

# The Phoenix Flier

## The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

Issue 739—28th April 2023

INSIDE THIS WEEK... Edinburgh Sports Tour...Year 4 planting hedges...Knockout chess...

### A message from Mr Sawyer

**W**elcome to the first edition of the Phoenix Flier for this term which aims to give you a weekly round up of school life whilst also looking ahead to what is coming up. I do hope that the holidays were well enjoyed. From the conversations I have had with members of the school community there have certainly been some memorable adventures for many. Whilst we have been away there has been much going on which includes the Year 6 Sports Tour to Edinburgh and another successful Holiday School. I am grateful to all of the staff involved in these aspects of our provision which clearly help to make lasting and happy memories. You will no doubt have also noticed the progress in recent weeks of the building works. We are now at a stage in the construction process whereby the external envelope is being secured, the internal wall structure built and the roof installed. It is certainly moving along well!

It has been superb to see the pupils return after the break full of excitement about the next few months ahead of them. Our summer sports programme is underway, a new activities and clubs programme for the term has begun and there are residential trips, concerts and vibrant learning opportunities ahead of us all. It is an action packed term, so please keep an eye on the back pages of the Flier each week which highlights what is coming up.

*Bill Sawyer*

**Head's Challenge:** What can bring you back the dead; make you cry, make you laugh, make you young; is born in an instant, yet lasts a lifetime.



**Photo of the Week:** Following on from their week during STEAM Week, Year 4 have been working this week with OASES by planting hedges by the amphitheatre.

## Tooled Up Education

Feeling stressed out? We've got your back! Join us for a series of webinars over the next few weeks that will help you tackle stress like a pro.

Don't miss our [lunchtime webinar](#), on April 28th, with Dr Monica Thompson, a clinical psychologist with expertise in stress management for busy parents.

On May 9th, join us for a [30-minute Q&A](#) with Dr Gauri Seth, a psychiatrist and parent coach who will share valuable insights on sustaining emotional connections with your children despite your busy schedule.

Looking for more [resources](#)? With a huge range of content in the Tooled Up library ranging from articles on children's relationship with nature to quizzes on clouds and James Bond, we hope you can always find what you need. If not, our new [A-Z of frequently asked parenting questions](#) will help you locate advice and support in no time.

Last but not least, we're excited to share another one of our latest creations - a [visual resource](#) inspired by Professor Marc Brackett's work on emotional literacy. This fun tool encourages young children to become "emotion scientists" and helps them identify different words to describe their emotions.

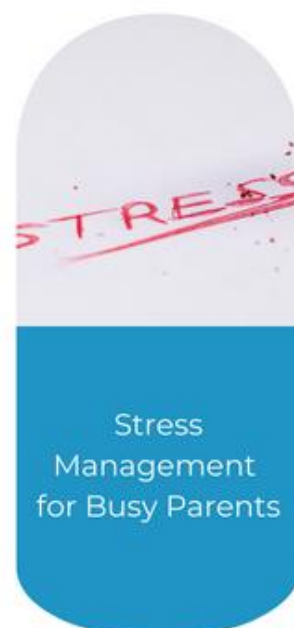
So what are you waiting for? Let's beat stress together! [Book your spot](#) for our webinars and explore our amazing [resources](#).

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!

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](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.

*Dr Kathy Weston*



## Year 4 Hedge Planting

Pupils from Year 4 were excited to plant a new hedge on the school grounds with help from OASES (Outdoor and Sustainability Education Specialists). They spent time investigating the different tree species, and considering what wildlife might visit the trees, before getting outside.

### Miss Ward

Hedgerows are a habitat for animals including insects and birds which hide under or in the hedgerows. Hedges are a mixture of bushes and small trees and to grow one you need the saplings to be at an average of 30-45cm.

Bamboo canes need to be put next to the saplings so that they can grow straight. There are many different species to grow such as hawthorn, rowan, dogwood and holly.

### Kaiden G.

I learned that you have to get a specific type of tree to put in your hedge. It has to be small and it has to provide food. We didn't know what type of tree we planted for the hedgerow, but if I was going to make one I would use a Crab apple tree or a cherry tree because they are small and they provide food.

To plant a hedge we dug out a hole with a shovel, put our plant in, got the mud and crumbled it up around the plant. The distance you plant a hedge is 20cm - 30cm apart.

### Emily Q.

On Monday we planted hedges because we realised we could always do with more greenery around school. We

started off by digging a hole in the ground and then placing the saplings in the centre of the hole. We then filled them up with the soil we dug out. We planted two saplings per pair which will hopefully turn into a hedgerow and natural habitats.

### Imogen C.



## Year 6 Edinburgh Sports Tour

Exhilarated, I woke up at 2:00 am so eager to get on the bus to Edinburgh. I lay in bed thinking about all the exciting things we were going to do. Eventually, I fell asleep after an hour of trying. Suddenly, two hands were shaking me and pulling the duvet of my bed. Confused, I looked at my clock and saw it was 4:30 am, which meant it was time for Edinburgh. Thrilled, I leapt out of bed a little too quickly, making me wobble a bit. Quickly I chose my outfit and did some last minute packing and swiftly got in the car.

When I got to School it was very dark and everyone seemed half asleep. As soon as I got out of the car it started pouring down with rain: which made the teachers quickly move us all onto the bus. I sat next to Ellie who seemed very giddy and not tired at all. Smiling, I tried not to fall asleep as there was so much to talk about: fixtures, rooms, the food, the hotel and souvenirs. Within a matter of time, I had fallen asleep only to be woken up by an annoyed Ellie telling me she was bored and hungry which made me wonder when we would be getting food. After two hours of starvation, we stopped at the border between Scotland and England where they gave us each 2 mini croissants. We didn't spend too much time outside though it was way too cold and we still had an hour's journey left.

After the long bus journey was over we stopped at Peebles High School. I was chosen to play netball. We arrived at their school and played a really good game but unfortunately we lost, but it was all forgotten when they gave us each a bag of crisps and some chocolate. After playing all that



netball, hockey and rugby we were all pretty hungry and tired so we stopped at Pizza Express where I sat with Ciara, Pippa, Darcey and Harlowe. I got a lasagne for my main and a chocolate cake with vanilla ice cream for dessert.

Eventually, it got to the moment we had all been waiting for: rooms. Anxious, I knew whoever I was put with I would be happy but the intense feeling in the air made me nervous. My name was then called and I was told I was in a room with Ellie. Relief flooded through me; she was who I was hoping for. We got to our room and looked around and unpacked eager to discuss everything and our fixture.

I started to get really excited when we went down to the hotel lobby and we were going to take a bus to the Women's Six Nations Scotland vs Wales game. When we got there everyone couldn't wait for it to start. Me and Beatrix were allowed to hold a Scottish flag, we were even on television! After the game was finished I was basically asleep. We arrived back at the hotel where I ate some chicken and had some banana bread for dessert. After a shower, I hauled myself out and fell asleep on the bed completely knocked out.

*Dorothy W.*

I really enjoyed Edinburgh. It was a good tour, I never thought a sport tour could be so fun. Rugby was amazing on the first day we went to Peebles and played Year 7! The next day we played a festival. We had six games and it was tiring. We did some other fun things; like going to the Women's Six Nations game Scotland vs Wales. It was a truly entertaining game and going to Edinburgh Zoo there were penguins and pandas. If you wanted to see a lion or a tiger you could. This was a great tour and I am so glad that I was able to go.

*Udham C.*

The Edinburgh Sports Tour was extremely fun. I found the whole experience amazing. It was such a great opportunity! It was full of cool activities, let alone sports. I enjoyed it all but if I had to pick my favourite activity I would have to say rugby was fun! I was so disappointed to part from the trip before the end, the reason was I sustained an injury. Although it was bad I still loved every minute of it and would love to take part again.

I didn't miss any rugby and that being my favourite part that was a win! We also went to a rugby match itself, it was a Six Nations match. It was Scotland v Wales. It was so exciting. The atmosphere was brilliant! Before it started you could feel the tension in the air and the noise was deafening!

*Jack S.*



# Will's Adventure

Will G. (4J) and his father were attempting to climb Scafell Pike at the start of the Easter holidays and overnight wild camp along the way. As per their first attempt that saw strong winds force them to descend, Will was again carrying all equipment (approx 8kg) for the initial 3.5 hour hike.

After a successful first hike they set up camp and prepared for the summit in the morning. An amazing clear night meant that they were able to enjoy some stargazing.

Unfortunately Will woke at 4am vomiting. This was quite sudden and severe, but being dark and -1c outside, they had no option other than to wait it out and keep warm.

Will continued to be sick, unable to eat anything at all (not even Haribo!) and sips of water just resulted in more vomiting which in a small confined space was a challenge itself.

As day broke they packed up and prepared to descend. Will's dad strapped his pack to his and tried to assist Will who was still throwing up violently. About 5-10 minutes into the descent Will's health was deteriorating. He was tough throughout with no complaining, but with strong winds and minus temperatures, it was clear they could not continue safely.

Will was exhausted due to the sickness, drifting in and out of sleep and vomiting continuously. His father requested assistance from Mountain Rescue via their satellite communications. After 7 hours from the start of his illness, help arrived from Keswick Mountain Rescue and Great North Air Ambulance Service (GNAAS).

After being checked over by paramedics Will and his father were airlifted to safety. He continued to be ill for another full day once home.

Will wants to show his gratitude personally to rescue services and has now decided to climb all 3 peaks (Scafell Pike 978m, Snowden 1085m and Ben Nevis 1345m) this year in order to raise awareness and funding for both charities.

**[Will's Just Giving page can be found by clicking here.](#) Any donations and support for Will would be greatly received.**



**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 the Prep reception.



*Thank you!*

## PE and Games News

We have hit the ground running with all girls having their first cricket lesson of the year. It was great to see the enthusiasm from them all and their knowledge base which we will endeavour to build upon each week.

*Mrs Redhead-Sweeney*



## Easter Holiday School



## 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](#).

## Contact Details

Please don't forget to inform the school office of any changes to your contact details, namely mobile number, address or email address so that we can contact you in the event of an emergency.

Mrs White

## Chess News

In the week the annual knockout chess competition commenced, we have been delighted to welcome 32 new additions to our school! Mr Evans has very kindly filled each large chess piece with a concrete mix to stop them rolling about in the wind.



Mr Grundmann



## Coming Up at the PAA

**[Crazy Comedy Company](#)**—Sunday 4th June, 2.30pm

Described as 'utterly hilarious for all ages' and 'the best family show, the Crazy Comedy Company Family Show is coming to Yarm on Sunday 4th June at 2.30pm.

The perfect family treat, you can eat, drink and giggle at the family show with plenty of beans! Enjoy hilariously creative comedy sketches, mysterious magic, music, and circus skills... and much more...



**BBC Big Band**—Friday 5th May, 7.30pm

**The BBC Big Band: Featuring Claire Martin, The Swing Legends and Big Band Divas**

The internationally acclaimed BBC Big Band are joined by multi award winning vocalist, Claire Martin, for an evening of world-class music, inspired by the great Swing bands and legendary jazz vocalists of the Twentieth Century.



# CUPCAKE COMPETITION

Enter our Coronation cupcake competition and win a £5 coin

Bake and decorate a cupcake of your choice and bring it to the lunch cabin on Thursday 4th May 2023 before lunchtime

Our panel of judges will choose the lucky winner at 2pm.

Terms & Conditions: Please enter one cupcake only which is to be brought into school on the date of the competition stated above. All cupcakes will be judged on appearance and creativity only. Nuts must not be used in any recipe, as well as any other ingredients banned by the school.

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 areas 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 OFCOM'S 'CHILDREN AND PARENTS: MEDIA USE AND ATTITUDES' REPORT 2023

Each year, Ofcom – Britain's regulatory body for communications – produces an overview of children and parents' media experiences across the previous year. The latest version has just been released, and we've pulled out some of the report's most thought-provoking findings which relate to online safety ...

97%

of children had access to the internet at home in 2022

89%

of children played video games

25%

played with people they didn't know

22%

talked to people they didn't know

## POPULAR PLATFORMS

Most used by under-18s were ...



YouTube: 88%



TikTok: 53%

WhatsApp: 55%



Snapchat: 46%

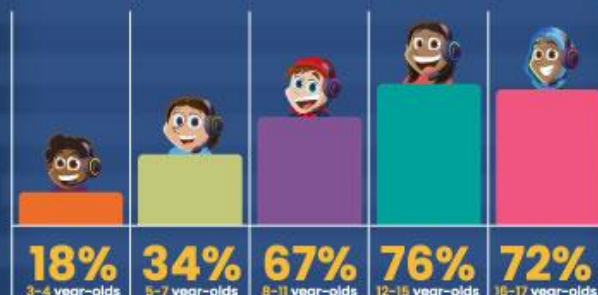


Instagram: 41%

LIVE

## PLAYING GAMES ONLINE

Who's playing – and at which age?



## TALE OF THE TECH

Devices most often used to go online:



75% of 3-4s use tablets



86% of 5-7s use tablets



70% of 8-11s use tablets



96% of 12-15s use phones



97% of 16-17s use phones

## PARENTAL CONCERNS

Parents and carers most commonly worried about their child ...

75%

seeing age-inappropriate content

18 CENSORED

70%

being cyber-bullied online

70%

seeing pro-self-harm content

65%

giving out personal details to strangers



65%

having their data collected by companies



NOS National Online Safety  
#WakeUpWednesday

De\*#!

3 in 10

children had experienced someone being nasty or hurtful to them on apps or platforms.

70%

of 12 to 17-year-olds were confident in their ability to identify a fake profiles. But 23% were unable to do so when tested.



£38

children's average monthly spend on video games

# Key Dates

## APRIL 2023

Mon 24	<b>Prep clubs and activities begin</b>  Activities Carousel 4 begins (Y4-6)  Year 4 planting hedges
Tue 25	Whole School photograph (9am)  Mustard Seed Project assembly  Senior School Fashion Show (6-7pm; PAA(
Wed 26	Y4 Vindolanda residential—Zoom for parents (4pm)
Thu 27	Sustrans assembly
Fri 28	U11 Boys & Girls Cricket v Pocklington  (away; 2pm start, 5.30pm return)
Sun 30	UK Chess Challenge Mega Final  (PAA; 10am-5pm)

## MAY 2023

Mon 1	School closed; Bank Holiday
Tue 2	Knockout Chess begins  <b>Class photographs</b>
Wed 3	Informal Concert (Prep Hall; 4pm)
Fri 5	LAMDA examinations  U10 Boys’ Cricket v Cundall Manor  (home; 2pm start)  U10/11 Girls’ Cricket v Barnard Castle  (home; 2pm start)
Mon 8	<b>School closed; Bank Holiday</b>
Tue 9	Curiosity Emporium (1pm)  House Table Tennis begins  Stephenson House Duty  Brunel Charity Day
Wed 10	<b>Year 4 residential to Vindolanda departs</b>
Fri 12	Year 4 return from Vindolanda  U11 Girls’ Cricket v Durham School  (away; 2.15pm start, 4.45pm return)  U11 Boys’ Cricket v Cundall Manor  (away; 2pm start, 4.30pm return)

	U10 Boys’ Cricket v St Peters  (home; 2pm start)
Sat 13	<b>Open Morning (9am-12noon)</b>  <a href="#">You can find the Yarm School calendar by clicking here</a>

Solution to previous Head’s Challenge: Confidence

## Form & House Captains—Summer ‘23

	Captain	Vice-Captain
3B	Takashi Y.	Jana A.
3H	Sia S.	Bertie H.
4G	Bella M.	Fliss W.
4J	Stan D.	Felicity S.
4N	Rory B.	Evelyn C.
5F	Benjamin F.	Vadim S.
5H	Anika S.	Florence P.
5K	Rebecca N.	Satoshi Y.
6G	Anjali R.	Noah A.
6H	Harriet B.	Imogen P.
6L	Charlie M.	Seth T.
6W	Akansha M.	Jake M.
Arkwright	Pippa J.	Rehan K.
Brunel	Bea G.	Samuel E.
Stephenson	Sumi K.	Ben W.
Telford	Sid S.	Darcey-Rue R.