

The Phoenix Flier

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

Issue 729—20th January 2023

INSIDE THIS WEEK...

A message from Mr Sawyer

Welcome to this week's edition of the Phoenix Flier which rounds up the recent events from across the Prep School. Among many of the highlights of working with young children is their thirst for knowledge. They have a natural curiosity in the environment around them, a desire to understand how things work and how the world fits together. Our *Resourceful* root of our School Values tree identifies curiosity as a key desirable learning attribute. A curious mind is an active one, and we therefore encourage our pupils to explore, investigate and interrogate all aspects of their learning from Nursery to Year 6 and beyond. This approach to our learning culture fosters enquiry and values questions highly. We aim for our classrooms to fizz with energy, and all children knowing that questions are celebrated adds to the buzz significantly. Even those children who are not inclined to put their hand up know that we utilise a range of techniques to take a 'no hands' approach which requires everyone to contribute. Visitors to school, guests and trip providers are always taken to task in the most positive sense and our pupils show great zeal with their lines of enquiry. It is important that we further our pupil's curiosity at school and as parents we can help at home too. As adults we must encourage questions and lots of them! We must make sure that we all remain open to what we learn and avoid assuming we always have all the answers.

There has been an explosion of red clothing this week in our celebration of Chinese New Year. This vibrancy has been aligned with a wonderful pupil-led assembly and a sumptuous themed meal on Friday. It is a real privilege to have such a diverse school community and to celebrate such events during the course of the year. The opportunity to learn about a range of cultures and customs brings us together and deepens our appreciation of each other. Long may this continue. 新年好!

Bill Sawyer

Head's Challenge:

You can carry it everywhere you go, and it does not get heavy. What is it?

Photo of the Week:

The netball season is well underway, with training, lessons and fixtures all taking place over the past fortnight. More details inside!



Tooled Up Education

As our children slowly but steadily approach their teenage years, we might start to worry about sleep problems that are extremely common during adolescence. We should take an interest in the quality of sleep our children enjoy as researchers are increasingly highlighting the relationship between sleep deprivation and poor mental health. Various research papers have examined how parents might be able to support teens to sleep better and our Researcher of the Month, [Dr Cele Richardson](#) is looking into exactly that. In our podcast with her, Dr Richardson discusses her fresh study which shows that when parents have a *warmer* relationship with their children, teens tend to have better sleep hygiene practices, sleep for longer at night and feel less sleepy during the day. As parents, we are ideally placed to help them form good and healthy habits. Learn more about the impact we can have in this fascinating [interview](#).

But let's also think about the mental health benefits of physical exercise, as next week's Tooled Up parent webinars are all about sports!

[Q&A with a Rugby Great: January 25, 2023, 7pm GMT](#)

On Wednesday, we'll be joined by Rugby correspondent Gavin Mairs who will interview trailblazing player and ex-headteacher Floyd Steadman OBE about his astonishing story. [REGISTER NOW](#)

[The Boat Race and Elite Rowing: January 26, 2023, 7pm GMT](#)

On Thursday, we talk to superstars of the rowing world: James Ball and Caoimhe Dempsey. Both of them managed to secure wins at the Oxford-Cambridge boat race and will reflect on their learning, resilience and what it takes to become an athlete. Dan Richardson, a performance nutritionist will be there to dish out nutritional advice to any children and teens tuning in. [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: 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



Q&A with a
Rugby Great



Does parental
warmth have a
positive impact
on teens' sleep?



The Boat Race
and Elite Rowing



Researcher of the
Month: Dr Cele
Richardson
Explores How
Parental Warmth
Influences Teens'
Sleep

Year 4 Trip to Darlington Synagogue (Part 2)



I enjoyed this trip and I learnt a lot. I liked looking at the impressive Torah scroll and dressing up in traditional clothing. I also enjoyed blowing the horns.

Thomas M.

When we went to the synagogue we learnt all about the Torah scroll. We also got to dress up in traditional clothing you would wear to go to a synagogue.

Annalise D.

I learned that when you are kosher you are not allowed pork or gummy sweets because gummy sweets actually have gelatine in them. The Torah scroll took a year to write.

Violet M.

We dressed up in traditional clothing and got to see a thousand year old bible written in Hebrew. There was a small one written in tiny letters.

Ben H.

I also learnt that you blew a rams horn to communicate from village to village.

Martha

Curiosity Emporium—Is Motor Racing Really a Sport?

Our first Curiosity Emporium of 2023 answered a question Mr Stone (a motor racing fan) has had to answer many times over the years: **Is Motor Racing Really a Sport?** To help explain why it is – and give a remarkable insight into the life of a racing driver—three-time Le Mans winner and former Formula 1 driver Allan McNish answered a series of questions from the children who came along.

Mrs Lofthouse-Hill

Curiosity Emporium was on motorsport. It was about if you thought motorsport is a sport or not. I found out a lot I did not know about how much training you had to do. We also experimented by holding Chromebooks and jogging on the spot, as it is like driving a racing car and steering.

Jack S.

Motor racing is definitely a sport because it requires good fitness. It was a very interesting video, where Allan McNish was interviewed by his son who read Mr Stone's questions.

Rebecca N.

I really enjoyed this club because I got to learn more about what I love. Also, I think it is really cool that we got a video from Allan McNish himself!

Joe W.

The Curiosity Emporium on motor racing was fascinating and interesting.

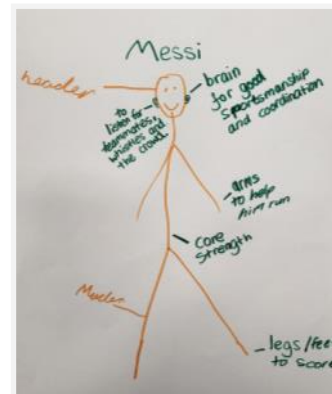
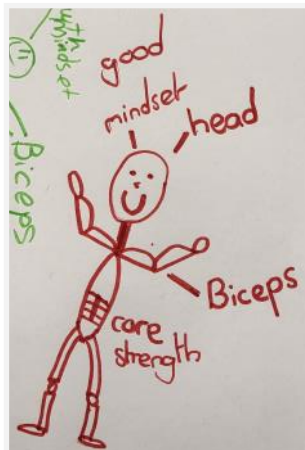
Alexandra P.

I learnt that motor racing is a sport and a really hard sport to take part in.

Jack M.

We felt what it was like to be a racing driver, watched a couple of videos made by Alan McNish, labelled a diagram of a sportsman, and answered the question 'Is motorsport a sport?' We also watched a video of Alan McNish's huge crash from 2011. Motorsport is a sport, as like any other sport you lose weight. To support my answer, when the Singapore GP takes place, during the race, drivers lose up to 3 kilograms after the race.

Max A.



PE and Games News



After a traffic affected journey to Leeds the Y5 and 6 boys arrived in good spirits. Everyone that took part enjoyed their shortened afternoon of football. There was of determination and a fantastic attitude on display. There were great goals scored, tackles made and wonderful saves. Well done all! *Mr Simpson*

Under 11 Netball v Red House

On Friday the girls took part in a match against Red House. It was really good and lots of fun. The players of the match were Akansha, Beatrix and Bea for the 3 teams.

Annabelle A.

The sun was shining down on us as we played. It was very enjoyable and everyone played well. Red House scored 4 goals and Yarm scored 6.

Bea M.



Year 4 Science



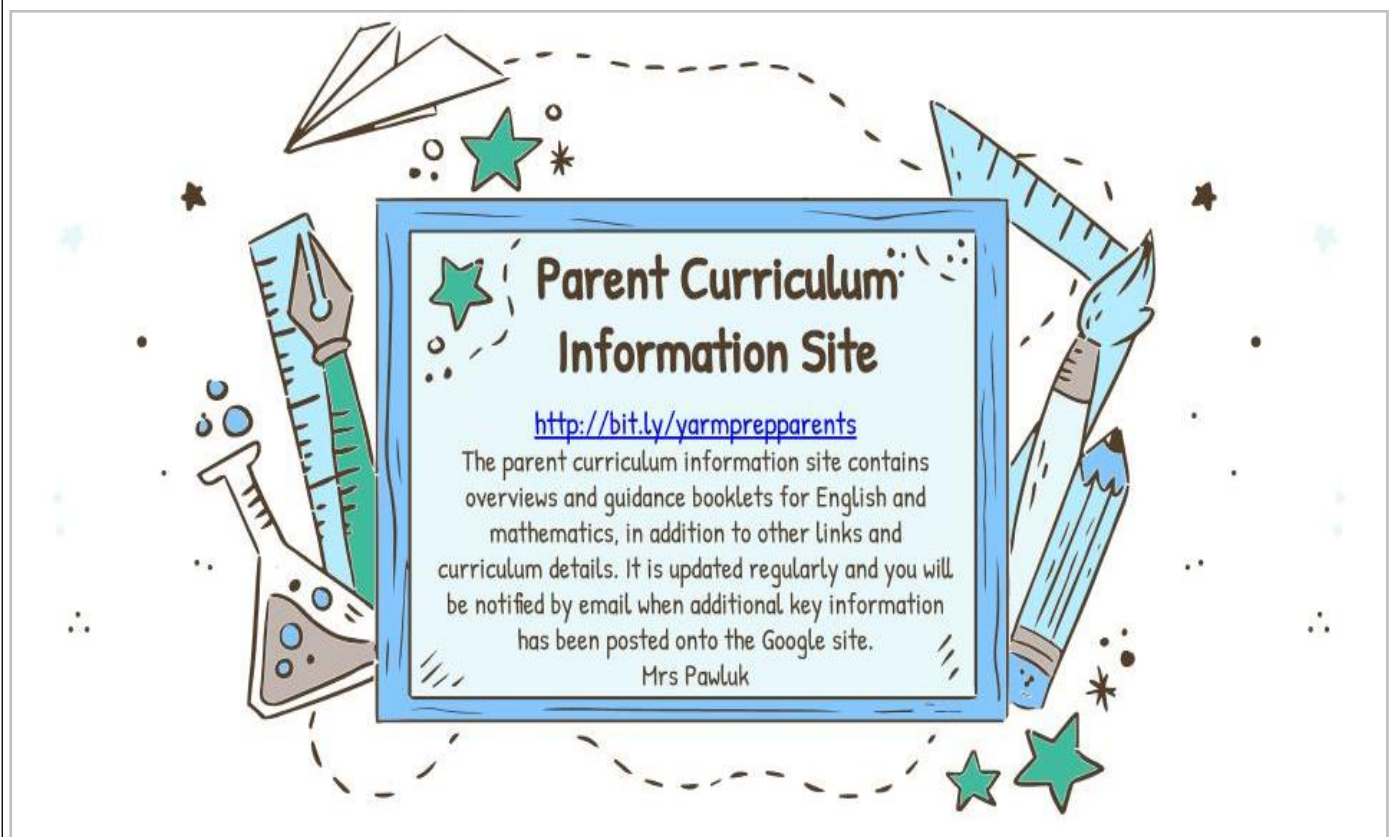
4J have been exploring The Water Cycle. They produced these wonderful models of how the cycle works!

Mrs Simpson



Year 6 Homework

6L have started their new humanities topic looking at mountains. Beatrix A. has produced this fascinating homework activity looking specifically at Mount Everest.



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](#).

Term Dates 2022/23

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).

Spring Term Clubs and Activities

Places are still available in the following after school clubs:
Tuesday Y5/6 Cricket; Wednesday Y3/4 Running Fun; Thursday Y3/4 Crazy Crafts; Thursday Y4/5 Journaling. If your child would like a place, please contact gns@yarmschool.org.

Mr Stone

Sustainability Week Poetry

Summers are too hot

And winters are too cold

Violent storms and devastating droughts

Each person affected and distressing every household.

Together we all need to do our part

Helping the atmosphere to heal

End the climate change before we depart.

Preserving the gifts of Mother Nature

Leads to wonders of a brilliant future

Actions to be taken

No excuses to be given

Each and every person can make a difference

To save Earth should be our reference.

Manha A.

House Typing Competition

Congratulations to Brunel who won the first ever House Typing competition. Every child in Years 3-6 took part, spending time in a computing lesson to complete an assessment on *Typing Club*. Once complete, their words per minute (WPM) score was logged, with the average for each house calculated.

Brunel, across the four year groups, scored a nicely rounded 19.00 words per minute, beating Telford into second place who scored 18.31WPM. Stephenson finished 3rd with 18.29 WPM, knocking Arkwright into fourth with 17.23 WPM.

The speediest typists across the school were: Arvind Kumar (Y6, Stephenson, 37WPM), Ciara Winters (Y6, Brunel, 36 WPM) and Jessica Farrell (Y6, Telford, 36WPM). Well done to all who took part!

Overall House Point Standings: Stephenson 1075 points, Arkwright 825, Brunel 725, Telford 625.

Baselayers

Children can wear baselayers when coming to school in PE and games kit, especially on these colder days. Navy baselayers are preferred.

Mr Stone



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 off at a Prep reception.



Thank you!

Coming Up at the PAA

Little Red Riding Hood - 19th February 2023, 2pm



A wolf in granny's clothing knows all about what fun dressing-up can be and in Little Red Riding Hood our magical wardrobe opens its doors to a fantastic display of gorgeous garments. We will take you down the path into the snowy wild wood where you'll hear catchy songs on the wind and spot hilarious puppets between the trees.

We're sure you'll say what a great show we've got – all the better to thrill you with!

"50 minutes of pure childhood joy!" *number9reviews*

For ages 3-8. 50 mins.

Ministry of Science - 21st February 2023, 2pm



This year saw Science lead the way in getting our lives back to normal. Now, the UK's favourite science team are back and more explosive than ever!

Join our presenters as they dive deep into the world of science and look at how science shapes the modern world we live in with a few loud bangs along the way!

They'll take an anarchic approach to science communication whilst looking at the scientists, engineers and inventors who have shaped the modern world that we live in whilst proving that each and everyone of you have the ability to change our world for the better!

Expect 20ft LIQUID NITROGEN clouds, exploding OXYGEN & HYDROGEN balloons, FIRE TORNADOS, HYDROGEN bottle rockets, ignited METHANE and even a self-built Hovercraft!

100% Educational. 200% Entertaining. 300% Explosive. 400% Fun.

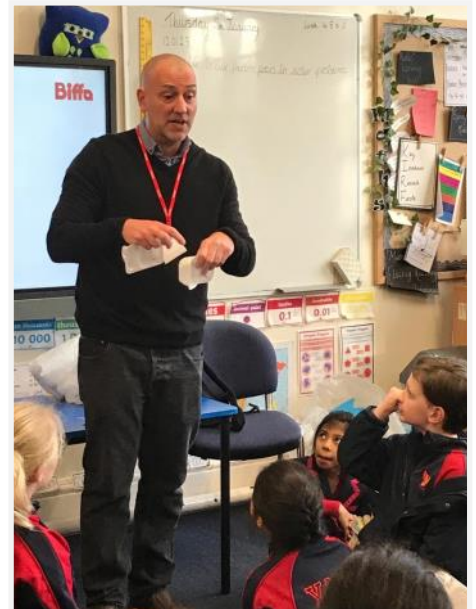
Sustainability Week visit to Year 4

Last Thursday, Mr Slattery came into school to talk about sustainability with the Year Four children. Our new humanities



topic is 'Global Caretakers' and this visit proved to be a super start to launch it. Mr Slattery works for Biffa and he explained that the company has depots all over the world and that one of its recent developments is in the North East at Redcar. Here, milk cartons are recycled and the percentage currently being recycled is 70% which means that it is likely that the milk we buy will be in a recycled container.

Mr Slattery also talked about the influence of the television programme 'Blue Planet' which helped to raise awareness of the ways in which plastic is damaging our environment. We were also given some top tips about recycling at home including the



importance of washing out any containers thoroughly to reduce the risk of contamination. The session ended with a sorting activity using a large selection of different waste materials which was great fun but also informative.

Do you know that Pringles containers can not be recycled because of the foil layer on the inside of the cardboard tube? Our thanks go to Mr Slattery for coming to school and giving us such an interesting presentation.

Mrs Jones

STAY SAFE ON NEW DEVICES

be suspicious of new information

**SHOW
RESPECT
TO OTHERS**

**TELL A TRUSTED ADULT
IF SOMETHING UPSETS YOU**

**DON'T
CHAT WITH
STRANGERS**

**BE HONEST
WITH PARENTS
& CARERS**

ASK PERMISSION
*before
downloading
anything*

AVOID SHARING PRIVATE PHOTOS

Don't give away
personal
information

Stick to trusted apps

**TAKE NOTICE
OF AGE
RESTRICTIONS**



**DOUBLE CHECK
YOUR NEWS
SOURCES**



**National
Online
Safety®**
#WakeUpWednesday

Key Dates

JANUARY 2023

Mon 23	House Chess begins POSTPONED UNTIL MARCH
Tue 24	Primary Schools Singing Day (PAA) U8 Netball & Football workshops with St Peter's (away; 2.15pm start, 4.30pm return)
Thu 26	VEX IQ Robotics Competition U9 Football v Newcastle School for Boys (away; 2pm start, 4.15pm return)
Fri 27	Inter-School Quiz Championship—Regional Heat U10 Hockey v Barnard Castle (home; 2pm start) U11 Football v Barnard Castle (home; 2pm start) U10 Netball v Barnard Castle (home; 2pm start) U11 Netball v Whinney Banks Primary (home; 2.15pm start)
Mon 30	Year 6 Drama Week Activities Carousel 3 beings (Y4-6)
Tue 31	Curiosity Emporium (Library; 1pm)

FEBRUARY 2023

Wed 1	Food Council (Hall; 1pm)
Fri 3	Year 6 Drama Week performance to parents (Prep Hall; 4.15pm) AF Steadman author visit for Year 5 (PAA; 9.30-11am) U11 Netball & Hockey v Pocklington (Home; 2.15pm start) U10 Netball & Hockey v Pocklington (away; 2pm start, 5pm return)
Mon 6	Internet Safety Workshop for Digital Leaders Y3 Activities Carousel 4 begins (S/T still swimming)
Tue 7	Safer Internet Day

6W in Children Challenging Industry workshop

U8 Netball v Cundall Manor

(away; 2pm start, 3.45pm return)

VMT Parents' Evening

(Senior School; 4-7pm)

Wed 8 Internet Safety Talk for Parents

(Prep Hall; with PCSO Barrett; 4pm)

Thu 9 Year 3 Trip to Centre for Life, Newcastle

Fri 10 U10 Netball v St Peter's

(away; 2pm start, 4.45pm return)

U10 Hockey Triangular fixture with Ashville

(away; 2pm start, 4.45pm return)

U11 Hockey v Teesside High

(home; 2pm start)

U11 Netball v St Peter's

(home; 2pm start)

Sun 12 Y6 Group to Twickenham for 6 Nations Match

Mon 13 **STEAM WEEK**

Sofia Windfarm workshop for Year 5

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

Solution to previous Head's Challenge:

20

Celebration Assembly

	Values	Endeavour
3B	Hugo K.	Takashi Y.
3H	Paari M.	Robert W.
4G	Jenson C.	Felicity W.
4J	Alia M.	Stan D.
4N	Amaya S.	Ciny Z.
5F	Alice S.	Lewis D.
5H	Anika S.	Will B.
5K	Niall E.	James A.
6G	All of 6G	
6H	All of 6H	
6L	All of 6L	
6W	All of 6W	