



The Phoenix Flier

Issue 685

Friday 5th November 2021

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

A message from Mr Sawyer

It has been wonderful to welcome the pupils back after a decent break during half term. School has once again burst into life with fixtures, trips, special celebrations, clubs, guest speakers and much more taking place since our return. The new car park is up and running and thus far has proved to be a successful addition, as we had hoped and planned for, to the school's facilities. I remain extremely grateful to Alan Hodgson, Estates Manager, for overseeing this project and working very closely with Cleveland Land Services and the wider design team. We have been very pleased with the feedback received and the impact that it is having on the arrival and departure of pupils each day. By way of a reminder, please ensure that you use the pedestrian route ways at all times to stay safe.

We thoroughly enjoyed celebrating Diwali on Thursday to complement the Diwali themed units of work pupils have been enjoying across the curriculum in various year groups in recent weeks. On Thursday we were joined by Miss Darbar in assembly who shared how her family celebrated this important festival during her childhood, Wendy and the catering team prepared an absolutely sumptuous feast for lunch and at break we enjoyed the opportunity to smash a coconut to mark the occasion! Happy Diwali one and all!!!

Bill Sawyer

Head's Challenge:

A man buys a firework for £60 then he sells it for £70 then he buys it back for £80 but sells it for £90. How much money did he make?

Photo of the Week:

Holiday School over half-term saw lots of fun and exciting trips taking place.



Tooled Up Education

The half-term holidays have not been quiet at Tooled Up Towers. We've just announced our new Researcher of the Month for November, Dr Jo Van Herwegen. Listen to our [fascinating interview](#) with her about the potentially damaging impact that common neuromyths can have on children's outcomes, particularly if they have neurodevelopmental conditions. How many of them would you believe to be true?

Just in time for Bonfire Night, we've also got a fantastic new [quiz about the science of fire](#). Sure to provoke some family discussions, each question has two answers - one more simplified answer suitable for younger children and a second more in depth response, appropriate for secondary pupils, as well as a [list of books](#) to help teach young children about fire safety.

Did you know that children's habits and thinking about money are generally established by the time they are 7? Helping children to become financially literate is a crucial life skill. To give you a headstart, we've made a fantastic finance quiz to test your whole family's financial knowledge. It's available either as [questions to read off the screen](#) (or print out) and as some [fabulous quiz cards](#), to make it into a real game. Also, keep your eyes peeled for a list of our top tips about how to talk to children about money, coming to the library very soon.

Finally, our Mental Health Education Week of evening webinars with leading experts discussing a host of issues relating to mental health and wellbeing is only 2 weeks away and places are filling up fast. Tickets are on a first come, first served, basis, so don't delay. Find out more and book on the [Tooled Up Education homepage](#) 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.

Dr Kathy Weston

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!



October Half-Term Holiday School



4J Science

4J were dissecting owl pellets in science yesterday. They loved it!



Christmas Holiday School

Christmas Holiday School will run from Monday 20th—Wednesday 22nd December 2021. Further details will follow in the next few weeks.

Miss Whitehouse



Crazy Crafts

Just before half-term Mrs Arrol's Crazy Crafts club made some spooky masks!



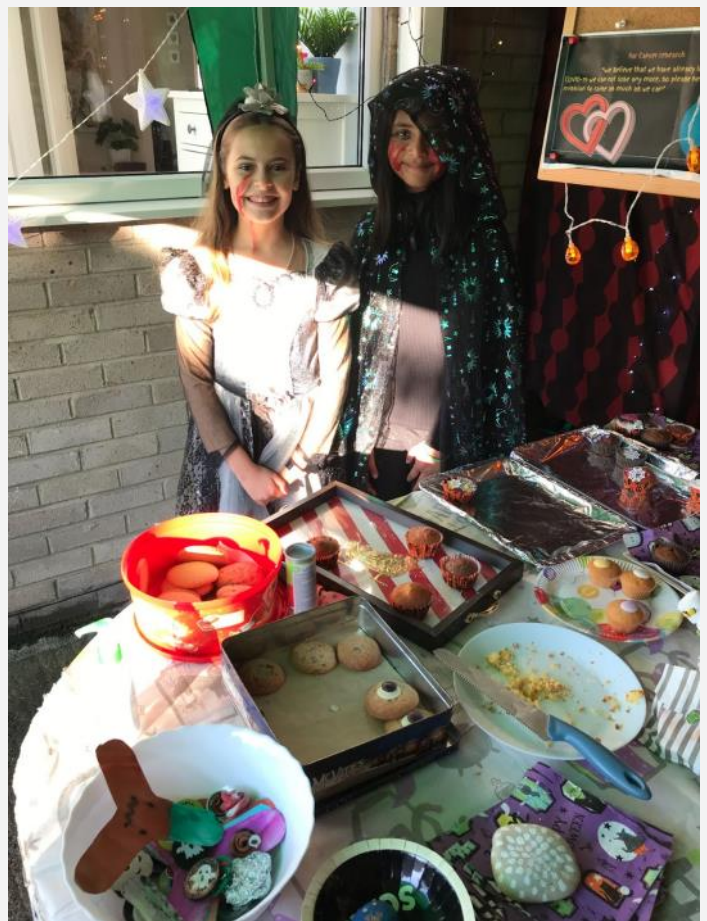
Khushee and Zara's Halloween bake sale

Over the half term, We decided to do a bake sale for Cancer Research. First we set up a Just Giving page on the Cancer Research website for sponsors. We set a goal of £150 but surprisingly we raised £242 (80% over our goal!) even before the bake sale had started. On Monday 25th October, we started baking, by Friday we were all set and we started

putting up the stall on Saturday at 12:30PM. We sold our first cake at 2:45PM and were sold out by 4PM.

Amazingly, we raised a total of £522!!!

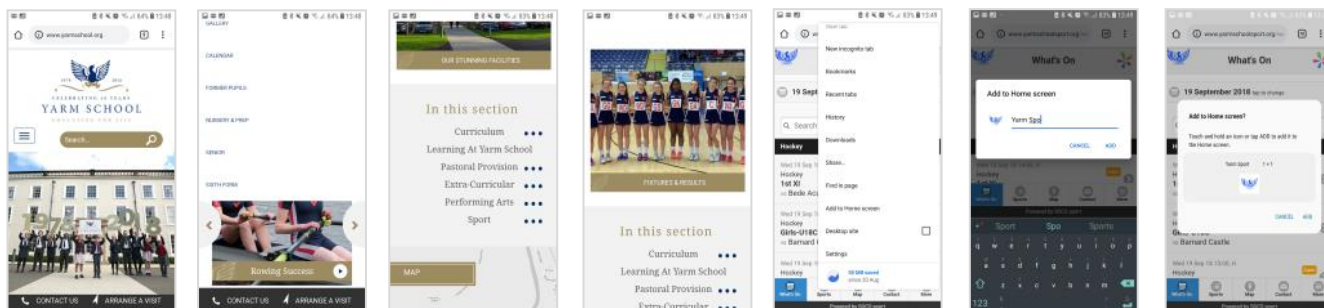
Zara W. and Khushee A.



How to set up Fixtures Pro on your Smartphone

It's how to find details of sports fixtures and team line-ups for the Prep School. It is also very easy to set up on your Apple or Android device. Please follow these instructions.

FOR ANDROID DEVICES:



- | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Access the Yarm School website via the browser on your device. | 2. Click on 'Senior School' at the top of the page. | 3. Click on 'Sport' which appears down the left-hand side. | 4. Click on 'Fixtures and Results'. | 5. In the top-right corner of the browser, click on the three dots, then click on 'Add to Home screen'. | 6. Give the link a name. | 7. Add to your phone home screen. |
|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|

FOR APPLE DEVICES:

Follow steps 1-4 above, then:

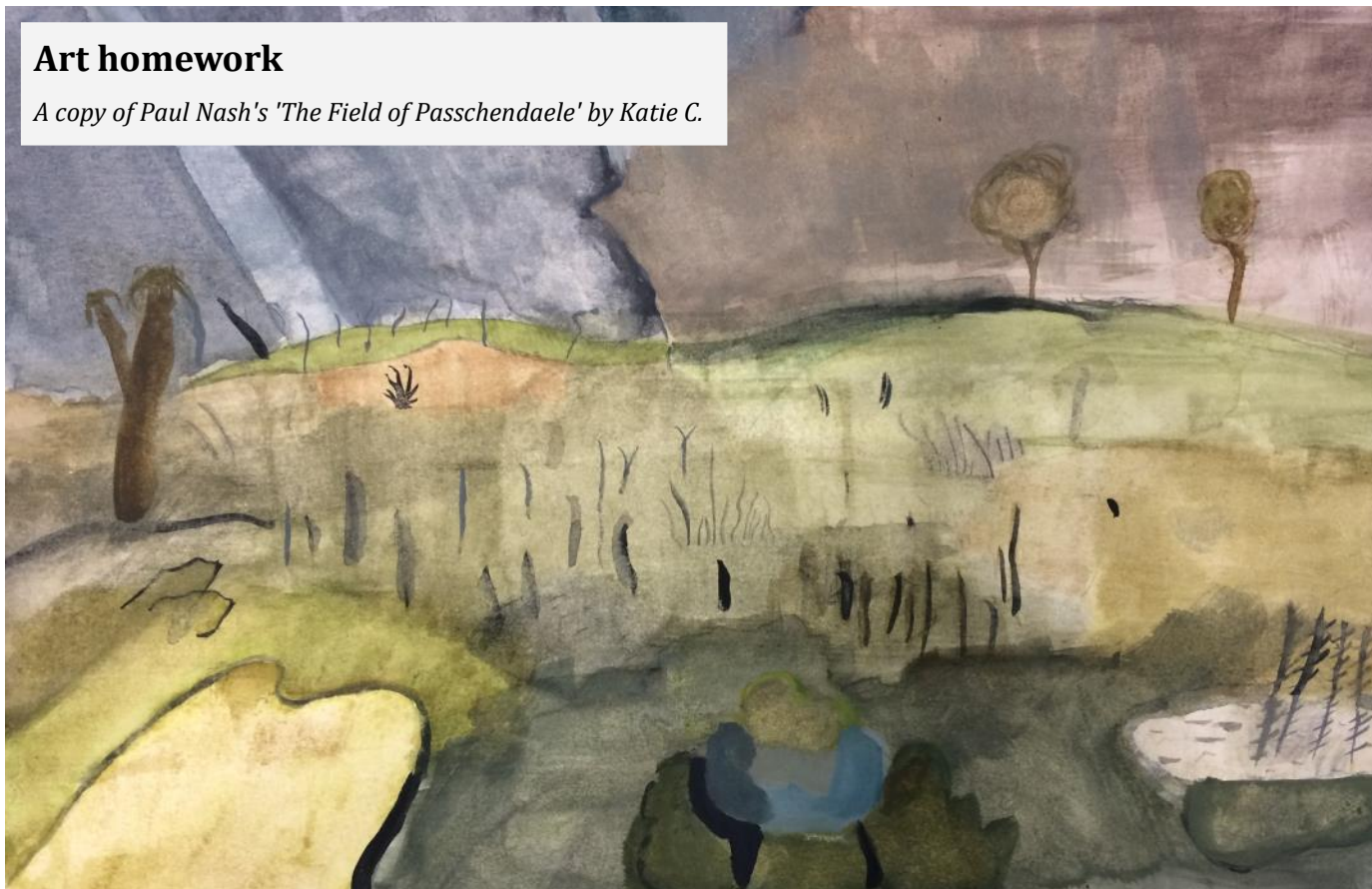
5) At the bottom of your phones screen drag your finger up and you have a square and arrow icon (photo left) and if you click this you can then see the icon that says 'Add to home screen'. Click this.

6) Congratulations! You are all set and on your phone screen you should see the Yarm School logo which is now your very own shortcut to team sheets etc.



Art homework

A copy of Paul Nash's 'The Field of Passchendaele' by Katie C.



The Great Parish Council Debate

Yesterday we had a debate whether we should build sea defences to help protect our town from coastal erosion. We were all acting as different interested characters from the local area in the debate. We dressed up in costumes and sat around a big table for the debate and we were all invited to say how we felt. Some of the town's local residents were against the sea wall being built and some were for it.

Some of the reasons to build a sea wall were for people's safety, that people didn't lose their jobs, for everyone's properties to be protected and much more. Some people said the sea defence shouldn't be built and some reasons were that tourism would be affected, there would be interruption from the constructions to normal life and that wildlife habitat would be damaged.

After the debate a vote was held on whether a seawall should be built. The results were as follows: 18 votes for and 4 votes against the sea wall being built.

Daisy A. and Charlotte F.



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

Term Dates—2022-2023

Autumn Term, 2022

Preparation Day	Tuesday, 30th August 2022,
New Pupil Induction Day	Wednesday, 31st August 2022
All pupils return	Thursday, 1st September 2022
½ term begins	Friday, 14th October 2022 (after school)
Pupils return	Monday, 31st October 2022
Finish	Wednesday, 14th December 2022 (after school)

Spring Term, 2023

Pupils return	Thursday, 5th January 2023
½ term begins	Thursday, 16th February 2023 (after school)
INSET 1	Friday, 17th February 2023
Pupils return	Monday, 27th February 2023
Finish	Friday, 31st March 2023 (after school)

Summer Term, 2023

Pupils return	Thursday, 20th April 2023
Bank Holiday	Monday, 1st May 2023
½ term begins	Thursday, 25th May 2023 (after school)
INSET 2	Friday, 26th May 2023
Pupils return	Monday, 5th June 2023
Finish	Friday, 7th July 2023

Harvest Collection



Dear Mr Sawyer, colleagues, pupils and parents/carers,

Thank you so much for inviting us to your Harvest Festival assembly a few weeks ago, it was lovely to meet you all.

We were overwhelmed by the amount of food collected, so much so we were able to put together over 200 food hampers. The quality of the food was such a treat for the families, who, having to be conscious about the price of food, often have to select budget/basic brands, so to get some Marks and Spencer food, was a real luxury.

We let everyone know that the food was from your harvest collection and they were humbled to know you all cared.

Thank you so much for helping us to help others.

Yours sincerely

Debra Fixter, Manager



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. **If you are collecting from the Pre-Prep please access the Studio Hall there by following the path from the new car park.** 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.

Stephenson Charity Day



On Tuesday 9th November, we will once again be hosting the Stephenson House Charity Day. The Charity we are supporting this year is Vision 25 based in Stockton (<https://www.vision25.org.uk/>) It is an excellent provision doing sterling work to support disabled young adults in the Stockton area.

On the day we are asking children to wear one item of creative clothing (not football shirts), this can be interpreted as you wish. For example wearing brightly coloured socks. The cost to wear this item will be £1.

In addition to the above, we will be running various stalls at breaktime, including a football penalty shoot out and guessing the name of the teddy. These events will cost 50p a go.

Thank you in advance for your support of our event.

Kind regards

The Stephenson House Staff

Durham County Hockey

Last week I was fortunate enough to be selected for the county squad after attending four hockey trials. When I went back home from that fourth trial I was praying to get in, because I didn't know the standard. The trials themselves were fun to go to and I really enjoyed playing matches against the other players. The next training session with the squad is on the 14th of November, and I'm so excited!

Rorke A.



PE and Games



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.rspn.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

NOVEMBER

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	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) U10/11 Hockey v Queen Mary's (home; 2pm start)
Sat 20	Senior School Christmas Craft Fair
Mon 22	Brunel house duty ABRSM examination week Reports released to parents 4W Oriental Museum workshop
Tue 23	4J oriental Museum workshop 4N Oriental Museum workshop
Wed 24	Y3/4 Poetry Competition

Awards:

Head Teacher Awards: Year 4—Erin G., Tallulah M., Francesca F., Ella L. **Year 5**—Anjali R. **Year 6**—Aisling T., Effie P., Freddie B., Yuhe T. (2), Elizabeth A., Felicia J., Theo S., Neev S.

New Peer Mentors: Effie P., Immie M. Aditri K., Wilf W., Alife M., Libby S., Khushee A.

Peer Mentor of the Week

Name: Avighna

Friends: Zara, Charlotte, Katie and Khushee.

My best mentor: My teachers because they always help me when I need it.

Favourite TV show: I don't watch much TV.

Favourite fruit: Strawberry.

Favourite subject: Games and PE.

When I am older... I want to be a tennis player. I really like Emma Radacanu.

Avighna was nominated by her peers this week for being "friendly, kind and considerate to all of those around her."



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

Weekly certificates

	Values	Endeavour
3B	Holly B.	Felicity W.
3R	Lottie L.	Alice W.
3W	Cooper W.	Felicity S.
4J	Noah WT.	Ella L.
4N	Aphelia S.	Kamesh K.
4W	Laurel G.	Joey P.
5H	Maisy V.	Noah A.
5K	Bea M.	Ellie G.
5W	Amelia O'C.	Jessica M.
6G	Wilf W.	Edie R-S.
6L	Theo S.	Felicia J.
6P	Luke P.	Nethuki M.

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

