

The Phoenix Flier

Issue 711

Friday 24th June 2022

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

A message from Mr Sawyer

Welcome to this edition of the Phoenix Flier which brings you a flavour of life in the Prep School. We have enjoyed reflecting on diversity this week through a range of Pride themed activities. Celebrating difference should be key to any school; it helps to create a community and culture that is accepting and appreciative of others. We were certainly treated to a diverse range of musical performances from our young musicians at our recent summer concert. It takes determination and courage to be involved in such endeavours and our pupils should be proud of their efforts. At the lower end of the school there was definitely much steely determination evident at the recent Nursery sport afternoon too. It was brilliant to see our youngest boys and girls, climbing, leaping and navigating a range of obstacles with their parents. We look forward to seeing many parents at our Summer Fair at the end of the week. It looks set to be a knockout community event!

Reports were released this week which round up the academic year for each boy and girl. I do hope you find them a useful basis for reflecting on and discussing your child's progress. Our Years 3-6 Open Afternoon is fast approaching, this is a great opportunity to sit with your child and their work and discuss their learning journey this year. If any parents haven't had the opportunity to complete the curriculum review survey sent out recently, [a link can be found here](#). We really welcome your views as we look to develop our broad and dynamic curriculum further.

*Bill
Sawyer*

Head's Challenge:

Using only addition, add eight 8s to get the number 1,000.

Photo of the Week:

There has been plenty of sporting action in the school in recent weeks, particularly for the boys and girls on the cricket pitch!



Tooled Up Education

As the holidays begin to loom, why not check out our newly updated [list of Summer activities](#) for young people of all ages? Whether your child wants a music, dance or sport camp, a taster of university life, or a STEM experience, there is something for everyone. Be quick though. Lots of the activities are filling up and some have booking deadlines which close this week, so log in to Tooled Up now and make sure that you don't miss out! We've also put together a list of 10 quirky activities for tweens and teens - if you want some inspiration for exhilarating, informative and educational days out, [take a look](#) now.

The library is also packed with plenty of other useful [summer resources](#), including reading guides, holiday packing lists, advice about safe swimming and tips on how to avoid the 'summer slide'. We know that [play](#) is crucial for children's development, so the long summer break is the perfect time to encourage them to relax and try some new activities.

Many children and young people will be making exciting transitions to new schools and educational stages in the coming months. Research suggests that preparation for these changes should start long before term starts. That's why we have an [entire section](#) in the Tooled Up library devoted to starting a new school. It contains everything from videos, booklists and tip sheets to webinars and practical activities for children. Parents of children about to start primary school should check out our fantastic [Starting School Sticker Challenge](#)! We've worked with early years experts to come up with 75 fun tasks for them to try, which will encourage independence and spark curiosity about the world around them. Print out the poster, pop it on your wall, grab some little star stickers and see how many your child can get. They will love filling it in!

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: YPS1103 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



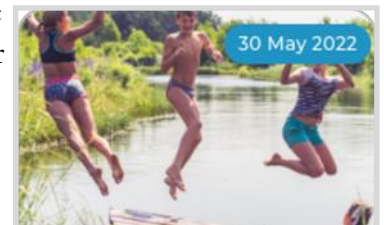
3 March 2021

Why is Play So Important?



31 May 2022

10 Quirky Activities for Teens and Tweens this Summer



30 May 2022

2022 Summer Activities for Children & Teens



1 October 2021

My Starting School Sticker Challenge

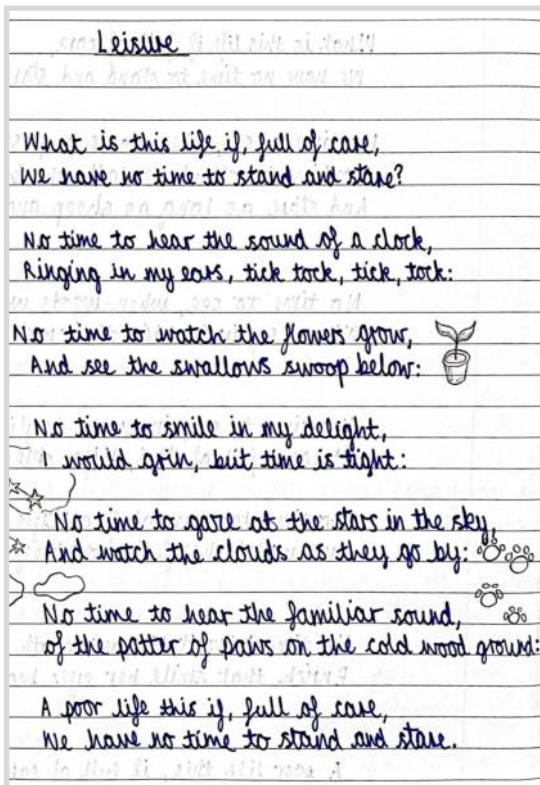
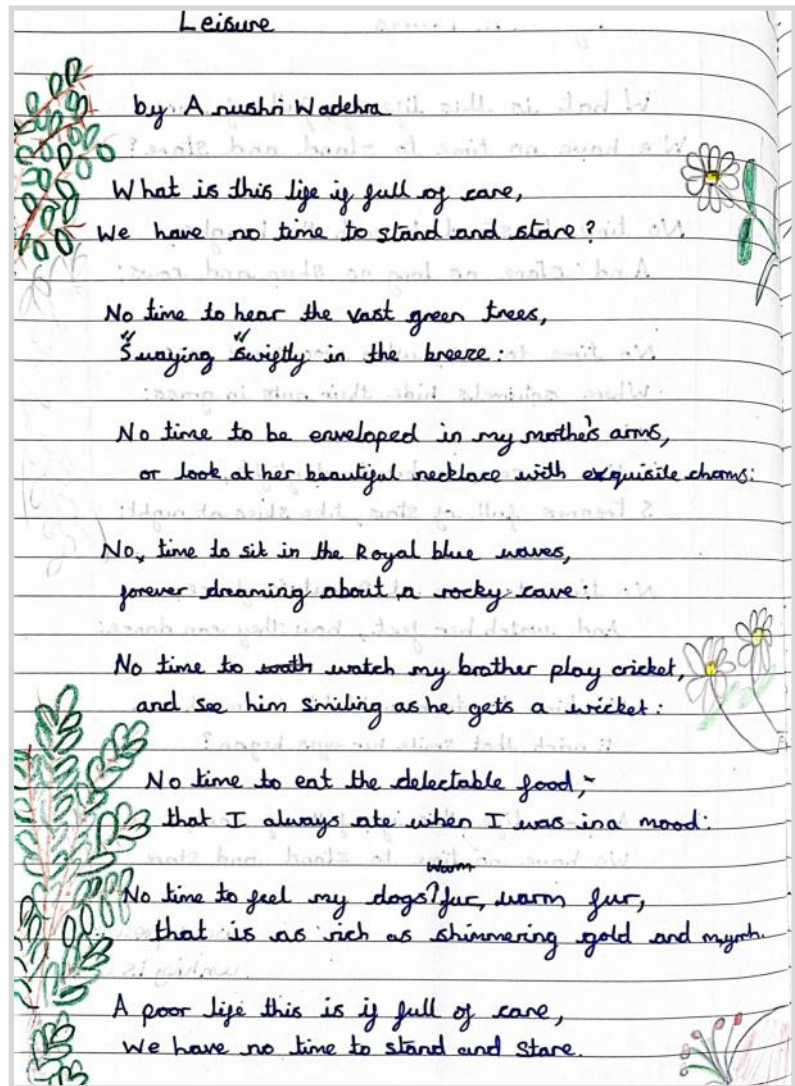
Year 6 Poetry

Some wonderful poetry this week for the subject of leisure from 6L!

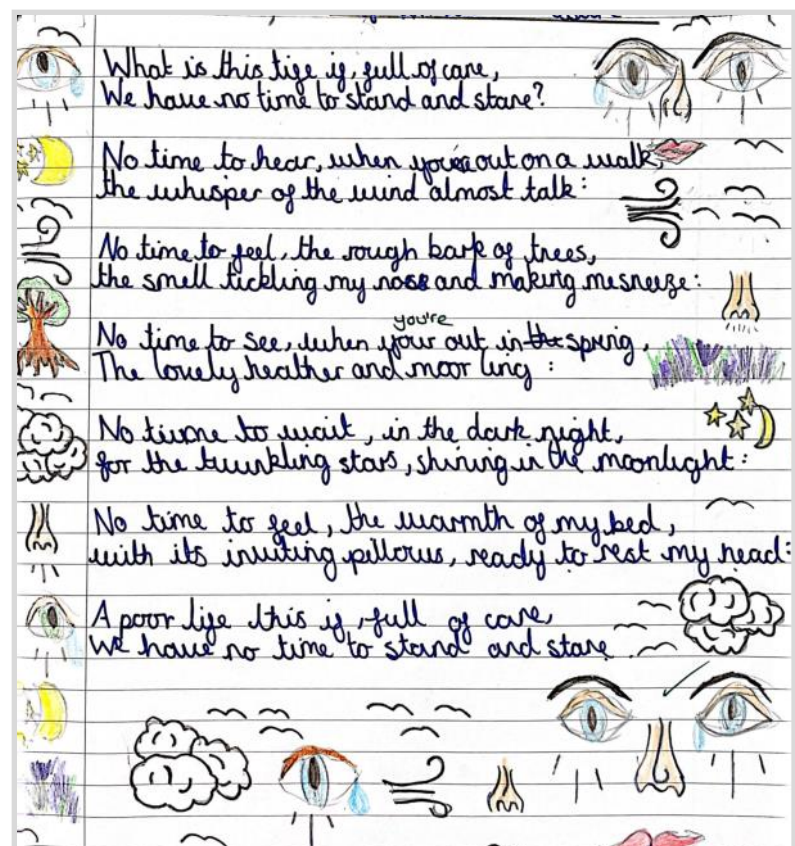
LEISURE

What is this life, if full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.
No time to sit or stand or stare,
And watch the leaves dance in the air;
No time to taste the bitter breeze,
To walk along a path with ease:
No time to feel the tap of rain,
Just to dry and then tap again:
No time to wait till the stars, shining bright,
Cover the sky in pale moonlight:
No time to roll around in grass
Or wait for the peaceful clouds to pass:
A poor life this is, if full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.

by Charlotte F.



The answer to the Head's
Challenge from last time was:
Time 1,283.



PE and Games News

This week has been another busy one with tennis and lots of cricket going on. On Wednesday the HMC tennis took place in Newcastle and it was great to see competitive tennis once again after a two year break. Our first pair of Olly and Ben performed well and finished a creditable 3rd overall out 16 pairs. Freddie and Wilf also played well and finished 9th out of 16.



The girls pairs of Yuhe, Anushri and Neev secured a top 5 finish in their event. It was great to see the pupils develop their tactical play as the day went on and their support of one another was super throughout the whole competition.

On Friday we once again had an ambitious set of fixtures for our U10 and U11's hosting both Queen Mary's and Cundall Manor. All girls played 3 matches in total and have come a long way this season and it makes me very proud to have just shy of 100 girls involved in a sporting afternoon against other schools. It was my final block fixture with the Year 6's and I have loved spending the last 4 years getting to know them and trying to give them as many sporting opportunities as I could. A wonderful year group and they leave very big shoes to fill. Thank you Year 6!

Mrs Redhead Sweeney

HMC Boys' Cricket

Last Friday the U11 Boys travelled to Woodhouse Grove School. A great day was had by all with lots of runs scored and wickets taken. A 3 run defeat in the Plate Semi Final ended a brilliant day! Well done to all that took part.

Mr Simpson



Chess News

Nethuki took part in the regional level of National Youth Chess Championship (held on 28th May 2022) at St Mary's Catholic School at Newcastle and won the trophy for the North East under 12's girls chess champion.

She will be going for the national finals in Nottingham from July 8-10.

Well done Nethuki!

Mr Grundmann and Mr Marsh

The annual Yarm Knockout Chess Championships came to a conclusion this week with the hotly-contested final.

We will announce the results—and the new champion— in next week's edition of the



News this week

Last Two Weeks of Term at the Prep

Next to some events, you will be asked to confirm attendance by completing the [events attendance form](#). This is one single form, covering all of the key events. Please do take some time to fill in the form in conjunction with reading this letter, as it helps us significantly with event planning.

Monday 27th June

Today is the last activities carousel session of the year.

Tuesday 28th June

Open Afternoon - Parents of **children in Years 3-6** are invited to come along to our open afternoon to celebrate your child's work and meet their Form Teacher. In addition, there will be an art and DT exhibition in the Prep Hall, as well as musical performances. Refreshments are also available. If you are a **Year 3-6 parent** and wish to attend, [please confirm this by completing the events attendance form](#).

There will be no after school clubs for Years 3-6.

Wednesday 29th June

Today is the last Wednesday activities session of the year.

Year 6 Pupils v Parents Sports - A time for **parents of Year 6 children** to dust down their trainers and participate in some 'competitive' sports with and against their children. The event begins at 5pm and ends at 6.30pm, after a barbecue. If you are a **Year 6 parent** and wish to attend, [please confirm this by completing the events attendance form](#).

Thursday 30th June

Year 3 York residential - Year 3 depart for York on this morning, returning on Friday afternoon.

Friday 1st July

All clubs and activities have finished today for the year.

Y3 York residential returns at 3.45pm.

Year 6 Sleep Out for Shelter - We are inviting our Year 6 children to participate in our 'Sleep Out' on the Prep School site on the evening of Friday 1st in support of Shelter, the housing and homelessness charity.

The Sleep Out will take place on the Prep Astro, with the event beginning once the school day ends at 3.45pm. Throughout the afternoon and evening a number of activities will be taking place to keep the children entertained, including a talent show, quizzes and sporting activities. They will have a snack soon after school, followed by a barbecue tea later on in the evening. In the morning a cooked breakfast will be served, with the children ready to be collected from the school gates by 9am on Saturday 2nd. Please note that children will not be allowed to bring mobile phones or tablets, or any sweets.

Sleeping arrangements will see the children supervised by teaching staff, with the boys and girls on different sides of the astro. We will spend time with them discussing the most sensible way of sleeping outdoors prior to and during the event. Children will need to bring on the Friday morning: cardboard box(es), sleeping bag, blanket, extra layers of clothes and a wash bag (including toothbrush). If your child is on any medication, please provide this in a named and sealed bag on the day of the event.



To support Shelter, we are also asking children to ask their families to donate to a Just Giving page set up for the event. [You can access this by clicking here.](#)

To confirm your child's participation in the event, [please complete this form by Wednesday 22nd June](#).

Children will need to come into school with everything they need for the fair and the sleep out on this date.

Saturday 2nd July

Year 6 Sleep Out for Shelter - Children can be collected from 8am and no later than 9am on the Saturday morning.

Tees Valley Wildlife Art Project - A new event taking place at the Senior School from 10am-3pm, where **Year 6** children will be invited to come along. Children are encouraged to keep an eye on their Google Classrooms for further details this week, as places are limited and will be given on a first come, first serve basis.

Monday 4th July

ABRSM examinations week - Some children are involved in music exams on this day and on Tuesday.

Tuesday 5th July

Prep Prize Giving - All children will be participating in this event, commencing at 5.45pm in the Princess Alexandra Auditorium and last around one hour. This is a ticketed event, with details sent out last week. **If you have not yet booked tickets, please click here. The closing date for ticket requests is Thursday 23rd June.**

Wednesday 6th July

Prep Sports Day - Commencing at 9.30am at Middlesbrough Sports Village, our annual Sports Day for **Years 3-6** returns, with all of the children participating in all of the organised events! House points will be up for grabs still and we invite parents to spectate around the outer ring of the stadium. The event will finish at approximately 12.30pm. All of the children will be participating in every event, with the emphasis on participation and having fun. Please ensure your child comes in their house-coloured PE top. All children must bring a bottle

News this week

of water too. Snacks and packed lunches will be provided by school.

Children will return to school afterwards and can be collected at the normal times.

Lost property assembly - We will have a clear out of the lost property cupboards and hope to reunite some items with their rightful owners. Please may we ask parents to have a good root around at home and, if you find any uniform that does not belong to your child, send it in for the assembly.

Y6 Leavers Party - Parents of Year 6 children will be hearing more about this in the coming days! If you have not heard anything by Friday 17th June, please let Mr Stone know.

Thursday 7th July

Water Run for the Mustard Seed Project

Our final fundraising event of the school year. Every child in the school will be taking part in our inaugural Water Run, so a change of top and a towel are advised! **We only ask that**

families make a donation to the Mustard Seed Project, which can be done via our [Just Giving page for the event by clicking here](#). Please note: we know water is a precious resource so we will not be using large quantities of it. Staff will be using water pistols and sponges, while there will be a sprinkler at the end too.

End of term - no after school care - Term ends at 11.30am for EYFS, 11.45am for Years 1-2 and 12noon for Years 3-6. There is no after school care so we ask all parents to collect their children at the correct time please.

Friday 8th July

Don't come to school!

Monday 18th July - Friday 5th August

Summer Holiday School - Mr Simpson will be sending further details and the booking form in the coming days.

Parent Curriculum Info Site

<http://bit.ly/yarmprepparents>

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

Speech and Drama

Our long awaited LAMDA results are here at last.

If you are wondering what LAMDA is...

The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) is a post 18, university level drama school located in Hammersmith, London. Founded in 1861, it is the oldest specialist drama school in the British Isles and a founding member of the Federation of Drama Schools.

They have trained many notable actors, among them Timothy West and Benedict Cumberbatch, who is the current president.

External examinations in the fields of speech, drama, communication, and performance, are taken by learners nationwide and globally. They are recognised by Ofqual, the qualifications regulator in England, and its counterparts in Wales and Northern Ireland and internationally,

LAMDA-accredited examinations at grade 6 and above are recognised within the UCAS Tariff system for entry to university in the UK.



As well as this, personal development and achievement drives and inspires participants to reach for success as confident speakers in every context of life.

We are super proud of all our LAMDA successes this year and very grateful to parents for their support and practice at home. Each pupil has made brilliant progress and gained confidence as speakers, presenters and performers and now have a certificate to prove it!

Everyone worked hard to be awarded highly and this has certainly paid off; we have 2 high distinctions, 12 distinctions and 4 high merits.

The 2 highest achievers in each grade this year, deserve a special mention.

The Speaking of Verse and Prose

Grade 4: Anushri Wadehra

Grade 3: Aisling Timmons, Navina Muthukrishnan

Grade 2: Nethuki Mudduwa, Louisa Palmer

Grade 1: Erin Goh, Thomas Ferguson

Entry Level: Thea Speight, Laurel Goodall

Well done to all our learners on all your excellent results!

We wish our Year 6s well as they cross over the road to new and exciting experiences. Keep working at developing your speaking and presentation skills; gain those qualifications and new skills for life.

Happy Summer Everyone!

Mrs Ham-Ying

Term Dates 2022-23

Autumn 2022

Thursday 1st September—Wednesday 14th December 2022

Half-term: Saturday 15th— Sunday 30th October inclusive

Spring 2023

Thursday 5th January—Friday 31st March 2023

Half-term: Friday 17th—Sunday 26th February inclusive

Summer 2023

Thursday 20th April— Friday 7th July 2023

Half-term: Saturday 27th May—Sunday 4th June inclusive

Please keep checking the Phoenix Flier for any changes.

Year 5 Sustainable Craft

Arkwright have enjoyed making rainbow bookmarks during Pride Week. They created these resourcefully by using offcuts and scrap paper.

Mrs Hart



Year 3 Viking Settlements

Year 3 have been working hard this week creating Viking settlements.



Congratulations Noah!

We were delighted to hear earlier this week that one of our Year 5 pupils, Noah Abbas, has been nominated for an award for his performance as Benji in *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* by NODA (National Operatic and Dramatic Association).

Congratulations Noah! We look forward to finding out how you get on!

Mr Stone

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 for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about ESPORTS

British Esports describes 'esports' as "competitive gaming, human-v-human, usually with a spectator element to it". In recent years, the esports industry has grown significantly – and is expected to reach an overall worth of \$1.2 billion, with around 30 million monthly viewers, by the end of 2022. This rapid evolution has presented even more opportunities... but, of course, opportunities usually come with a risk. Here, we've highlighted some of the potential hazards within the esports arena and suggested ways to help young people stay safe so they can make the most of this exciting space.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MICROTRANSACTIONS

Microtransactions are in-game purchases that unlock new features or give players special abilities, characters or content. These can cost anything from 99p to £99 (and sometimes more!). The topic of microtransactions in gaming is heavily scrutinised – with cosmetics, pay-to-win features and loot boxes all being a source of contention for gamers and governing bodies in recent years.

MENTAL HEALTH

Studies show that esports competitors face the same level of mental health issues as athletes from traditional sports, along with some specific additional demands. Like mainstream professional sport, esports is an incredibly tough industry – requiring countless hours of practice. Competing at the highest level can lead to pressures such as handling setbacks, stressful situations and facing criticism.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT & BEHAVIOUR

Only 22% of gamers globally are aged between 10 and 20 – meaning the majority are adults, who might not always act or talk in a way that's appropriate for children. Like traditional sport, esports has many athletes and 'personalities' to look up to. However, it's important that your child stays aware of how influenced they are by the people they follow, and whether the athlete is age appropriate.

TROLLS & TOXICITY

An internet troll is someone who tries to offend people and cause trouble by posting derogatory comments. Toxicity, as in the real world, refers to negative behaviours like harassment, verbal abuse and inappropriate conduct, which all impact on wellbeing. Trolls and toxicity are an issue within esports, perhaps due to its pressurised, extremely competitive and high-stakes nature.

POSSIBLE EXPLOITATION

The revenue in esports is potentially vast. Organisations often look to professionals and content creators to help grow their brand, in exchange for the organisation's backing, a salary, and marketing and sponsorship benefits. However, the industry is still in its infancy – and so is its regulation. In some countries, esports isn't regulated at all, so things can get sticky if players don't know what they're doing or who they're working with.

PHYSICAL EFFECTS

The common perception of esports involves a sedentary lifestyle, an unhealthy diet and very little physical activity – which has obvious health implications. It's certainly true that players sit at their desk for hours, looking into bright screens and not getting regular exercise. Some professional esports players have nutritionists, personal trainers and dieticians specifically to protect their health.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENCOURAGE BALANCE

Dedicating oneself intensely to any activity – including esports – can be harmful, both mentally and physically. Make sure your child's gaming routine is balanced with exercise, regular breaks, healthy food and plenty of water. If your child spends long hours gaming, using a chair with the proper supports and taking the time to practise good posture will help protect their lower back, neck and wrists.

UNDERSTAND GAMING

Chat to your child about the games they play; ask to watch or even take part to get an idea of how appropriate they are. This will give you an awareness of the phrases esports players and content creators use, helping you understand young gamers' slang. If you find some of the games unsuitable, talk to your child about why. You can also explore age-specific settings on apps like YouTube and Twitch.

GET EXPERT HELP

If your child does start on the road to becoming a professional, get in touch with an esports-specific agency who are experienced in industry terminology and loopholes. Do due diligence on any team or organisation offering your child a contract; a key point is how long your child would be contracted to them – the esports industry changes quickly, so there might be better and more secure offers out there.

BLOCK TOXIC USERS

Monitoring in-game chats, or disabling them altogether (either through the console or in the game itself), is a comprehensive way to avoid negative experiences and reduce the risk of toxic messaging. Your child also has options to block messages from particular players and only interact with their friends; this can also help to prevent them from encountering the blocked users in future games.

Meet Our Expert

Nathan David is an experienced gamer, teacher and athlete. He is Course Leader for the BTEC Esports programme at Salisbury Sixth Form College. Nathan has more than 10 years' experience working in schools and colleges, and holds a Masters degree in Sport Psychology.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday



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

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

Adults £12.00, Children £8.00

To book tickets: 01642 792587 or 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


TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE


Click here for tickets

Ticket price: £60

Yarm school pupil Katherine Henley's EPQ project presents:

MASQUERADE

AUTUMN CHARITY BALL & DINNER

Black tie or party wear with a fabulous mask



In support of Parkinson's UK

What's included in the ball?

Welcome drink
3 course meal
Coffees and chocolates

During the ball:

A raffle and auction where you will get the chance to win some fantastic prizes. The night will end with a DJ and you can dance the night away!

The night will be hosted by broadcaster and journalist Claire McCollum who is also a Parkinson's Ambassador.

Friday 9th September 2022

Judges Country House Hotel, Kirklevington

My name is Katherine Henley and I am a Lower Sixth student currently studying my A levels which are Maths, Business and Textiles. In addition many of us are undertaking an EPQ. This is an Extended Project Qualification which can range from an essay to an artefact. I have decided to host a charity ball. My Grandad suffered with Parkinson's for 12 years and my family and I have been involved in fundraising for their charity, Parkinson's UK. Parkinson's disease is a condition in which parts of the brain become progressively damaged over many years. Main symptoms include involuntary shaking of particular parts of the body, slow movement and stiff and inflexible muscles. Someone suffering with Parkinson's can also experience a wide range of other physical and psychological symptoms. There is currently no cure, treatments are available to help reduce main symptoms and maintain quality of life for as long as possible. In the UK, around 145,000 people are living with Parkinson's. With all of this in mind, I will be fundraising for Parkinson's UK. The ball will take place on the 9th of September at Judges Country House Hotel, Kirklevington and is open to all parents across the school and teachers.

[TICKETS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE BY CLICKING HERE!](#)

Key Dates

JUNE

Mon 27	Last carousel activities of the year
Tue 28	Open Afternoon 2-6pm; for details see email sent this week) Nursery Musical Showcase (Studio Hall; 9.30am)
Wed 29	Pre-Prep Sports Morning (Prep Astro; 9-11.30am) Y3 Good work assembly Parents v Y6 Pupils sports (Prep Astro; 5-6.30pm)
Thu 30	Y3 York residential departs
Fri 1	All clubs and activities finish today for the term Y3 return from York Year 6 Sleep Out for Shelter (Prep Astro; 5pm-9am Saturday morning)
Sat 2	Tees Valley Wildlife Art Project (Senior School)
Mon 4	Pre-Prep Celebration (PAA; 5pm) ***NEW DATE*** ABRSM examinations
Tue 5	Prep Prize Giving (PAA; 5pm)
Wed 6	Prep Sports Day (Middlesbrough Sports Village; 10am-12pm) Lost property assembly Nursery (N2) Celebration (Studio Hall; 2pm)

Holiday School Updates

We are currently sold out on the following dates:

EYFS: Tues 18th July, Weds 19th July, Mon 25th July, Tues 26th July, Weds 27th July, Tues 2nd Aug, Weds 3rd Aug, Fri 5th Aug.

Prep: Thurs 21st July, Weds 27th July, Tues 2nd Aug.

To book places on the Summer Holiday School, [please click here](#).

Mr Simpson

Thu 7	Water Run for The Mustard Seed Project End of year assemblies
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End of term at 12 noon

No after school care today

Mon 18	Summer Holiday School begins
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AUGUST

Fri 5	Summer Holiday School concludes
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SEPTEMBER

Thu 1	New school term begins
Mon 12	Clubs and activities commence Year 3 swimming commences

Weekly certificates

	Values	Endeavour
3B	Leo S.	Emily Q.
3R	Charlie M.	Jenson C.
3W	Rory F.	Alia M.
4J	William L.	Miles P.
4N	Ronav G.	Aphelia S.
4W	Jacob B.	Kavan S.
5H	Griff W.	Pippa J.
5K	Bea M.	Henry P.
5W	Gabrielle B.	Joe W.
6G	Ewan G.	Charlotte F.
6L	Anushri W.	Jingjing L.
6P	Libby S.	George H.

Head Teacher Awards:

Year 3: Henry S.

Year 6: Freddie B., Jude T., Tabi B., Nethuki M., Will F., Eleanor W., Monica P-H.