

The Phoenix Flier

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

Issue 731—3rd February 2023

INSIDE THIS WEEK... Quiz teams reach national semi-finals... Year 6 Drama Week... VEX Robots

A message from Mr Sawyer

Welcome to this week's edition of the Phoenix Flier which summarises a week in the life of Yarm Prep. As you will no doubt already know, there is lots going on at our school and we place great store on the culture we foster. Within this, learning to work together is a key feature of our environment and our School Values. We focus on collaboration, problem solving and curiosity through the *resourceful* root of our values tree. Lessons, assemblies and the extra curricular side of Yarm Prep give rise to many opportunities for these skills to develop. It is a real joy to see the pupils embrace the chance to work together and spur each other on. It helps them to develop better personal and social competence which are the key aspects of emotional intelligence (EQ). Much research has shown that EQ is the single most powerful success factor yet known about, affecting everything from performance in the workplace, to mood and the quality of one's personal life. According to World Economic Forum research, 90% of all top performers are high in EQ. It's therefore so important that we all continue to encourage our children to collaborate on many levels. After all, they are the future and we should prime them for it!

As a school we are gearing up for much resourceful learning as we prepare for our annual STEAM week which takes place the week before half term. This year the focus is on sustainability and there are a brilliant range of workshops and companies visiting us to set minds racing and inspire group projects. Please see the request for recycled materials in the forthcoming pages. Your help in this regard would be much appreciated. It certainly looks set to be a brilliant week of STEAM adventures. Bring it on!

Bill Sawyer

Head's Challenge: As big as a mountain, or small as a pea, I'm endlessly swimming in a waterless sea. What am I?

Photo of the Week: Year 6 have been having a great time during their Drama Week this week!



Tooled Up Education

Did you know that it's *National Storytelling Week*? Encouraging storytelling and a love of reading, writing and telling stories is something that we continuously advocate here at Tooled Up. Take a look at all of our [book lists](#) and check out our top tips on cultivating a [love of reading](#) and [creative writing](#).

As always, we have also been busy planning a whole range of exclusive online events for you that are all available to [book](#) on our website. Here's what's on next week:

[Practical Strategies for Parents in Supporting Children with Dyslexia: February 7, 2023, 7:30pm GMT](#)

Supporting a child with dyslexia can sometimes feel confusing and you might not be sure what to do or how to best approach things. We consult two practitioners who are adept at working on a 1:1 basis with children and can provide both inspiration and ideas for busy parents.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

[Developing an Understanding of Disability and Self-advocacy Skills for Children and Young People: February 10, 2023, 12:30pm GMT](#)

We talk to educational psychologist and PhD researcher, Miranda Eodanable, about the importance of self-advocacy when it comes to empowering children and young people living with a disability, from childhood into adulthood.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Of course, we upload all recordings of our webinars to the Tooled Up [library](#). You can, for instance, find last week's interview with trailblazing [Rugby](#) player and ex-headteacher, Floyd Steadman OBE, who will inspire interested parents or budding young athletes with his astonishing story.

And just to remind you: If you don't want to miss any of our latest news, resource updates or upcoming events, make sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) or [LinkedIn](#)!

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.

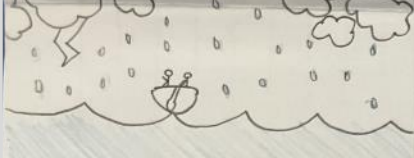





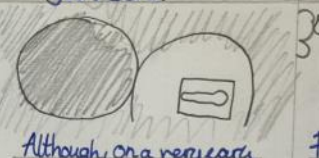
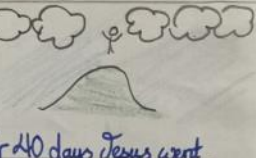
A quick reminder As a parent at a Tooled Up school, you have full unlimited access to the Tooled Up library. If you have not created your account yet, click [here to register for an account](#). It takes less than 2 minutes to enter your details and unique school PIN: YPSII03 and if you need assistance, 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



Developing an Understanding of Disability and Self-advocacy skills for Children and Young People

Year 6 Homework

 <p>Jesus, the son of god, taught the people about god's love and performed many miracles such as calming waves, curing illness and more. Although, the Jewish did not like him and decided to arrest him.</p>	 <p>Soon after they decided to arrest him to get rid of him. Judas - one of Jesus's disciples said he would betray him and get money from the religious leaders to tell them where Jesus was.</p>	 <p>Jesus was praying with his disciples when the Jewish leaders came to arrest him and he was taken to the court and got called guilty for lying about being god's son.</p>	 <p>They took Jesus to the Roman ruler Pilate and Pilate didn't think he did - n't do anything wrong and said he would be punished and then would be set free.</p>
 <p>Although, the crowd got so mad Pilate had no choice. He was to be beaten, the crucified. Jesus was badly beaten and was forced to heave his own cross up the hill top and plant it. They compelled a passer-by (Simon of Cyrene) to pull his cross up for him as he could not do it himself. Jesus could barely support his own weight.</p>	 <p>By afternoon, the sky was stormy. Three hours later, Jesus took his last breathe on top of the hill and died. As soon as he died, the curtain in the temple that seperated the priest from god's holy place tore apart. A soldier realised that he was really god's son.</p>	 <p>Although, on a very early Sunday, the woman who cared for Jesus came to his tomb, and to her surprise he wasn't there. An angel came down and told her that it was okay and that Jesus had risen. The cancer remembered he would rise on the 3rd day.</p>	 <p>For 40 days Jesus went around to his disciples proving he was alive. After that, for the final time he rose up into the clouds to heaven.</p>

The Easter Story by Sumi K. (above); My Sports Schedule by Ethan C. (below)

	21st January SATURDAY	22nd January SUNDAY	23rd January MONDAY	24th January TUESDAY	25th January WEDNESDAY	26th January THURSDAY	27th January FRIDAY
08:00							
08:30							
09:00							
09:30							
10:00							
10:30	Football Training	Football Match					
11:00	Football Training	Football Match					
11:30	Football Training	Football Match		Games	PE		
12:00		Football Match		Games	PE		
12:30		Football Match		Games			
13:00							
13:30							
14:00							Games
14:30							Games
15:00							Games
15:30						Rugby Training	Games
16:00						Rugby Training	
16:30						Rugby Training	
17:00				BJJ JuJitsu			BJJ JuJitsu
17:30			Football Training	BJJ JuJitsu		Football Training	BJJ JuJitsu
18:00			Football Training			Football Training	
18:30			Football Training			Football Training	

PE and Games News



Under 10/11 Football

With slightly warmer temperatures than recent weeks, the under 10/11 boys had a fantastic afternoon of football against Durham Chorister School. It was pleasing to see all of the boys supporting each other throughout some extremely close fixtures. A particular highlight was the comprehensive 6-2 victory of the Year 5 team who were challenged against a strong Year 6 Chorister side with lots of talent in the team themselves. Well done Yarm!

Mr Hutchcraft

Under 10 Hockey

It was a pleasure to host Barnard Castle on Friday on what turned out to be a pleasant afternoon and a fairly even contest. Yarm acquitted themselves effectively, doing well in defence as well as attack. Their sporting behaviour and willingness to give things a go made this a thoroughly enjoyable experience. Well done.

Mr Underwood

Under 10/11 Netball

It has been a busy few days and great to see all our U10 and U11s in action v Barnard Castle and Whinney Banks Primary School in netball fixtures. Well done to all who took part.

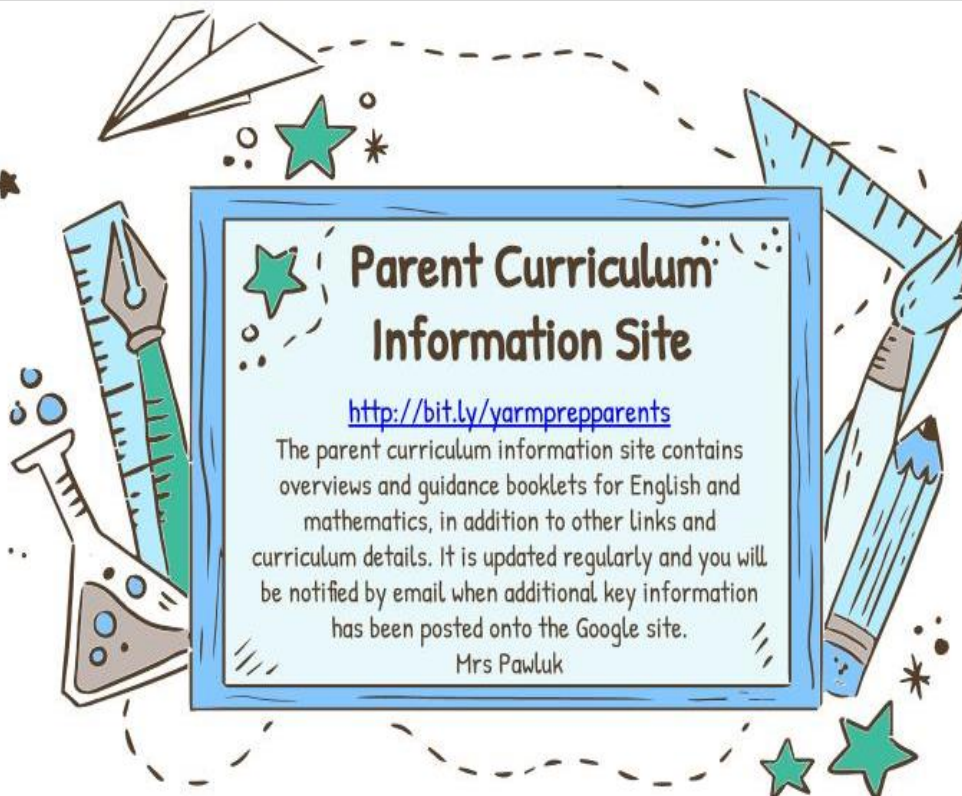
Mrs Redhead-Sweeney



Year 6 Drama Week

A sneak preview of what Year 6 have been up to this week with Miss Maenami and Mr Brookes from the Senior School. Can you guess what 'still life' the children are creating in these images?

Mr Stone



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).

Quiz Teams Reach Semis

Well done to our three teams who are competing in the National Schools Quiz Club Competition, organised by Quiz Club. During the opening heat last week, all of the teams qualified for the semi-finals in a very competitive round which was dominated by teams from Haberdashers' Aske's Boys School in Hertfordshire.



Team 1, comprising of Takashi Y., Manha A., Hannah C. and Marawan S. led at the halfway point but a difficult fourth round saw them drop to 7th and eventually finish 5th with a score of 1575 points.



Aditi K., Olivia T., Benjamin F. and Monty v N. made up Team 2 and they had a rollercoaster of competition, dropping to as low as 25th at one state and finishing a strong 9th with 1390 points. Team 3 (Robert W., Holly B., Brian F. and Thomas F.) were leaders after the first round and



continued to score consistently, finishing the heat in 12th.

Once again our teams continue their high standards in quiz competitions and while all agreed the questions were incredibly tough for a heat, they go into the semi-finals with confidence. Well done everyone!

Mr Stone

Year 6 Telford Dance Activity

Well done to Telford in Year 6, who worked their socks off and performed energetically in their Monday carousel dance activity. They should be proud of themselves!

[To watch Telford perform their dance, click here.](#)

Miss Whitehouse

VEX IQ Robotics competition

A massive well done to all the children who took part in the VEX IQ competition at the Nissan car plant in Sunderland. Our team showed some amazing building, driving, coding and communication skills. The children represented our school extraordinarily well. They were confident in approaching other teams, organised and focussed. Arvind Kumar was an excellent team leader and everyone worked brilliantly together. We showed resilience and great team spirit, helping us to achieve second place in the teamwork challenge.

Miss Ward



This was the best competition I have ever done in my whole life! The competition was very fun and amazingly educational and all of the VEX IQ staff were very nice to the VEX IQ squad! We got to learn how to create a moving robot and every one got to have an amazing time thanks to Miss Ward. All of the VEX IQ team had an amazing time and learned so much about coding and engineering.

Alice S.

6H Science



The children in 6H were having fun looking at how yeast works in the production of bread.

Mr Harandon

More year 6 Homework



A picture with a hidden meaning by Anjali R.

Brunel Sustainable Craft



Year 5 created some amazing artwork during their first Sustainable Craft session this week. Well done Brunel!

Mrs Hart

STEAM Week

We will be launching our 'Green' STEAM week on Friday 11th February. This year the theme is about looking after the environment, climate change and sustainability. Children will be taking part in a variety of challenges and workshops. We will be welcoming Sofia Windfarm, Climate Action Middlesbrough, the Royal Institution and the Tees Valley River Trust to school, amongst others. We would appreciate your help in making the week a success. Please could we ask for donations of:

- Lots of brown cardboard boxes
- Lots of pre-loved clothing or old fabric/ tablecloths/sheets/curtains etc.
- Small empty clear plastic drinks bottles
- Plastic bags
- Bottle tops
- Juice cartons like this:



Many thanks for your support.

Miss Ward

Digital Leaders

Our Digital Leaders have been learning how to use the virtual reality (VR) headsets and how to run a session with a group of pupils this week. Next, they will be sharing what they have learnt with their classes, children in the Pre-Prep and our partnership schools.

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.

12 Top Tips for BUILDING CYBER RESILIENCE AT HOME

As a society, we're increasingly using technology and tech services in the home. Digital assistants which can adjust the heating or turn lights on and off; streaming services for shows and movies on demand; games consoles; smart speakers; phones; laptops ... the list goes on. As we introduce each new gizmo to our homes, however, we increase the level of threat from cyber criminals. It's essential, therefore, that we learn to become more cyber resilient in relation to the devices and digital services that the people in our household use.

WHAT IS 'CYBER RESILIENCE'?

Cyber resilience focuses on three key areas: reducing the likelihood of a cyber attack gaining access to our accounts, devices or data; reducing the potential impact of a cyber incident; and making the recovery from a cyber attack easier, should we ever fall victim to one.

1. PASSWORDS: LONGER AND LESS PREDICTABLE

The longer, less common and predictable a password is, the more difficult it becomes for cyber criminals to crack. The National Cyber Security Centre's 'three random words' guidelines are ideal for creating a long password which is easy to remember but hard to guess.

2. AVOID RE-USING PASSWORDS

When you use the same password across different logins, your cyber resilience is only as strong as the security of the weakest site or service you've signed up for. If cyber criminals gain access your username and password for one site or service, they'll definitely try them on others.

3. USE A PASSWORD MANAGER

A good way to juggle different passwords for every site or service you use is to have a password manager. This software stores all your passwords for you, so you simply need to remember the master password. LastPass, Dashlane, 1Password and Keeper are all excellent password managers.

4. BACK UP YOUR DATA

Keep a copy of your data using OneDrive, Google Drive or another reputable cloud-based storage solution. If it's extremely important or sensitive information, you could even decide to keep more than one back-up version – by saving it to a removable USB drive or similar device, for example.

5. ENABLE MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION (MFA)

Multi-factor authentication is where you need access to your phone (to receive a code, for example) or another source to confirm your identity. This makes it far more difficult for cyber criminals to gain entry to your accounts and your data, even if they do manage to get your username and password.

6. CHOOSE RECOVERY QUESTIONS WISELY

Some services let you set 'recovery questions' – such as your birthplace or a pet's name – in case you forget your password. Take care not to use information you might have mentioned (or are likely to in future) on social media. More unpredictable answers make cyber criminals' task far harder.

7. SET UP SECONDARY ACCOUNTS

Some services provide the facility to add secondary accounts, phone numbers and so on to help with potentially recovering your account. Make sure you set these up: they will be vital if you're having trouble logging in or if you're trying to take back control of your account after a cyber attack.

12. STAY SCEPTICAL

Cyber criminals commonly use various methods, including emails, text messages and social media posts. Be cautious of any messages or posts that are out of the ordinary, offer something too good to be true or emphasise urgency – even if they appear to come from someone you know.

11. KEEP HOME DEVICES UPDATED

Download official software updates for your household's mobile phones, laptops, consoles and other internet-enabled devices regularly. Security improvements and fixes are a key feature of these updates – so by ensuring each device is running the latest version, you're making them more secure.

10. CHANGE DEFAULT IOT PASSWORDS

Devices from the 'Internet of Things' (IoT), such as 'smart' home appliances, are often supplied with default passwords. This makes them quicker to set up, but also less secure – criminals can identify these standard passwords more easily, so change them on your IoT devices as soon as possible.

9. CHECK FOR BREACHES

You can check if your personal information has been involved in any known data breaches by entering your email address at www.haveibeenpwned.com (yes, that spelling is correct!). It's useful if you're worried about a possible attack – or simply as motivation to review your account security.

8. KEEP HAVING FUN WITH TECH

Consider our tips in relation to the gadgets and online services your household uses. Protect yourself and your family, and don't let the bad guys win: devices are not only integral to modern life but also a lot of fun – so as long as you keep safety and security in mind, don't stop enjoying your tech.

Meet Our Expert

Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that adults and children alike become more aware of the risks associated with technology, as well as the many benefits.



Source: www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/top-tips-for-staying-secure-online/three-random-word | <https://haveibeenpwned.com>

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Key Dates

FEBRUARY 2023

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 4
Wed 15	Royal Institute Science talk (Y3-6) Prep Duologues launched In2Hockey Boys' County Round (Home; 3pm) U10/11 Girls; Rugby v Dame Allan's (Green Lane; 3pm)
Thu 16	Half-term begins (after school) After School Care as usual
Mon 27	Pupils return Y6 girls to Nissan Skills Foundation (all day)
Tue 28	House Pancake Races Jeans for Genes Day

School Council (1pm)
U8 Netball & Hockey with Ashville
(away; 2.15pm start, 5pm return)

MARCH 2023

Wed 1	HMC Football & Netball (at Hymers School; 11am start, 5pm return)
Thu 2	World Book Day (children in fancy dress) In2Hockey North-East Finals (TBC)
Fri 3	U10/11 Netball v Cundall Manor (home; 2.15pm start) U11 Hockey v St Peter's (home; 2.15pm start) U10 Hockey v St Peter's (away; 2.15pm start, 4.30pm return)

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

Solution to previous Head's Challenge:

Napoleon Bonaparte / Frederick the Great

Celebration Assembly

	Values	Endeavour
3B	Jude C.	Francesca S.
3H	Sajan G.	Emma W.
4G	Martha L.	Imogen C.
4J	Alice W.	Holly B.
4N	Henry S.	Olivia T.
5F	Miles P.	Ella L.
5H	William L.	Georgie W.
5K	Lolwa S.	Anika S.
6G	Nona D.	Noah A.
6H	Tiger C.	Emma A.
6L	Beatrix A.	Beatriz G.
6W	Samuel E.	Violet M.

Head Teacher Awards:

Year 3: Hugo P.

Year 5: Sylvia D., Rebecca N. (2), Thea S., Florence A., Alex P., Georgie W., Harry H., Eric PF., Ella L., Tallulah M., Benjamin F., George P., Erin G.

Year 6: Seth T.