

The Phoenix Flier

Issue 684

Friday 15th October 2021

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

A message from Mr Sawyer

Welcome to this week's edition of the Phoenix Flier which is the final one for this half term and a round up of a number of events that have taken place this week. As you will see there have been a range of trips, sporting fixtures, a chess tournament and we hear some music news from Mr Gooding. As I write this introduction all of Year 4 are playing in our own U9 hockey and rugby tournaments on the Astro or at Green Lane, and the Pre-Prep are going wild at the Pre-Prep Halloween disco in the Hall. It is certainly all happening. The forthcoming break is well deserved, we wish everyone a safe and happy half-term holiday when it arrives.

In assemblies and PSHE this week we have been looking at diversity, inclusion and equality as part of our ongoing appreciation and celebration of our differences. We have learnt about Katherine Johnson's illustrious career at NACA & NASA where she used her phenomenal maths skills to support space explorations. She battled gender and racial barriers in her early career but was responsible for calculating the trajectory for the first American space flight and the launch window for the Mercury Mission in 1961. She went on to support many space missions and became an American hero. Her life was depicted in the film *Hidden Figures*, which is well worth a watch. We have also had the opportunity to learn about Julie Rogers, a paralympic athlete who has competed at two Paralympics in two different events: seated volleyball and the T42 sprinting class. An impressive career on both the athletics track and volleyball court has gone hand in hand with Julie's work in finance. Julie's story inspired us all to think about how we often judge others too quickly.

*Bill
Sawyer*

Photo of the Week:

It was fantastic to see our first chess tournament since the lockdowns last weekend, with Mr Marsh and Mr Grundmann marshalling an intense and exciting Yarm Team Chess Championships.

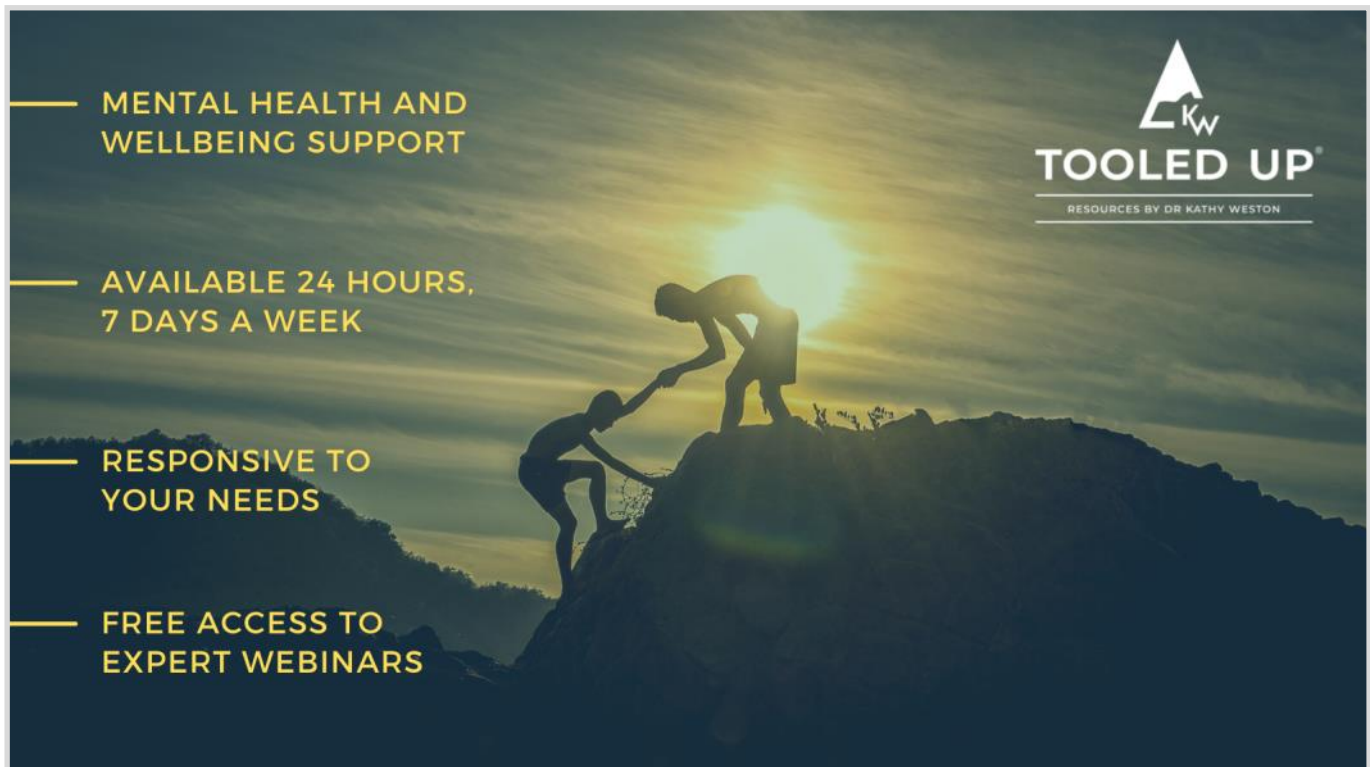
Head's Challenge: I speak without a mouth and hear without ears. I have no body, but I come alive with the wind. What am I?



Tooled Up Education

Earlier this week, it was World Mental Health Day, so now seems the perfect time to remind you of the vast array of evidence-based resources linked to mental health and wellbeing in the Tooled Up library. Our [wellbeing](#) category currently contains 160 resources and is growing constantly, in response to your needs.

We can't wait for our very own Mental Health Education Week, exclusively for our Tooled Up community, starting on November 15th. Get ready for a week of evening webinars, all of which are open for registration now! Find out about [anger management strategies](#) with Dr Anna Colton, [self-harm](#) with national expert, Professor Ellen Townsend, [the importance of sleep for mental health](#) with Joanna Kippax of Wye Sleep, [OCD and anxiety](#) with psychiatrist, Dr Anna Conway Morris and the [role of clinical psychologists in supporting young people's mental health](#) with Dr Tamsyn Noble. Tickets are on a first come, first served basis. Make sure you don't miss out by registering now!



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 Tooled Up school, you have full unlimited access to the Tooled 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: YPS1103 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.

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!

Yarm Team Chess Championships

After just over two years without an over-the-board tournament, we returned in style on Saturday 9th October with the 26th Yarm Team Chess Championships at Yarm Preparatory School.

The enforced hiatus may have dampened our chess spirits for a while but we were delighted to bring one of the world's longest running tournaments back onto the calendar.

64 children - one for each square on the chessboard - participated in the event, in a big statement of strength and unity as we continue our battle against adversity. We had a big celebration of chess together with visiting teams from other local primary schools.

For this comeback event, we merged the Under-9 and Under-11 sections to produce one big celebratory tournament.

Yarm G (Anjali Ramisetty, Jacob Bandeira, Griff Williams, Sid Suryadevara) won the Under-11 section, closely followed by Yarm A (Edie Redhead-Sweeney, Alfie McBain, Thomas Pritchard, Felicia Jude) and Yarm H (Udham Chahal, Marawan Saad, Jack Severn, Auden Ashwell)

Yarm J (Miles Page, Lolwa Soliman, Kaira Nalawade, Erin Goh) are the new Under-9 champions, with Yarm K (Benjamin Fulford, Jacob Bell, Anwita Dara, Alexandra Prideaux) finishing second and Yarm L (Haashir Imran, Eric Pinedo Fuentes, Harrison Covell, Avikshyanta Bhattari) in third place.

All of the players gained excellent experience and they will be more than ready for their next chess challenges.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the event such an excellent and welcome success!

Sean Marsh



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.

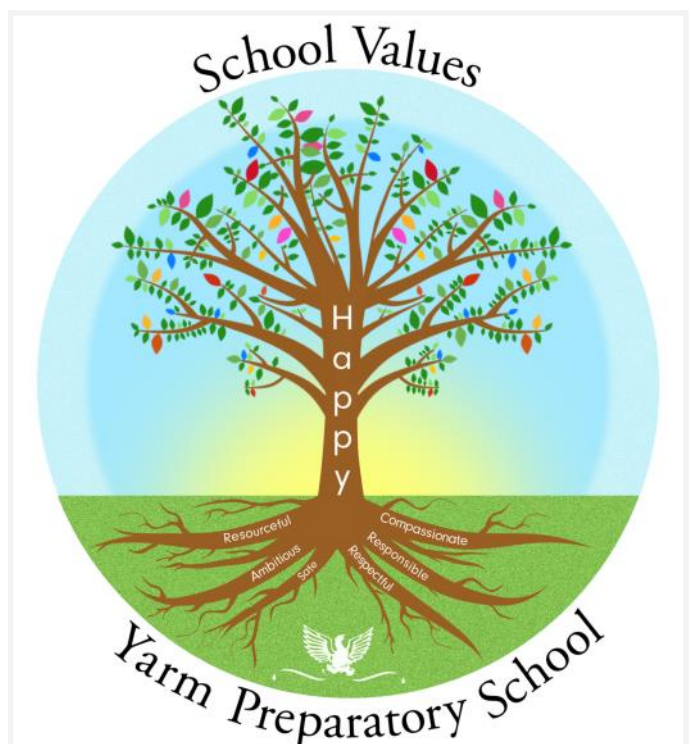
Some examples might include: demonstrating 'Safe' by producing a poster for Safer Internet Day; highlighting how they are being 'Resourceful' by drawing some diagrams of how an old item was fixed; or showing how they are 'Ambitious' by putting together a report and pictures of an assembly/event they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



Year 3 walk to Yarm

On Monday, armed with clip boards, Year 3 made their way onto Yarm High Street as part of our local area study. We conducted a survey on the different types of shops and services available and now we are all very busy designing our own thriving high streets. We have had some very interesting conversations on what makes a thriving high street and what we would improve on Yarm high street!



YPSSC

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

PE and Games

A busy week with lots going on. Super to see our Year 3s enjoying early morning hockey! Our year 4's loved their away fixture v Queen Mary's last Thursday and every child learnt something that day. It was great to see a few parents supporting as well. This was a great dress rehearsal for our own festival that took place this week.

On Friday our Year 6 girls were involved in house hockey and threw themselves into it with a fantastic attitude and everyone doing their bit. It was very close in the end with 1st and 2nd separated by goal difference after tying on points. Our Grangetown Netball Hub has been a real success this half term and thanks to Michelle for putting on a lovely session for the girls. Friday saw the first sports trip of the term to Newcastle to watch the Eagles in action. See the report for the finer details.

Happy half-term and see you in November.

Team PE



Flu Vaccination Program

The Childhood Immunisation Team will be visiting school on Wednesday 3rd November to administer the flu nasal spray to all children from Reception to Year 6. You will have received details of how to provide consent via email and this must be completed no later than Thursday 28th October.

Please visit www.hdft.nhs.uk/fluconsent and enter the School Code: 111771 or alternatively ring the consent line on 01423 557693.

Mrs Wheatley



Newcastle Eagles Basketball trip

Last Friday evening, we saw the first basketball trip of the year! Thanks to Wendy and her team for providing us with lovely hotdogs and cookies. We got into pairs and the trip began, it was an hour journey but it was worth it! When we got there, we got in our seats and watched the teams practice. It was the Eagles vs the Phoenixes and we were counting how many baskets they scored in their practice. Half an hour later, we were about to go and get snacks but Mrs Redhead Sweeney said that it was contactless so we couldn't use our money. She had bought snacks though so we had Haribos or Moams and a bottle of water. At half time, the Eagles cheerleaders - the Eaglettes - came on and danced to a few songs. There was also a dance cam and we were on it a few times! The score was tight but the Eagles won 94 - 74 and we all celebrated! We came back and all got picked up, but then, when we were walking back up the hill Mrs Redhead Sweeney stepped on a frog and jumped higher than any of the basketball players!

Edie R-S.



Harvest collection

Our sincere thanks to all families who donated towards our Harvest collection for the local *Sprouts* community food charity. As you can see below, Debbie from Sprouts and Reverend Moore—along with two Year 4 classes—struggled to get into the same picture as all of the donations! The collection will go to local families in need.



Music news

It's wonderful to be able to sing and play together again. Here's just a small section of our orchestra, which has come back bigger and stronger than before. There are no auditions for this group, but they're already making a great sound.



We have expanded our wider opportunities instrumental scheme in Years 3 and 4, adding guitar, chalumeau (a sort of mini-clarinet) and harp. Our new harps arrived last week and the children are loving them.



Mrs Staggs has joined us in Year 2 to do some violin work in small groups. With Mr Gooding we are learning about composing with graphic scores.

Mr Gooding

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.**

Mr Stone

The Week Junior

Many who know me know that I love to read, no matter what it is. No matter how long or short, I will always be willing to read it. My parents are two of the many people who have realized this, and they decided to order me the 'Week Junior' after hearing good suggestions from some parents. I have read it ever since they ordered it for me at the start of 2020.

On Sunday 10th October night I discovered that my name was in the Week Junior, which I had been waiting for.

What is the 'Week Junior'?

The 'Week Junior' is a magazine read by children (or



sometimes adults) so they can learn facts from all over the world, some of which you will never learn in school. It's perfect for pretty much everyone, since it has all of the subjects you'll love; The week's big news, UK news, Around the world, The big debate, People, Animals and the environment, 2 page story (usually front cover), Science and technology, Photos of the week, Sport, Wellbeing, Arts and entertainment, On screen, Book Club, Do something, How to, Puzzles, That's unbelievable! and pictures and comments from the readers. That's pretty much all the things people enjoy, and it is good that it has multiple subjects. From the title, it is pretty obvious that it comes every week.

What did I do for my name to be there?

Now, you don't just get in the Week Junior randomly. You usually have to do something really good that the week junior will write about. I was a runner-up in the National 'Summer of Reading' challenge set by the Week Junior. I won a £50 book token, and was really excited when I received the news. I have already noted down all the books I want, because it is not hard to select books when you're a giant bookworm like me!

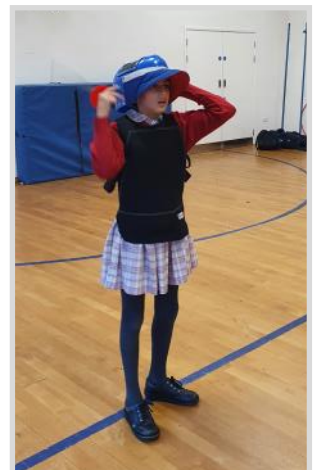
Navina M.

Year 6 Homework



Year 4 Fencing

Years 4 and 6 have just started their fencing clubs after school! If any Year 5 children would like to join, please let Mr Stone know.



Term Dates 2021-22

Spring Term 2022—Wednesday 5th January—Friday 1st April (after school)

Half-Term—Thursday 17th February (after school) - Sunday 27th February

Summer Term 2022—Monday 25th April—Thursday 7th July (after school)

Half-Term—Thursday 26th May (after school) - Sunday 5th June

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one topic of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

SOCIAL MEDIA & Mental Health

What trusted adults need to know

Social Media is often scrutinised as having a negative impact on children's mental health. Whilst currently there is not enough evidence or research to say whether this is true or not, there are certain 'modern pressures' connected with social media which trusted adults need to be aware of. Children and young people are constantly connected and whilst this comes with some benefits, it also comes with a feeling that you are constantly visible. This guide is designed to encourage trusted adults to think about their children's mental health and their social media activities, providing them with some useful tips on improving and supporting mental health among young people.

Five potential signs & symptoms of mental health difficulties

1. Have you noticed a change in your child's personality? They may not be acting or feeling like themselves.
2. Any recent uncharacteristic anxiety, anger, or moodiness?
3. Is your child experiencing social withdrawal and isolation?
4. Is there a sudden lack of self-care or risky behaviours?
5. Does your child have a sense of hopelessness or feel overwhelmed?

NOS
National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Meet our expert

This guide has been written by Anna Bateman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school, integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture and systems. She is also a member of the advisory group for the Department of Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



1. EDUCATE YOURSELF

Educate yourself about social media sites your child is using so you can really understand what they are experiencing and how this may be making them feel.

2. DISCUSS REAL-LIFE CONNECTIONS

Talk about the importance of face-to-face time with friends and family, and what enjoyment this can bring. Encourage your child to focus on their relationships with people who make them feel good about themselves.

3. SUGGEST REGULAR BREAKS FROM SOCIAL MEDIA

Encourage your child to take regular breaks from checking their social media platforms. You could suggest that they turn off their app notifications during certain times of the day so they can focus on other things.

4. ENCOURAGE OTHER HOBBIES OR INTERESTS

Spending time away from their phone and devices will offer them an opportunity to discover other interests and activities they may enjoy. This could be sports, playing a musical instrument or creative interests such as arts and crafts.

5. OFFER YOUR SUPPORT

Inappropriate and harmful content can be accessed on the internet which may impact your child's mental health. Explain to your child that not everything online is real and ensure they know that you are there to support and advise them about any worries or anxieties they may have.

HELPFUL APPS:

- Hub of Hope
- Mindshift
- Smiling Mind

OTHER SERVICES:

- Childline (0800 1111)
- Bullying UK (0808 8002222)
- Young Minds (0808 802 5544)

Sources: <https://www.centreformentalhealth.org.uk/publications/social-media-young-people-and-mental-health>, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/wellbeing/articles/measuringnationalwellbeing/2015-10-20>, <https://www.rspg.org.uk/uploads/assets/uploaded/62be270a-a55f-4719-ad668c2ec7a74c2a.pdf>, <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/cutting-edge-leadership/201505/5-warning-signs-mental-health-risk>

Key Dates

OCTOBER

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

Mon 15 Anti-Bullying Week
Year 3 Swimming Carousel begins
(Arkwright and Brunel children only)
Activities Carousel 2 begins (Y4-6)
Arkwright house duty

Tue 16 HMC Chess
(QEGS; 8am depart, 5.45pm return)

Wed 17 Prep Informal Concert (4pm; Prep Hall)

Fri 19 U10/11 Rugby v Bronte House
(away; 2pm start, 5.45pm return)
U10/11 Hockey v Red House
(away; 2pm start, 3.45pm return)

Peer Mentor of the Week

Name: Kit

Friends: Rorke and Archie, but I get on with everyone else.

My best mentor: Mr Stone, who has trained and supported me in being a Peer Mentor.

Favourite TV show: That's hard! It will probably have to be Top Gear.

Favourite fruit: Apple.

Favourite subject: Games.

When I am older... I want to be a mountain biker like Danny MacAskill.

Kit did a wonderful job of helping some Year 3!



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

Weekly certificates

	Values	Endeavour
3B	Henry S.	Imogen C.
3R	Evelyn W.	Charlie M.
3W	Marianne D.	Martha L.
4J	Miles P.	Satoshi Y.
4N	Xinhao W.	Zara P.
4W	Can S.	Ettie A.
5H	Willow A.	Matthew R.
5K	Ciara W.	Edward TP.
5W	Oliver T.	Sid S.
6G	Emily E.	Katie C.
6L	George F.	Charlotte Fer.
6P	Tabi B.	George H.

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

