



# Little Phoenix



## The Newsletter of Yarm Pre-Prep

Number 348

11th March 2022

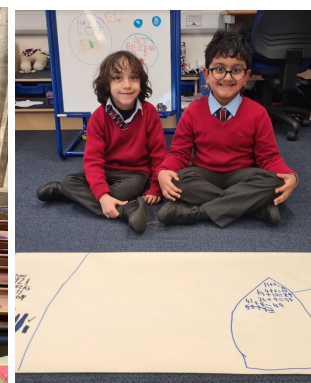
### Mrs Speight's message ...

The chess tournament was a great success and our Year 2 participants enjoyed the opportunity to play with their peers competitively for the first time in two years. I know that many children have already signed up for the Megafinal at the PAA on Sunday 1st May at the Senior School which demonstrates their enthusiasm for this intriguing game of strategy. The Year 2 children visited Durham Cathedral and their impeccable behaviour was mentioned by many members of the general public. The staff who accompanied the children said they were a pleasure to accompany. They were courteous, polite and extremely interested in all of the activities throughout the day and I understand from Mrs Barton that this truly was an awe inspiring outing. The Reception children had a little walk to our amphitheatre and their reenactment of The Bear Hunt was a delight to watch, a true spectacle! If you have a moment, please take time to visit this wonderful outdoor space adjacent to our car park. On Thursday, a combine harvester and tractor caused great excitement and our grateful thanks must go to Mr Addison and his brother for volunteering their time and educating the children about agricultural machinery. Have a wonderful weekend, I am looking forward to watching the U14, U16 and U19 netball girls participate at the National Schools Finals. Warmest wishes

Joanne Speight



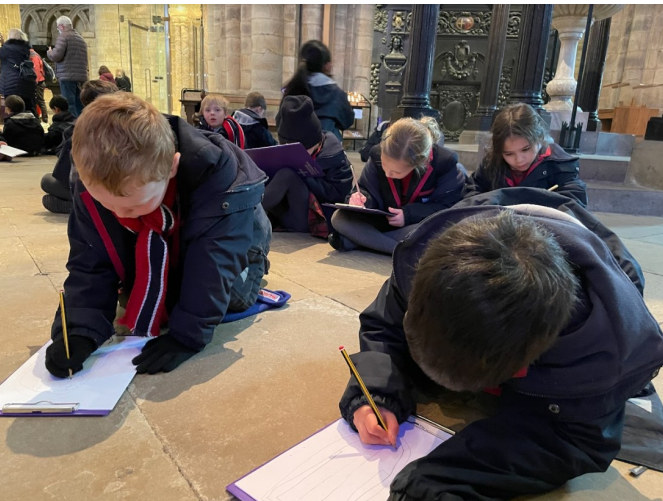
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## Durham Cathedral

Year 2 had a wonderful trip to Durham Cathedral on Tuesday. Everyone was amazed by the size of the Cathedral and how it is beautiful both inside and outside. We toured the cathedral and had lunch in the cloisters where Harry Potter was filmed! Our final activity was observational drawings around the nave focusing on: the font, the Rose Window and The Daily Bread Window.





## Magnificent Machinery

We are extremely grateful that the Addisons brought both a combine harvester and tractor to school on Thursday. Here are a few photographs which demonstrate how much fun we had!





## We're Going On A Bear Hunt

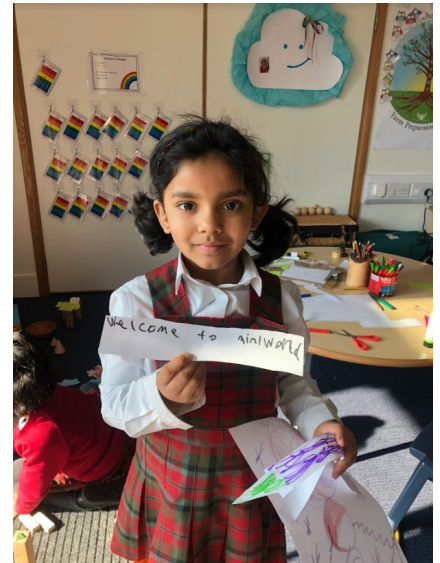
The teachers were given the best seats in the house as Reception performed their own versions of 'We're Going On A Bear Hunt' in the amphitheatre. As well as performing the actions, they played musical instruments and acted out the story on stage.





## The Power of Child Centred Learning

The children have spent time creating their own projects. Encouraged to develop and plan their ideas first, they have also offered each other feedback. There have been hotels, castles and family history shared as coats of arms. Collaboration and perseverance have been the key to success.





# **Delancey UK Schools' Chess Challenge**

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

Saturday's UK Chess Challenge tournament broke all records for attendance, with over 80 entries from Year 2 to Year 6.

All of the children were on fine form and every one of the 12 main titles was strongly contested.

For many of our players, the UK Chess Challenge was their first tournament experience. Indeed; the Year 2s only finished learning the basic moves of chess at the end of last term. Dara Jafari and Scarlett Yang became the respective new Year 2 Boy and Girl champions. Hugo Kelly, Austin Oman, Amelie Tailor and Elizabeth Hedges took the other top places in the section.

The Year 3s have had a lot of chess this year and it certainly showed on Saturday. Rory Fitzgerald was on top form, winning all seven of his games to claim the Best Boy title. Fathe Chahal was second and Henry Stanley came third. Manha Abdullah, Evelyn Ward and Rosa Williams all shared the Best Girl title, which shows how close this section proved to be.

Can Sezen and Miles Page shared first place in the Year 4 Boys category. Vedh Arcot, Eric Pinedo Fuentes and Kavan Sidhu shared third place. Kaira Nalawade became the new Year 4 Girl champion, closely followed by Lolwa Soliman and Alex Prideaux.

The Year 5 section was also very close. Anjali Ramisetty won all of her games in style to claim the title of Girl champion, with Sumi Kumar and Eva McBain sharing second place. Sid Suryadevara played his best chess to date to claim the Boys' title, one point ahead of both Tiger Chahal and Miguel Ramos Moreno.

Waleed Ahsan outscored several more experienced players to claim the title of Best Boy in the Year 6 section, with Alfie McBain (second) and Daniel Howell (third) close behind. Felicia Jude won the title Best Girl, ahead of Nethuki Mudduwa and Edie Redhead-Sweeny and Aditri Kulkarni, who finished second and joint third respectively.

Well played, everyone, whether or not you became a champion on this particular occasion. All of our players and staff helped to make it a fabulous festival of chess.

In former years, players had to achieve a certain number of points to qualify for the prestigious Megafinal stage of the competition. This year, to celebrate the return of real Megafinals (they were forced online for the last two years), entry is open to ALL chess players.

The Megafinal will be at Yarm Senior School on Sunday 1 May, in the magnificent Princess Alexandra Auditorium. It will provide an excellent opportunity for our players to test their skills against children from other schools. Numbers are strictly limited, so remember - book early!

**Sean Marsh** (*Yarm Prep School Chess Coach*)



### YPSSC News

Our sincere thanks go to Stacey Thompson (Chair), Peter Thompson (Vice Chair) and Thania Moreno Troya (Secretary) for their sterling work as part of the Yarm Prep School Social Committee in recent years. They have all served more than a full term in office and step down as of this week. We will warmly remember the brilliant events they have coordinated and the valuable funds raised that have gone to local causes and provided extra opportunities for our pupils.

It gives me great pleasure to announce that Louise Taylor (Edward, Y5) and Victoria Richards (Sam, Y5 and Elliot, Y3) will step up to take on the Chair and Vice Chair roles. We look forward to supporting Louise and Victoria as they take up post and continue the long tradition of earnest support that the YPSSC is known for.

The post of Treasurer and Secretary remain vacant. If you are interested in taking on these roles or would like to know more about them please do get in touch with the YPSSC directly via [ypssc@hotmail.com](mailto:ypssc@hotmail.com) or with Mr Sawyer [wecs@yarmschool.org](mailto:wecs@yarmschool.org) / Mrs Speight [jsp@yarmschool.org](mailto:jsp@yarmschool.org)



### Nursery Instagram



The Nursery team have set up a new Instagram account. Please follow us [@yarmschoolnursery](https://www.instagram.com/yarmschoolnursery)

### Easter Holiday School

In order to assist with the planning of the Easter Holiday School we are inviting parents to express their interest in places for their child/ren. The dates of the supervision are Monday 4th April to Friday 8th April. Please note that Tuesday 5th and Thursday 7th April are already full.

The cost of the places are £35 per child per day. Payment will only be accepted once places have been confirmed by myself via email and will be taken via BACS only. Please note that the supervision will only be open to Pre-Prep and Prep School children. Children cannot attend Holiday School unless payment has been received by our Finance Department.

Places on all days are limited, so early booking is essential. Please use the link below:

<https://forms.gle/sK4GLEo1eSfUCNs5A>

The timings for the days will remain as usual from 8am to 5pm. At present only a provisional timetable will be sent out, as the activities and venues may still change (timetable attached to the email). An email will be sent out if any specific clothing/equipment is required closer to the start of Holiday School.

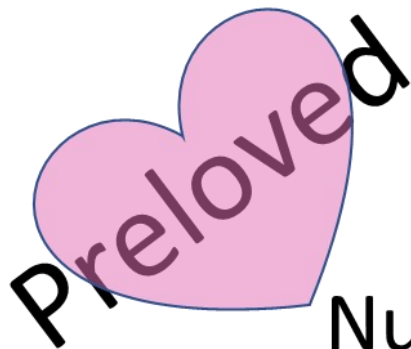
The deadline for applications is 3pm on Friday 25th March. If there are any changes to your plans at any time, please contact [holidayschool@yarmschool.org](mailto:holidayschool@yarmschool.org).

Kind regards

Mr Simpson







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while you're doing it



Nursery & Pre Prep

# Uniform Sale!!

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> & Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March  
3.15-3.45pm

**\*\*Blazers only £19\*\***

Shirts/Blouses  
Polo T-shirts  
Red Sweaters  
Pinafore Dresses  
Summer Dresses  
Grey Skirts  
Grey Trousers  
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Coming up at the PAA

**Top Secret—The Magic of Science , Sunday 8th May**  
**2022 11.00am and 3.00pm**

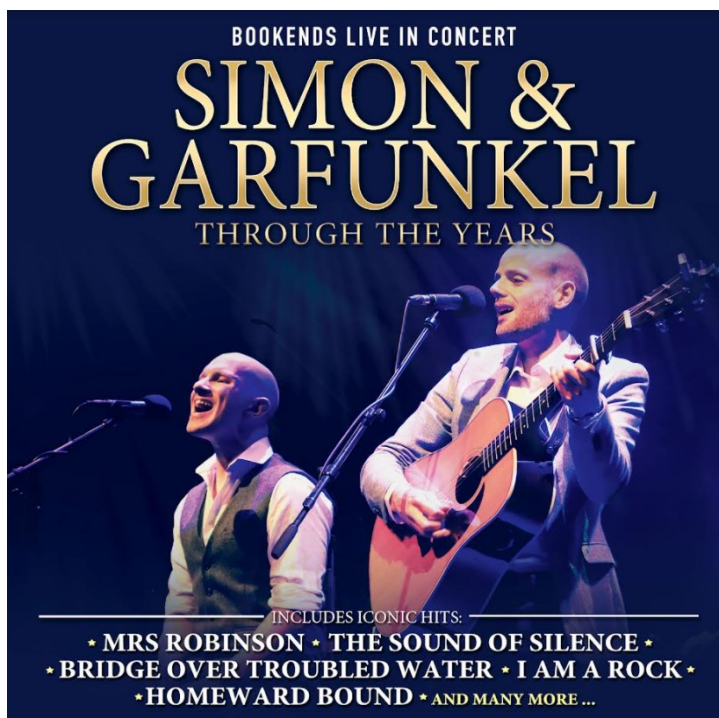
Fusing the mystery of magic with wondrous and miraculous feats of science.

Hang on to your seats as we transform the venue into a real life science laboratory.

Experience the non-stop action packed interactive magical science experiments that will capture the imagination.

Top Secret is a fast moving colourful magical science show filled with mystery, suspense, lots and lots of mess!

<https://www.thepaaonline.org/whats-on/top-secret-the-magic-of-science/>



**Simon and Garfunkel Through The Years—**  
**Saturday 26th March 2022 7.30pm**

Simon & Garfunkel: Through the Years is the most authentic sounding concert to the unforgettable music of Simon & Garfunkel.

Hear many of the hits such as The Sound of Silence, Mrs Robinson, The Boxer and Bookends' own beautiful rendition of the unforgettable Bridge Over Troubled Water. This is without doubt the closest thing to Simon & Garfunkel touring the world today.

<https://www.thepaaonline.org/whats-on/simon-and-garfunkel-through-the-years/>