



The Phoenix Flier

Issue 686

Friday 12th November 2021

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

A message from Mr Sawyer

Welcome to another edition of the Phoenix Flier which showcases the lives of our pupils at Yarm Prep School. This week's edition gives you a flavour of recent escapades and adventures from a range of activities and after school clubs such as Enterprise, Earthlings, Baking, Crazy Crafts, and Riding. Such variety offers the opportunity to learn a range of great skills and forge collaborative links with different pupils. To this end, it was super to welcome the Digital Leaders from Hartburn Primary to work with our Digital Leaders group after school on Thursday this week as part of our ongoing partnership. There is so much on offer and it is testament to our pupils that they lap it up!

On Thursday we paused our purposeful endeavours to turn our attention to our annual Act of Remembrance which is always a poignant and moving time for reflection. Major Robson (mummy to Matthew and Oliver) joined us to deliver an inspirational assembly on what bravery looks like in the military via the personal stories of four incredible servicemen and women. We then gathered on the playground for The Last Post (played beautifully by Jodie from the Senior School), prayers and two minutes silence. Those still and quiet moments, with hundreds of heads bowed in respect, allowed us to consider the service and sacrifice of the brave women and men who have served in wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations. Lest we forget.

Bill Sawyer

Head's Challenge: Can you name a city in the UK that has four syllables?

Photo of the Week:

A full afternoon of fixtures for our Years 5 and 6 children last week saw lots of action and lots of smiles! More images and match reports inside.



Tooled Up Education

It's World Kindness Day on Saturday, so we've been pausing to think about how we might be able to give a little back over the holiday season. Over the last year, we've actually spoken to two experts ([Dr Jess Datu](#) and [Professor Robin Banerjee](#)) about the power of kindness, and you can listen to both interviews in Tooled Up. To embed altruism into your everyday life, why not see how many of our [100 Acts of Kindness](#) your family can tick off between now and the end of the school term or try one of our [family friendly fundraising ideas](#) for a cause close to your heart? Help your children to notice their own kindness by encouraging them to complete our self-esteem building activity, [What Makes You You?](#) We have also compiled a [list of books to help cultivate kindness and empathy](#) for young people of all ages.

On a different note, Dr Weston has put together a [video](#) for you to share with any older child embarking on their GCSE year. It's packed full of tips on organisation, revision and planning, which they can put to good use in the run up to the school holidays.

Don't forget that our Mental Health Education Week starts on November 15th. There are still a few places left on our exclusive evening webinars with expert clinicians. [Book today](#), so that you don't miss out.

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



Tips for Students in Their GCSE Year



35 Fundraising Ideas for Families



Books to Cultivate Kindness and Empathy



100 Acts of Kindness



What Makes You 'You'?



Researcher of the Month: Dr Jesus Alfonso D. Datu Discusses the Power of Kindness



Dr Weston Talks with Professor Robin Banerjee: Transition, Peer Relationships, Kindness and Success - Rethinking Wellbeing

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!

Diwali

We celebrated Diwali last week and it has been lovely to see some of the work taking place in classrooms to celebrate this important festival. Here we share what 3R and 3B have been doing.



Riding activity

After a long break, horse riding activity has started again. On Wednesday afternoon, 6 extremely excited children travel by minibus to Kirklevington Riding Centre for their weekly horse riding lesson. Although it is a short journey, the children chatter all the way trying to guess whether they will be riding 'Spencer the Shetland' or 'Hamish the Highland' who are two of the favourite ponies to ride. The session lasts approximately 30 minutes and is great fun.

Everybody in the group has learnt how to get on to a pony safely, steer and stop using the reins and use their legs to make the pony go forwards. All of the children are also able to walk and trot, sitting up straight with toes up and heels down. Even after such a short amount of time, everybody has made progress and is able to do a 'rising trot.' If you think you would like to try horse riding next term and you have any questions please see Mrs Jones and she will be happy to answer your queries.

Mrs Jones



Tumbling towards success!

Congratulations to Beatriz G. who has been competing to a very high level in tumbling, a form of gymnastics. Last weekend, she participated in the North of England championships and finished an impressive 2nd! This means she has qualified for the national finals, taking place later in the season.

Beatriz will also be representing Great Britain in some European tumbling competitions. What a fantastic achievement! Well done, Beatriz!



Crazy Crafts



Telford Earthlings litter picking

Year 6 Telfordians have been litter picking around the school site this week as part of their Monday Earthlings carousel activity.



PE and Games

Last week, the Year 4 girls had a hockey fixture with Dame Allan's. We got into teams with a Dame Allan's girl and my team had a girl called Faye. Our matches were all about having fun.

After that, we made friends and we got cookies! My friend was called Eve and she was Chinese! She had dark brown hair and said that I was a good hockey player! Alex made a friend called Phoebe. It was a fun afternoon.

Erin G.

Last Friday, the Year 5 boys went to Barnard Castle to play rugby. The game was split into three thirds of ten minutes. We were playing eight a side. The weather was splendid and we had a great game, winning 12-10.

Thomas F.

We went to Barnard Castle to play some rugby fixtures last week. I loved it as it was a very evenly matched game. For me, it was nice to see some of my friends who play for my club outside of school.

I think we all had a great time and played well. It is a nice school and the weather was good. All in all it was a good game.

Wilf S.





YARM SCHOOL'S

Christmas

INDOOR MARKET

organised by the Yarm School Association

MEET SANTA
IN HIS AMAZING GROTTO

ADULTS £2
CHILDREN FREE

YARM SCHOOL, THE FRIARAGE, YARM, TS15 9EJ - SATURDAY, 20TH NOVEMBER 2021 - 10AM TO 4PM

TICKETS ON THE DOOR
LOCAL CRAFT STALLS, AMAZING
CHRISTMAS IDEAS PLUS FOOD
AND DRINK OUTLETS

PLUS
CRAFTY CORNER, RUDOLPH
RODEO, CHILDREN'S GAMES
& SANTA'S GROTTO

Year 6 Brunel Enterprise Activity

The climax to Brunel's Year 6 Monday 'Enterprise' activity was the 'Sweetie Making Challenge'.

The challenge is meant as an opportunity for the pupils to demonstrate and explain to the group: what is the unique selling point (USP) of their product; what price they would sell it at; who would be their target market and how they would package and position it in the market place using their knowledge of the 4Ps of marketing.

The children were later given the opportunity to sample each other's sweets and to give each other their verbal feedback. Yummy!

The Enterprise activity is the prelude to the Year 6 children thinking up, organising and running their own stall during the Summer Fair in June.

Mr Grundmann



Year 5 Erosion Investigation

In humanities, we did an investigation all about erosion. The children made their own rivers and looked at what happened to the soil when water was poured into the river channel.

Miss Whitehouse



Anti-Bullying Week

Next week is Anti-Bullying Week, a national event that explores issues surrounding bullying.

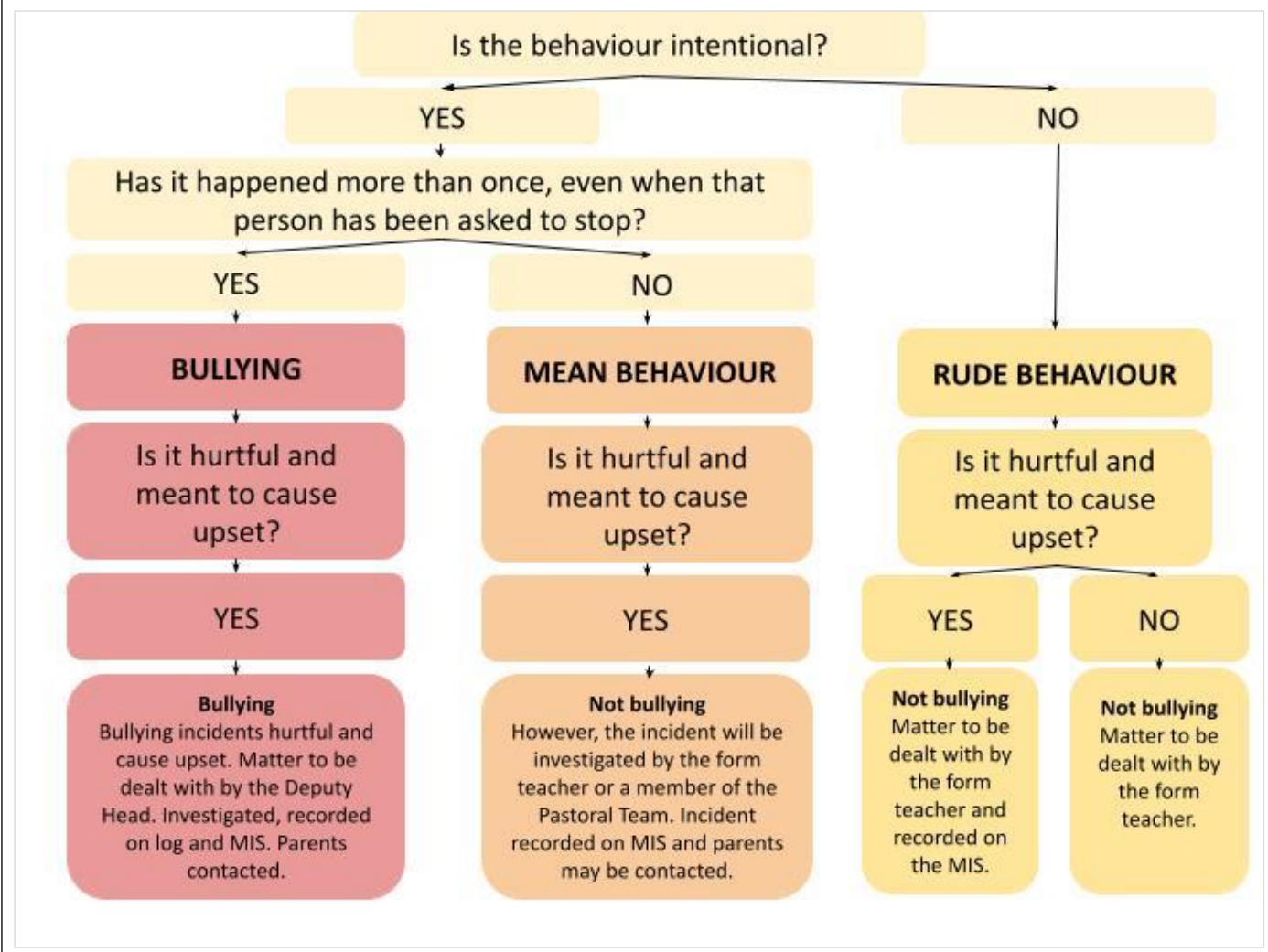
This year the focus is on spreading kindness through the theme of 'One Kind Word'. The *Anti-Bullying Alliance* have developed a call to action, focusing on the following four points we are encouraging the children to do:

- Ask if someone is OK.
- One kind word can be a turning point. It can change someone's day.
- One kind word leads to another.



We will be exploring kindness, 'One Kind Word' and what bullying is during assemblies, form times and PSHE lessons next week. We will also be exploring what bullying is by using the chart below, which distinguishes between rude, mean and bullying behaviour. The flowchart uses the key features of bullying to help distinguish when a behaviour is bullying and uses the dialogue we use with the children and we encourage the children to use too.

The chart forms part of our Anti-Bullying Policy, [which you can view here.](#)



Year 4 Bakers

The Year 4 Bakers club enjoyed making s'mores!



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

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



Festival of Carols

We look forward to inviting parents to our *Festival of Carols* on Thursday 9th December. So we can ensure lots of congregational carol singing, we will be putting on two performances on the same afternoon, with limited capacity in each. Full details will be announced in the coming days.

Please note, the Festival of Carols will be slightly different to our usual Carol Service, but will be brilliant to bring the school together!

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 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.

Mr Stone

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 platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



14 WAYS TO BE KIND ONLINE

Showing kindness online can mean so much to someone else. It is a choice we can all make that helps others, puts people's needs before our own and which can generate feelings of empathy and compassion. Small gestures can have a large impact and often one act of kindness can lead to more, making the world a happier and more positive place. That's why we've created this guide to suggest a few simple 'acts of kindness online' that can benefit people's mental health, support their wellbeing and encourage a more positive approach to engaging online.



1. BE POSITIVE

Post about things that make you happy and that you're thankful for. It could brighten up someone else's day.



Sometimes a friend or family member might post a question online or ask for help with something they can't do themselves. If you know the answer or are able to offer help, provide support and send a response. Something that may be easy for you might be difficult for someone else.



If somebody you know has done something good or shown kindness themselves, thank them for it. It costs nothing and showing them that you appreciate it means so much.

4. SHARE FUNNY VIDEOS OR IMAGES WITH FRIENDS & FAMILY

We often come across funny videos or images online that make us laugh and then we move on. If you found it funny, your friends and family might too. It could help someone smile who may be having a bad day.



5. LIKE, LOVE & CELEBRATE

If somebody posts something that you like on social media, like it, love it or celebrate it! It's a small gesture but could mean a lot.



6. VIDEO CALL YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY

It can be easy to be consumed by daily routine. Using apps like Zoom, FaceTime or WhatsApp are great for connecting with others far away and shows you're thinking of them even though you can't physically meet them in person.



7. TELL SOMEONE YOU'RE THINKING OF THEM

We can't always tell how people are feeling online and just dropping somebody a message to ask if they're ok or that you're thinking of them could literally make their day.

8. SHARE POSITIVE POSTS

If you see something online that inspires you, share it with people you know. An inspirational quote, a beautiful photo or a motivational video can lift spirits, improve self-esteem and help make people feel better about themselves.



9. HOST AN ONLINE QUIZ

Video conferencing apps are a great way to get friends and family together. If you know someone who is feeling lonely, host an online quiz and invite them to join in. It could really cheer them up.



10. THINK BEFORE YOU COMMENT

Sometimes thinking before you act can be just as significant as acting in the first place. Showing thought before you comment could stop you posting something hurtful, offensive or negative. It's always better to post positively or post nothing at all.



11. BE COMPASSIONATE & UNDERSTANDING

Being empathetic towards others and their situation is often an act of kindness and selflessness that gets overlooked. If you notice someone who is upset, drop them a message and offer to listen.



12. CONNECT FRIENDS & FAMILY WITH SIMILAR INTERESTS

You may know two people amongst your friends and family who you trust and know well who have similar interests and likes. Introducing them can be a great way for them to make new friends but remember to always ask their permission first.



13. RECOMMEND SOMETHING YOU ENJOY DOING TO OTHERS

If you enjoy doing something online, such as playing a game, or if you've found a great learning resource, share it with others. Even if you've watched a good film, letting others know can be an act of generosity that brings them excitement or pleasure at a time when they might need it the most.



14. PRAISE OTHERS FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS

Sometimes your friends or family might post something online that they're proud to have done. It might be an exam they've passed, learning a new skill or just completing a task. Either way, it's always kind to recognise hard work and effort through praise and celebration.



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 for Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



Key Dates

NOVEMBER

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 POSTPONED
Wed 17	Prep Informal Concert (4pm; Prep Hall)
Fri 19	***NEW*** U9 Girls' Hockey at Dame Allan's (away; 8.30am depart, 1.15pm return) 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 (9am-4pm)
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 ***NEW*** Y6 Senior Taster Event (3-6pm; Senior School)
Thu 25	YPSSC (4pm) U9 Rugby v Choristers (away; 2pm start, 4.30pm return) U9 Hockey v Choristers (home; 2pm start)

Awards:

Head Teacher Awards:

Year 5— Arvind K., Bea M., Thomas F., Ciara W., Ben W., Jessica F., Wilf S., Amelie K.

Year 6— Jude T., Freddie B., George F., Felicia J. (2), Anushri W., James R., Theo S., Claudia P. Ella F., Immie M., Wilf W., Jacob B., Libby S.

Peer Mentor of the Week

Name: Katie

Friends: I have lots of different friends, both inside and outside of school.

My best mentor: Probably my parents because they have helped me through thick and thin.

Favourite TV show: Liv and Maddie.

Favourite fruit: Sharon fruit.

Favourite subject: Art and English.

When I am older... I want to be a teacher.

Katie was nominated by a fellow peer mentor this week for her sterling work with the Year 3 children, where she sets up playtime games and deals with any issues in a calm manner.



The answer to the Head's Challenge from last time was: £20

Weekly certificates

	Values	Endeavour
3B	Angus F.	Ciny Z.
3R	Amaya S.	Jenson C.
3W	Isla R.	Olivia T.
4J	Francesca F.	Lolwa S.
4N	Anwita D.	Harrison C.
4W	Benjamin F.	Joseph A.
5H	Udham C.	Dora B.
5K	Emma A.	Thomas F.
5W	Anjali R.	William A.
6G	Ewan G.	Jayden Z.
6L	Ben S.	Avighna A.
6P	Charlie E.	Daisy A.

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 Pengilley

