

The Phoenix Flier

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

Issue 743—26th May 2023

INSIDE THIS WEEK... Year 6 Lakes residential... Year 5 Drama Week... Summer Fair news...

A message from Mr Sawyer

Welcome to another edition of the Phoenix Flier, your weekly digest of the best of Prep School life. Last week saw Year 5 put on a brilliant display during their Drama Week which gave them the chance to work with a range of performing artists and actors across a number of workshops. Huge thanks go to the YPSSC who sponsored this for our girls and boys once again. Every session really showcased how our pupils are willing to embrace opportunities and collaborate. These are important attributes in the world today and they transcend school. Life is not always about being the best player in the team, knowing how to be the best team player ranks highly too. It allows the group to achieve great things and brings the best out in others. Having just returned from the Lake District, where our Year 6 pupils are enjoying their outdoor adventure week, it is clear that 'teamship' has been further embedded with this cohort too and it has helped them to navigate periods of challenge and adversity. At Yarm Prep, working effectively with others is part of our resourceful root in the School Values tree and we very much believe that together everyone achieves more!

Bill Sawyer

Head's Challenge: If there are three apples, and you take away two, how many do you have?



Photo of the Week: Beautiful weather greeted Year 6 in the Lake District this week, as they enjoyed four days of adventure during their residential week.

Tooled Up Education

With Mental Health Awareness Week last week, Tourettes Awareness Month recently starting, and both National Teen Self-Esteem Month and Maternal Mental Health Month running throughout May, we know that it can feel like almost every day brings with it a different 'national day, week or month' to highlight. Unless we consider each issue more deeply, some of these events can feel a little tokenistic.

Nonetheless, they provide a good nudge for us to remind you of the plethora of topics covered in the [Tooled Up library](#), which now contains well in excess of 600 resources to support you, at *any time* of the day, month or year.

If you'd like an overview of what we do, why not browse through our [A-Z of Frequently Asked Parenting Questions](#) and find out how we can help. If you are concerned about tics or Tourette's, check out our [article](#) on tic disorders or listen to our [interview](#) with expert, Dr Seonaid Anderson. You can find numerous practical resources and usable advice on [building self-esteem in both children and teens](#), along with resources on the importance of [parental mental health](#) (both maternal and paternal) and how to pay attention to it.

If you are breaking up for half term this week, you might like to check out our [holiday resources](#). We've got everything from [planner templates](#) (to help your children schedule in some study time amongst the fun) to beach science activities for [children](#) and [teens](#), for those of you heading to sunnier climes.

We'll soon be updating our summer resources. If you have any great suggestions for fun days out or interesting exhibitions or activities near you, do [let us know](#)!

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!

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



Beach Science for Teens



Understanding Tics
(Repetitive Movements or Sounds)



School Holiday Planner



An A-Z of Frequently Asked
Parenting Questions and
How Tooled Up Can Help



Parental Mental Health



Beach Science: Primary Aged
Children



Dr Seonaid Anderson: Tics
and Tic Disorders in Young
People

Year 6 Lakes residential





Year 5 Drama Week

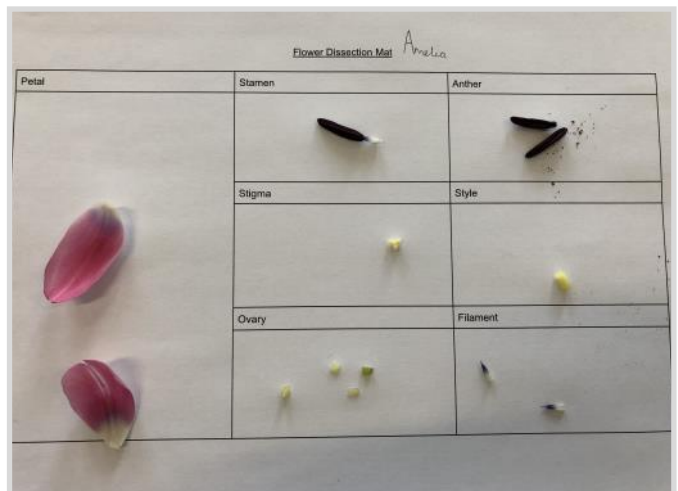


Well done to all of Year 5 for taking part in their Drama Week. Our thanks too to Mr Brookes and his team for organising such a thrilling experience for all involved.

Year 5 Science

Year 5 have been doing some flower dissection and explaining pollination using post-it notes as pollen.

Miss Ward



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 Prep reception.



Thank you!

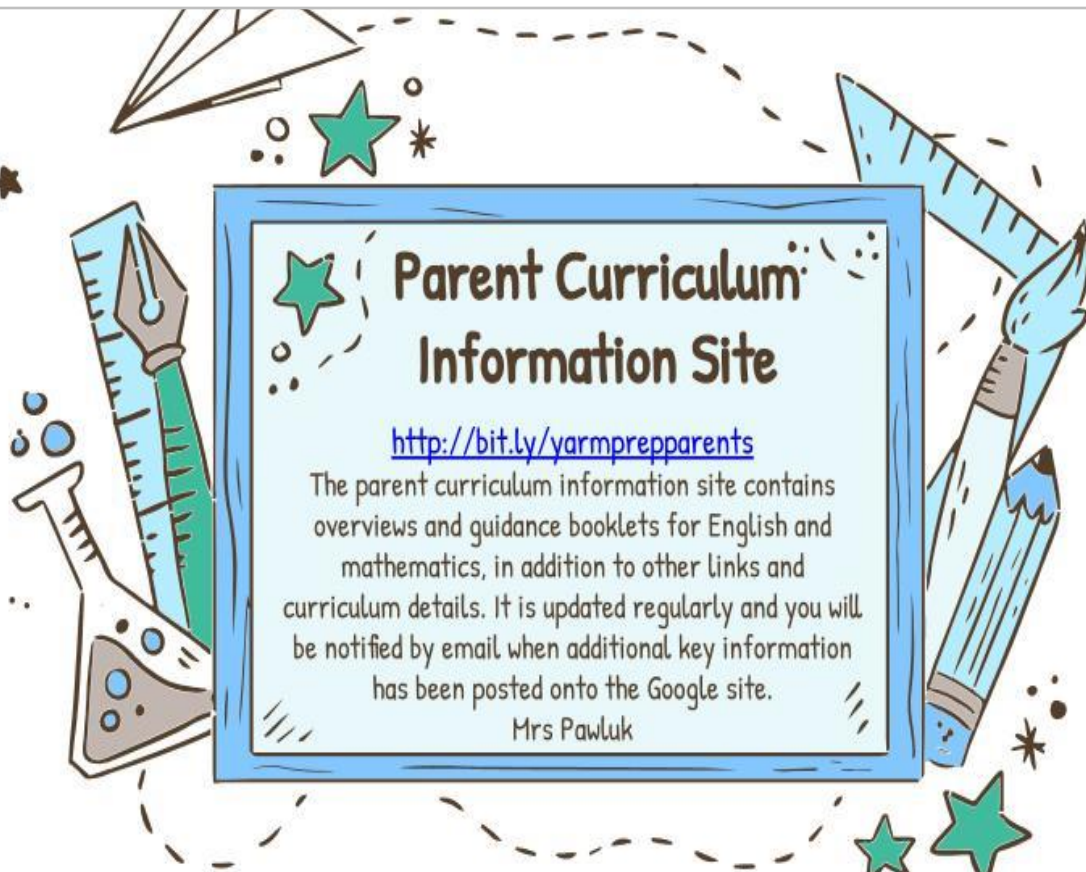
PE and Games News

U9 Cricket

We invited Durham for an afternoon of cricket last Thursday. Our Year 4's absolutely loved their first experience of pairs cricket, non stop cricket and a mixed up diamond match. It was great to see their bowling, batting and fielding efforts during the afternoon.

Mrs Redhead-Sweeney

BELOW: Our golf club have been enjoying their Wednesday afternoon sessions at Ingleby Driving Range with Mr Underwood.



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

Whole School Photograph

Parents are now able to order a copy of our whole school photograph!

Tempest Photography are pleased to report your whole school group photograph taken at Yarm Preparatory School is available to view and order via the following weblink:

<https://http.st/160361-370WSG>

There will be a two-week free delivery to school option starting from the day you receive this weblink. Alternatively, select direct delivery to an address of your choice (P&P applies).

For assistance, please call 01736 752411 – Select option 3 to place an order (P&P applies) or option 5 for customer services. PLEASE NOTE: School are unable to deal with any queries.

By the time of writing, Mrs White will have sent emails regarding the purchasing of the class, HMC sports and Orchestra photographs. Please check your inboxes for details of how to purchase there.

Mr Stone

Arkwright Charity Day

Arkwright Year 6 members will be raising money for the [Tees Rivers Trust](#) by organising a selection of stalls and sporty challenges for the children in the Prep School to take part in during Wednesday 7th June.

Could the children please bring in a £1 donation if they wish to wear something green/floral/motifs of British animals/fish on their clothing and some coins of no more than £5 to spend on

the stalls and challenges during the day.

Mr Grundmann

Year 4 Drama Week

Prior to the Easter holidays, Year 4 had a fantastic Drama Week with Mr Brookes and his team. [You can see what they got up to by clicking here](#).

Summer Fair

Friday 23rd June - 2-5pm

We are delighted to announce the full return of our annual Summer Fair, taking place this year on Friday 23rd June (2-5pm) with the theme this year being 'Colours'. The Social Committee and the Year 6 pupils are already planning on making it a fantastic event for all, with a range of stalls and games for all ages aimed at raising money for YPSSC projects.

Holding the event on a Friday has proven to be very popular with the children. As such we want to make the fair open to all children in the school community as well as their parents, many of whom would usually have other commitments over the course of a weekend. While this takes place during a school day, the impact on your child's education will be minimal.

We would like to draw your attention to a few logistical matters regarding the fair.

- It will be a non-uniform day.
- Lunch will take place as normal.
- School will finish at the usual times - 3.30pm for Pre-Prep and 3.45pm for Prep.
- Pre-Prep children can be collected from 2.30pm to come to the fair. Although the school day finishes at the usual time, parents of Pre-Prep children are welcome to collect early and bring their children to the fair. Pre-Prep will also be given priority to go on the rides between 2.30-3pm.
- Years 3-6 will need to bring some money. £15 max in change/coins (no notes please) should be plenty to have a go at the variety of games and activities taking place! This will be collected by form teachers for safekeeping during morning registration and handed out prior to the fair. All proceeds go to the YPSSC and the many projects they support the school with.
- Parents can buy a rides wristband prior to the event. There will be a wide range of fairground rides for the children to go on, with a wristband being available to purchase before the fair for £5. The YPSSC will be providing further details in

due course.

- The fair will be fully supervised. Teachers will be present supervising those children at the fair from 2pm. From pick-up onwards we would love parents to come along and join the fun too!
- Pick up, after school care and buses will run as normal. Pick up from after school care from 4pm will be from the Pre-Prep.
- Year 6 will be expected to stay until 5.30pm. A letter has gone out to Year 6 parents with full details.
- There will be no after school clubs on this date. Gymnastics, football and drama will not be taking place.

Mr Stone

Fair news from the YPSSC!

We are excited to announce the annual YPSSC Summer Funfair!

Taking place at the Prep School this year on Friday 23rd June (2- 5pm) with the theme this year being 'Colours'. There will be rides, stalls, animals, games and delicious snacks, food and ice creams!

Tom Rolfe will also be making an appearance with an exclusive mini show down in Pre-Prep first. As it is a non uniform day why not dress in your brightest colours!

Wrist bands can be bought for £5 from our website - www.ypssc.co.uk - which allow for unlimited ride access. Pre-ordered wristbands will be given to your child by their teacher at 2pm on Fair day; additional wrist bands will be available on the gate. All other stalls will take only cash. Grown-ups £2 entry.

In addition to all this fun and excitement we will be doing our Colourful Hamper raffle- more details of how to take part to follow. Tickets will be £2 each and available to buy through the website as well as being sent home with your children, and also available on the day.

There are so many ways to be involved and enjoy the Funfair- donate some prizes, volunteer some time, but most importantly come and enjoy the fun of the funfair!

To get in touch email us ypssc@yarmschool.org or visit our website or join the whatsapp groups for updates:

YPSSC official - <https://chat.whatsapp.com/C8LBv1LGyN053t9HVOADaM>

YPSSC volunteers - <https://chat.whatsapp.com/4d23P8hXCZJJrcgwND8QjT>

See you at the Fair!

Coming up at the PAA

Matthew Bourne's Sleeping Beauty—June 28th 7pm or 1st July, 2pm

Enter a wondrous world of magical fairies and vampires, where the timeless tale of good vs evil is turned upside-down, creating a supernatural love story that even the passage of time itself cannot hinder. Will Princess Aurora ever find her true love again?



Simon and Garfunkel—Friday 21st July, 7.30pm

Simon and Garfunkel: Through the Years is the most authentic sounding concert to the unforgettable music of Simon and Garfunkel.

Made up of Dan Haynes and Pete Richards, Bookends have toured the globe extensively with their concerts being described as 'simply breath-taking'.

Performing the songs in a truly captivating way, against a backdrop of iconic imagery, their delicate recreation of the unmistakable sound of the American folk-rock duo is something of a masterpiece.



FIXTURES PRO

[To find out how to access the Fixtures Pro website and see where the children are playing and when, click here.](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Mr Underwood or Mrs Redhead-Sweeney.

YPSSC Summer Fun Fair 2023

Colours

Wear your brightest colours!!!

Friday 23rd June 2023 @ Prep School

Prep Children 2-5pm

Pre Prep with grown ups from 2.30pm

Year 6 stalls & Games

Fairground Rides*

Archery* – Mini Golf* - Gel Aim*

Food stands

Stalls, stands & tombola

Tom Rolfe entertainment*

Petting Zoo*

Hamper Raffle

****CASH ONLY****

For the grown ups...

Summer Mini Bar TBC

www.ypssc.co.uk

KIDS
£5 wrist band
unlimited ride
access
£2 adult entry

YARM SCHOOL DANCE PRESENTS

HOLLYWOOD WALK OF FAME

DANCE SHOWCASE

2023

FRIDAY 9TH JUNE

6.30PM IN THE PAA

£7 Adult, £3.50 Concessions, Free for Yarm Pupils

Purchase Tickets Online www.thepaaonline.org

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.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about INFLUENCERS

In today's digital age, social media influencers play an increasingly significant role in shaping the opinions, interests and behaviours of our children. While many of these individuals can have a positive effect, influencer culture can also present certain risks – such as encouraging consumerism, affecting self-esteem and blurring trustworthiness. To help ensure a safe online environment for young people, it's vital to maintain open communication, set sensible boundaries, promote a healthy self-image and teach digital media literacy. Our guide delves deeper into all of these.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

HEIGHTENED CONSUMERISM

A major way that influencers make money is through brand partnerships and sponsored content. As a result, children who follow them may be exposed to a steady stream of advertising: this can lead to materialistic attitudes, unrealistic expectations and an increased desire to have the latest products. Many influencers have built huge brand empires around their large, impressionable following.

THE SOFT SELL

Some influencers aren't always transparent about the motivations behind their posts, blurring the lines between genuine recommendations and paid-for promotions – and young people sometimes find it difficult to distinguish authentic content from advertising. Many major social platforms have taken steps to make sponsored content and ads easier to identify, but it remains an area of concern.

PRIVACY CONCERNS

Inspired by their favourite influencers, children may start sharing more of their own lives online – which could reveal personal information or details about their daily routine. This openness can put them at risk of cyberbullying or even predatory behaviour. This is exacerbated by live streaming, which gives young people no time to consider the potential consequences of saying too much.

UNDERMINING SELF-ESTEEM

Many influencers share images and videos of themselves and their activities, which are often painstakingly curated and edited to present an idealised version of their life. Children who follow these influencers may develop distorted expectations about body image and the concept of beauty, which can potentially lead to negative self-esteem and even mental health issues.

Advice for Parents & Carers

KEEP TALKING

Chat to your child about the content they consume on social media and the influencers that they like. Encourage them to think critically about what they see and hear online, and listen to any concerns they might have. Maintaining this line of open, honest communication can help your child to make informed decisions about which individuals they follow and what content they engage with.

SET SOME BOUNDARIES

Agree age-appropriate boundaries for your child's social media use, including time limits and privacy settings (the two major operating systems on mobile devices, Android and iOS, have these controls baked in). Try to keep an eye on your child's online activity and discuss it regularly with them – including reminding them of the potential risks that can arise from following influencers.

SUPPORT A HEALTHY SELF-IMAGE

Reinforce your child's awareness that real life isn't usually as picture perfect as it may appear on social media – and how some content (particularly that of influencers) is often curated, staged or edited to look more glamorous. If possible, highlight examples of other influencers who share authentic, relatable material which acknowledges their imperfections and struggles as well.

PROMOTE MEDIA LITERACY

Talk to your child about the concepts of sponsored content, advertising and potential influencer bias. Teach them to critically evaluate the information they're presented with online and to consider the possible reasons behind content creation. This can help young people develop the skills to make healthier decisions about the influencers they choose to follow and the content they consume.

Meet Our Expert

A former director of digital learning and currently a deputy headmaster and DSL, Brendan O'Keefe's experience and expertise gives him a clear insight into how modern digital systems impact the experience of children, staff and parents – and which strategies help to ensure that the online world remains a useful educational tool rather than a minefield of risks.



NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Key Dates

JUNE 2023

Mon 5	Pupils return Brunel House Duty Dance Showcase rehearsals (P6 until 5pm)
Tue 6	U8 Cricket Workshop with St Peter's (home; 2.15pm start)
Wed 7	Arkwright Charity Day Dance Showcase rehearsals (P6 until 5pm)
Thu 8	Y2/3 Transition Morning for pupils Dance Showcase rehearsals (2-6pm) School Council (1pm; Lab) U9 Girls' Cricket v Queen Mary's (away; 2.15pm start, 4.45pm return) U9 Boys' Cricket v Durham (home; 2pm start)
Fri 9	Dance Showcase (PAA; 6.30pm start) HMC Athletics (Venue TBC; 11m start, 4pm return)
Sat 10	Teesside Individual Chess Championship (Prep Hall; 9.30am-2.30pm)
Mon 12	Healthy Eating Week
Tue 13	Year 4 trip to Washington Wetland Centre HMC Tennis (at Dame Allan's; 10am start, 4pm return)
Wed 14	Induction Day
Thu 15	Welcome to Reception Evening (7pm; Studio Hall) Prep Summer Concert (Prep Hall; 4pm) U9 Boys' & Girls' Cricket v Dame Allan's (home; 2pm start)
Fri 16	Bring Your Dads to School Day (Pre-Prep) HMC Boys' Cricket (at Woodhouse Grove; 8am depart, 11am start, 5pm return) U10/11 Boys' Cricket v Durham (away; 2.15pm start, 4.30pm return)

U11 Girls' Cricket v Red House & Queen Mary's
(home; 2pm start)

Mon 19	Diversity Week Telford House Duty ABRSM examinations week
Tue 20	Nursery New Starters Information Evening (6.30pm; current N1 families invited) U11 Girls' HMC Cricket (at St Peter's; 11.30am start, 4.30pm return) Reception Musical Showcase (Studio Hall; 9.30am)
Wed 21	Reports released to parents Nursery Sports Afternoon (1pm; Pre-Prep) Y2 Transition event for parents (4pm; Prep Hall) Reception Trip to Saltholme

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

Solution to previous Head's Challenge:

Running out of fuel on a journey.

Celebration Assembly

	Values	Endeavour
3B	Amani R.	Aditi K.
3H	Sia S.	Gonzalo V.
4G	All of 4G	All of 4G
4J	All of 4J	All of 4J
4N	All of 4N	All of 4N
5F	Brian F.	Kaira N.
5H	Maisie S.	Harrison C.
5K	Georgie W.	Niall E.
6G	Anjali R.	Thomas F.
6H	Pippa J.	Will M.
6L	Seth T.	Matthew S.
6W	Annabelle A.	Edward T-P.