

Issue 708

Friday 27th May 2022

## The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

### A message from Mr Sawyer

**W**elcome to the final publication of the Phoenix Flier for this half term. What an action packed few weeks we have had! It is certainly true to say that the pupils and staff will benefit from the half term break having given their all, in every sense, since the start of term. This week Year 6 have been in The Lake District on their final residential trip in the Prep School. Camping near Lake Windermere they have been able to enjoy ghyll scrambling, hill walking, canoeing, sailing, climbing and much more. It was a pleasure to spend a couple of days with them earlier in the week and truly impressive to see how well they supported each other as they took on the challenges they faced. I am grateful to Mr Mathers, who leads Outdoor Education across the school, the Prep School staff who were fully involved in the adventure and the instructors who work with the school on a regular basis for giving the pupils a brilliant experience.

Our final day of the half term allowed those in school to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee. With the bunting flying above us, we came together to play games, sing songs and engage in a range of activities with a regal twist.

There was a wonderful party atmosphere which rekindled memories of royal weddings and similar celebrations of yesteryear. To mark the occasion we have planted a horse chestnut tree (grown from a conker found at the Senior School by George Pike!) near the amphitheatre in the new car park. We hope in years to come it will provide many more conkers and memories of the celebrations.

*Bill Sawyer*

### Head's Challenge:

A fruit on a tree, a tree on a fruit. What is it?

### Photo of the Week:

Our latest residential visit saw Year 6 camp by Lake Windermere for the week. A sneak preview of what they have been up to can be found inside.



## Tooled Up Education

Fanfare, please! We have an exciting new feature on the Tooled Up website that will make finding the resources that you need even easier. If you click on '[browse resources](#)', you will see a new search function called 'Resource Topics'. There, you'll find a list of all the topics that you might be interested in, along with all of the Tooled Up resources that are relevant to each. Simple!

Did you know that we have five webinars lined up between now and the end of term, all free and exclusive to our Tooled Up community? [Book your place on any of the following now](#):

**June 16th, 7.15pm GMT - Being a 'Tooled Up Dad'**. Join Paul Pomroy (CEO of McDonalds) and Dr Weston for a light-hearted discussion about fatherhood.

**June 22nd, 7.30pm GMT - Tooled Up Transitions**. As transitions to new schools loom closer, Dr Weston will whizz through some of the best evidence-based tips to support children as they move on to their next educational stage.

**June 27th, 8pm GMT - Ask Dr Weston and adolescent psychiatrist Dr Anna Conway-Morris** any questions you have about parenting, mental health or neurodiversity. Tooled Up will donate £5 per attendee to the DEC's Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

**June 30th, 7.30pm GMT - Teen Party Planning and Problem Parties**. Criminal defence lawyer, Harriett Mather, joins Dr Weston to share some top tips on how both teens and parents can enjoy post exam festivities safely.

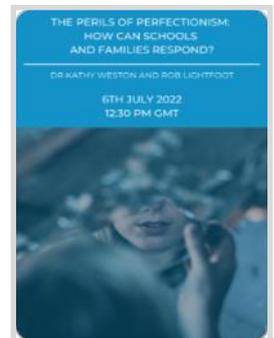
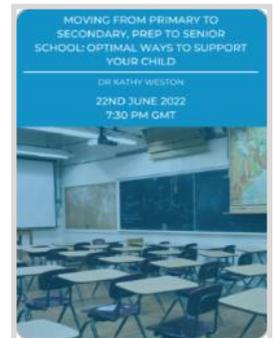
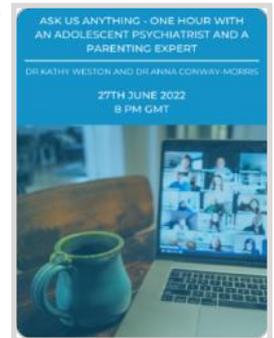
**July 6th, 12.30pm GMT - The Perils of Perfectionism**. Dr Weston is joined by Rob Lightfoot from NACE (the National Association for Able Children in Education) to discuss how we can support young people to develop 'perfectionism literacy' and how to avoid creating perfectionistic environments at home or in school.

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: YPSII03 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*



# Year 5 London trip

The London trip was the best residential ever! My favourite part was visiting the Tower of London, because we got to explore freely and take lots of photos!

*Bea M.*

I enjoyed being with all my friends and roommates and I particularly enjoyed the shows because they were magical!

*Seth T.*

I really enjoyed the bus tour because I saw lots of interesting sights and was able to take lots of great pictures.

*Edward TP.*

London was awesome! I really liked visiting the globe because I'm a huge Shakespeare fan!

*Ciara W.*



It was a once in a lifetime experience. My favourite thing was the Matilda musical; the actors and musicians were amazing.

*Navina M.*

It was an amazing experience. I really enjoyed the London eye because we were so high up and saw the whole of the city.

*Beatriz G.*

It was my favourite school trip to date. Lion King was a wonderful musical as the costumes were hand made in the West End. They were lovely.

*Fenwick M.*

I will never have such an experience again! The Lion King's choreography





impressed me. The London Eye had spectacular views.

*Noah A.*

What an exciting adventure. The open top bus tour was really good. Mr Simpson wound us up with some false facts!

*Violet M.*

I loved London because there were lots of sights. My favourite part was the London Eye because I could take lots of cool photos.

*Joe W.*



I really enjoyed London. It was my favourite trip I have been on yet. My favourite part was probably the open top bus tour as it was really fun seeing all the different landmarks.

*Harriet B.*

I loved London! My favourite part was the musicals, they were incredible. I also liked the London Eye. The views were amazing.

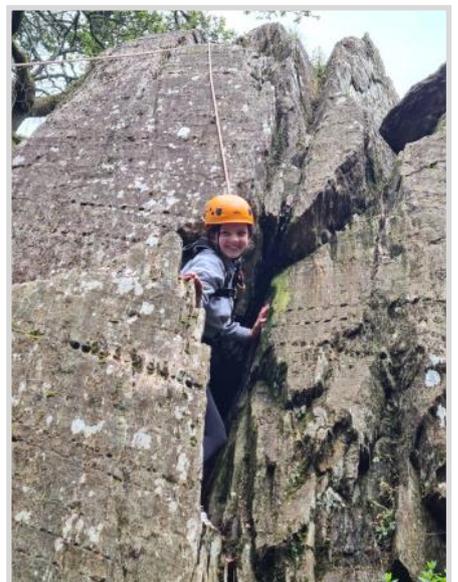
*Beatrix A.*



## Year 6 Lakes residential

Some images of the Year 6 Lakes residential, which took place this week. An extensive report will feature in the next edition of the Flier.





## PE and Games News

What a wonderful few days of sport we have had. The Year 4s enjoyed a bespoke tennis session with Anne on Wednesday and their groundstrokes are really coming on.

They also travelled to Durham School and enjoyed not only glorious sunshine but the cricket as well. The bowling of many of the girls is excellent and I am so proud how well they have picked up this technical part of the game.

All of Year 5 played alongside Dame Allan's on our home pitches at Green Lane. It was great to see them having a good time and working on their batting, bowling and fielding. There were some fantastic moments throughout, but special mention from my pitch to Navina, Amelia I, Amelie, Gabby, Akansha and Sumi (great pace bowler), who all bowled beautifully showing real talent.

Louisa P. bowled a maiden over, as did Ellie. Lou also hit two sixes and a four in her four balls which is excellent batting and Ellie took a wicket. It was lovely to see Emma A score a six, as did Willow. Nona, Imogen P and Jess F all took wickets in their games.

In the final game of the day Janaki took a wicket, as did Anjali and Darcey. It was fantastic to see so many girls stepping up and learning so much during the games.

What a wonderful afternoon of cricket!

*Mrs Redhead-Sweeney*

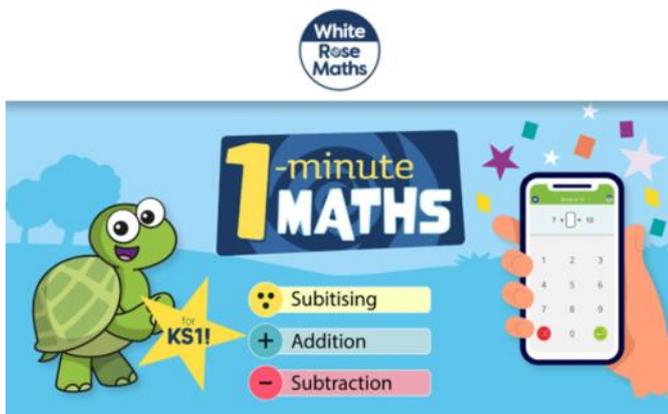


## News this week

### Silver Stories

It was a special Jubilee themed session in Silver Stories this week. Jean shared stories of her experience at a garden party at Buckingham Palace and the children shared poems beginning with 'If I were Queen for the day...'

Mrs White



### 1 Minute Maths App

Great news! White Rose have launched a maths app, suitable for Reception to Year 3, to support the development of fluent numbers skills and increase confidence. All in easy one-minute chunks!

The app is free and there is no need to set up an account. More information can be found here <https://whiterosemaths.com/1-minute-maths>

Mrs Speight and Mrs Pawluk (Maths Leads)

### 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

### 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

### Junior Maths Challenge

Well done to all of our Year 6 children who took part in the Junior Maths Challenge this year. As always, the challenge is incredibly difficult, especially as it is normally 1st and 2nd year students from the Senior School who do well. However this year, we recorded our best set of results in recent years! Out of the total score of 135, it took 52 marks to achieve the bronze award, 66 the silver award and 84+ to achieve the gold award. To qualify for the next stage, the Maths Kangaroo, pupils needed to score over 100.

**Gold (Best in year):** Edie Redhead-Sweeney

**Gold:** Ewan Paul, Jude Thompson

**Silver:** Elizabeth Adams, Yingying Li, Luke Palmer, Anushri Wadehra

**Bronze:** Sofie Matlochova, Claudia Patrick, Thomas Pritchard, James Reeves, Neev Sahoo, Theo Scott, Orson Stocken, Aisling Timmons.

## Summer Fair—Friday 24th June

We are delighted to announce the full return of our annual Summer Fair, taking place this year on Friday 24th June (2-5pm) with the theme this year being 'Platinum Party'.

The Social Committee and the Year 6 pupils are already planning on making it a fantastic event for all, with a range of stalls and games for all ages aimed at raising money for YPSSC projects.

Holding the event on a Friday proved to be very popular with the children prior to COVID, and the success was repeated last year (albeit without parents). As such we want to make the fair open to all children in the school community as well as their parents, many of whom would usually have other commitments over the course of a weekend. While this takes place during a school day, the impact on your child's education will be minimal.

We would like to draw your attention to a few logistical matters regarding the fair.

It will be a **non-uniform day**.

**Lunch** will take place as normal.

**School will finish at the usual times** - 3.30pm for Pre-Prep and 3.45pm for Prep.

**Pre-Prep children** can be collected from 2.30pm to come to the fair.

Although the school day finishes at the usual time, parents of Pre-Prep children are welcome to collect early and bring their children to the fair.

**Years 3-6 will need to bring some money.** £10 max in change should be plenty to have a go at the variety of games and activities taking place! This will be collected by form teachers for safekeeping during morning registration and handed out prior to the fair. All proceeds go to the YPSSC and the many projects they support the school with. We will not be using tokens this year, which we did last year.

**The fair will be fully supervised.**

Teachers will be present supervising those children at the fair from 2pm. From pick-up onwards we would love parents to come along and join the fun too!

**Pick up, after school care and buses will run as normal.** Pick up from after school care from 4pm will be from the Pre-Prep.

**Year 6 will be expected to stay until 5.30pm.** A letter has gone out to Year 6 parents with full details.

**There will be no after school clubs on this date.** Gymnastics, drama and digital leaders will not be taking place.

Further details will following in the coming weeks!

Mr Stone

**BUY SUMMER FAIR  
RAFFLE TICKETS BY  
CLICKING HERE!**



YPSSC presents...  
**Platinum Party  
Summer Fair**

Friday, 24th June 2022 2-5pm  
@ Yarm Prep School  
Parents and grown ups £2 - Children enter free

DJ - Fun filled stalls - Hamper raffle - Books stalls - Face painting  
Year 6 stalls - Lucky jars - Tombola - Preloved uniform - Food and drinks  
Climbing wall - Petting zoo - **And much much more!!**

Raffle tickets available to buy online now and on the day.  
£2 a ticket... for your chance to win one of the Royally Good Hampers 👑

YARM SCHOOL

Social Committee

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Occurring through messaging apps, on social media and in online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving, by definition, three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they are useful for helping friends, people with shared interests or members of a club to communicate and coordinate activities, they can also leave young people feeling excluded and bullied – as well as providing opportunities for inappropriate content to be shared and viewed.

### BULLYING

Unkind comments or images which are purposely aimed at an individual can be shared freely in a group chat – allowing and often encouraging others to join in the bullying behaviour. If this content is shared in a group of their peers (especially a larger group), it serves to amplify the hurt, embarrassment, anxiety and isolation that the victim feels.

### SHARING GROUP CONTENT

It's important to remember that – while the content of the chat is private between those in the group – individual users can easily share a message, photo or video with others outside of the group or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something your child intended as private becoming public (and potentially going viral) is higher if there are people they don't know well in the group.

### EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: starting a new group, for instance, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one child doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss or share images from an event that everyone else but them attended.

### UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely your child will be communicating with people they don't really know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly toward your child. It's wise for young people not to share personal details and stay aware that they have no control over the messages and images they share after they've put them online.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by your child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some chat apps have a disappearing message function, so your child may be unable to report something they've seen because it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

### NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications. Every time someone in the group messages, your child's device will be 'pinged' with an alert; potentially, this could mean hundreds of notifications a day. Not only is this highly distracting, but young people's fear of missing out on the latest conversation results in increased screen time as they try to keep up with the chat.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats are often an arena for young people to gain social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse, which could upset others in the group. Encourage your child to consider how other people might feel if they engaged in this behaviour. If your child does upset a member of their group chat, support them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

### GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Remind your child that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded in a group chat, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their hurt feelings and help to put them back in control by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. On a related note, you could also empower your child to speak up if they're in a chat where others are being picked on.

### BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If your child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block the users sending the material, report them to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could be putting a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise to your child that it's OK for them to simply leave any group chat that they don't feel comfortable being a part of.

### PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Discuss the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they lose control of where it may end up and how it might be used.

### AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their true identity to gain a child's trust – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure your child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and, especially, to never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

### SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a phone or tablet bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be a massive irritation and distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to your child that they can still be part of the group chat, but that it would be healthier for them to turn off or mute the notifications and catch up with the conversation at a time which better suits them.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing Internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



Source: <https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com/parents-carers/online-safety/social-media/group-chats>



Yarm School's production of Beauty and the Beast is kindly sponsored by  
Active Chartered Financial Planners and Cleveland Land Services

Yarm School proudly presents



# Disney BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

© Disney

Wednesday 29th June - Saturday 2nd July, 7.30pm

Adults £12.00, Children £8.00

To book tickets: 01642 792587 or [www.thepaaonline.org](http://www.thepaaonline.org)

Director  
Liam Gilbert

Musical Directors  
Katie Staggs & Andrew McIntrye

Choreographer  
Jess Dunkley

Producer  
David Boddy

Music by  
Alan Menken

Lyrics by  
Howard Ashman & Tim Rice

Book by  
Linda Woolverton

Originally Directed by Robert Jess Roth

Originally Produced by Disney Theatrical Productions

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International

All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI

[www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk)

## Key Dates

### MAY

**Fri 27** Staff INSET

### JUNE

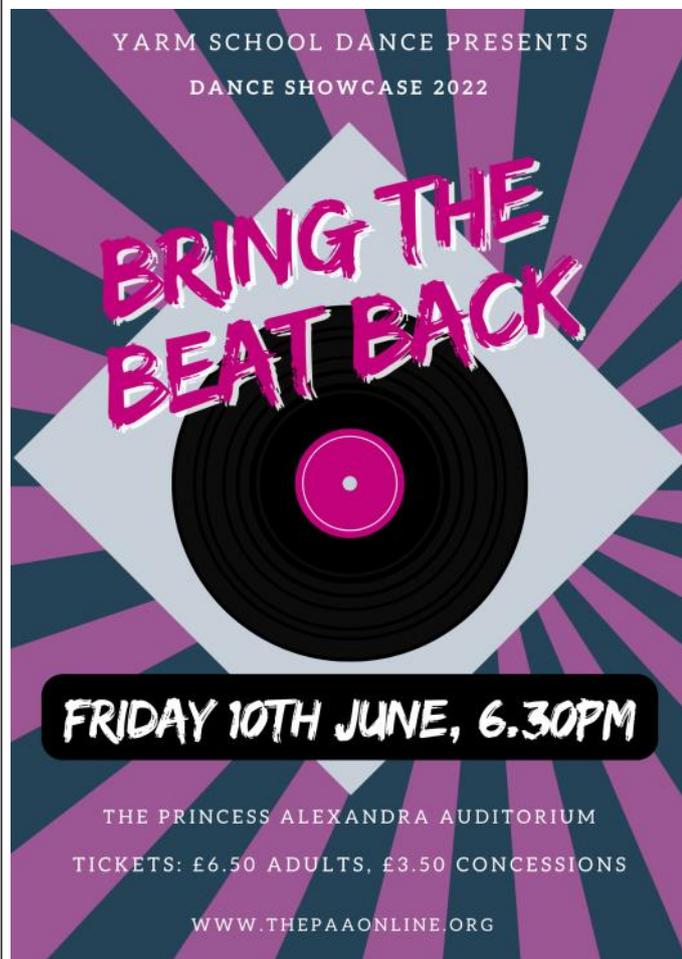
**Mon 6** Pupils return  
 Knockout Table Tennis begins  
 Dance Showcase rehearsals begin  
 Y5 trip to Komatsu, Birtley  
 Y3 swimming continues  
 Mr Chahal visiting Y6 Enterprise group

**Tue 7** Y5 trip to Komatsu, Birtley

**Wed 8** Arkwright Charity Day  
 Dance Showcase rehearsals

**Thu 9** U9 Girls' Cricket v Queen Mary's  
 Away; 2pm start, 4.30pm return)  
 Dance Showcase—Full rehearsal (until 6pm)  
 Y2/3 Transition Morning  
 School Council (1pm; Lab)

**Fri 10** Dance Showcase (details below)



HMC Athletics

(Gateshead Stadium; 11am start, 4pm return)

U10/11 Girls' Cricket v Barnard Castle

(home; 2pm start)

**Sat 11** Teesside Individual Chess Championships  
 (Prep Hall; 9.30am-2.30pm)

**Mon 13** **School Captains Day**  
 Y4 Good Work assembly

**Tue 14** Y4 trip to Rainton Meadows  
 HMC Tennis  
 (Dame Allan's; 3.45pm return)

**Wed 15** Prep Induction Day

**The answer to the Head's Challenge from last time was:**

### Weekly certificates

|    | Values     | Endeavour   |
|----|------------|-------------|
| 3B | Elliott E. | Henry S.    |
| 3R | Alice W.   | Rory B.     |
| 3W | Dax C.     | Jack M.     |
| 4J | Haashir I. | George P.   |
| 4N | Vedh A.    | Harrison C. |
| 4W | Heidi K.   | Pradyoth K. |
| 5H | -          | -           |
| 5K | -          | -           |
| 5W | -          | -           |
| 6G | Edie R-S.  | Sofie M.    |
| 6L | George F.  | Avighna A.  |
| 6P | Charlie E. | Yingying L. |

### Head Teacher Awards:

**Year 6:** Lucia C., Harry G-J., Monica P-H., Zac B.