

The Phoenix Flier

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

Issue 719—Friday 7th October 2022

INSIDE THIS WEEK... Year 6 at Boggle Hole... Year 3 walk to Yarm... School Council meeting...

A message from Mr Sawyer

Looking through this edition of the Phoenix Flier you get a sense of the relish that our pupils display for school life and the experiences they all enjoy. They throw themselves wholeheartedly into every adventure presented to them. I am really pleased to note that they embrace the opportunity to be of service to the school and wider community through activities such as litter picking, attending school council meetings or taking on responsibilities around school whether being a peer mentor, buddy, librarian or in other roles. It is through these experiences that our pupils learn of the value of service. Serving others makes the recipient feel good, it helps to create a sense of belonging, it leads to wider friendships, it boosts wellbeing and it fosters optimism. There are so many reasons why we value service to others here at Yarm Prep and it is super to see our pupils take this work seriously.

Today we had our Harvest assemblies in both the Pre-Prep and Prep School. We were delighted to welcome Revd. Darren Moore from St Mary Magdalene Church in Yarm to lead proceedings. His assemblies are always buoyant and uplifting. We also heard from another guest, Cheryl from Little Sprouts. She explained how the donations would be shared within the community and told us a little bit about the organisation's charitable work. Sadly the need for your generous donations is ever present in our local area and the tins of protein from Prep pupils and cereals from Pre-Prep will be very well received. Thank you for your support.

Bill Sawyer

Head's Challenge: What runs but cannot walk?

Photo of the Week: The weather was *generally* fine for Year 6 last week at Boggle Hole, as our report in this issue explains.



Tooled Up Education

World Mental Health Day is coming up next week on October 10th. We couldn't be prouder of the [wellbeing](#) section within the Tooled Up library. It currently contains 251 resources and is growing constantly, in response to your needs (remember, if you can't find what you need, just ask, and we'll create something for you).

We cover topics including helping your child to [thrive both academically and mentally](#), lists of brilliant [books](#), and reliable [sources of support](#) for mental health and wellbeing. The library is also packed with interviews and webinars with researchers, which tackle subjects ranging from how parents and schools can best work together to improve [young people's mental health](#), to the [impact of digital technology](#) on wellbeing. We always strive to uncover groundbreaking research evidence - did you know that young people at greatest risk of self-harming can be [identified up to a decade before they self-harm](#)? Do check out all of our resources for practical tips and activities designed to nudge children (and adults) to take care of their mental health and wellbeing.

Finally, to all those amazing teachers and school staff out there, we hope that you had a very happy World Teachers' Day.

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



Dr Weston Talks with Professor Fiona Brooks: Adolescence and Child Mental Health



Researcher of the Month: Stepheni Uh Discusses Early Predictors of Self-Harm



Sources of Support for Mental Health and Wellbeing



Balancing Academic Achievement with Good Mental Health: Tips for Parents



Dr Weston Talks with Professor Tamsin Ford: Improving Young People's Mental Health



Books to Support Children's Mental Health

Year 6 Trips to Boggle Hole

That exciting morning, I got dressed into the clothes I had carefully chosen the previous night. Quickly, I raced down the stairs thinking about the delightful day ahead of me. On the kitchen table, I ate my Weetabix feeling amazing. I checked I had all my seaside essentials, my fattening snacks and my extra warm layers. When I positively came out the front door with my filled rucksack on my back, I saw that we were unusually early because there were more stationary cars and the golden sunrise was closer to the horizon.

When I got to school, I saw my fellow companions who were going to embark on this terrific coastal adventure hyped up and ready for anything windy, rainy or stormy. After we got to our classroom, we checked we had everything: coats, waterproof trousers and of course, wellington boots!

On the coach with Arvind, Rehan and Noah, we chatted non stop and joked around carelessly. All of us saw Whitby on the way there and I also saw the abbey on the horizon with green fields beside it. When we got to Robin Hoods Bay, we got our waterproofs on and started the adventure with Mr Grundmann and Mrs Hart.

First, we walked down to the bay looking at wildlife and noticed the warning signs showing the dangers of towering cliffs and falling rocks. When we got there, the sea was far out into the distance showing miles of glorious sand, there we studied seaweed, rock, and coastal erosion. We imagined what it was like back in the Jurassic era when the cliffs had been further out into the sea and humans were not on this colourful, beautiful planet that we stand on today.

We walked along the bay splashing in puddles and running around until we eventually got to a large pool where we would find sea creatures. As we went off searching in seaweed and under rocks my friends and I found the most terrific of animals! As long as an adult hand, Henry caught a mighty lobster. As aggressive as a boxer, Anjali, Noah and I (with Mr Grundmann's help) each caught a velvet crab with red, beady eyes. Noah actually picked his one up!

We popped into town and found benches to eat our packed lunch, that food was the only thing that kept me going! We then walked to the ice cream van down on the bay where we got our delicious ice cream. We looked at boulder clay (clay with stones inside). As a group, we examined the clay by feeling it and touching it with curiosity. After that, we had a stone stacking competition, everyone except Noah and myself chose the 'big rock tactic' while we used stones the size of teaspoons.

We then climbed up a steep path in trees counting the amount of steps (111) until our poor legs were horribly sore. We walked along a path talking about the legend of little goblins that lived in this forest. After we came out of the forest, the whole magnificent bay was in sight. It was such an experience! Chatting with different people while walking made time pass, because I enjoy being an annoying chatterbox. When we got to the town, we found we had gone in a loop! Walking in the town, Mr Grundmann told us about bandits that were around a long time ago and how they had used the close tiled roofs, intermingled pathways and dirty sewers.

We reluctantly walked to the coach reflecting on the beautiful day we just had. After we got to the coach, we stripped off our waterproofs and relaxed while the coach went past Whitby, farmers fields and the beautiful Yorkshire Moors until





we got to a very familiar place, Yarm. When I got home to Stokesley, I could not wait to tell my parents all about the day.

Thomas F.

On Wednesday 28th September, 6G went on a much anticipated trip to Boggle Hole. The trip to Boggle Hole, was to link with the science topic that we are learning in year six. All of 6G travelled on one large coach together to get to Boggle Hole, the journey took roughly one hour and a half.

When we arrived at Boggle Hole, we went down to the sandy, rainy beach. The smell of sea air was really strong. Once on the beach, we ran towards a wall and pretended to be waves. It was fun to do and I enjoyed it! The wall we ran towards was to stop the cliffs from getting eroded.

To get to different areas of the beach and look at the different effects of erosion, we walked slowly around the beach. We stopped every so often so that Mr Grundmann could explain how erosion had affected each part of the beach. From where we were standing the sea was as dark as the night sky.

After a while, we made our way to the rock pools. When they came into view, we all felt a wave of excitement and we couldn't wait to start finding hermit crabs. When we got to the rock pools, I went off with my friend (Lucy), and we lifted up lots of big, heavy rocks hoping to find crabs. We were in luck! We found approximately ten baby crabs which were the size of a two pound coin. Then, I put them straight in my tub, I was feeling really brave and picked five up but Lucy wouldn't because she was too scared that they would pinch her! After that, I found a bigger crab around the size of a jar of jam on its side. This crab was a beast and I didn't pick it up because I was no longer feeling brave. The last thing we did at the rock pools, was to investigate everyone's findings. My favourite crab was Noah's crab that had red eyes!

Next, we all sat down above the beach on some big, smooth rocks to eat our lunch. One of my favourite parts of the day was ice cream! The flavour I chose was cookies 'n' cream.

In the blink of an eye, we were onto the last activity of the Boggle Hole trip - which was a walk around the local area. By this point, we were all feeling a bit worn out. Within the local area, we saw miniscule houses as well as a lengthy set of stairs (111 stairs).

Finally, it was time to get back on the bus and make our way back to school.

The bus ride home was quieter than the ride there. What a spectacular way to start the year!

Maisy V.



Year 3 Walk to Yarm

I saw lots of shops and buildings. *Amelie T.*

I noticed the Town Hall. *Deia TM.*

I saw the River Tees. *Atticus WT.*

I noticed lots of cars. *Amani R.*

We got to speak to Mr Moran who works at Merritt and Company on the High Street. *Harriet A.*

We saw Sainsbury's. It sells food. *Robert W.*

The Viaduct reflected in the river. *Monty B.*

There was a Church. It has a chapel in it. *Takashi Y.*

There are lots of places to get yummy food. *Lizzie R.*

I saw Treats. It is nice in there. *Candice G.*



PE and Games

Year 4 Rugby

The Y4 boys travelled to Newcastle to play their first ever contact fixture against Dame Allan's School. All of the boys showed great determination and commitment throughout their games. A great afternoon was had by all with everyone contributing on the games, whether it was by passing to a team mate, supporting others, scoring tries and making tackles! An impressive first fixture! Well done all!

Mr Simpson

Girls' Sport

Last week was very busy with all U8s and U9s involved in workshops and fixtures away to Dame Allan's from Newcastle. The children were a credit to the School and played their part in super afternoons away. Sadly the Friday U10 fixtures were cancelled due to poor weather but we are hoping to rearrange if we can. It has been great to see the girls throwing themselves into this busy term and showing real ambition.

Our swimmers are now well into their weekly sessions and showing some progress from the beginners through to the top group, who all managed 100m each this week.

Mrs Redhead-Sweeney



Year 5 Community Spirit

During Monday's activities carousel, Year 5 Stephenson House pupils were out and about in the local area. They spent the session litter picking and were surprised by how much they collected. They chatted to the public as they went about their work. Perfect example of 'Community Spirit'!

Mrs Simpson and Mr Frank



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.

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](#).

Music News

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 10 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).

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](#).

School Council

Wednesday 29th September 2022

Attendees—Most form captains, all house captains and the school captains who were present (6H form captain and captains from 6G (on a trip) were not present).

We discussed matters as one group, before splitting into smaller mixed groups and writing our form comments on a Jamboard. We came back together as a group at the end of the meeting.

The focus of the meeting was to discuss “What do we think of playtimes?”

Mr Stone thanked the captains for asking their forms for their thoughts.

We started by talking about how the school council works. The School Captains will be running meetings next term, so we looked at how we could work together to find agreed responses. We then added our thoughts to a Jamboard, answering three questions. Each captain present gave the most prominent views of their class, before we discussed on what the comment themes were across the school.

What is good about playtimes?

- Mixing year groups together.
- Having the freedom to play anywhere.
- Playing with people who are not in your class.

- A chance to chat with friends.
- The adventure trail.

What is not so good about playtimes?

- Some children not being quiet in the quiet area.
- Assemblies can be too long, meaning we lose

playtime.

- The younger children following the older children.
- People not being careful with their snack rubbish.
- More things to play games with, including balls.

What would make playtimes even better?

- Make sure everyone knows the rules for the cricket nets.
- Shorter assemblies so we get a longer break.
- More play equipment.

What happens now?

School captains will take these minutes to discuss with Mr Sawyer in their weekly meeting.

Our next meeting will be in November 2022.

Curiosity Emporium



On Tuesday Mr Harandon kindly gave up his spare time to hold a Curiosity Emporium about his interest in World War II. We discussed the Polish journey through Russia, into Iran with an army that had been reduced to skeletons having been worked so hard and starved. We studied photos of his grandfather, one of which had recently been displayed outside a palace in the Polish Capital Warsaw.

We thought about how the Polish army had been successful in the battle of Monte Cassino. History has taught us that it is best to work together. Mr Harandon's Granddad had been a journalist in the war so he had reported on the news and we loved looking at his photos and reading his accounts. Thank you to Mr Harandon for bringing this fascinating history to life and making sure their struggle is not forgotten.

Wilf S.

Eco Club



Eco club loved making their badges out of milk bottle lids this week!

Miss Whitehouse



YPSSC

YPSSC Ice Gala Winter Ball—Saturday 26th November; 7pm-Midnight

YPSSC Ice Gala Winter Ball tickets are on sale!

We are excited that the YPSSC Winter Ball is just 2 months away, on Saturday 26th November 2022.

We hope you will join us in what will be a spectacular evening, not to be missed!

How do I get tickets?

Order your tickets now on <https://ypssc.co.uk/product/ypssc-icegala-2022-ticket/> as ticket sales will close on 31st October.

You may book a table for up to 10 guests (12 maximum).

Alternatively if you specify your child's Year Group on your booking, we will endeavour to seat you with other parents in

the same year.

Will it be good?

Oh yes!! If previous balls are anything to go by. Click the link to see our 2018 Circus ball photos https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=2535155006501548&id=180851158598623

This year's icy entertainment promises to enthrall. Please see the attached poster for more details on what to expect from this sensational event!

What charity is it supporting?

This year's nominated charity is The David Ashwell Foundation <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TDavidAshwellF/?ref=share>

How can I help?

To help the charity, we would welcome donations of auction and raffle prizes. Please contact your Year Rep or email ypssc@hotmail.com. See our 2021 Supporters on <https://ypssc.co.uk/supporters/>

How do I buy raffle tickets?

Raffle tickets are on sale now <https://www.cognitoforms.com/YPSSC1/YPSSC2022ICEGALARAFFLE>

You are welcome to buy these even if you can't make it to the ball. We have some amazing prizes!

Thanks as always for your support to YPSSC and our nominated charity.

YPSSC team

Former Pupils News

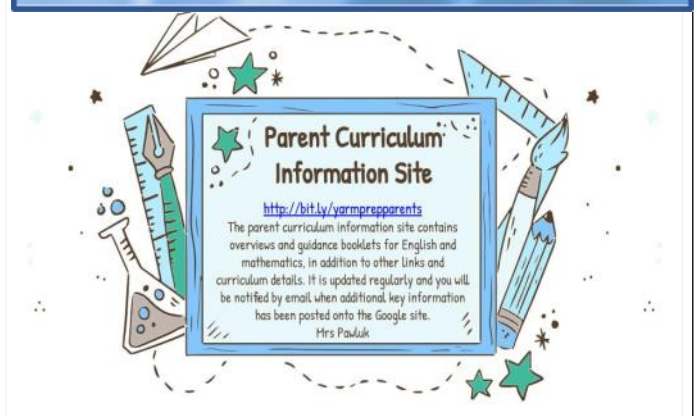
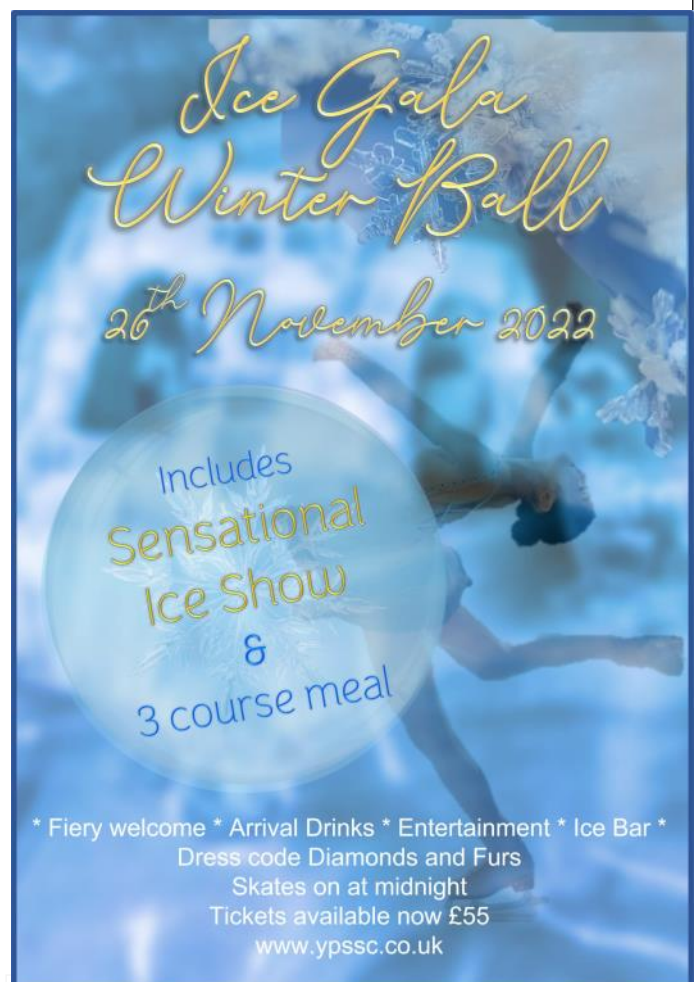
Former Pupil Parents - Christmas Drinks

We are privileged that many of our Former Pupils now send their children to Yarm and would love for you to come along to our FP Christmas Drinks event.

Join us in the Princess Alexandra Auditorium Lounge Bar for drinks on **Saturday, 17th December from 7:30pm until 11:30pm.**

You are invited to arrive at the School from 7:30pm. Upon arrival, you can enjoy a complimentary welcome drink (prosecco, lager or a soft drink) while delicious light bites prepared by our outstanding Chef will be available in the Atrium. Our bar will be in full service, allowing you to purchase drinks of your choice until around 11pm.

The event is open to all former pupils so please share the invitation with friends from your time at Yarm.



If you are interested in attending please complete the form: <https://bit.ly/FPdrinks22>.



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.

10 tips for parents and carers

HOW TO BE GREEN WITH YOUR TECH

Right now, humans aren't living sustainably: we're taking too many resources and not leaving the world in a fit state for future generations. Old tech products are a clear example: if we throw them away, the poisonous lead and mercury inside can get into the food chain through the soil. Recycling tech, though, has its own issues: it's often exported to countries where the law doesn't protect people from hazards. Whole villages (including children) sort through discarded devices to remove useful parts and substances like gold, silver and copper – often putting their health at risk. Finding ways to re-use tech is the greenest option.

So what can we do with those cupboards and drawers full of old phones and unwanted computers?
Reuse, recycle, donate or sell them!

1 DONATE THEM TO CHARITY

There are lots of charities that redistribute unwanted tech to worthy causes, either in the UK or in developing nations. If your old products are still working, this is a great option – as it means that new products don't have to be made. Search online for your nearest place that does this.

2 REMEMBER THE BATTERIES

Almost all batteries can be recycled – even the little 'button' ones from smaller gadgets. You could choose a box at home or school to keep used batteries in, and then take them to a designated place that collects them. Be very careful, though – button cells can be deadly if eaten by small children or pets.

3 USE YOUR ONLINE SAFETY KNOWLEDGE

If you're recycling, selling or repurposing any of your devices, make sure that all your personal data, private photos and so on have been deleted before the tech leaves your hands or is connected online.

4 REUSE THEM

Old smartphones can be used as webcams, security cameras, baby monitors or pet cams: there are apps that will configure them to do this. You can also turn an outdated phone into a TV remote control, an alarm clock that wakes you up with your favourite track, or a media centre you can take to places where you wouldn't risk your new phone.

5 TURN IT INTO SOMETHING NEW

Smartphones are more powerful than most older computers. If you have an unwanted android phone, it's quite easy to create a new computer – you could use an old TV as a monitor, meaning you just need a mouse and keyboard. There are also small devices you can buy which let you do the same with iPhones.

6 RETURN THEM

Return devices to the manufacturer or retailer you bought them from. Some manufacturers take responsibility for their products and accept them back, to refurbish and redistribute. If they don't, you could contact them and ask why: the more consumer pressure there is on shops and manufacturers, the more likely they are to act in a greener way.

7 SUPPORT SCIENCE

Let your old devices help modern research. Scientists currently investigating topics like far-off star systems, cancer treatment and earthquakes need enormous computing power. If your unwanted device is WiFi enabled, for example, you can connect it to a network so that it can boost scientists' research.

8 SELL THEM

This is also a green option as it means that fewer devices have to be produced. On top of that, you could also donate some of the money you make to an environmental charity.

9 RESEARCH DISPOSAL METHODS

If your device is beyond repair and no one wants it, get rid of it safely through a specialist tech disposal company. Check that your device won't be shipped off to another country for processing.

10 KEEP THINKING

There's no such thing as 'too many' ways to help our planet! If you come up with a better idea than ours, contact National Online Safety and tell us.

Meet Our Expert

Neil Atkin teaches scientific literacy through his non-profit organisation, Rubbish Science, which engages people in working together to live more sustainably and creatively uses waste to help address real-life problems. There are a range of environmental activities you may like to try on their website: www.rubbishscience.com.



USEFUL LINKS: Places to donate old electrical items: www.recycleyourtech.co.uk/donate-electrical-goods/ | How to turn an old smartphone into a computer: www.makelinux.com/tag/ways-to-turn-smartphone-into-pc/
The rules about shop responsibilities on tech: www.gov.uk/electronic-waste-producer-supplier-responsibilities/ | Two scientific research schemes which old devices can support: www.onlinesafety.org/get-involved and www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/dreamlab/ | Find your local tech recycling centre: www.recyclenow.com

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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: 28.09.2022

Key Dates

OCTOBER

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 Y3 Activities Carousel 2 beings (Arkwright/Brunel Y3 still swimming)

NOVEMBER

Fri 4	U10 Hockey v Barnard Castle (away; 2pm start, 4.30pm return) U11 Hockey & Rugby v Barnard Castle (home; 2pm start)
Tue 8	Stephenson House Charity Event U8 Hockey & Rugby v Cundall Manor (away; 2pm start, 4pm return)
Wed 9	School Council
Thu 10	Year 3 trip to Captain Cook Museum Year 6 Good Work assembly

[You can find the Yarm School calendar by clicking here.](#)



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.ypssc.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 in at Prep reception.



Thank you!

Celebration Assembly

	Values	Endeavour
3B	Francesca S.	Freddie B.
3H	Annabelle A.	Sajan G.
4G	Dax C.	Felicity W.
4J	Zara M.	Fathe C.
4N	Marianne D.	Holly B.
5F	Kavan S.	Ella L.
5H	Francesca F.	Ahmad I.
5K	Noah WT.	Thea S.
6G	Eva M.	Henry P.
6H	Bea M.	Max A.
6L	Beatriz G.	Dora B.
6W	Edward TP.	Wilf S.

Solution to previous Head's Challenge: A needle