



# Little Phoenix



## The Newsletter of Yarm Pre-Prep

Number 349

18th March 2022

### Mrs Speight's message ...

Another busy week in Pre-Prep for all. The Nursery children have enjoyed 'Squiggle while you Wiggle' in our Studio Hall. This fun activity incorporates dance and large movements using Flipper Flappers to develop the fine muscle control needed for writing. St. Patrick's Day caused great excitement for Pre-Prep and Miss Ní Chaoilte taught us some Irish. I wonder whether the children can remember how to say "Lá fhéile Pádraig". The children thoroughly enjoyed their céilí celebration. Ryan Davies (Mr Davies' brother) led a fantastic assembly about being colour blind and as ever the children impressed with their sensible questions and superb listening skills. He was inspiring and told the Pre-Prep children that although being colour blind is a challenge, it has never prevented him from fulfilling his life goals. He works for England Football as an Education Co-ordinator. Comic Relief was great fun and the children were able to describe exactly why this is such an important day. The children also celebrated Holi, a festival of spring and there will be many photographs to follow in next week's newsletter. The weather is set to be a little warmer, the days are gradually drawing out and those little green buds in the hedgerows are telling me that spring is definitely just around the corner. Have a lovely weekend.

Warmest wishes,

Joanne Speight



Follow me on twitter: @YarmPrePrep





## Happy Holi!

We have been learning about the Hindu festival, Holi. Throughout the week, we have had lots of activities to celebrate this festival of colour, love and the arrival of Spring. The week ended on a bang with a powder paint party in the Nursery garden. Follow our Nursery Instagram page for more photos!





## Nature Walk

The milder weather inspired the children in Reception to hunt for signs of Spring during their woodland session. Seedlings and flower buds had already emerged from ground but there was not a sign of the Easter Bunny (yet!).





### Coronation Creations

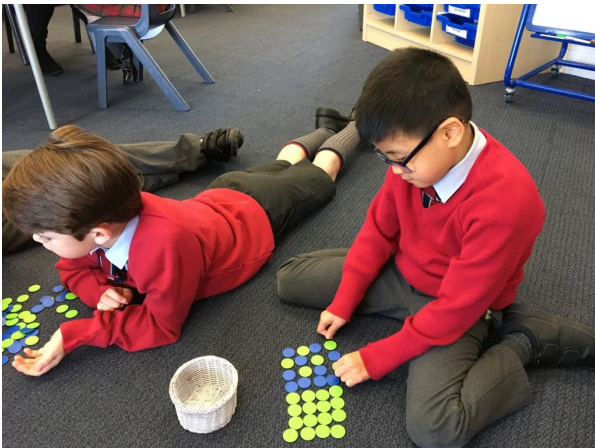
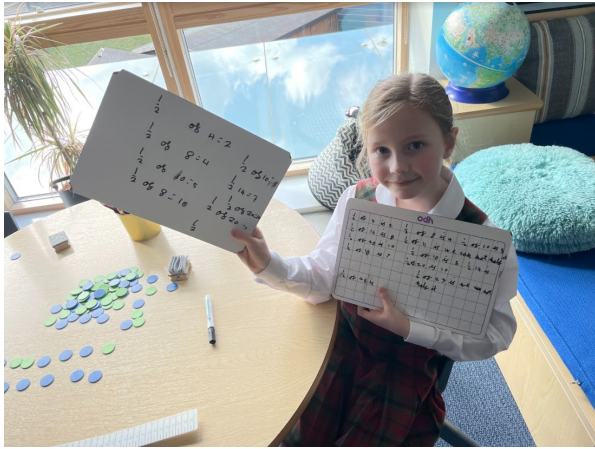
In a week full of celebrations, the Year 1 children have started looking at the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We watched her procession from 1952 and used this clip to inspire us to make a 3D map of London to show the route she followed from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Abbey on her coronation day.



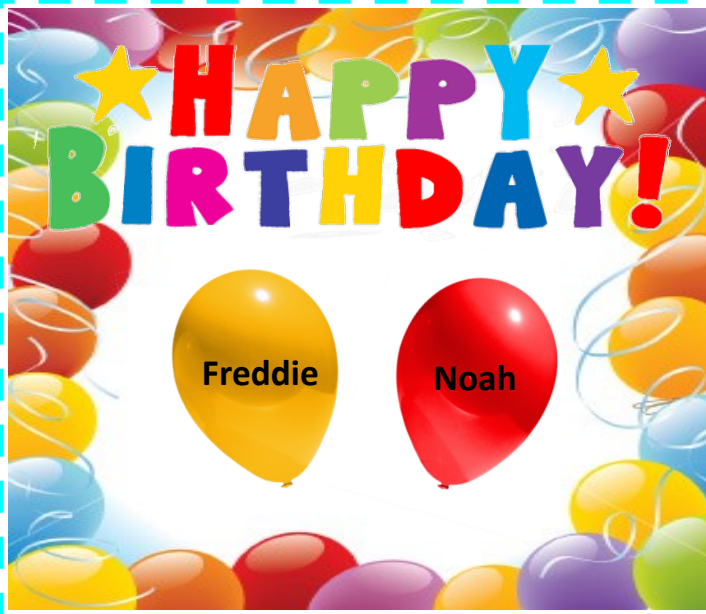


## Halving Counters

Year 2 have been looking at fractions, focusing on halves and quarters. The children were able to halve and quarter shapes and amounts. They have used big shapes and counters to find these fractions.







### **Spring Term Reports**

Your child's Spring report is available to view on the parent portal. If you have not yet read your child's report, please follow the link below and log in to access the portal.

<https://portal.yarmschool.org/parentportal/>

If you have any problems please contact Mrs Banham.

### **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](mailto:uniformshop@yarmschool.org) with any queries.

Our uniform suppliers Perry continue to provide our online ordering service via their website [www.perryuniform.co.uk](http://www.perryuniform.co.uk). Standard delivery is free. Perry customer services can be contacted on 0113 238 9520. If you have any queries regarding the uniform Lesley and Jane in the showroom are also available to help.

### **Dates For Your Diary**

Week beginning 21st March—Parents Evenings

Thursday 24th March—Year 1 trip to Raby Castle

Tuesday 29th March - Stay and Play (Nursery-Year 2)

Thursday 31st March—Reception trip to RSPB Saltholme

Friday 1st April—Last day of Spring Term (No after school care)

Monday 4th—Friday 8th April—Easter Holiday School

Monday 25th April—Back to school

### **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.

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.



## Tooled Up Education

Did you know that small steps taken at home can greatly affect how well your children perform in school? Talk to your children around that dinner table, ask great questions, cultivate their curiosity, read to them, listen to them read and give them as much access to books as possible. Give them a healthy and nutritious breakfast and ensure they have a good night's sleep. These are 'gamechanger' activities that can sow the seeds for great concentration and focus at school and imbue a love of learning in general. Don't worry, we have resources that can guide you.

Parents can model scientific curiosity through everyday activities when 'out and about'. Before you set off on a journey, choose a question from the [20 Questions for the Car](#) resource and see how your children respond. At bedtime, select a question from our [20 Questions for Bedtime](#) sheet for discussion. Enjoy making up family quizzes or use a ready-made [one](#). Unlock their thinking by [asking great questions](#), encourage stimulating [dinnertime chat](#) and instill an appreciation of the sense of uncertainty that we may feel when [exploring new ideas](#).

The quality of children's sleep is the subject of discussion around the world this week as it is [World Sleep Day](#) on Friday. If you want to learn more about sleep and its impact on children's mental health, we have an [unmissable webinar](#) with psychologist, Dr Faith Orchard, coming soon. [Book your free place](#) here. If you want to find out more about sleep problems in children, listen to our [podcast with Dr Rachel Hiller](#) or watch our tip-filled [webinar](#) with sleep practitioner and ADHD nurse, Joanna Kippax.

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](mailto: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 [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](mailto: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**

## Ukraine Appeal

Thank you to everyone that has supported the campaign thus far. If you are able to support this worthy fundraising initiative you can donate using the link [here](#). All funds will go to the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal (DEC) and will support families fleeing the conflict by providing food, water, shelter, healthcare and protection.



### Coming up at the PAA

#### **Fireman Sam—Saves The Circus—Sunday 3rd April, 10.30am & 1pm**

When all of his friends go away, Norman Price decides to find adventure in Pontypandy and become the star of a visiting circus.

But with a tiger on the loose and faulty lights, the adventure soon turns to danger. Can Fireman Sam come to the rescue and save the circus?

Join Sam, Penny, Elvis, Station Officer Steele and Norman in an all singing, dancing, action-packed show. You can become a fire-fighter cadet and then watch the magic of the circus.

So, come along to Pontypandy and watch the adventures unfold!

<https://www.thepaaonline.org/whats-on/fireman-sam-saves-the-circus/>



#### **The Chicago Blues Brothers—Friday 25th March 2022 7.30pm**

Direct from London's west end, join the Chicago Blues Brothers and their 9 piece band, for a brand new 2-hour all singing, all dancing hit parade bringing you the greatest movie anthems of all time, performed live in concert. Dig out those trilby's, shades and polish your dancing shoes because we are bringing the party to you in this 2 hour spectacular of non-stop music and laughter.

You'll dance, you'll sing, you'll have the time of your life.

<https://www.thepaaonline.org/whats-on/the-chicago-blues-brothers-2/>

