

# The Phoenix Flier

## The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

Issue 721 — Friday 4th November 2022

INSIDE THIS WEEK... ccc

### A message from Mr Sawyer

Welcome to the first edition of The Phoenix Flier for this half term. As you can see from the photos below, the build project has not stopped since the demolition of the old Dining Room commenced. Pleasingly, due to the good weather, the half term break proved to be a useful period to crack on. As things currently stand, the first set of piles that will form a retaining wall have been exposed by recent excavations and the second round of piling has been completed this week. The contractors will now move on to removing more of the stone that is currently in place before laying the foundations and steel structure of the building. All in all, the project continues at pace right in front of our eyes!

This week our assembly focus has been on **ambition**, one of our School Values. We have explored what it means to work hard, embrace failure and seek out challenges. The growth that comes from pushing yourself is vital to understand and it forms a key aspect of life at Yarm. We want our pupils to be hungry for progress across the curriculum, willing to compete for victory on the sports pitch and bold enough to engage with the myriad opportunities on offer in drama, music, art and much more. There are many examples of our pupils' ambitious mindset within this week's Flier. I do hope you enjoy reading it.

*Bill Sawyer*



**Head's Challenge:** You can always find me in the past. I can be created in the present but the future will never taint me. What am I?

**Photo of the Week:** Our Under 9 rugby and netball festivals took place prior to half-term, with the sporting action already back underway since we have been back.



## Tooled Up Education

Bonfire Night is coming up, so we'd like to remind you of our fantastic [quiz about the science of fire](#). Each question has two answers - one suitable for younger children and a second, more in depth, response. We also have a [list of books](#) to help teach young children about fire safety, as well as a fascinating [webinar recording](#) on children's relationship with fire.

So far, this autumn has been busy as ever for us, but we've particularly enjoyed chatting to various inspiring sports women, including England Women's Lacrosse captain, [Laura Merrifield](#), and England rugby player, [Sonia Green](#), who are both also teachers. The interviews are in the library and are well worth sharing with aspiring young athletes.

And of course, we have brilliant webinars lined up for November, all free and exclusive to our Tooled Up community. [Book your place on any of the following now](#):

November 7th, 7.30pm GMT - [Myths and Truths about Dyscalculia](#). Dr Van Herwegen discusses some commonly believed truths and myths about developmental dyscalculia.

November 14th, 7.30pm GMT - [Taking a Closer Look at TikTok](#). Dr Weston and Dr Elly Hanson discuss some of the more worrying content shared within TikTok and consider what parents and carers can do to mitigate harm, reduce risk and keep their children and teens safe online.

November 15th, 7:30pm GMT - [Paediatric Cardiology Q&A Webinar](#). Join us as we talk to one of Colorado's most prominent cardiologists. Feel free to bring all your questions along.

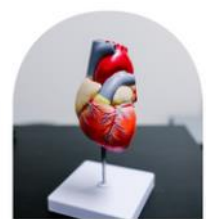
The Tooled Up library is already packed with almost 350 evidence-based resources, including interviews with over 80 leading experts from around the world. But, it's your library and we want to know how else we can help you? What new resources would you like to see? Which ones do you love? What could 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 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.



Taking a Closer Look at TikTok



Paediatric Cardiology Q&A Webinar



Q&A with Laura Merrifield England Women's Lacrosse Captain



Science of Fire Quiz



Dr Weston Talks with Rugby Star and PE Teacher Sonia (Sonic) Green



Books to Help Teach Young Children about Fire Safety



Myths and Truths about Dyscalculia



Children's Relationship with Fire: Five Things Every Parent and Professional Should Know

PIN: YPS1103 and

*Dr Kathy Weston*



## Bring It On Festival

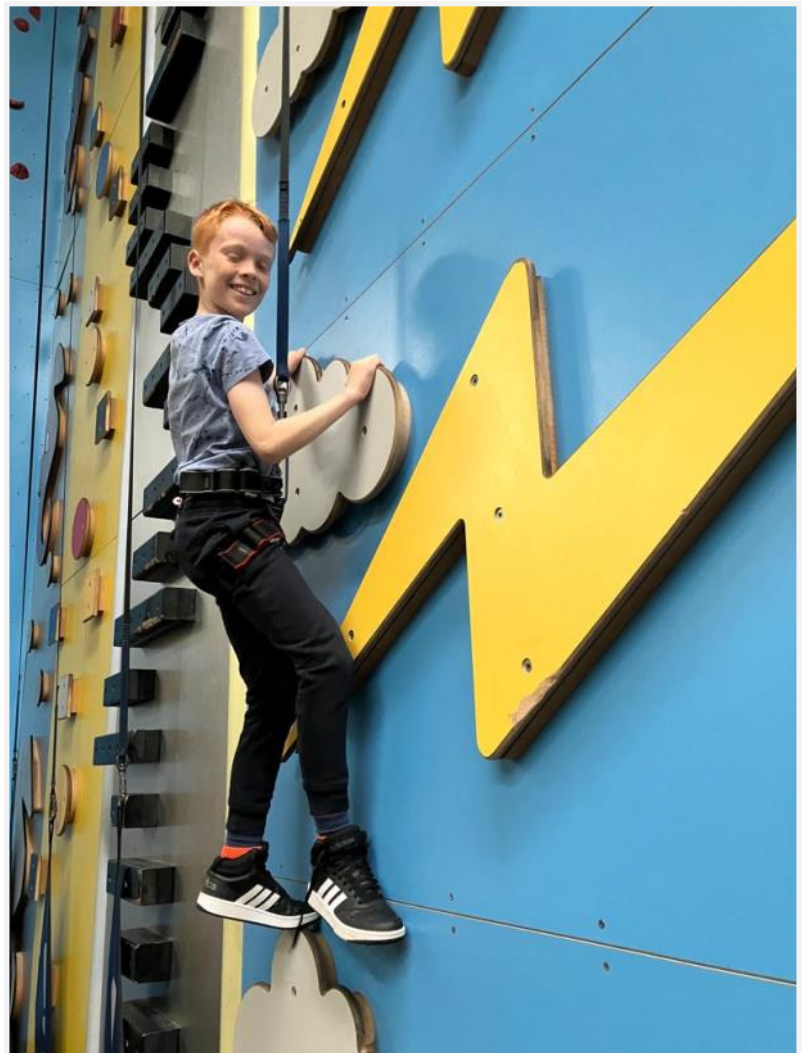
When we arrived at the engineering fair we all got our own bag with leaflets in and a lanyard. First we went to the Wateraid stand and learnt about how to clean water. After that stall, we went to a stall run by Bowmer + Kirkland who are contractors. We played garbage bingo where you had to get all the squares on your board. We then went down stairs into the yellow zone where we ventured around finding new things to learn. We also met engineers from Komatsu and we helped to build a digger. When we had finished looking at the blue zone about renewable energy, we had lunch outside. After that we went to the green zone about automotive, rail and aerospace, which had lots of VR headsets and cool, interesting stuff like electronic devices that can destroy buildings on their own. The next section was the pink zone about creative and digital technology. Here we met an engineer called Jeremy who works with electronic plunges and he told us how to use them. After we did that, we went back to school on the mini bus. We really enjoyed the day.

*Eva M. and Nona D.*





# October Holiday School





## PE and Games News



### Under 9 Sports Festival

I really enjoyed the sport festival yesterday and enjoyed playing rugby with other schools.

*Henry S.*

I liked the Hockey Festival because it was competitive and I was challenged.

*Marianne D.*

I enjoyed tackling in rugby especially when we won a few games. I really enjoyed it. It was the best Thursday I have had this year.

*Rory B.*

I enjoyed playing in middle and talking to the other schools.

*Holly B.*



### Under 11 Rugby

The match was brilliant! It is always tough playing Cundall and we were all still shattered from Wednesday's HMC tournament, but we all played to the school values and were proud to be wearing the logo on our chest. We tackled hard, rucked strong and ran fast and came out with a great result. We all shook hands at the end and we showed good sportsmanship. At the end of the day were able to have a laugh and that's what its all about!

*Wilf S.*



### Girls' Rugby v Dame Allan's

Trisha: I liked the tag because it was really enjoyable.

Eva: I enjoyed tackling because I have been practising.

Willow: I enjoyed getting tackled.

Gabby: I liked tackling and scoring tries.

Lou: I loved being captain and diving.

Anjali: I liked tackling the sausages because I liked doing it with all my friends.

Amelie: I liked the contact and tackling people to the ground because we got dirty.

Violet: I liked the contact and getting muddy and also pushing the opponent to the ground.

*Amelie K.*





## 4J Science

In science the children were setting up an investigation to find out which drinks were bad for your teeth using an egg to represent the tooth enamel. Before that they used disclosing tablets to measure the plaque on their teeth.

*Mrs Jennings*



## House assemblies

Prior to half-term, Brunel made a rangoli pattern in their house assembly.



## Author Visit

We were delighted to welcome Julian Norton, one of TV's Yorkshire Vets, to school this week. Mr Norton spoke to the children about his books and what it is like to be a vet.



## 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](#).

## Silver Stories

The children from Pre Prep and Prep collaborated to create Autumn poems before performing them to the residents of the care home.

*Mrs Jennings*



## HELP!

We would be very grateful for any donations of newspaper for use in D&T lessons. Please give to your child to give to Miss Ward in the D&T room. Thank you.

*Miss Ward*

## Music News

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

**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*

## 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).

## Food, Glorious Food

Prior to our Food Council meeting for this term, all forms in the Prep School (Y3-6) spent time discussing a range of questions that looked to answer some key questions:

- What are your favourite main courses and desserts offered at school?
- What meals would you like to see introduced on the menu?
- What would you like to remove from the menu?
- What healthy snacks would you like to eat at break times?

Naturally, a great deal of debate ensued during these discussions and each form sent a Food Councillor to the Food Council meeting to represent their views. Our School Captains led the 'meeting' and did a commendable job by involving all of the Food Councillors present.

There were a wide range of views on all of the questions, however, consensus was reached on a number of fronts. The School Captains are now armed with a delectable selection of requests and are meeting Pippa Walker, Catering Manager, this week to help tweak the menus based on the pupils feedback and requests. It is a great example of pupil voice being used to good effect.

*Mr Sawyer*

## Flu Immunisation Programme

The School Aged Immunisation Service will be coming onto School on Thursday 1st December 2022 to administer the nasal flu spray to children from Reception to Year 6.

If you would like your child to receive this vaccination, please provide consent using the link below no later than Thursday 24th November 2022.



<https://www.hdfstais.co.uk/Forms/Flu>

School Code: HD111771

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mrs Wheatley

## 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>.

The form will close Friday 9th December 2022.

Mrs Craig

## Anti-Bullying Week

### Monday 14th—Friday 18th November

Anti-Bullying Week is coordinated in England and Wales by the Anti-Bullying Alliance and this year has the theme of *Reach Out*. The theme came about following consultation with teachers and pupils by the Anti-Bullying Alliance, who wanted

a theme that empowered them to do something positive to counter the harm and hurt that bullying causes.

As a school, we use Anti-Bullying Week to remind everyone what bullying is, how we deal with it and whether it's in school, at home, in the community or online, we should reach out and show each other the support we need.

Mr Stone

## Thomas and Angus perform



Thomas and Angus F. were asked to take part in a concert in Stokesley Methodist Church last month in aid of Childline. 13 children from the local area took part. The boys each played a guitar piece.

## My Child's Art

Parents of children who submitted artwork to My Child's Art, the portal is now live. The 10% early bird discount expires on Sunday 6th November. You can order by either logging in to [www.mychildsart.co.uk/order](http://www.mychildsart.co.uk/order) where the username is Yarm and the password is vQH8VN2f.

## Stephenson Charity Day

### Tuesday 8th November

The Prep School Stephenson House Charity Day this year is supporting Age UK Teesside (<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/teesside/>) It is a charity that enables older people to improve their lifestyles, through befriending services and providing winter warmer packs.

On the day we are asking children to bring in £1 to wear one item of winter clothing (bobble hat or scarf) with their school uniform.

In addition to the above, we will be running various stalls at break time, including soaking the teacher and guessing the name of the teddy. These events will cost around 50p a go, so children are invited to bring in no more than £3.

Thank you in advance for your support of our event.

*The Stephenson House Staff*



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 games 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

# FIFA 23

FIFA 23, like its many predecessors, is a massively popular football simulator featuring lifelike recreations of thousands of real-world players, drawn from teams around the globe. While the gameplay is subtly improved year on year, the publisher EA Sports' tweaks tend to focus on FIFA Ultimate Team mode, which can tempt gamers of all ages to spend real money recruiting better players for their side. With each new release of FIFA comes a host of new players to unlock – meaning that youngsters can feel pressured to keep buying to compete with their friends.

AGE RATING  
**PEGI 3**

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### RELEASE RAZZAMATAZZ

FIFA 23 will be the last in the blockbuster series, before EA goes solo with its own football title next season. This 'end of an era' vibe – coupled with a huge advertising budget making the new release almost impossible to miss – will elevate FIFA 23 into even more of a 'must have' for football-mad young gamers, no matter how minor the updates are on last year's version.

#### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CHAT

Based on a popular sport which appeals to people of all ages, the FIFA franchise draws a huge audience of both children and adults. Communication is a key element, with many players enjoying in-game audio chat via headsets. With the mixed age range of players and a lack of regulation, however, chats can often turn offensive or toxic – especially in the heat of competitive matches.

#### IN-GAME PROMOTIONS

Unless precautions are taken, dedicated FIFA fans can spend significant sums when attempting to improve their Ultimate Team. Most top-level players can be unlocked by simply participating in matches, but some sought-after stars can be obtained more quickly in limited-time promotions which cost a large amount of FIFA points (the in-game currency, often paid for with real money).

#### CIRCLING SCAMMERS

The popularity of FIFA Ultimate Team (FUT) mode has led to online scammers convincing many impressionable gamers to pay real money for non-existent FUT coins and player cards, or directing unwary FIFA fans to phishing sites. If your child gives these individuals their login details, the scammers can access not only their carefully built team but potentially your payment information.

#### ADDICTIVE NATURE

One match on FIFA (usually around 15 minutes, but often lengthened by extra time and penalties) almost invariably leads to another. It can be a powerful temptation for young players, regardless of unfinished homework or an approaching bedtime. If the 'just one more game' mindset starts to impact a child's daily routine, it could be a sign of gaming disorder: a recognised mental health issue.

#### GAMBLING-ADJACENT BEHAVIOUR

Ultimate Team has become a major feature in FIFA due to the revenues it generates. It can also be addictive, with children striving to earn coins and level up while swapping, selling and buying players. Spending FUT coins to open a player pack (which many experts have likened to gambling) is designed to be an exciting act – with bright lights, fanfare and attention-grabbing prizes.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### BE SELECTIVE WITH CHATS

It's enormous fun for FIFA players to chat online with friends, even as their teams do battle in the game. It's probably the safest idea, though, to restrict contact with strangers. By turning off voice chat in FIFA and allowing cross-party chat in their device's settings, your child can speak to people who are already on their friends list but won't be able to talk to (or hear) strangers online.

### CONTROL SPENDING

If your child plays Ultimate Team mode on FIFA, ensure their account isn't linked to your payment methods – so they'll need your permission to make in-game purchases. Alternatively, you could use parental controls to limit spending – or set up a pre-paid 'allowance'. When excitedly clicking options on screen, it's easy for a young person to forget the real-world repercussions of online purchases.

### STAY ALERT FOR SCAMS

There are some key things to remember about potential FIFA scams. Firstly, EA never contacts users via any method other than emails to the account holder (which may well be you). Neither will they ever ask for a player's username or password outside the game itself. EA's terms and conditions outlaw the buying of FUT coins, so anyone selling them should be treated as suspicious.

### AVOID 'EXTRA TIME'

If your child's spending a lot of time on FIFA 23 and seems less enthusiastic about other activities in their life, you could consider restricting how long they can play for each day with the parental controls in their device's settings. Even if they're not playing on their console or computer, there's a FIFA companion app for smartphones – but that can be limited through parental controls, too.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Games Editor of technology and entertainment website Dexerto and has been working in the gaming media for three years. A long-time fan of the FIFA franchise, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have also been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar, among others.



Sources: <https://www.windowscentral.com/youngster-spends-over-1000-florin-high-lighting-productivity-game-designer> | <https://www.cnn.com/2021/07/26/tech/gaming-disorder/index.html> | <https://www.ea.com/games/fifa/fifa-23/faq> | <https://www.ea.com/games/fifa/fifa-23/faq>



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)



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## Key Dates

### NOVEMBER

<b>Tue 8</b>	Stephenson House Charity Event U8 Hockey & Rugby v Cundall Manor (away; 2pm start, 4pm return)
<b>Wed 9</b>	School Council
<b>Thu 10</b>	Year 3 trip to Captain Cook Museum Year 6 Good Work assembly HMC Cross Country (Barlborough Hall; 10.40am depart, 5pm return)
<b>Fri 11</b>	Remembrance assembly U10/11 Hockey v Pocklington (away; 2pm start, 5pm return) U10/11 Rugby v Pocklington (home; 2pm start)
<b>Mon 14</b>	<b>***NEW EVENT***</b> Netball Cup v South Hunsley (away; 2.30pm start, 5pm return) Activities Carousel 2 begins for Y4-6
<b>Tue 15</b>	HMC Chess (QEGS; 8am depart, 5pm return; Y5/6 teams) Year 4 trip to Durham Oriental Museum U8 Hockey & Rugby v Ashville (away; 2.15pm start, 5pm return)
<b>Wed 16</b>	Prep Informal Concert (4-5pm; Prep Hall)
<b>Thu 17</b>	U9 Rugby v Durham (away; 2pm start, 4.30pm return) Small ensembles concert (7-8.15pm; Yarm Parish Church)
<b>Fri 18</b>	Children in Need Day U10/11 Rugby v Birkdale & Bronte (away; 2pm start, 5.15pm return) U10/11 Hockey v Queen Mary's (home; 2pm start)

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

**Solution to previous Head's Challenge:** Just sleep at night!



## 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](http://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 off at Prep reception.



Thank you!

## Celebration Assembly

	Values	Endeavour
3B	Isla L.	Henry F.
3H	Emily W.	Bertie H.
4G	Aashi S.	Evelyn C.
4J	Rosa W.	Alice W.
4N	Isla R.	Jenson C.
5F	Hannah C.	Ronav G.
5H	Heidi K.	Lolwa S.
5K	Florence P.	Haashir I.
6G	Noah A.	Thomas F.
6H	Gabrielle B.	Imogen P.
6L	Charlie M.	Daisy N.
6W	Willow A.	Jake M.

**Head Teacher Awards: Y3:** Alice J., Zac S., Freddie W.  
**Y6:** Felicity L., Auden A., Annabelle A., Emma A., Olivia J., Charlie M., Noah A., Akansha M.

**New Peer Mentors:** Harlowe B., Edward W., Ethan C., Will M.

**Silver Music Award:** Akansha M. **Bronze Music Award:** Annalise D.