploring the indoor and outdoor environment. I have been so impressed with how well the Nursery children have settled into their new routines, you are all superstars!





## Welcome to Reception!

The children in Reception have enjoyed exploring their new learning environment during their first full week in the Pre-Prep. It is great to see them walking happily into school each morning and remembering where their lockers and pegs are. This sense of independence will serve them well in the years to come. The children have had many opportunities to develop their social skills; playing cooperatively and making new friends as they learn with smiles on their faces. It is wonderful to be back!





## Rising To The Challenge in Year 1

The children have enthusiastically committed to exciting new challenges. Inspired by the beautiful book 'Wild' by Emily Hughes, the children have been busy measuring and mixing 'jitter juices' to help the character in the book. They have designed and built toys that she could play with in her woodland home. In doing so they have collaborated carefully and worked with their own ideas. Taking new ways of working in their stride, the children have embraced working independently in small groups; revising their counting skills in maths.





## Into The Woods

The children in Year 2 began their new topic of 'Into the Woods' and posed many questions which they would like to investigate this term. To support our English work, we started reading Anthony Browne's 'Into the Forest'. As part of our learning, we discussed the different characters that the boy met on his journey through the forest and as a result we decided to reenact our own versions in the school woods. We recreated woodland settings using resources we could find and then chose characters. Once we had practised in groups, we presented our own stories to our peers, using some of the story language from the text. Everyone had such a wonderful time and we are all excited to see where our 'Into the Woods' journey takes us next...







## Calendar 2021-2022

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Autumn Term, 2021</b> |   |
| INSET 1                  | Tuesday, 31 <sup>st</sup> Aug 2021                      |
| INSET 2                  | Wednesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2021               |
| Pupils return            | Thursday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2021                |
| ½ term begins            | Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup> October 2021 (after school)    |
| Pupils return            | Monday, 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2021                   |
| Finish                   | Friday, 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2021 (after school)   |
| <b>Spring Term, 2022</b> |   |
| Pupils return            | Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2022                  |
| ½ term begins            | Thursday, 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2022 (after school) |
| INSET 3                  | Friday, 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2022                  |
| Pupils return            | Monday, 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2022                  |
| Finish                   | Friday, 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022 (after school)       |
| <b>Summer Term, 2022</b> |   |
| Pupils return            | Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2022                      |
| Bank Holiday             | Monday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2022                        |
| ½ term begins            | Thursday, 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2022 (after school)      |
| INSET 4                  | Friday, 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2022                       |
| Pupils return            | Monday, 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2022                       |
| Finish                   | Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> July 2022 (12 noon, finish)    |

### Please Note

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September Pre-Prep and Prep will finish early due to the Senior School Prize Giving

Pre-Prep—3pm finish

Prep—3.15pm finish

## New Staff



**Mrs Georgina Banham**



**Miss Hannah Lofthouse-Hill**



**Miss Hannah Jennings**



**Miss Ellie-May Haggas**



**Mrs Emma Broadhead**

We are delighted to welcome several new members of staff to the Pre-Prep. Many of you may have already met Mrs Banham, who joins us in the position of School Secretary.

We also welcome our new Curriculum and Teaching Assistants—Miss Lofthouse-Hill and Miss Jennings both join our Year 2 team and Miss Haggas joins the Nursery team. Mrs Broadhead will be supporting all of the year groups from Nursery up to Year 2.

We look forward to working with them all and wish them the very best as they settle in to our school community.