

lssue 695

Friday 28th January 2022

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

A message from Mr Sawyer

t is a great privilege to see our pupils continue to embrace the Spring Term and the opportunities on offer. I often ask for volunteers in assembly ahead of announcing what this might involve. At this very point in proceedings, hands shoot up in a show of commitment and keenness to be involved without a thought as to what is coming up. As adults in the same situation would we be so keen without knowing what fate awaited us? I doubt it. I would certainly sit on my hands! Of course in assembly our pupils know that the mystery task is most likely going to be fun and lead to learning for all. However, their desire to engage in all manner of tasks tells a story too. It demonstrates high levels of trust, a spirit of real enthusiasm and culture of close individualised support for every child. This combination is a winner! It helps our pupils to learn to seize the moment, explore possibilities each day and achieve a great deal whilst at school. Ultimately, it gives them the confidence to answer when opportunity knocks - our aspiration for every boy and girl.

Internet Safety week will be upon us soon and you will find in this week's Flier details of our parents' talk on all areas of online awareness. Mr Stone and Mrs Speight, both of whom are CEOP ambassadors, will be delivering this online session. I encourage all parents to sign up for this vital session as the online world is a changing landscape which all of our children will inhabit at some stage, if they don't already. There is plenty to enjoy online and with a few helpful tips we can ensure that the

experience is a safe and pleasurable one for all of our children.

Head's Challenge: If 2+2=fish and 3+3=8. 7+7=?

Bíll Sawyer

Photo of the Week:

The annual House Chess got underway this week with the first two rounds of matches. The report for the first matches can be found inside.



Tooled Up Education

As the parent of a primary aged child, you probably won't have escaped the craze for Disney's latest film, <u>Encanto</u>; the story of the trials and tribulations of a magical family in Colombia. Like lots of big screen animations, it provides many opportunities to open up dialogue with children about mental health. The song lyrics in particular can prompt simple chats about anxiety, self-esteem and perfectionism (check out 'Surface Pressure' and 'What Else Can I Do', in particular). We have numerous resources in the Tooled Up library to further these important conversations. Why not browse through our 'Manage Their Emotions' category. Our <u>Mood Thermometer</u>, tips on normalising mistakes in family life and strategies on keeping calm might be of particular interest.

On another note, the resources that we promised about teeth are beginning to pop up in the library. We've put together 10 dentist approved <u>tips for looking after children's oral health</u>. And if your child feels anxiety about visiting the dentist, we've got <u>15 tips</u> that will help you. We've also created a <u>list of books</u> to open up conversations about teeth and dental health. We'll have some practical activities for children arriving very soon, so keep your eyes peeled if this is a subject that appeals to you. We're still seeking a dentist who'd like to feature in a short video for us. If you know anyone, please <u>get in touch!</u>

Finally, our <u>Happiness Checklist</u> has had a big revamp. We'd love to know what you think of it!

The Tooled Up library is already packed with almost 350 evidence-based resources, including interviews with over 80 leading experts from around the world. But, it's your library and we want to know how else we can help you? What new resources would you like to see? Which ones do you love? What could we do better? We always value your feedback and want to ensure that we are giving you the resources that you need. Email us at research@tooledupeducation.com to let us know how we are doing!

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 <u>Tooled Up Education</u> 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 <u>here to register for an account</u>. 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 <u>support@tooledupeducation.com</u>. 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.

FEATURED 24 January 2022

15 Tips to Help Children Who Feel Anxious About Dental Appointments



Young Children's Oral Health: 10 Tips for Parents



Happiness Checklist

Dr Kathy Weston



Mood Thermometer



Books for Children About Looking After Their Teeth



The Normalisation of Mistakes in Family Life (and Why it Matters)



Keeping Calm: Exercises to Relax and Control Anxiety

Friday 28th January 2022

School Council

Attendees

All form captains, all house captains and the school captains.

We discussed matters as one group, taking it in turns to make our point. We used the findings from the form captains survey to guide our discussion

The focus of the meeting was to come up with a list of ideas of what works well at playtimes, what doesn't work well and how playtimes could be improved.

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

We began by looking at the survey results to see what all children thought works well at playtimes. The most popular responses were:

- •Each year group taking turns to play in the different areas (4N)
- •Playing with children from different classes (6P)
- •Teachers on duty are good (5H)
- •Seeing friends not in our class (5H)
- •Having a break away from the classroom (4N)
- •Socialising with friends (6G)
- •The amount of accessible equipment is good (5K)
- •Games like Tig (3R)
- •Getting fresh air (4W)

The following ideas and suggestions were made by forms and by captains in the meeting:

- •Gymnastics on the astro (5H)
- •Can we use the Quiet Area? (4N)
- •Library open all lunchtime (6G)
- •Can we have some large "pub tables"? (6G/Mr Grundmann)
- •We'd like to do Pokémon cards again (6P)
- •More balls (various)
- •Go inside if it is cold? (6P)
- •We would like to mix with siblings (5W)
- •What has happened to the year group equipment bags? (5W)
- •Can we get some playtime games set up (eg hopscotch, skipping ropes?) (4W)
- •Teachers need to keep an eye out for any people with injuries.
- •Can we have a kit bag for each year group? Keep these outside in a safe place.
- •Peer mentors to walk around play times more.
- •We need more teachers when we are lining up.
- •Year groups only use one goal on the astro.
- •Mr Stone to give a little bit of extra time after assemblies if they have overrun.

What happens now?

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

Our next meeting will be in March. Minutes recorded by Anushri W. and Mr Stone

House Chess

The House Chess Championship returned this week for the first time since 2020.



Memories may have faded somewhat since then, but we recall Stephenson are looking to win the title for the third time in a row, despite the unfortunate hiatus of 2021.



Captained by Edie Redhead-Sweeney, the defending champions got off to an excellent start with a victory over Telford.

It was a tough match, with Stephenson winning by a close margin: 8.5-6.5.





Edie's win against Will Foster, the Telford captain, was a long game, taking up the entire session. Stephenson stars Anjali Ramisetty and Griff Williams scored two wins each and their team's tally was boosted by wins from Daniel Howell and Nethuki Medduwa.

Telford's Tiger Chahal won three games and there were excellent victories for Jude Thompson and Sid Suryadevara also.

Meanwhile, in the other match, Arkwright started the championship with a strong statement of intent when they beat Brunel, 12.5-7.5.

Captain Alfie McBain led by example, with three fine wins. Miles Page also scored three wins and Arkwright's score was added to by Luke Palmer, Felicia Jude, Eva McBain, Orson Stocken and Edward Taylor-Petch.

Brunel fought well, with captain Neev Sahoo, Udham Chahal, George Forshaw, Kaira Nalawade and Ciara Winters all winning excellent games, but they were ultimately outgunned by their extremely determined opponents.

With two rounds to go, there is still all to play for and no team is ready to give up hope of claiming this year's title.

Mr Marsh



PE and Games News

The Tower of Power from the **U11 Netball matches v Queen Mary's.** Thanks to Eva T. who completed these brilliantly!

Libby: Great goal scoring and turing in the air.

Charlotte Ferr: Great marking.

Lily: Super passing.

Aisling: Finding space.

Katie: Moving into space all the time.

Nethuki: Good marking.

Ella: Good defending, shooting and POM.

Eleanor: Good interceptions.

Avighna: Scored!

Charlie: Super footwork.

Sofie: Good interceptions, passing and growth mindset! POM.

Yingying: Good passing.

Effie: Good marking.

Elizabeth: Good shooting technique.

Felicia: Always looking for space.



Zara: Good interception and space on court.

Namitha: Great turn over.

Neev: Great space on court.

Khushee: Intercepting the ball and a super goal. POM.

U11 County Hockey final v Red House (won 5-0)



Anushri: Great passing.

Emma: Super tackle.

Rosie: Goal scored from penalty corner.

Immie: Good tackle and brilliant goal.

Charlotte: Good tackle and great pass.

Izzy: Fabulous goal!

Claudia: Good tackle and lovely ball.

Edie: Excellent pass.

Monica: Wonderful encouragement throughout to the whole team.

U10s teams v Queen Mary's.

Violet is so enthusiastic.

Louisa is trying so hard. Gabrielle is always working hard and playing her position well.

Mrs Redhead-Sweeney

U10 Hockey v Cundall Manor

The Under 10s played a very close hockey match away against Cundall Manor on Friday, 21st January. The opposition was strong with some big hitters, but our defence was better than we have ever played before according to Mr Underwood. Man of the match was awarded to Matthew R, goalkeeper, for his efforts to defend our goal. A very close match, the final score was 2-1 to Cundall Manor.

Matthew R.





This week

Year 6 Persuasive Writing

Should schools be closed this month?

Many people have been wondering, due to recent events, if schools will be closed in the near future. I believe that after all the abnormalities of Covid 19, we should try to keep schools open. Parents, do you want to go through tiresome homeschooling again? Government, do you want to anger the country? Keep schools open!

Pre-prep children have already lost a lot of important schooling during the past two years. They shouldn't miss out on any more! As well as missing out academically, they will also lose important social skills and friendships! They are the next generation and you do not want them lacking, do you? Only a heartless person would deprive innocent children of life skills! Reports estimate that if we close schools more, by 2030 - 2080, ¼ of people will have lower working skills.

As well as the children, teachers find it much harder to work from home. Teachers often let the children do hands-on activities, which will be IMPOSSIBLE if everyone is stuck at home. It will be like isolation! Catering staff will not be able to do any work if the schools are closed, so they might get less or no pay!

Parents will also not be able to work, as they will have to stay at home to care for their child/children. Closing schools will take its toll on the whole economy, and some businesses are already stretched. We need to care for our country! Parents will also have to home school or supervise their children while they work, which will be very stressful and hard to concentrate. You wouldn't want that for a future, would you?

If you send your child to school, it is reasonably likely that they (or someone they know) gets coronavirus. What happens if they pass it on to someone, like a parent or an elderly relative? Parents worry about this, however you or your child are just as likely to catch coronavirus from somewhere else, so the school environment is just as safe as other public places! That means there is pretty much no reason not to go to school!

Covid cases are falling, so parents should send their children to school. If parents are worried, you could encourage your child to wash their hands, cover their mouth and/or wear a mask. You can give your child great protection while also giving them a great education!

Schools are brilliant places to make friends, and while a child is at home they cannot have social time. Some people think that social education is even more important than academic education! You cannot play with other children while at home, and this is DEPRIVING a child of what they should be allowed.

Let your child go to school and it will improve their happiness greatly! Do you want your child to be happy?

In conclusion, I believe children should be allowed to go to school. Being in school creates friendships and good learning. They will also have a better mindset when they collaborate with other children. Covid 19 should not be allowed to have the chance of being the villain that it looks like, and sending your child to school shows you are not a coward to coronavirus. Keep schools open!

Claudia P. (6G)

Year 5 Sustainable Craft

Year 5 made pieces of art from pine cones with Mrs Arrol this week.

Mrs Arrol





Year 6 Persuasive Writing

Are microorganisms 'good' or 'bad'?

Microorganisms are microscopic things which we cannot see with the naked eye. There are 5 different types of microorganisms including: bacteria, fungi, protozoa, algae and viruses. Some are beneficial, yet some are harmful to humans, plants and the environment.

Overall, I think microorganisms are good because the majority of them help us to live healthily. In humans, microorganisms help us digest food, fight infections and even produce oxygen. Over 95% of all microorganisms do not cause disease, but the 5% that do can make us ill or kill us.

The most common microorganism that can make you ill is bacteria, which are single celled organisms they can get into our body with: insect bites, food, water, body fluids, air and direct contact. Once inside, the bacteria will start to reproduce making us ill. However it is not just bacteria, viruses can make us ill, such as coronavirus.

On the other hand, there are good bacteria that are in food such as yoghurt. The bacteria in yoghurt can help build up a strong immune system that can fight off infections. There are

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lots of other fermented foods containing bacteria that not only preserve the food but also help improve gut health. Examples of the use of microorganisms in fermented food are alcoholic drinks, sauerkraut and soy sauce. Experts believe that a well functioning digestive system provides good health. The benefits of bacteria are that we can use them to produce medicines like penicillin or insulin.

Protozoa are a single celled organism that live in water or moist habitats. They invade other organisms (plants and animals) and live on or inside them as parasites, feeding on their flesh. Malaria is caused by bites from infected mosquitoes and can make a person (the host) very ill or kill them. Fortunately, we can prevent malaria through sleeping under mosquito nets and taking medicine. However there are protozoa that are good and can improve the quality of river water and soils by eating bacteria and other particles.

Fungi are microorganisms. They can infect plants, they then limit their photosynthesis and reduce crop yield and can cause plants to die. Ash trees are affected by a deadly fungus causing them to die; this is called ash dieback. The spores spread through the air infecting other ash trees. We could lose our ash trees as a consequence of this fungus. Fungi can be helpful in that they decompose dead animals and plants or their waste. This is important for recycling materials so that plants can absorb the nutrients which helps them grow. We can eat certain fungi like mushrooms which have a low impact on climate change.

Water can be polluted by chemicals from factories or fertilisers. When this happens, the extra nutrients cause plants and algae in the water to grow faster. The algae floats on the water's surface and blocks light from reaching the oxygen producing plants deeper down. These then die and start to decay (from decomposers such as bacteria) which uses up the oxygen in the water, causing fish to die. Algae, (like trees) take in carbon dioxide and produce oxygen. On a coral reef, the high biodiversity depends on algae photosynthesizing and producing food for the coral animals. Algae form the base of the food web for a number of animals.

In conclusion, I believe that microorganisms are good because I believe the benefits are greater than the negative impacts of the bad microorganisms.

Ewan G. (6G)

After School Care

After School Care is supervised by Miss Emma Jeffries and Mrs Sylvia Taylor. The care costs are as follows: 4.30- $5.00pm - \pounds 2$; $5.00-5.30pm - \pounds 3$ (in addition to previous charge); $5.30-6.00pm - \pounds 3$ (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

Parent Curriculum Information Site <u>http://bit.ly/yarmprepparents</u>

Just to highlight this site again, please check for some recent additions including maths overviews, reading event slides, etc. If there is anything else you deem useful that you would like us to include, please let us know.

Mrs Pawluk

Year 6 Enterprise Activity—Arkwright Sweet Challenge

In the Year 6 Enterprise Carousel this week we were given the opportunity to make our own sweets. We had to design



packaging, say where we would sell them and who we would sell it to!

For our sweets, called 'Choco Delights', Archie and I decided to work together over the weekend. We made sure that our sweets looked appealing to buyers and tasted gorgeous.



Our first step when making the chocolates was to smash up

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digestive biscuits until they were only as small as a crumb. Next, we melted some milk chocolate into a bowl so we could add the digestives to it. After that we put the chocolate in the moulds and placed a smartie on the top. Finally, we put them in the fridge to cool. On the day everyone's sweets looked amazing! The sweets were so much fun to make and everyone voted that we should go into business and sell them!

Archie A. & Rorke A.

Join an After School Club!

We have spaces available in the following clubs. If your child is interested, please contact Mr Stone for further details.

Monday—Y5/6 Kick Boxing—Open to all, kick boxing is a great activity to raise fitness and learn a new sport with coach, Garry Bell.

Tuesday—OPEN TO ALL YEARS—Silver Stories—Open to all, Silver Stories is a chance to write a story, then share it with the residents of Middleton Hall Retirement Village and Park House Care Home, Stockton via Google Meet.

Tuesday – Y3 STEAM—Combine the subjects of science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics with Mr Grundmann!

Internet Safety Talk for Parents— Wednesday 9th February

On Wednesday 9th February I will be hosting a talk about internet safety for parents, as part of our Internet Safety Week. It will take place via Zoom, commencing at 6.30pm and lasting no longer than an hour.

The purpose of the this talk is to give you a broad overview of the digital landscape faced by our children today. It is ever-changing, but we aim to give you some guidance regarding the benefits and risks of being online, along with some practical advice on how to support your child and a look at how we support their digital citizenship at school. The talk is aimed at parents, and pupils are not expected to attend it as they will have been part of our Internet Safety Week assemblies during the week.

To help shape the presentation we would be very grateful if you could spend a few minutes completing this Google Form to give us your views regarding online safety matters: <u>https://forms.gle/hQ1EfprxZh4PGqUZ6</u>

To sign up for the Zoom talk on February 9th, please visit this link: <u>https://zoom.us/webinar/register/</u> <u>WN_hLMLjdoJRpmb6c6sR-YGOw</u>

Mr Stone

Navina Published in Children's Magazine!

Navina M., an avid writer in Year Five, has had an article published in Periyar Pinju, an Indian current affairs and

general knowledge magazine for children.

Navina combined her talent for incisive writing with her passion for the environment and wrote an open letter to Jeff Bezos, CEO of Amazon. In it she calls on Bezos and other billionaires to 'take action to help our world', focusing particularly on the human cost of the Indian farmers' protests.



Teacher, Mr Pengilley, said 'Navina is an eager member of our Eco-club, and is always looking for ways we can make an impact on the planet. We are very proud of her article.'

Navina also enjoys writing fiction and hopes her piece encourages all her fellow young readers to read and write more.

Uniform Showroom Opening Hours

Please note that the uniform showroom opening hours for the rest of the Spring Term are:

Tuesday 1pm - 5pm

Thursday 1pm - 5pm

Individual appointments outside of these times can be arranged if necessary, please contact Lesley or Jane in the showroom on 01642 792588 or via

uniformshop@yarmschool.org with any queries.

Jane in the showroom are also available to help.

Our uniform suppliers Perry continue to provide our online ordering service via their website <u>www.perryuniform.co.uk</u>. Standard delivery is free. Perry customer services can be contacted on 0113 238 9520. If you have any queries regarding the uniform Lesley and

Year 5 RE

This term in RE the Year 5s are studying Hinduism. In lessons we have spent time meditating and thinking of what we appreciate most. Over the two weeks of lessons so far, the pupils then made a 3D cubes. working on maths too, and decorated the six sides with what they are most thankful for.

Mrs Redhead-Sweeney



Year 6 homework

Year 6 were tasked with creating their own image with a hidden message. Here is Yuhe's hidden message:



Year 6 Persuasive Writing

Eva T. wrote a formal persuasive letter to her local MP about an issue she is concerned about.

Dear Mr Clarke,

Don't you think we need to do something about climate change now? Well, you are reading the right letter for I would like to have the great pleasure to inform you that I have an idea on how to reduce climate change.

I think we all know that air miles are a big problem. Did you know that between 1940 and 2018, aviation CO2 emissions grew from 0.7% to 2.65%. By 2020, global international aviation emissions were around 70% higher than in 2005! This is ridiculous. This is growing to be a large problem.

You are planning more fuel-efficient aircraft, sustainable aviation fuel and improved air traffic management. Take a few moments to think about how long your plan will take. We have to do something NOW! If you think that raising taxes on flights will solve our problem, it won't. Rich people would still be able to afford all the flights, but poor people won't be able to go on a flight at all.

During lockdown, people could finally see the Himalayas when people didn't fly as much and was it not wonderful when we could finally breathe in the fresh air during lockdown. That was an improvement towards climate change. We know that many people like to travel for holidays/work tours or business. For this reason, I feel that people should still fly, so my idea is for you to put a limit (of your choice) on how many air miles people can fly each year. Then if people don't want to use them, they can sell them to other people who do. This idea can be arranged quickly without having to use a lot of money. What do you think? Less air miles per person, less carbon dioxide in the air. Imagine how clear the skies would be.

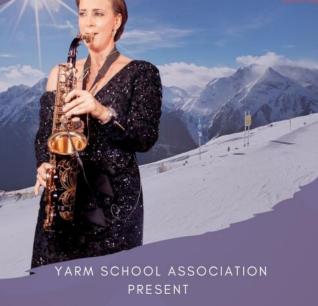
To conclude, I hope that you consider my plan of action, so we can help save our planet. Air travel is polluting our air and this could really help us. Climate change has been happening for many, many years and we haven't improved at all, so WE HAVE TO ACT NOW!

Yours sincerely,

Eva T.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11TH 2022

Save the Pate



APRÈS SKI EVENING featuring Lady V Saxophonist 7:30PM - 11PM, IN THE PAA BAR MORE INFO COMING SOON!



Key Dates		Thu 17	Thu 17 Half-term begins (after school)		hool)
JANUARY				After School Care as usual	
Mon 31	Activities Carousel 3 begins (Y4-6 only)	Fri 18	INSET for teaching staff (no pupils in school) Pupils return		
	Chinese New Year Week	Mon 28		activities carousel	3 hegins
	House Chess—Matchday 3			ming begins for Ste	-
FEBRUARY			-		s on Rare Diseases Da
Tue 1	Chinese New Year	MARCH			
	Curiosity Emporium (Library; 1pm)	Tue 1	House	Pancake races	
Wed 2	***NEW EVENT*** Y6 Lakes residential—	Wed 2	School Council		
	Parents' Meeting (details to follow)		HMC N	letball (Hymers; tir	nes TBC)
Thu 3	HMC Cross-Country		Maths	Information Event	(Prep Hall; 4pm)
	(Barlborough Hall; 5pm return)	Thu 3	World Book Day		
Fri 4	U10/11 Hockey v Pocklington		U11 No	orth-East Girls' Hoc	key Finals
	(away; 2pm start, 4.45pm return)				
	U10/11 Netball v Pocklington		-9) :sew əmit tse
	(home; 2pm start)	The answer to the Head's Challenge from			
Mon 7	Internet Safety Workshop POSTPONED	Weekl	ly certi	ficates	
	Brunel House Duty			Values	Endeavour
	Internet Safety Week	5	3B	Fliss W.	Livvie C.
Wed 9	VMT Parents' Evening (Senior School)	5	3R	Stan D.	Evelyn W.
	Internet Safety talk for parents (4pm; Prep Hall)	3	3W	Fathe C.	Bella M.
Thu 10	Year 3 trip to Centre for Life (all day)		4J	Lolwa S.	Noah WT.
	U9 Hockey v Dame Allan's	4	4N	Zara P.	Alex P.
	(away; 2pm start, 4.30pm return)	4	w	Rex W.	Kavan S.
Fri 11	U11 St Peters and GSAL Netball fixtures	5	5H	Nikita S.	Jack S.
	(home; 2.15pm start)		5K	Edward TP.	Bea M.
	U10 St Peters and GSAL Netball fixtures	5	w	Beatrix A.	Amelia O'C.
	(away; 2.15pm start, 5pm return)	(6G	Alfie M.	Waleed A.
	U11 Stephenson 7s Rugby		6L	Yuhe T.	Freddie B.
	(away; 1.30pm start, 5.15pm return)		6P	Immie M.	Rorke A.
	U10/11 Football v GSAL	Head Teacher Awards:			
	(away; 2pm start, 5pm return)	Year 4: Ella L., Harrison W., James A., Thea S.			
	STEAM Week	Year 5: Arvind K., Beatrix A., Griff W., Lucy W.,			
Mon 14					
	U8 Netball and Hockey workshops with Ashville	Maraw	van S., Na	vina M. (2), Akan	sha M., Rehan K.,
	U8 Netball and Hockey workshops with Ashville (away; 2.15pm start, 5pm return)		van S., Na ., Tiger C.	vina M. (2), Akan:	sha M., Rehan K.,
Mon 14 Tue 15 Wed 16		Max A.	., Tiger C.	vina M. (2), Akan Monica PH., Anu	