

The Phoenix Flier

Issue 683

Friday 8th October 2021

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

A message from Mr Sawyer

Welcome to this week's edition of the Phoenix Flier which brings together a range of updates and news from life at the Prep School. This week we have been thinking about Harvest and what it means to us and others. In assemblies we have journeyed to Kenya and explored what a good harvest might mean for our friends at the Miche Bora School, we have discussed the work of Marcus Rashford in challenging Government to provide wider free school meal provision and we have also thought about the work of Sprouts in supporting families in our local community. The common theme throughout our assemblies has been one of thankfulness for the love, food and shelter we all enjoy and how we can extend this to others - a key aspect of our School Values, in particular *compassionate*. Thank you for your generous donations which have been coming in all week. We look forward to handing these over to representatives from Sprouts in assembly on Friday after a traditional Harvest blessing from Revd Darren Moore, who visits the Prep School for the first time since becoming Rector of Yarm, Kirklevington and Picton in recent months.

Looking ahead, next week is the final one before the half-term break. Wow! How time flies when you are having fun. It will certainly be a well-earned rest when we get there for our staff and pupils who have given everything since the start of term. Before that though, we have our first chess tournament on Saturday after too long without one, our budding chess players are certainly excited about it. We also have our reading information event for parents on Wednesday next week which I highly recommend. If you are able to make the session we look forward to welcoming you, if not, do keep an eye out for the resources that will be shared soon and will help to support reading at home.

Bill Sawyer

Head's Challenge: I have one ear, but cannot hear. I have golden hair but no head. What am I?

Photo of the Week: This is only the start of our Harvest collection for Sprouts! The photo, taken on Wednesday, followed Mr Stone's assembly where he challenged everyone to double what we had already collected. By Thursday morning, the amount had tripled!



Tooled Up Education

Here at Toolled Up, we are listening and responding to your questions and queries. Based on parents' requests, we have introduced a resource that can help introduce boundaries to [children's gaming habits](#), one that can aid [the home-school partnership](#) and make parents' evenings a little easier and, just to prove we can be light-hearted, we have added some fun resources on the latest Bond film. We asked Ian Kinane, Professor of English Literature at the University of Roehampton, to get us up to speed ahead of seeing the new release. Check out his '[five things you need to know before you see No Time to Die](#)' resource and test your knowledge with his [James Bond Quiz](#).

If you prefer educational webinars, here is a menu of what we are offering in November.

4th November - Just in time for bonfire night, we'll be having a fascinating chat about [Children's Relationship to Fire and Fire-setting](#), with criminologist and author, Joanna Foster.

Later in November, Dr Weston is hosting a **Mental Health Education Week** for Toolled Up Schools. All webinars are free for you to attend:

15th November - [Anger Management Strategies](#) with Dr Anna Colton

16th November - [What Every Parent Needs to Know About Self-Harm](#) with national expert, Professor Ellen Townsend

17th November - [The Importance of Sleep for Mental Health](#) with Joanna Kippax of Wye Sleep

18th November - [OCD and Anxiety: A Parent's Guide](#) with psychiatrist, Dr Anna Conway Morris

19th November - [The Role of the Clinical Psychologist in Supporting Young People's Mental Health](#) with Dr Tamsyn Noble

Do you have any burning parenting questions? Did you know that Dr Weston will answer any parenting question that you ask? Have a peek at this week's parenting question on the front page of the [Tooled Up Education](#) site. If you have a question, why not submit it? All questions are treated anonymously and we promise we will answer.

A quick reminder As a parent at a Toolled Up school, you have full unlimited access to the Toolled Up library. If you have not created your account yet, click [here to register for an account](#). It takes less than 2 minutes to enter your details and unique school PIN: YPSII03 and if you need assistance, we are always happy to help at support@tooledupeducation.com. If you already have an account and you have forgotten your password, then simply click on any of the resource links above, click "Lost your password" and follow the instructions.

Dr Kathy Weston



FEATURED 4 October 2021
Cultivating Good Gaming Habits: Tips for Parents



FEATURED 6 October 2021
James Bond Quiz



FEATURED 6 October 2021
Five Things You Need to Know Before Seeing 'No Time to Die'



13 December 2020
30 Things You Might Say to Teachers at Parents' Evening

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!

School Council minutes—Wednesday 29th September 2021

Attendees

School Captains, House/House Vice Captains, Y3 Form Captains, Y4 Form Captains, Y5 Form Captains and Y6 Form Captains.

We discussed matters as one group, taking it in turns to make our point.

The focus of the meeting was "How can we be an inclusive school?"

Mr Stone thanked the captains for asking their forms for their thoughts.

We discussed what we mean by being inclusive.

- We agreed that something is inclusive if it doesn't exclude a person, a part or a group of people.

We discussed who might be excluded from school. Suggestions included:

- People of different race
- Children who might be different in any way (e.g. those with disabilities)
- People of different religions
- People of different genders (e.g. in sport)

We came up with some ideas on how we can make Yarm Preparatory School more inclusive:

- Children and families from all backgrounds, races and religions are welcome at Yarm (noted by 6P)
- There are no girl 'things' or boy 'things'; they should be open to everyone (6G)
- Celebrate diversity (3B)
- Celebrate festivals from other religions
- Stop thinking about stereotypes - CHALLENGE THEM
- More mixed sports (3B)
- Look for speakers/visitors of all genders and backgrounds
- No racist or sexist judging of people (School captains)
- More theme days to celebrate events from different cultures (5H)
- Choice in games (and mixed fixtures)
- We allow all in our school (6P)
- We include people in all of our games if someone wants to
- We should all be able to go everywhere instead of just with your year in one area and make friends with all ages
- Play more games at breaks that everyone can play, like Tig (4W)
- Peaceful places to pray (4W)

What happens now?

The School Captains will take these minutes to discuss with Mr Sawyer in their weekly meeting.

Our next meeting will be in November.

Minutes recorded by Mr Stone.



Yarm Prep Baccalaureate

You will hopefully have seen the new **Yarm Prep Baccalaureate** booklets brought home last week with your child. The YPB is an opportunity for the children to:

- Develop new skills,
- Stretch themselves; and
- Recognise their talents and achievements.

Every child in the Prep School can do it! The overall aim is to encourage and recognize pupil involvement in their school, with a clear focus on our School Values. There are also elements of *Education for Social Responsibility* within the tasks set—all of which are age-appropriate and achievable based on the year group of each child.



What do the children need to do?

Each page of the YPB covers one of our School Values. On each page, a child needs to complete **four TASKS** and the **PROJECT**. These need to be dated and signed by a teacher. Form time will be used to do this. There are also lunchtime club on Tuesdays for children to do this with Mr Stone.

What are the tasks?

The tasks are based around each School Value and offer a mix of those that can be achieved in school and those that will need some support at home to complete. Some will be completed during day-to-day life at school (and at home!), so we are encouraging children to look for these first before exploring and tackling some of the more challenging tasks.

Four tasks need to be completed from the 7/8 under each School Value. They need to be dated and signed by a teacher.



What are the projects?

The projects are designed to promote the School Values. All your child has to do is record how they have demonstrated each value—on one side of A4 paper—and present it to their teacher or Mr Stone.

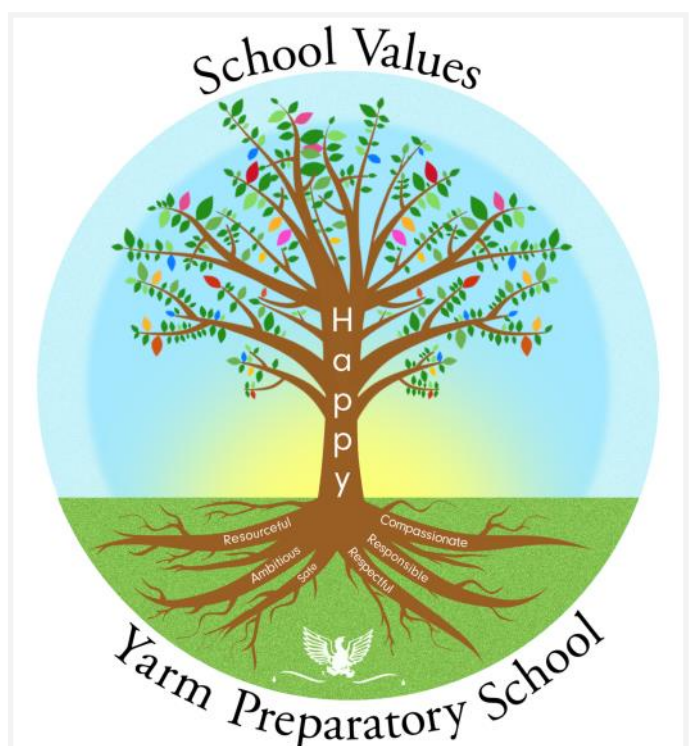
Some examples might include: demonstrating 'Safe' by producing a poster for Safer Internet Day; highlighting how they are being 'Resourceful' by drawing some diagrams of how an old item was fixed; or showing how they are 'Ambitious' by putting together a report and pictures of an assembly/event they took part in.

What do parents need to do?

- Discuss and share with your child what they are doing.
- Work with them to complete each of the projects (and sign them off!)
- Encourage your children to come along to the lunchtime clubs on Tuesdays.
- Make sure that the YPB booklet is kept safe and secure—both at home and at school!

DON'T FORGET TO COME ALONG TO THE LUNCHTIME CLUB EVERY TUESDAY!

Mr Stone



PE and Games this week

With our Tuesday clubs postponed because of the heavy rain, we were set a task to design a new Yarm School netball dress and a Belfast Tour t-shirt. Here are some of our designs.

Katie C.



U10 Rugby v Red House

On Friday we went to Red House and played lots of tag rugby. We all loved it and it tested our skills and our speed. It also tested our communication with other Red House players. Our speed was tested because Red House have a big pitch, so it was quite hard to run out of the lines. There were two teams: blue and red. The blues moved along every time at the end of the match to play against the next team. The matches were 10 minutes long.

I really liked going to Red House and playing matches; it has been a very long time since we have had a fixture!

Noah A.



You are warmly invited to a
Reading at Yarm Preparatory School
 Information Event for R-Y6 Parents
 Wednesday 13th October 4 – 4.45pm
 Prep School Hall

- ✓ Phonics
- ✓ Guided Reading
- ✓ Reciprocal Reading
- ✓ Comprehension Skills

- R-Y6 Overview
- Resources
- Reading Scheme
- Accelerated Reader
- Workshops



*How does the school teach reading?
 What will happen as my child moves
 through the school?
 How can I support my child?
 What questions should I ask when hearing
 them read?*

To allow us to plan and cater for the event, please can you fill in the Google Form below by **Friday 8th October** indicating whether you will be attending and the arrangements for your child after school.

<https://forms.gle/3akJ4ibByQDRgTBUA>

Yarm Preparatory School, Grammar School Lane, Yarm TS15 9ES

Telephone: 01642 781447

Year 6 this week

As well as some magnificent writing, Year 6 this week have been exploring the behaviour of woodlice by setting up choice chambers.

The BEST day of my life!

It was just an ordinary Friday evening, when me and Mum were driving home from school, excited because it was the first day of the Winter holidays! There were only seven days left till Christmas, the tree was up, presents were wrapped, it was time to relax! Or so I thought...

We unlocked the door and I thought something smelled different, but I didn't bother to ask. I thought it was just a candle Mum had bought, Mummy was already at home because this was her second week off school, lucky! Then Mum said "We are going to show you something and this will change your life!" What could it be? The door opened, and just under the tree, a tiny, grey ball of fluff was playing around with a small, toy mouse!

"Oh My Gosh!" I whispered dramatically, "A KITTEN!" I ran over to it, but it ran under the tree, "Here use this," Mummy said. Suddenly, it all made sense, why I had to wear different pyjamas last night, why something smelled funny, why the door was closed, because of the kitten! "What is its name?" I asked, still watching it closely, just in case it decided to come out. "He doesn't have a name yet, we were wondering what you might want to call him!" Mum said. Before I got a chance to reply, he came out from under the couch and bounded towards the mouse on the rope I was holding!

"He is so tiny!" I said "And so cute!" Then Mummy handed me a list of names for him, they were all Harry Potter names! As quick as a flash, I had found the perfect name, "Albus!" I exclaimed. It was perfect!

Then, I asked if I could call my friends and show him to them, I had already told them a few minutes before! The second I joined the call, Emma asked, "Where is he!?" quite loudly, so I took my phone over to where he was sitting - under the tree - and showed him to them! "Awwwww!" they all said, in unison. After that, Mum took an amazing photo of him and, I got to stroke him!

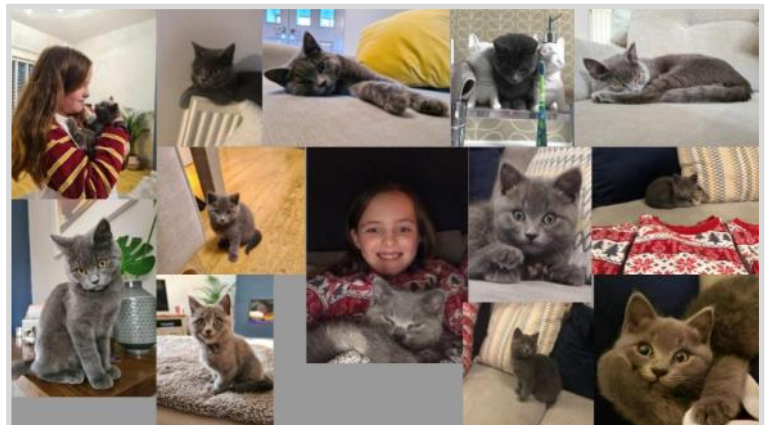
That was definitely the BEST day of my life so far, (I have enclosed some pictures of him early on on slides) and I still love him more than ever, (especially when he sleeps on me) even when he scratches me!

Edie R-S.

The Encounter

This all started on the 7th July 1867, the day when the Royal Admiral Maxwell went to court in front of Her Highness Queen Elizabeth. The courtiers had shown up in crowds of black and white robes, faces grim with boredom, some of them twiddling their thumbs showing disinterested faces. Even the Queen herself was portraying a glazed gaze.

"Your Highness, surely you are not suggesting to turn down my request," stuttered Maxwell. The crowd gasped in





disbelief! Surely he had not questioned the Queen's decision?

"So why should I accept this idiotic claim from a mere Admiral?" queried Her Royal Highness.

Maxwell fumbled for an answer, "The mission I am trying to undertake would save your vessels and all your riches after they were tragically taken to the Dark Locker by the dreaded triangle and you would avenge those people and make sure my colleagues didn't die in vain."

"You may have a vessel if you consider this of such stupendous importance and you should set sail tomorrow at the very latest," sighed the Queen.

So that is what they did and by noon the following Tuesday, they were cruising along the Caribbean Sea drawing ever so nearer to their final destination with every minute.

"Land ahoy!" cried the sailor up in the crows' nest.

"Surely not! We're not due to be near land till sundown at the earliest," Maxwell thought out loud.

"Well... there's something there Captain, whatever it is!"

The steward's voice quivered with fear, "You don't think land is meant to come towards you!"

The deck was split into a lattice of cracks as the creature skimmed the bow on the starboard side. Then, with an abrupt movement, the creature ruptured the bow with a sound of splintered wood filling the ship with an air of terror... the bow was damaged beyond repair and the creature thrashed at every untouched piece of wood. Men flung themselves out to the sea's perilous depths like fish from a net. The creature's tentacles tore plank after plank and threw them like boulders at the souls in the sea plunging them under the icy water, grasping them from sight. The ship could take no more and the nails were prised from their bolts and masts were torn from their holdings, before the ship cascaded into the sea leaving only an array of debris.

Days later Maxwell stuttered into semi-consciousness before noticing his surroundings.

"NOW YOU HAVE NOT ONLY RUINED MY REPUTATION BUT YOU HAVE RUINED MY SHIP! SEND HIM TO THE CELLS!" roared the Queen, her face filled with putrid hate.

YPSSC

You can view the minutes to the most recent Yarm Preparatory School Social Committee by [clicking on this link](#).

Maxwell woke the next day in the prison, all signs of happiness diminished and his future looked grim and hopeless but his fellow inmates were fascinated to hear his stories about the Kraken, the creature of the deep.

Theo S.

Year 5 Sustainable Craft activity

Year 5 have been busy decorating rocks in their sustainable art activity on Monday afternoons.



After School Care

After School Care is supervised by Miss Emma Jeffries and Prep School staff. The care costs are as follows: 4.30-5.00pm - £2; 5.00-5.30pm - £3 (in addition to previous charge); 5.30-6.00pm - £3 (in addition to previous charge). Children involved in clubs until 5pm, children involved in fixtures and children whose siblings are involved in Prep School clubs and activities are not charged until these activities have finished. **Please note the phone number for after school care: 01642 792584. It would help us enormously, if you are running late after 5pm, that you could contact this number to let us know your estimated time of arrival.**

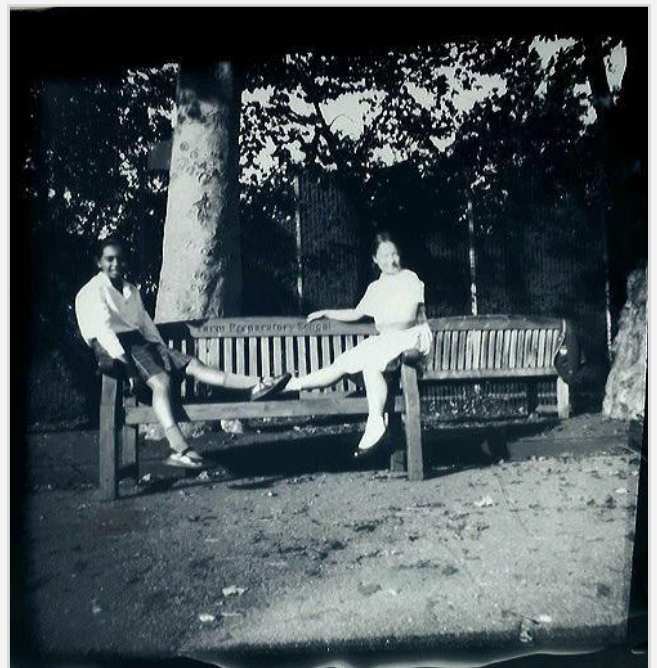
Year 6 Darkroom Photography update

It's amazing what you can do with a cardboard box and a pin; we have used our self-built pinhole cameras to take photographs. After loading them with photographic paper, we took them out and experimented. Then it was back to the darkroom to develop our pictures and see what had come out.

This picture took 30 seconds to expose: Neev and Elizabeth had to sit very still! When we developed it, it came out as a negative, which had to be reversed to make the final print.

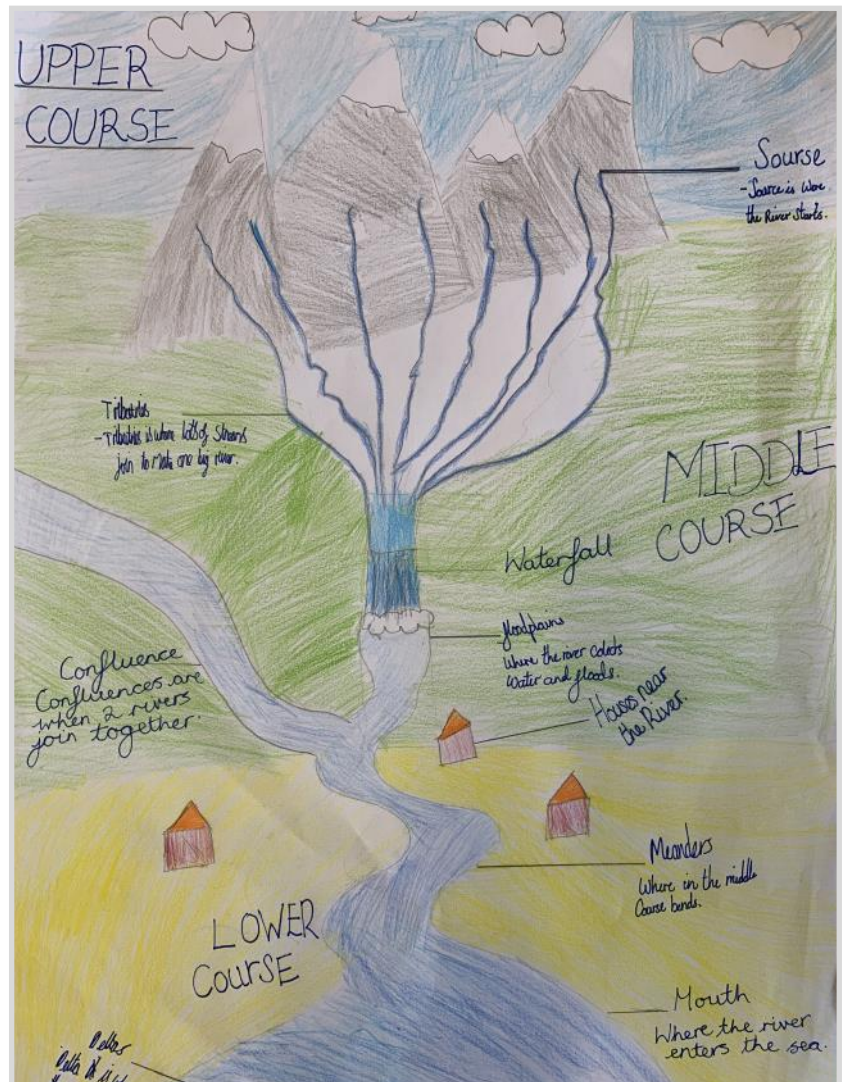
Next time: film and SLR cameras.

Mr Gooding



5W Humanities

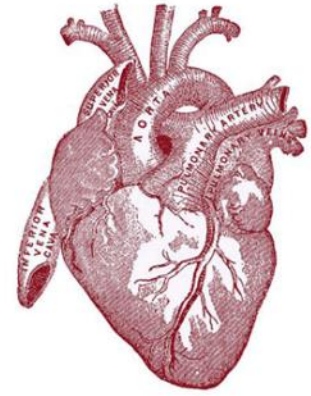
5W have been learning about rivers in Humanities this term. They have been looking at the rivers journey from the upper course down to the lower course and finding key features along its route. They designed a detailed diagram of the courses and labelled it with key terminology such as: source, mouth, tributaries, confluences and meanders! Well done 5W!



5H Science

5H have been working in the lab, testing materials for how well they could conduct electricity.





Art Competition

To be featured in a charity calendar

The theme is:

**What do you
think makes a
good heart?**

There will be a winner
from each year,
appearing on one page
of the 2022 calendar

**Open to all year
groups.**

This brilliant competition is a great way for you to be super creative and make something really exciting! Painting, drawing, photography... give it a go!

Now for the important stuff:

Please create your work on an A4, landscape piece of paper. Write your name, year and your class on the BACK of your work.

**Please submit your
work to Mrs
Shepherd or Mrs
Symington by 11th
October.**



**GOOD
LUCK
and enjoy!**

**All money raised from
selling the calendars
goes to the South
Cleveland Heart Fund**

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and educators with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. Please visit nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Part of our Social Media & Live Streaming Series



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National Online Safety
www.nationalonlinesafety.com

What you need to know about...

VIDEO STREAMING APPS & SITES

What are they?

'Video Streaming Apps & Sites'

Video streaming apps and sites can allow people to share activities and hobbies with others in real time or watch their favourite films and TV shows online. There are different types of video streaming services. Twitch is used for watching others play video games in real time; you can watch YouTube live and watch Netflix, Amazon Prime or Apple TV with friends and family. Video streaming has gained popularity in the last few years because there is a sense of community when watching with others and people can comment on videos and ask questions in real-time.

Know the Risks

Inappropriate videos

When watching on video streaming apps, it is difficult to filter the content that is out there. For instance, when a child is watching a YouTube video, they will get recommendations for other similar videos. The risk is even higher with videos which are live, as children could be watching inappropriate content in real time.

Chatting with strangers

Video streaming apps or sites increase the risk of children communicating with strangers online. For example, most YouTube videos allow users to comment on the video. Whilst children could be watching something innocent, the comments section can be used by groomers to try and direct them towards private messaging.

Binge-watching

Children can easily fall into 'binge-watching' on video streaming apps which can impact on sleep, mood and their ability to concentrate on other things. The autoplay function can make it difficult to find time for a break and often the recommended content is similar to what children are already watching based on the algorithms used.

Screen addiction

In addition to binge-watching, most video streaming apps are available across all devices with an internet connection which can mean increased screen time. Popular apps, such as Netflix and Amazon Prime, have huge libraries of content which can mean hours of viewing time and potentially less time spent on learning, playing outside or interaction with friends and family.

Safety Tips

Check age-ratings

13+

Ensure that children are at the right age to use the app. Most video streaming apps require users to be at least 13 years old. Be clear on what apps and sites children can use. Encourage them to never participate in online discussions that are offensive and never interact with strangers or people they don't trust.

Change privacy settings

Check the privacy setting of children's app. Ensure that for whichever app they are using, the settings are set to private and disable comments if applicable. Furthermore, set screen time restrictions via the app or the device to limit children's use.

Implement parental controls

Activate parental controls your child's devices and apps. This will prevent them from accessing content they shouldn't. For instance, on Netflix, create a kids profile. This way they will only be able to view videos appropriate for their age group. Likewise, use YouTube Kids over YouTube or apply restrictions and turn off features such as autoplay.

Spend time on the app

Before allowing children to access a video streaming app, spend some time browsing through its content. Familiarise yourself with how it works, what content is available and what your child wants to watch. Check-in regularly and ask what they enjoy watching and how it makes them feel.

Action & Support

Report inappropriate content

If a child comes across inappropriate content or something that makes them feel uncomfortable on an app such as YouTube, you can report the content and the person who has uploaded the content to the platform. If a stranger is looking to engage with your child, block them and report them.

Have an open and honest conversation

Adults can review the TV shows and films that have been watched many video streaming apps. If a child seems upset or shocked by something they have seen or if you are concerned about anything they've viewed, try to talk to them about it and have an open and honest conversation to help understand any concerns.

Encourage other activities

If you think a child is spending too much time on a video streaming app, try to foster their interest in other activities or hobbies away from their device. Encourage them to get outdoors, play with friends, play board games or just simply spend more time together with you.

Our Expert Parven Kaur



Parven Kaur is social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks; a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.

Key Dates

OCTOBER

Sat 9	Teesside Team Chess Championships (10am-2.30pm; Prep School)
Mon 11	Brunel house duty
Tue 12	U8 Rugby and Hockey workshop v Ashville (away; 2pm start, 4.30pm return)
Wed 13	Reading at Yarm event (for parents) (4pm start; details to follow) Food Council (1pm)
Thu 14	Yarm U9 Rugby and Hockey Festivals
Fri 15	Half-term begins after school After School Care as usual
Mon 18	October Holiday School commences (finishes Friday 22nd October)

NOVEMBER

Mon 1	Pupils return Stephenson house duty
Tue 2	U8 Hockey and Rugby with Dame Allan's Away; 2pm start, 5pm return
Thu 4	U9 Hockey and Rugby v Dame Allan's Away; 2pm start, 5pm return
Fri 5	U10 Hockey & Rugby v Barnard Castle (away; 2pm start, 4.45pm return) U11 Rugby and Hockey v Barnard Castle (home; 2pm start) U11 Hockey workshops with Teesside High (home; 2pm start)
Mon 8	Telford house duty
Tue 9	Stephenson Charity fundraiser
Wed 10	HMC Rugby and Hockey (GSAL, Leeds) School Council
Thu 11	Remembrance Assembly
Fri 12	4N class assembly U10/11 Hockey and Rugby v Pocklington

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no gymnastics club after school on Friday 15th October.

Peer Mentor of the Week

Name: Wilf

Friends: Archie, Luke and George H mainly.

My best mentor: My older cousins are always really kind to me.

Favourite TV show: Cobra Kai

Favourite fruit: Red apples

Favourite subject: PE and Games

When I am older... I want to be a test driver of off-road cars.

Mr Stone had a visitor the other day. She was immediately struck by Wilf's manners and politeness. What an excellent role model!



The answer to the Head's Challenge from last time was: Milk.

Weekly certificates

	Values	Endeavour
3B	Emily Q.	Evelyn C.
3R	Manha A.	Stan D.
3W	Rory F.	Bella M.
4J	Harrison W.	Erin G.
4N	Kaira N.	Violet F.
4W	Phoenix E.	Ettie A.
5H	Fenwick M.	Navina M.
5K	Arvind K.	Auden A.
5W	Dorothy W.	Harriet B.
6G	Namitha N.	Thomas P.
6L	Aditri K.	Yuhe T.
6P	Lucia C.	Eleanor W.

Morrisons vouchers

As a school, we are collecting the 'It's Good to Grow' vouchers at Morrisons to use towards collecting free gardening equipment for the school allotment (currently being looked after by Year 2!) If you receive any vouchers, please send them in!

Mr Pengilly

