



The Phoenix Flier

Issue 705
Friday 6th May 2022

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

A message from Mr Sawyer

Welcome to this edition of the Phoenix Flier which serves as a roundup of recent events and highlights. Last weekend we hosted the Teesside Chess Megafinal which saw many chess players from across the region attend to try and advance their progress in the Delancey UK Chess Challenge. The event was clearly a huge success and, as always, all participants left as better chess players. Well done to all those who took part and to those who now move onto the next round - the Gigafinal. Thanks to all the staff and parents who made the event possible. As you will see from the photo below, we are already onto the next school-based chess competition!

Activities and clubs have started in earnest this week which is always great to see. The breadth of opportunity and skill development that these pursuits offer is exceptional. Our pupils really do embrace these sessions with real commitment and it is lovely to see them work collaboratively across year groups at these times. We have a long-held view that teamwork, in all areas of school and in all senses, is an important aspect of pupils' personal development. It was therefore super to hear Professor Robert Winston cite the ability to work collaboratively with a wide variety of people as being a key determiner to a successful and happy existence in his talk at the PAA this week.

We look ahead to the weekend which is our summer term Open Morning. Thanks in advance to those pupils who have volunteered to represent the school, I have no doubt that they will be great ambassadors for the school.

Bill Sawyer

Head's Challenge: What can you hold in your left hand but not in your right hand?

Photo of the Week: A busy few days for chess across the school. As well as the annual Teesside Megafinal last Sunday (see report inside), the oldest Prep School competition—Knockout Chess—has started.



Tooled Up Education

Did you know that next week, it's Mental Health Awareness Week? This year, it runs from May 9th-15th and the theme is loneliness. Feeling a sense of connection to other people and to our community is crucial for mental health, both for adults and children.

We've developed some fantastic resources for children young and old which provide helpful strategies for connecting with others and being a good friend to those around us. For younger children, our [Making Friends](#) prompts provide some great icebreakers to get conversations flowing and our [10 Strategies for Making Friends](#) can be used by people of all ages. Why not also encourage younger children to think about what it means to be a good friend with our [Yay or No Way Friendship Quiz](#) or arm them with some ideas to help them [get along better with their peers](#)?

Looking outwards, thinking about others and being kind are also great ways to promote a sense of connection and belonging to the wider community. Next time you have a spare few minutes, listen to our podcasts (or if you are short on time, simply read the notes) with [Dr Jess Datu](#) and [Professor Robin Banerjee](#) to find out more. One of the best ways to cultivate our children's empathy is to notice (or count) acts of kindness. Why not see how many you and your children can tick off from [our list](#)? You might also be interested in some of the titles on our [compilation of books](#) to promote kindness and empathy.

If your child feels lonely, it can be helpful to remind them of all those who love and support them. Encourage them to fill in either our [Who is There for Me?](#) activity or use our [Five Fingers or Support](#), so they know exactly who to turn to when they feel alone.

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 [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: YPSII03 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



Five Fingers of Support: My Helping Hand



100 Acts of Kindness



Yay or No Way! The Friendship Quiz



Books to Cultivate Kindness and Empathy

Chess Megafinal

The Fifth Teesside Megafinal - our first since 2019 - was a great success.

The tournament was sold out for some time before the day itself and it was wonderful to be able to welcome 150 eager young chess players from all over the North East to the magnificent Princess Alexandra Auditorium.

As usual, our Prep School players were out in force and it was great to see them testing their skills against chess players from 25 other schools and clubs.

Fathe Chahal proved to be our best player in the Under-8 section, finishing in clear second place with 5/6.

Rosa Williams was on great form too and is the new Girls' Champion.

Fathe and Rosa qualified for the next stage of the Delancey UK Chess Challenge, the Manchester Gigafinal, as did Stan Dugdale (who shared 3rd place), Dax Cullingford, Evelyn Ward and Rory Fitzgerald. Hugo Kelly, Jude Cardwell, Leo Smith, Dara Jafari, Cooper Willis, Manha Abdullah and Felix Maredia also played some excellent hard fought games.

Miles Page and Can Sezen shared second place in the very competitive Under-10 section, with 5/6. They qualified for the Gigafinal, as did Kavan Sidhu, Anwita Dara, Miguel Ramos Moreno, Griff Williams, Henry Stanley, Kaira Nalawade, Marawan Saad, Sumi Kumar, Sid Suryadevara, Jacob Bell, Udham Chahal, Benjamin Fulford and Eric Pinedo Fuentes. Well done also to Samuel Isukapatla and Alex Prideaux who gave a good account of themselves during the day.

The Under-12 section was a tough one but our players did very well. Nethuki Mudduwa, Luke Palmer, and Aditri Kulkarni all qualified for the Gigafinal. Special mention must also go to Felicia Jude, Edie Redhead-Sweeney and Avighna Arvind who also played some long exhausting games.

It was a fabulous celebration of chess and we are now looking forward to seeing how well our young stars do at the Gigafinal.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the day such a great success.

Mr Marsh



Brunel House Charity Day

Well done to all of the Year 6 Brunel children who organised and run our charity day this week, in aid of Guide Dogs for the Blind. So far, we have raised in excess of £500, which is an incredible total!

Mrs Jennings



News this week

Ramadan

Thank you to the children who shared how they celebrate Ramadan and Eid in assembly last week. The children enjoyed coming in to school in traditional dress and explaining to all of us what Ramadan is all about.

Mr Stone



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). 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

<http://bit.ly/yarmpreparents>

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

Ear Piercings and Jewellery

The wearing of jewellery is not permitted. The wearing of earrings and ear studs is not permitted for safety reasons. Please avoid ear piercing which will necessitate the wearing of ear studs at school. Children will be asked to ensure any ear piercings are taken out as soon as possible.

It is recommended and expected that any ear piercings take place in the school holidays, not during term time.

Mr Stone

Curiosity Emporium

An excited group of Prep children attended this week's Curiosity Emporium with Ms Goodfellow. Armed with Chromebooks, they were keen to learn about 'Curious Customs From Around the World'.



Following a discussion on some unusual customs and how they are often related to important events such as births, weddings and the start of a new year they were given the opportunity to put their new found knowledge to the test. Did you know that Finland hosts an annual wife carrying competition? Or that the festival of El Colacho in Spain sees men jumping over newborn babies to bring them luck? After a closely fought contest, Jingjing was awarded the winning trophy with Ollie B. taking

the shield for second place.

Mrs Lofthouse-Hill

Year 5 RE

5W were shining a spotlight on what makes a good friend in RE this week. Some fantastic thoughts were shared. My favourite included: kind, supportive, huggable, funny, loyal, adventurous, trustworthy and reliable.

Mrs Redhead-Sweeney



National Schools Quiz

Who was the King of England during the US war of Independence?

Questions such as these proved no bother at all to our school quiz teams last week, with our A and B teams qualifying from their semi-final for the National Schools General Knowledge Quiz Final. This represents a remarkable achievement: as far as we are aware, we are the first school to have two teams qualify for the same final.

The questions were so much harder than the first round, but Yarm 1 (consisting of Aisling T., Marawan S., Benjamin F. and Olivia T.) raced into an early lead, closely followed by Yarm 2 (Tom P., Samuel E., Hannah C. and Annalise D.). Yarm 3 (Ella F., Auden A., Niall E. and Imogen C.) were also giving a good account of themselves but as the competition went on, it was nip-and-tuck between Yarm 1, St John's College and Byfleet Primary from Surrey.

The last round—which sees each question worth 100 points—saw Yarm 1 dominate and in the end they scored an impressive 1835 points. Yarm 2 finished strongly to come 3rd, thereby ensuring both teams reach the final, which takes place in London next month. Yarm 3 finished in 33rd and just missed out on qualifying for the final as a highest scoring runner-up. Special mention must go to Olivia and Benjamin, who were highest individual scorers in the semi-final from any team!

Mr Stone

Wizarding Wednesdays

Our Harry Potter-based Wednesday activity got off to a crafty start this week with Miss Goodfellow!



Jubilee Poetry Competition

To celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee we will be planting a tree in our school grounds.

We would like to invite the children from all year groups to write their own Jubilee themed poem to be read to the rest of the school during the planting ceremony.

All entries must be handed in to Mr Stone (Prep) or Mr Pengilly (Pre-Prep) by Friday 20th May.

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



**National
Online
Safety**

7 questions to help you start a conversation with your child about online safety

#WakeUpWednesday

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1



Which apps/games are you using at the moment?

THIS WILL GIVE YOU A GOOD OVERVIEW OF THE TYPES OF THINGS YOUR CHILDREN ARE DOING ON THEIR DEVICES, ALONG WITH THEIR INTERESTS. REMEMBER THAT THEY MIGHT NOT TELL YOU EVERYTHING THEY ARE USING, SO IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO ASK THEM TO SHOW YOU THEIR DEVICE, BECAUSE NEW APPS AND GAMES ARE RELEASED REGULARLY, IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE THIS CONVERSATION OFTEN TO ENSURE YOU ARE UP TO DATE WITH WHAT THEY ARE DOING.



Which websites do you enjoy using and why?

AS IN THE TIP ABOVE, ASKING THIS QUESTION WILL ALLOW YOU TO FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD IS DOING ONLINE, AND ENCOURAGE POSITIVE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THEIR ONLINE ACTIVITY. ASK THEM HOW THEY USE THE WEBSITES, AND TAKE AN INTEREST IN HOW THEY CAN USE THEM IN A POSITIVE WAY, ALSO ASKING THEM TO SHOW YOU IF POSSIBLE.



2

3

PLAY AGAIN?
YES NO

**How does this game/app work?
Can I play?**

SHOW A GENUINE INTEREST IN WHAT THEY ARE DOING. WHILST YOU ARE PLAYING A GAME OR USING AN APP WITH THEM, IT MIGHT HIGHLIGHT SOMETHING THAT THEY DON'T NECESSARILY THINK IS A DANGER TO THEM. IF THEY ACT LIKE THEY DON'T WANT TO SHARE THEIR ACTIVITIES WITH YOU, QUESTION WHY.



Do you have any online friends?

CHILDREN CAN FORM POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE ONLINE, AND THIS HAS BECOME MORE COMMON THANKS TO ONLINE MULTI-PLAYER OPTIONS, BUT THEY MAY NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A FRIEND AND A STRANGER. YOU COULD MAKE THE QUESTION MORE SPECIFIC TO YOUR CHILD, FOR EXAMPLE: "HAVE YOU MET ANYONE ONLINE THAT YOU LIKE TO PLAY GAMES WITH?" THEY MAY NOT WANT TO SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOU, SO ENSURE YOU TEACH THEM ABOUT HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS.



4

5



Do you know where to go for help?

ALTHOUGH YOU MAY BE THE ADULT THEY TRUST THE MOST, SOME CHILDREN STRUGGLE TO TALK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS ONLINE DUE TO CONFUSION OR EMBARRASSMENT. BECAUSE OF THIS THEY MAY STRUGGLE TO APPROACH THE NORMAL PEOPLE WHO WOULD HELP, SUCH AS YOURSELF OR A TEACHER. HAVE A CHAT TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT EXACTLY WHERE THEY CAN GO FOR HELP, AND HOW THEY CAN REPORT ANY ACTIVITY THAT THEY BELIEVE IS INAPPROPRIATE ONLINE.



Do you know what your personal information is?

YOUR CHILD MAY ALREADY KNOW WHAT THEIR PERSONAL INFORMATION IS BUT THEY MIGHT NOT THINK ABOUT HOW IT CAN BE SHARED. HAVE A CONVERSATION ABOUT WHAT PERSONAL INFORMATION IS AND HOW THIS CAN AFFECT THEM IF IT IS SHARED BEYOND THE INTENDED RECIPIENT. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOUR CHILD UNDERSTANDS THE DANGERS OF SHARING CONTACT DETAILS OR PHOTOS, AS INFORMATION SUCH AS THIS CAN SPREAD QUICKLY ONLINE.



6

7

Do you know your limits?

CHILDREN MAY NOT UNDERSTAND THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF DEVICE OR GAME ADDICTION. TALK TO THEM OPENLY ABOUT HEALTHY HABITS AND ASK WHETHER OR NOT THEM SPENDING TIME ONLINE OR PLAYING A GAME IS AFFECTING THEIR SLEEP, PERFORMANCE AT SCHOOL OR IF THEY ARE GENERALLY LOSING INTEREST IN OTHER ACTIVITIES. YOU MAY LEAD ON TO ENCOURAGING ALTERNATIVE ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSING THE INTRODUCTION OF TIME LIMITS WHEN AT HOME.



www.nationalonlinesafety.com

Twitter - @natonlinesafety

Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety

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YSA PRESENTS

BOLLYWOOD SUMMER BALL

SATURDAY, 18TH JUNE 2022
7PM

CARRIAGES AT MIDNIGHT

THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA AUDITORIUM

TICKETS £60
AVAILABLE ONLINE FROM 9AM
SATURDAY 30TH APRIL

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BOLLYWOOD DANCERS FROM DESI NACH

THREE COURSE MEAL
BLACK TIE OR PARTY WEAR

yarmschoolassociation.org

Key Dates

MAY

Sat 7	Open Morning (9am-12noon)
Mon 9	Stephenson House Duty
Tue 10	U8 Cricket workshop with St Peter's ***CHANGE*** (away; 2.15pm start, 4.30pm return)
Wed 11	Year 4 Vindolanda residential departs ***NEW EVENT*** Y6 Lakes trip meeting for parents (4pm; Hall)
Thu 12	Year 1 trip to Centre for Life
Fri 13	Year 4 return from Vindolanda U10 Cricket v Ashville (away; 2pm start, 5pm return) U11 Cricket v Ashville (Home; 2pm start, 4.30pm finish)
Mon 16	Year 5 London residential departs
Tue 17	U8 Crickey workshop with Ashville
Thu 19	Y5 return from London

U9 Cricket v Ashville (home; 2pm)

Mon 23	Year 6 Lakes residential departs
Tue 24	Yarm Schools Quiz (Prep Hall; 10am) U8 Cricket workshop v Dame Allan's (home; 2pm)

Year 2 trip to Edinburgh

Thu 26	School Jubilee Party Y6 return from the Lakes
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HALF-TERM BEGINS (AFTER SCHOOL)

After school care and clubs run as usual

Fri 27	Staff INSET
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Mon 6	Pupils return Knockout Table Tennis begins Dance Showcase rehearsals begin Y5 trip to Komatsu, Birtley Y3 swimming continues
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The answer to the Head's Challenge from last time was: A ruler has a foot but no legs.

Weekly certificates

	Values	Endeavour
3B	Emily Q.	Jack A.
3R	Manha A.	Charlie M.
3W	Martha L.	Bella M.
4J	Niall E.	Francesca F.
4N	Ahmad I.	Yasmeen S.
4W	Amelia C.	Sylvia D.
5H	Nona D.	Lucy W.
5K	Auden A.	Matthew S.
5W	Dorothy W.	Beatrix A.
6G	Waleed A.	Ella F.
6L	Taha A.	Aditri K.
6P	Neev S.	Wilf D.

