

The Phoenix Flier

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

Issue 748—7th July 2023

INSIDE THIS WEEK... Year 3 in York... Prize Giving highlights... The winning house is revealed...

A message from Mr Sawyer

Welcome to the final edition of the Phoenix Flier for this academic year. I am sure that you will enjoy reading the range of articles and viewing the photos of a brilliant Y3 trip to York, a cracking Sports Day, our Prize Giving and much more.

I reiterate my thanks from my Prize Giving address to every member of our school community for their support and commitment this year. We are hugely fortunate to work in partnership with our parent body, with the common aim of helping each pupil to be the best they can be. Putting the welfare and progress of each child at the centre of our minds is the most vital aspect of our work. We all strive for this goal - teaching, administrative, estates and support staff - to ensure it is achieved. I am very grateful to all of the staff for their efforts this year. One only has to look at the pupils to see that it is all worth it. They are a great credit to themselves and the school. Their energy, verve for school life, good nature and desire to seize opportunities really does set them apart.

As we all set sail for our own adventures and spend time with our families this holiday, I would like to thank my family, Sarah, Amelie and Wilf, for their unswerving love and support this year. I wish everyone a wonderful holiday and look forward to hearing about many tales of adventure next term.

Bill Sawyer

Head's Challenge: You go at red, but stop at green. What am I?



Photo of the Week: Our last residential of the year saw our Year 3 enjoy a night away in York. A range of images from their excursion can be found inside.

Year 3 York Residential



End of Term Assembly

Cricket Colours – Seth Tailor, Wilf Sawyer, Arvind Kumar, Thomas Ferguson, Henry Pugh, Auden Ashwell, Sid Suryadevara, Beatrix Allcock, Willow Arnold, Dora Bonner, Nona Dugdale, Amelie Kingsbury, Jessica Mansfield, Akansha Mendis, Louisa Palmer, Anjali Ramisetty, Nikita Suryadevara, Sumi Kumar.

Athletics Colours – Nikita Suryadevara, Henry Pugh, Amelie Kingsbury, Sumi Kumar.

Music Colours - Akansha Mendis, Noah Abbas, Max Askew, Tiger Chahal, Thomas Ferguson, Jack Severn, Alex Wormald, Amelia O'Connell, Marawan Saad, Janaki Madhavan, Navinda Muthukrishnan, Nikita Suryadevara, Beatrix Allcock, Dora Bonner, Harlowe Bell, Dorothy Wray.

Art Colours – Noah Abbas, Annabelle Anson, Nona Dugdale, Sonny Foster, Ellie Gates, Arvind Kumar, Eva-May McBain, Will McDonald, Akansha Mendis, Henry Pugh, Ciara Winters, Alex Wormald, Beatrice Maredia.

Dance Colours - Amelie Kingsbury, Jess Mansfield, Janaki Madhavan, Felicity Lane and Olivia Jolly.

Speech and Drama Colours - Navina Muthukrishnan, Louisa Palmer, Thomas Ferguson, Bea Maredia, Edward Taylor-Petch.

Prep Baccalaureate - Y3: Amelie Tailor, Dara Jafari, Freddie Bonner, Isla Ladhar; **Y4:** Emily Quayle, Annalise Dixon, Martha Leary, Alia McGonnell, Emily Booth, Rosa Williams, Will Garratt, Manha Abdullah; **Y5:** Ollie Bridle, Alex Prideaux, Jacob Bell, Brian Franks; **Y6:** Dora Bonner, Amelia O'Connell, Annabelle Anson, Jack Severn.

Knockout Chess winner (JG) - Miles Page.

OVERALL Sports Day (PDU) – 1st – BRUNEL; 2nd – Arkwright; 3rd – Telford; 4th – Stephenson.

OVERALL House Cricket (PDU) – 1st – BRUNEL; 2nd – Arkwright; 3rd – Stephenson ; 4th – Telford.

OVERALL House Cricket (NERS) – 1st – ARKWRIGHT; 2nd – Brunel; 3rd – Telford; 4th – Stephenson.

House Points THIS TERM - 1st – STEPHENSON; 2nd – Arkwright; 3rd – Brunel; 4th – Telford.

House competition winners this year: **Arkwright** - Boys' Hockey, Girls' Hockey, Girls' Cricket. **Brunel** - Typing, Coding, Boys' Cricket, Sports Day. **Stephenson** - Spring House Points, Quiz, Chess, Netball, Autumn House Points, Rugby, Summer House Points. **Telford** - Pancakes.

OVERALL HOUSE LEADERBOARD:

4th - Telford (1625 points overall)

3rd - Brunel (2150)

2nd - Arkwright (2225)

1st - STEPHENSON (2450)

STEPHENSON ARE THE OVERALL WINNING HOUSE OF 2022-2023! (Fourth year in a row and the 8th time in the last nine years they have won)

School Captains for 23/24: Erin Goh, Joey Pritchard, Harry Hollingsworth, Amelia Cheesman, Thea Speight, Joseph Austin.

Coming Up at the PAA

Simon and Garfunkel - Friday 21st July

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

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.



Magic of Motown - Saturday 9th September

Get ready for all the hits, glittering costumes, dazzling dance routines and outstanding musicianship in this breath-taking live concert spectacular. Come celebrate our brand-new show for 2023 as we Reach Out and show you there ain't no mountain high enough with the biggest Motown party of the year.



Sports Day



Prize Giving



NATIONAL SCHOOLS QUIZ FINAL

Well done to our three teams who took part online in the National Schools Quiz Final yesterday (Thursday). Having survived two rounds to get to this stage, we were delighted to see all three teams finish in the top 20 nationally, a feat unheard of in this competition. Team A (Takashi Yamaguchi, Manha Abdullah, Hannah Clarke and Marawan Saad) finished an impressive 6th with 1530 points, just ahead of Team B in 7th (Aditi Kumar, Olivia Tiew, Benjamin Fulford, Monty van Niekerk). Team C (Robert Wormald, Holly Birkin, Brian Franks and Thomas Ferguson) had an incredibly strong finish, rising from 28th to finish the event in 20th.

Mr Stone

Pupils v Parents Sports

We held our annual Year 6 Pupils v Parents last week and as always it was a competitive evening of sport. The parents threw themselves into the netball, cricket and tennis alongside their children and it was a thoroughly enjoyable experience.

Thanks to the many who attended and created some lovely memories along the way.



A great final Friday fixture v Cundall at Green Lane. 3 matches and 60 girls involved over the 2 schools. It has been a super cricket season once the weather played ball and this half term we were able to play off site.

Mrs Redhead-Sweeney



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

YPSSC News

YPSSC would love to welcome all parents to our Monthly YPSSC social coffee mornings at 'The Keys' on Yarm High Street commencing next week! Enjoy a cup of coffee with cake and catch up with other parents.



9-11am on the following dates: Thursday 21st Sept, Tuesday 11th Oct, Wednesday 15th Nov, Monday 11th Dec. Please also note down our evening social on: Tuesday 17th Oct 7.30-9.30pm evening drinks @The Keys. We look forward to meeting as many of you as possible.

YPSSC

Speech and Drama

LAMDA lessons here at Yarm focus primarily on the delivery of voice mastery skills. This mastery leads to a new-found voice-confidence, which often accompanies self-confidence; if we build one, we build the other – and this is our *raison d'être*.

Pupils certainly do learn to use their voices to become mini experts at voice work for presentation and performance.

Lessons are 30 minutes each week – on a rolling timetable to be as least disruptive to classwork as possible. They culminate in our annual examination, conducted by a visiting LAMDA examiner. Children progress up the grades from pre- entry to grade 8, in much the same way as singing and instrumental exams. Grades 6 to 8 carry UCAS points for university entry – but the main achievement goes far beyond this to that of personal development and self-confidence in spoken communication skills. If you would like to sign your child up for lessons next academic year, please drop an email to Mr Gooding.

Mrs Ham-Ying

Darkroom Photography

I think darkroom photography is the best club in the prep school because you get trusted with chemicals but Mr Gooding keeps you very safe. I really like how we have our very own darkroom and how it is very professional. I enjoy going through all the processes of a real photographer. Although the first time we did this we failed but we learnt from our mistakes and the second time we did it we succeeded. I hope next year's year fives and sixes love this club!

Ollie B.

I think that Darkroom is a fun and amazing activity. The teachers are Mr Gooding and Mrs Trehwitt. It's like a magical journey when you enlarge your chosen photograph. You learn a lot of new things about developing and enlarging photos. Once when we tried developing some photos and, even though we failed and did everything right, we still tried again and unlike last time it worked! I was partners with Alice and we loved the photos we took, especially when we enlarged them. At the beginning of Darkroom we even made our own cameras out of a smallish cardboard box, black card strips and special tape that doesn't let light through.

Tooled Up Education

Plastic Free July

As we embark on Plastic Free July, a month dedicated to raising awareness about the environmental impact of single-use plastics and promoting sustainable alternatives, it's essential to remember that even the smallest actions can lead to significant change. This is why Dr Weston engaged in an enlightening [conversation](#) with Jen Gale, author of 'The Sustainable(ish) Living Guide.' Jen shares valuable tips on making small changes to our actions and mindset to create a significant positive impact on the environment. Tune in to discover practical advice for reducing your environmental footprint!

As Plastic Free July inspires us to reduce our reliance on single-use plastics, it also ignites a broader conversation about sustainability and our collective responsibility towards the environment. In line with this, Dr Weston and Dr Verity Jones delved into a [discussion](#) about climate change, recognising the importance of equipping younger generations with the knowledge and tools to navigate a rapidly changing world. Did you know that simply reading about nature can help us to build empathy for the world around us and nudge us, and our children, to consider our feelings around issues relating to climate change? We've created this list of fantastic [books](#) for all ages that celebrate our wonderful planet.

Transitioning from education to fashion, Professor Natascha Radclyffe-Thomas joined us to illuminate the intriguing tension between the love for fashion and the growing concerns about climate change. She draws attention to the environmental impact of clothing production and introduces the concept of eco-anxiety. This fascinating [dialogue](#) delves into the psychology of consumption and explores sustainable avenues for young people to express themselves through fashion.

Research Appreciation Day 2023

On July 5th, we celebrate Research Appreciation Day. This is an important day for us at Tooled Up, as we pride ourselves in providing you with evidence-based resources and our ever-expanding research network. As part of this commitment, Tooled Up researcher and PhD student Roxana Pomplun is currently looking for young research participants aged 11-13 to talk about their thoughts and experiences on all things digital (for which they would receive a £15 shopping voucher). Roxana's PhD research explores young people's wellbeing and their digital technology & social media use. If you think your child might be interested in participating or you would like to find out more about the study, please feel free to [email Roxana](#).

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

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.

Online safety tips for parents & carers to KEEP CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE OVER SUMMER

School's out ... for summer! Yes, it's that time of the year again: around six weeks at home for ecstatic youngsters. For many young people, a bumper stint off school means a welcome chance to spend even more time with their games console, phone, tablet or smart TV. So whether your children are likely to be scrolling on Snapchat, nestling in front of Netflix or frying foes on Fortnite, we've put together some top tips to help you keep them safe online this holiday.

THERE'S NO NETWORK LIKE HOME

Teenagers, especially, tend to be delighted to find that a coffee shop, restaurant or shopping centre offers free WiFi. These public networks are much less secure than home WiFi, though, so discourage your child from making online purchases or entering personal details when out and about.



LIGHTS OUT, SCREENS OFF

This is a golden rule: try to limit how much screen time your child has towards end of the day. Staring at the screen of a phone or tablet for too long before bed severely impacts a child's quality of sleep - which can play havoc with their concentration, mood and energy levels the next day.



FOCUS ON FACTS

The internet is phenomenal at spreading gossip. When children of certain ages aren't in daily contact at school, the digital rumour mill can go into overdrive. Remind your child not to believe everything they're told online - especially if the person involved isn't around to provide their side of the story.



KEEP TALKING

It sounds blindingly obvious, but having regular chats with your child about who they're talking to online, what games and apps they're using and what shows they're streaming is a huge benefit. It doesn't have to be every day or even every week, but it can signal potential issues well in advance.



PRIVATE INFO STAYS PRIVATE

It's worth checking your child's social media or gaming profiles occasionally to make sure they aren't inadvertently giving away too much information. Details such as their full name, address or where they go to school could all be used to track them down by individuals with sinister intentions.



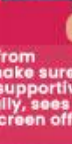
LIMIT SOCIAL AUDIENCES

When they're old enough, young people love to broadcast their summer holiday highlights all over social media. The unfortunate truth, however, is that we don't always know who might be viewing this content. Check the settings to ensure that only friends and family can see your child's posts.



DEMONSTRATE GOOD HABITS

Children often learn their digital behaviour from watching the grown-ups around them. So make sure your child observes you being positive and supportive on social media, for example - and, especially, sees that you know when it's time to switch the screen off, even though you're having fun.



WATCH FOR EXCESSIVE GAMING

With no school, children often take every opportunity to fit in 'just one more go' on their favourite game - sometimes at the cost of their daily routine, or having family time. A little extra gaming is to be expected in the holidays, but it could become problematic if it evolves into a recurring habit.



IT'S 'THE GREAT OUTDOORS' FOR A REASON

For most northern hemisphere-dwellers, this time of year is a rare opportunity to enjoy the outside world in pleasant weather. Remind your child how amazing it is to feel the sun on their back and fresh air in their lungs. Disney+ and Minecraft will still be there on drizzly Sundays in October.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday



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Key Dates

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

Autumn Term, 2023

Preparation Days	Tuesday, 29th August 2023 Wednesday, 30th August 2023
All Pupils Return	Thursday, 31st August 2023
Half Term Begins	Friday, 20th October 2023 (after school)
Pupils Return	Monday, 6th November 2023
Finish	Friday, 15th December 2023 (after school; no after school care)

Spring Term 2023

Pupils Return	Thursday 4th January 2024
Half Term Begins	Thursday 15th February 2024 (after school)
INSET	Friday 16th February 2024
Pupils Return	Monday 26th February 2024
Finish	Thursday 28th March 2024 (after school; no after school care)

Summer Term 2024

Pupils Return	Thursday 18th April 2024
Bank Holiday	Monday 6th May 2024
Half Term Begins	Thursday 23rd May 2024 (after school)
Pupils Return	Monday 3rd June 2024
Finish	Thursday 4th July 2024 At 12 noon (after school; no after school care)

Celebration Assembly

	Values	Endeavour
3B	In York	In York
3H	In York	In York
4G	Thomas M.	Aashi S.
4J	Alia M.	Zara M.
4N	Kaiden G.	Henry S.
5F	Brian F.	Rex W.
5H	Joey P.	George P.
5K	Rebecca N.	Pradyoth K.
6G	Jessica F.	Rehan K.
6H	Bea M.	Imogen P.
6L	Nikita S.	Auden A.
6W	Janaki M.	Willow A.

Solution to previous Head's Challenge: *Hair*

Summer Fair

Our thanks to the YPSSC who have confirmed that a grand total of "5061.67 was raised at the Summer Fair!

Parent Curriculum Information Site

<http://bit.ly/yarmpreparents>

The parent curriculum information site contains overviews and guidance booklets for English and mathematics, in addition to other links and curriculum details. It is updated regularly and you will be notified by email when additional key information has been posted onto the Google site.

Mrs Pawluk