



# Little Phoenix



## The Newsletter of Yarm Pre-Prep

Number 345

11th February 2022

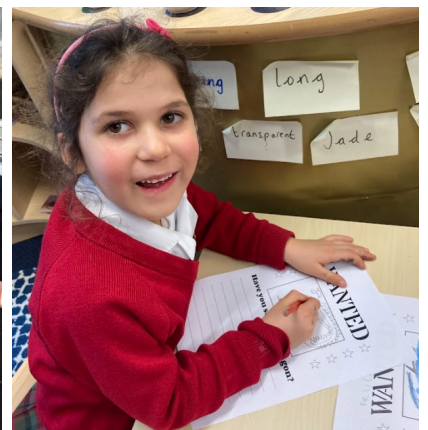
### Mrs Speight's message ...

The visit from ISI was a lovely opportunity to show the Inspectors our wonderful school. The children, as always, have demonstrated enthusiasm, curiosity and independence in their learning. Making Play-Doh and Squiggle Whilst you Wiggle have favoured greatly for our younger children. If you use Instagram, please follow the @yarmschoolnursery account. As it is Internet Safety Week, it was a pleasure sharing a webinar with Mr Stone for you. We intend to do this again in the Summer term, please write the date in your diary when the calendar is published. Reception children showed their caring side and ability to think of others when they made dens for their teddies in the woods. Counting backwards has caused great hilarity in Miss Ni Chaoilte's form. I wonder whether the children can remember the game they played? It would be remiss of me not to mention the children's fantastic manners as they have welcomed many children in for taster days. Surveying the Year 2 children about their favourite lesson gave the unanimous response of maths! The children articulated exactly what they had been learning including key mathematical vocabulary such as nets, 2D/3D shapes, vertices, edges and faces. I've asked them to think of all the shapes they see when playing outside. Enjoy the weekend, I'm still optimistic about the prospect of snow!

*Jeanne Speight*



Follow me on twitter: @YarmPrePrep





## La Chandeleur

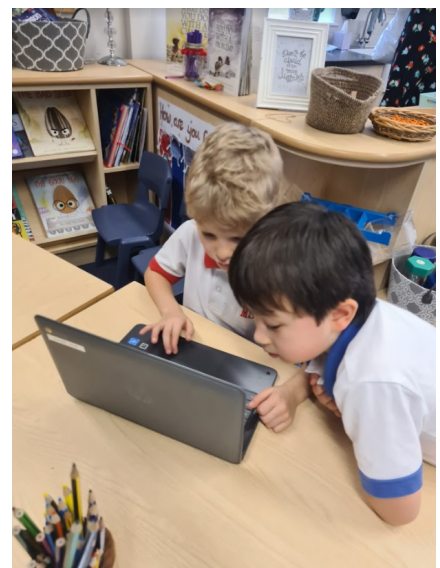
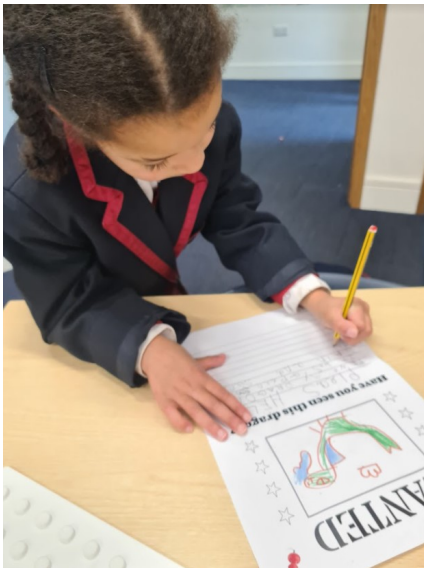
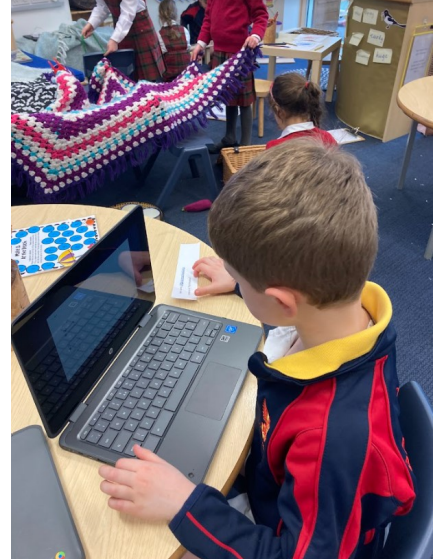
The children in Reception have been learning all about the festival of La Chandeleur during their French lessons. Celebrated forty days after Christmas, this festival gave the children the perfect opportunity to perfect the life skill of pancake flipping!





## Breaking News!

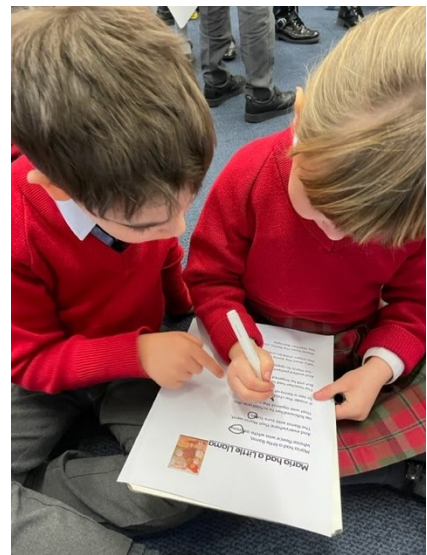
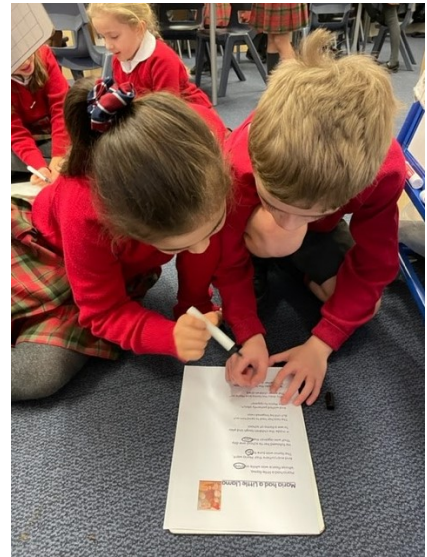
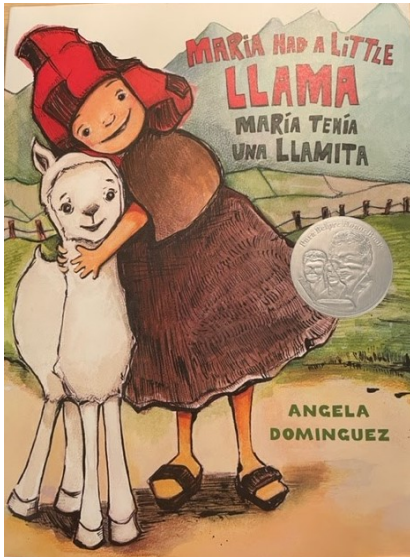
Dragons have been spotted around Yarm again but luckily Year 1 are on the scene. Our rainbow challenges have been exciting the dragon experts in 1S and 1N and keeping us busy. Keep your eyes on the skies!





## Maria Had a Little Llama

Year 2 are visiting Machu Picchu in Peru. We have thoroughly enjoyed sharing a traditional tale called "Maria Had a Little Llama" based on "Mary Had a Little Lamb." We used the rhyme within the poem which inspired us to create our own versions.





## Fantastic Fun

The children have thoroughly enjoyed their learning in Nursery. There have been too many activities to list! Here are a selection of photos to showcase what we have been doing. We love learning.







### YPSSC News

The YPSSC has received £404.86 commission from My Child's Art following the sale of the Christmas cards designed by the children. Thank you to all parents who supported this initiative.

YPSSC

### Nursery Winter Wander Sponsored Walk

The Nursery children will be going on a sponsored walk at Preston Park on Wednesday 16th February to raise funds for WWF-UK. You can sponsor the children via the link below

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/yarmschoolnursery>



### 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 - £2; 5.00-5.30pm - £3 (in addition to previous charge); 5.30-6.00pm - £3 (in addition to previous charge).

Where possible, please use the booking form sent out by Mr Stone to book your child's place. If your child attends a club but will require after school care when the club has finished then please book this on the form.

If you need to add your child to after school care, or make any changes after the form has closed, please contact Mrs Banham.

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.

### **David Carter MBE**

School received the sad news last week of the death of David Carter MBE.

David was one of the founders of Yarm School and has enjoyed a long association with school since then through the attendance of his children as well as his support of many events in school.

David was Chairman and Managing Director of the family run Stockton business, Carter Steel. Established in Thornaby in 1970, the company has operated from its current Stockton base since 1976.

As well as his busy business life David has also been a stalwart of various local groups including the Teesside Apollo Choir and Yarm Cricket Club.

David, who was always delighted over the years to support many 'cultural, sporting and young people's organisations and events', was awarded the MBE in 2017 for his work in this area. The award was 'a shock' but a very pleasant surprise.

David's family have been very supportive of all his activities through the years, and it is to them that we send our sincere condolences. As a founder of Yarm School David Carter will always be a part of the organisation which he was so instrumental in creating.

I knew David Carter professionally and as a friend for more than 40 years. David's exuberant positive spirit will live on in my mind for many years to come.

He will be greatly missed but we give thanks for having known him.

Mr P Menzies



## **Jeans for Genes on Rare Diseases Day—Monday 28th February**

*As a school, we are asking all children to bring in £1 and come wearing jeans with their school uniform on Monday 28th February (the first day back after half-term). This is to raise money for The David Ashwell Foundation on Rare Diseases Day.*

In March 2011, Auden [5K] & Faye [1S] Ashwell's big brother, David was born. Forty-eight hours after birth David became seriously ill. David died aged only 15 days from Alveolar Capillary Dysplasia (ACD).

The David Ashwell Foundation supports research into ACD, which is a very rare disease affecting the lungs of newborn babies. Babies with ACD may appear normal at birth but within minutes or hours they develop severe breathing difficulties. There is no treatment for ACD and as it is so rare, there has been little medical research into this devastating and usually fatal illness.

Since March 2011, The David Ashwell Foundation has raised over £250,000. The charity has funded eleven research grants to date and will fund further studies in 2022/23— providing answers to families who have lost babies and aiming to prevent the loss of babies from ACD in the future.

Join us on 28th Feb 2022 for Rare Disease Day and wear 'Jeans for Genes' to fundraise for our much needed research.

Thank you for supporting **The David Ashwell Foundation**.

Twitter: @TDavidAshwellF

<https://wonderful.org/fundraisers/384>

# February 28

Rare Disease Day 2022



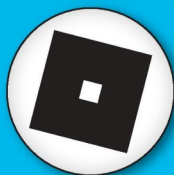
**The David Ashwell  
FOUNDATION**

Donate £1 and wear jeans to school on Monday, February 28 to support Alveolar Capillary Dysplasia (ACD). ACD is a rare lung disease that results in an infant fatality in almost every occurrence.

The David Ashwell Foundation UK Charity number 1121783

<https://wonderful.org/fundraisers/384>





## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# ROBLOX



With more than 150 million users worldwide, Roblox is one of the most popular video games of recent times. Roblox allows users to create their own gaming experiences using Roblox Studio: building levels and games then allowing other people to play them. Similarly, players can play each other's creations, either on their own or with other people online. While it's a tool that can help foster creative thinking, Roblox is also intermittently in the news amid concerns over young users' safety.

### No Age Rating

Roblox is rated 7+ by PEGI, but the platform itself doesn't have a minimum age requirement. It does ask for a date of birth when registering, but this can be easily fabricated. The sheer quantity of games available on Roblox means that some will fall into teen/adult categories. Users can also interact with each other freely – and the game has, historically, attracted scammers, griefers and online predators.



### Chat Functionality

Users can join group chats with almost anyone through the Chat & Party function. While the chat has some filters, predators still try to find ways around these to prey on young children. There have been recent reports of adults pretending to be children, attempting to groom younger players and encouraging them to chat privately in an unmoderated environment away from the game.

### In-App Purchases

Robux is the in-game currency used to buy things like special outfits or emotes, and to play certain sections of the game. A subscription service (costing £4.99 per month) called Roblox Premium offers more privileges and more in-game currency. Robux can also be purchased in batches, for up to £4.99. Children can easily pay for these, or purchase a membership, without realising it.



### ODers

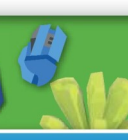
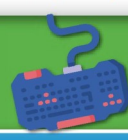
An 'ODer' (online dater) joins Roblox to find someone to 'date' online. While there's nothing inherently wrong with finding love on the internet, it becomes an issue in a space that's populated by children and young teens, like Roblox. Online dating is against Roblox's community guidelines, but certain player-built games on the platform are specifically for 'ODers' and should be avoided by children.

### Online Predators

Roblox's developers aim to maintain a safe place for children; they employ human moderators for their players' protection. But there will, sadly, always be individuals who try to bypass these safeguards so they can chat to children and attempt to communicate outside the game. Anyone asking for your child's personal information or to talk privately should be blocked and reported.



## Advice for Parents & Carers



### Take Note of Ratings

Recent press reports drew attention to Roblox's issues with potentially offensive content. Some players were using Roblox Studio to create games featuring nudity, sexual activity and extreme political views. In response, Roblox is introducing a ratings system which will rank content by age appropriateness, with clear warnings if a game is not suitable for younger players.



### Set Parental Controls

Roblox has controls that allow parents to moderate who their children can talk to and which games they can play. To enable these, add your email address to your child's account through the Security menu, and create a secure PIN to stop settings being tampered with. Then head into the Privacy menu where you can apply moderation to in-game chat, personal messages, invites and more.

### Disable Messages

It's advisable to block all messaging if you have concerns over your child's safety. If they're playing with friends they know in real life, encourage them to chat in another way (like on the phone), so you know exactly who they're talking to and how. Accounts can be tweaked to allow messages from specific groups of people, such as friends or users that your child follows.



### Block and Report

To report someone in a game, find the Roblox symbol on screen (or the 'Settings' button on some devices). Identify the offending player and click the flag icon. Clarify why the player is being reported by choosing a reason from the list. If you think a particular game is inappropriate, you can also flag it for a moderator to check by following the same steps but selecting 'Game' instead of 'Player'.



### Encourage Creativity

It could prove a little too complex for younger children, but Roblox Studio is a great place to start learning the fundamentals of game design. Many budding developers have created Roblox games which have become popular among the community. There are plenty of tutorials on making games on sites like YouTube. You never know, your child's creation might be the next big thing!



### Meet Our Expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for several years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGBible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



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