



The Phoenix Flier

Issue 718

Friday 30th September 2022

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

A message from Mr Sawyer

Welcome to this week's Phoenix Flier which is the final edition for September! Our outings, trips and fixtures are now in full effect. On the sporting front, our teams are enjoying competitive matches and workshops against a range of other schools. These opportunities further their skills through exposure to game based situations. They are hugely rewarding experiences that are offered to all of our pupils. We play to win in all senses, but we also recognise that sometimes that outcome is not achieved and we can learn a great deal from a loss. There is also great value in the teamwork and friendships that are built on the sports pitch. These skills are carried into the classroom, the playground and have a positive impact on our school culture.

Our recent trips, for two nights at Robinwood for our Year 5 pupils and Boggle Hole for a day trip for our Year 6 pupils, have certainly had an impact. Our Year 5 pupils have regaled me with stories of adventure, courage, overcoming fears and supporting each other in a range of ways. It is a great team bonding experience for the year group and it stands them in good stead for the year ahead. My discussions with our Year 6 pupils this week have confirmed the importance of field trips and bringing learning alive through getting out and about. They have a much clearer idea of shoreline food webs and ecosystems through extensive rock pooling. Furthermore, they also have a good understanding of coastal erosion through seeing the cliffs and exploring the rock faces. They loved it! All in all, it's a reflection of the deep learning that such experiences offer. Long may they continue!

Bill Sawyer

Head's Challenge:

What has one eye but cannot see?

Photo of the Week:

A special visitor to our after school hockey club this week!



Tooled Up Education

While the new term is well underway, we have been very busy planning how to best support you. In doing so, we set up a number of exciting webinars with brilliant experts to talk about various issues that are relevant to many families. All of our exclusive webinars are available to book now and completely free to you as a Tooled Up member:

SEPTEMBER

[What Parents and Students Need to Know about Applying for Universities in the USA](#) (September 29, 2022 7.30pm BST) - Phil Garner, CEO of USA Study, talks to us about everything students and their families need to know about applying for university in the USA. Phil is an advocate of innovative approaches to education and in this webinar presents a treasure trove of tips to help students think about taking the big step of studying in the US. [REGISTER NOW](#)

OCTOBER

[How to Make a Confident Return to Work After Maternity and Other Work Breaks](#) (October 10, 2022 7.30pm BST) - How do I do a good job, progress my career and still have time for family life? How do I show I'm still committed? How do I raise my visibility? These are three of the challenges Jessica Chivers and her team regularly hear from coachees coming back from maternity and other types of extended leave. Join us to learn some practical tips for making a confident comeback. [REGISTER NOW](#)

[All about Allergies: Your Questions Answered](#) (October 11, 2022 8.00pm BST) - If your child suffers from an allergy, you should definitely make a note of this webinar. Dr Weston will be speaking to Professor Adam Fox from Allergy London, who is one of the world's leading paediatric allergy experts for a live Q&A. This is a fantastic opportunity to finally get all those questions answered and you can already submit your questions in advance, upon registration. [REGISTER NOW](#)

[Making Sense of the Menopause](#) (October 18, 2022 7.30pm BST) - Join us for a live Q&A session with Dr Fionnuala Barton of the Menopause Clinic. Fionnuala will guide attendees through how the menopause can affect not just women, but one's wider family. This talk will separate fact from fiction, answer frequently asked questions and helpfully talk attendees through available treatment options. [REGISTER NOW](#)

NOVEMBER

[Taking a Closer Look at TikTok](#) (November 14, 2022 7.30pm GMT) - In this webinar Dr Weston and criminologist Dr Elly Hanson will raise awareness regarding some of the more worrying content shared within this digital platform and discuss and convey what parents and carers can do to mitigate harm, reduce risk and keep their children and teens safe online. [REGISTER NOW](#)

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.

Year 5 Robinwood residential

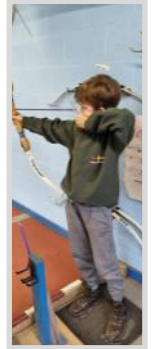
Robinwood was the best residential trip I have ever been on and it helped me with my fear of heights. My favourite activity was caving because I liked exploring and finding secret pathways. The instructors were really nice and so was the food - especially the pasta bolognese. *Ollie B.*

My favourite thing from Robinwood was the giant swing and the trapeze. It was a really great trip! *Tallulah M.*

My favourite thing about Robinwood is having fun with my friends and doing all the brilliant activities. *Kaira N.*

Robinwood was the best residential I've been on so far and I enjoyed all of the activities. I particularly enjoyed the giant swing. This trip developed my confidence and cooperation skills. *Zara P.*

Best residential in the year! I really liked the trapeze and the food was also amazing - particularly the bolognese! Dan (my instructor) even learnt all our names straight away. *Yasmeen S.*



Year 4 Science

4J have been investigating the digestive system in science this week by recreating it!



PE and Games

Under 8 Hockey

On Tuesday 20th September, we travelled to Queen Mary's near Thirsk. We played Year 4 boys and girls in our first fixture. We nearly scored a goal and had gorgeous chocolate chip cookies at the end of the game.

Harriet A, Emily W. and Lizzie R.

Clegg Cup Rugby

The boys did amazingly and we started really well, beating Dame Allan's and Darlington. After that we were really confident but not too confident. I thought we were all a really good team and good sportsmen. I thought Miles and Satoshi were really good wingers and Rex was an awesome tackler. He really deserved those socks.

Joseph really pushed through their defences and he really tried hard. Harrison W. really tried when he got the ball. Harrison C. worked hard and tried his best. William smashed into people just like Rex. Niall led the team really well and never forgot to tell us what to do. Hugo wasn't scared and gave it a good go.

Lewis was really good with the ball and tried hard. He was really good at rucking.

Niall E.



News

Parent Handbooks

You can access the parent handbooks on the school website [by clicking here](#). At various points over the coming weeks, we will post some reminders and key pieces of information from the handbook.

Sustainable Craft

Yarm Rocks in Year 5 sustainable craft this week!

Mrs Hart



Music lessons

If your child is in Years 3-6 and is interested in taking part in individual peripatetic music lessons, [please fill in this form and Mr Gooding will get back to you](#).

Year 6 RE

In R.E this week the children were watching a great video which followed two 16 year old Muslim boys during a typical day. The children discussed and made notes ready for the floorbook.

Mrs Redhead-Sweeney

Music News

Our young musicians have made a great start to the year with ensembles up and running and many children beginning a new instrument. Year 3 and 4 have been exciting as always with our wider opportunities scheme, allowing everyone to sample eight different instruments over



two years.

We have a number of music events coming up this term, so please pencil some of these in.

12 October—Year 5&6 Informal concert, 4p.m. in the Prep hall, for solos, choir and some ensembles (ensembles may include children from other year groups).

16th November—Year 3&4 Informal concert, 4 p.m. in the Prep hall for solos and choir.

17th November—Small ensembles concert at 7.00 p.m. in Yarm Parish Church - a joint event with Senior School

Participants to be announced at a later date.

We have so much young talent in our school that it is not possible to include every child in every concert. We do our best, however, to give everyone a chance at least once in the academic year. Letters will come out in the coming weeks with precise details of who is in each concert.

Mr Gooding

Clubs and Activities—w/c 10th October

The following after school clubs will not run during w/c Monday 10th October due to Parents' Evenings:

Tuesday 11th:

R Funky Fingers, Y1 Go Noodle, Y2/3/4 Silver Stories, Y3/4 Money Matters, Y4 STEAM, Y5/6 Netball, Y5/6 Ball Skills, Y5/6 Phoenix Challenge.

Wednesday 12th:

Y1 Arty Fingers, Y3/4 Fitness Club.

Thursday 13th:

Y2 Eco Club, Y3/4 Board Games.

All other clubs (i.e. those run by specialist coaches and non-form teachers) will continue as usual. If you require after school care for your child(ren) as a result of this, please contact Gavin Stone - gns@yarmschool.org.

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).

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

News

Summer 2023—Thursday 20th April— Friday 7th July 2023
(Half-term: Saturday 27th May—Sunday 4th June inclusive).

October Holiday School

The deadline to book places in our October Holiday School is **30th September**. [The booking form can be found by clicking here.](#)

Year 3 Crazy Crafts

This week's fantastic work from Mrs Arrol's Crazy Crafts club!



YPSSC



YPSSC PreLoved Uniform



We have a huge and varied stock of preloved uniform available.

Boys & Girls Blazers
Coats & Cagoules
Hats
Summer uniform
Winter Uniform
Games Kit Items
PE kit Items

From Nursery through to Year 6.

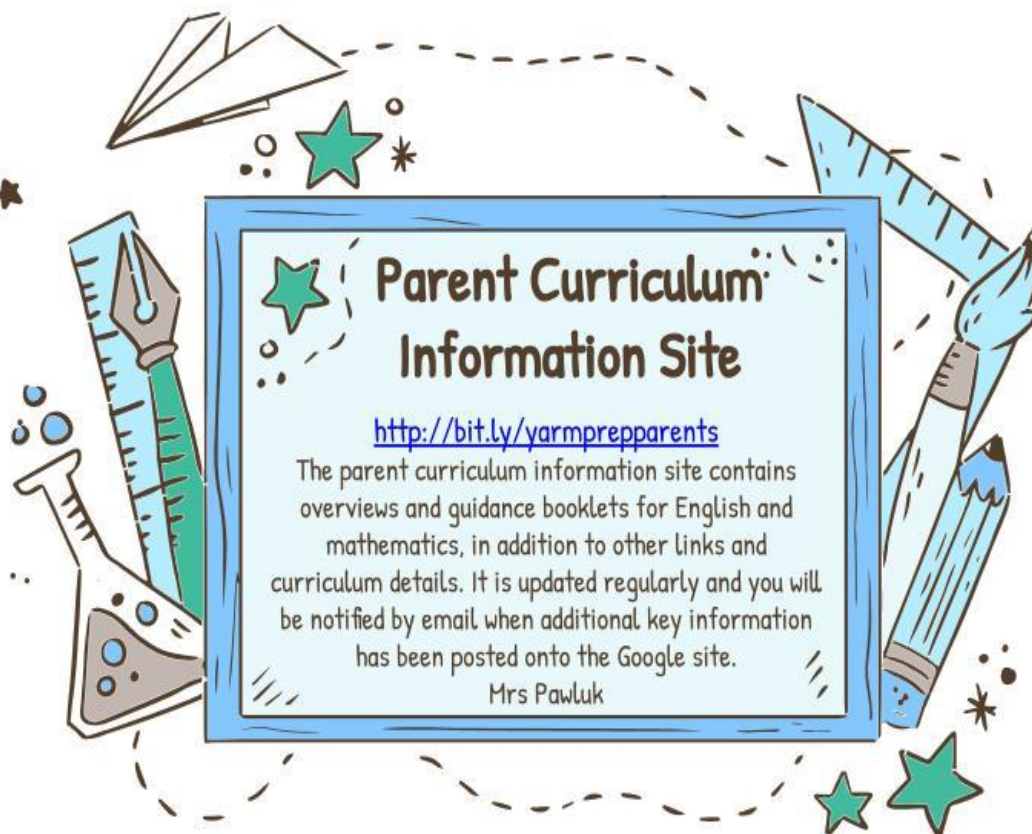
Prices start from £1!

If you are looking to add to your uniform wardrobe or simply want a few spares, visit our website www.yppssc.co.uk or scan the QR code below to complete a stock check/order form.

All clean and reusable donations of outgrown uniform are welcome too- just bag them up and either pass them on to a committee member or drop them off at Prep reception.



Thank you!



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 platforms 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 STEAM

Steam is a computer gaming digital distribution platform and storefront. It is the biggest platform for desktop- or laptop-based gaming, with a range of more than 30,000 games available. The platform has become a lively social environment for many gamers, and allows people to trade, sell and buy gaming items for real money. Valve, the developers behind Steam, have also released different hardware that works with the platform, including the Steam Deck – a hand-held console that lets users play their favourite games while away from their computer.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

UNSUITABLE GAMES

Among the 30,000+ games on the platform, there are many that aren't appropriate for children. Individuals can view and download games featuring adult content if they verify their age – but, of course, it's easy to enter a false date of birth online. This can lead to children and young people finding games that they shouldn't have access to: featuring violence or profanity, for example.

SPENDING SPREES

Steam hosts regular sales – including some where game prices are reduced by up to 90%. Some sales promotions also include a mini-game or event which encourages users to spend more money. The sales can be an excellent time for young gamers to purchase the titles they've been wanting, but the attractive discounts can also promote impulse buys driven by the fear of missing out.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Steam isn't a social media site, but it certainly shares some of their elements. Users can add other people as 'friends', for example (whether they know them in real life or not), and then communicate privately with them using text or voice chat. The platform also hosts public discussions and groups for socialising. Steam users can also leave comments on the profiles of other players.

POTENTIAL SCAMS

Sadly, Steam's immense popularity has made it a lucrative destination for internet scammers. The most common ruse is phishing: scammers send links to other users, aiming to trick them into entering their login details – which are then stolen. Once in control of the account, the scammer sends messages to everyone on the victim's friend's list, in an attempt to hijack their accounts too.

SHADY TRADERS

The Steam Community Market is a built-in trading area where players can trade resources for their games on the platform. Gamers can exchange items, or buy and sell them using real-world currency. It's possible for unwary users to be scammed through bad trade deals, and Steam doesn't usually get involved when this happens. There are also third-party trading websites, which can be risky to use.

SPARSE AGE RATINGS

Steam is a digital distribution platform for games of all kinds, including ones not rated by regulatory bodies. Getting a game rated takes a long time, and can be expensive, so developers only tend to follow that process when releasing a title that will be physically sold in shops. Most games on Steam, therefore, don't have an advisory age rating on the store page.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENABLE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Steam does have some limited parental controls that can restrict exactly what games someone's account can view and access. This can be set up by navigating to the 'Family' tab in 'Settings', then selecting 'Manage Family View'. The platform then allows parents and carers to share a Steam account with their child and limit them to age-appropriate games.

USE GIFT CARDS

Having payment methods (like card details or PayPal) linked to a Steam account makes it very easy for a child to purchase new games or spend money on items in the marketplace. An excellent and safe alternative would be to buy a Steam gift card and let your child make their purchases with that instead – putting a manageable cap on how much they can spend on the platform.

APPLY STEAM GUARD

Steam Guard is an optional additional layer of security that protects accounts. Enabling it ensures that anyone attempting to log in to that account also needs to provide authorisation via their phone or email. The computer that your child uses Steam on can be authorised to prevent having to provide separate authentication for each login.

SHARE A LIBRARY

Using Family Library Sharing lets everyone at home share games across accounts (while still keeping their accounts separate). The entire game library from each account is shared with the other account holders – a great way to avoid having to purchase a different copy of the game for each of your children. However, if two users want to play the same game separately, you would need to buy it twice.

SAFE MODDING

Modifying a game to customise it or to introduce new content – known as 'modding' – is common on Steam. There's nothing inherently bad about modding, but installing the wrong mods can be disastrous: they can stop games from working properly, or at all. Steam's mods are unlikely to contain viruses or malware, but it's still possible – so ensure your child reads the mod's reviews first to avoid anything dangerous.

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

Sources: <https://help.steam.com/docs/faq/faq/703-999-2339-1378>
<https://help.steam.com/docs/faq/faq/703-999-2339-1378>

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 06.07.2022

Key Dates

OCTOBER

Mon 3	Year 3 walk to Yarm, Year 1 trip to Hartlepool Art Gallery
Wed 5	HMC Rugby (venue tbc)
Thu 6	YPSSC (4pm; Learning Skills room) Y3/4 Poetry Competition U9 Girls' Hockey v Queen Mary's (away; 2pm start) Nursery visit to Yarm Library
Fri 7	Y5/6 Poetry Competition Harvest assemblies Nursery visit to Yarm Library U10/11 Rugby v Cundall Manor (away; 2pm start, 4.30pm return) Newcastle Eagles Basketball trip (5.30pm depart, 10.30pm return)
Sat 8	Teesside Team Chess Championships (Prep Hall; 9.30am-2.30pm)
Mon 10	Parents' Evening (4-6pm)
Tue 11	Parents' Evening (4-6pm)
Wed 12	Prep Informal Concert (Prep Hall; 4pm) U10/11 Girls' Tag Rugby v Dame Allan's (away; 2.45pm start, 5.15pm return) Reception trip to Ormesby Hall Bring it on! Engineering Fair (TBC)
Thu 13	Pre-Prep Halloween Discos Nursery visit to Yarm Library U9 Yarm Invitation Rugby and Hockey Festivals (11.30am-3pm)
Fri 14	Half-term begins (after school) School Diwali celebrations
Mon 17	October Holiday School begins
Fri 21	October Holiday School finishes
Mon 31	Pupils return After School Care as normal



Celebration Assembly

	Values	Endeavour
3B	Hugo P.	Lizzie R.
3H	Georgie D-B.	Freddie W.
4G	Rory F.	Thomas M.
4J	Leo S.	George Y.
4N	Ciny Z.	Daisy C.
5F	-	-
5H	-	-
5K	-	-
6G	Seb D.	Arvind K.
6H	Griff W.	Emma A.
6L	Josh B.	Louisa P.
6W	Violet M.	Annabelle A.

Head Teacher Awards: Year 6—Dora B. (2), Auden A., Beatrix A.