



# The Phoenix Flier

## The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

Issue 750—15th September 2023

INSIDE THIS WEEK... Welcome to Year 3... Charity Challenges... Year 4 at Sculpture Park...

### A message from Mr Sawyer

Welcome to this week's edition of the Phoenix Flier which gives you a flavour of Prep School life. As you will see from the next few pages, we are 'all systems go' for the Autumn Term. As of this week our activities and clubs are up and running, Year 4 and Year 6 have ventured far and wide to Yorkshire Sculpture Park and Boggle Hole respectively, we have a new member of the team in the form of Tortellini the tortoise, and there is further exiting community news of marriages and births! There is never a dull moment at Yarm Prep and it is lovely to see our pupils so engaged and enthused by all that we offer. They must be commended for the spirit and enthusiasm they display at all times!

Our assemblies are special occasions, they allow us to celebrate progress, deepen our understanding of our School Values and come together as a community. Our School Value **safe** has been the focus for this week's assemblies. We have had visitors from the Canal and River Trust, the Dog's Trust and learnt about fire safety. With the theme of safety in mind, and to improve the air quality in the car park, please can we all avoid leaving engines idling if we are waiting in our cars at pick up times. Please see a link here to a recent campaign on the matter. [Engine off Every stop](#). Thank you for your assistance.

*Bill Sawyer*

**Head's Challenge:** What does an island and the letter T have in common?



**Photo of the Week:** The new Eco Committee enjoyed surveying the allotment and harvesting some of our fruits this week.



## Welcome to Year 3



The Year 3 team have been so impressed with how the children have fully embraced all aspects of Prep School life. Here are a few reasons why:

"I love the Games lessons. We get to go to Green Lane." *Max H.*

"I like doing lots of work. English is really interesting." *Zara G.*

"Swimming is great. We learn lots of skills." *Genevieve P.*

"The table tennis table is fun to use at break times!" *William D.*

"I love being in Year 3, it is awesome because you don't stay in one classroom, you have many teachers who help you to learn!" *Zoyaa S.*

"I am happy because we have a huge space where we can play. I love the chess set outside because I can practise the skills which Mr Marsh has been teaching me." *Oscar W.*

## Welcome Tortellini

We are delighted to welcome Tortellini the tortoise to the Prep School this week, thanks to a donation from Mr and Mrs Harandon's friend. Despite being just 3 years old, Tortellini has jumped straight into the Prep School and currently resides in the Science Lab. She has already proven popular with the children and enjoys nothing more than some fresh salad leaves.

*Mrs Smith*





## PE and Games News

It has been a fun packed week. The Year 3s have thrown themselves into their swimming lessons at the Rainbow Centre. We had a bumper group at our Grangetown netball hub on Thursday night and all are looking forward to fixtures beginning next week! In PE all children are working on improving fitness levels and have done the Cooper run, a Fartlek session and a fitness circuit. We have discussed how we elevate our heart rates and I have been impressed by their efforts thus far.

Mrs Redhead-Sweeney



### School and Club Sports links

It is great to see so many of our pupils attending local clubs and we highly recommend joining one to aid learning further.

#### Hockey

**Stockton Hockey Club** - Junior training takes place Monday nights on the Yarm Sc senior astro 5.30pm-6.30pm <https://www.stocktonhockeyclub.co.uk/teams/team/11741808>

**Stokesley Girls Hockey** —This takes place on Wednesdays 5.30pm-6.30pm on the Yarm Sc senior astro 5.30pm-6.30pm <https://www.stokesleyhockeyclub.com/>

**Norton Hockey Club**—Junior training starts again on Sunday 24th Sept at Norton astro. 10.30am-12pm. <https://www.nortonhockeyclub.co.uk/>

#### Netball

[The link here](#) gives you clubs in the North East, contacts, training venues and exact timings for each age group.

**Grangetown** coach Michelle runs a U8/9 training session for Yarm pupils on Thursdays 3.55pm-4.55pm at school, as well as a host of age group teams. For further info email: [grangetownnc@hotmail.com](mailto:grangetownnc@hotmail.com)

**Headlanders Netball Club** in Darlington where Mrs Jolly coaches. Contact [dheadlanders@outlook.com](mailto:dheadlanders@outlook.com) for further details re. Wednesday night training. [https://www.facebook.com/DarlingtonHeadlanders/?locale=en\\_GB](https://www.facebook.com/DarlingtonHeadlanders/?locale=en_GB)

#### Rugby

**Stockton Rugby Club** who train at Stockton CC - <https://stocktonrugby.co.uk/minis/under-11/>

**Yarm Rugby Club** - <https://yarm.rfu.club/teams>

**Darlington Mowden RFC** - <https://www.mowdenpark.com/>

**Darlington RFC** - <https://www.pitchero.com/clubs/darlingtonrfc/>

#### Tennis and Squash

**Yarm Squash Club and Yarm Tennis Club**—<https://yarmsquashclub.co.uk/>, <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/yarmtennisclub>

#### Cricket

**Yarm Cricket Club**—<https://yarmcc.play-cricket.com/home>

**Stockton Cricket Club**—[www.stocktoncricketclub.co.uk](http://www.stocktoncricketclub.co.uk)

**Norton Cricket Club**—<https://norton.play-cricket.com/Teams>

# Charity Challenges

## Will Completes Three Peaks Challenge

Over the summer break, Will successfully completed his 3 Peak Challenge for GNAAS & Keswick Mountain Rescue.



Having summited Mt Snowdon before the holidays, it was Will's nemesis of Scafell Pike first. With a good weather forecast we even managed a bit of scrambling and confidence roping. Will carried all his own equipment, and 'wild camped' under the gaze of Great Gable. Absolutely no one around and views of Styhead Tarn in the valley. Having been sent an invite, Will visited Keswick MRT. He found it very interesting and impressive. It even had its own climbing wall.

A week later it was off to Fort William for the final and highest peak, with a long drive up and an overnight camp the night before. This was Will's first time in Scotland and he was loving the adventure. Haggis for tea and Lorne sausage for breakfast. His campsite was in the shadow of a very imposing Ben Nevis.

His older brother Tom came on this one. As they reached the lochan the clouds dropped and the rain started. An ideal opportunity to put up a shelter and get some hot food on. Lucky the clouds lifted after an hour and they had clear 360 degree views for the rest of the day. By the time they had made their descent to the lochan for a wild camp, Will had been walking for 7 hours.

Will has finished the 3 Peaks and is immensely proud of his achievement. So far he has raised £2000 and hopefully a bit more when the final donations come in.



## Isla and Brothers Complete the Mini Great North Run

Well done to Isla, Arian and Zac who, last weekend, completed the Mini Great North Run in aid of Neoangels. Between them they also raised over £1500 for the charity—a fine effort!



## Mrs Speight Smashes the GNR

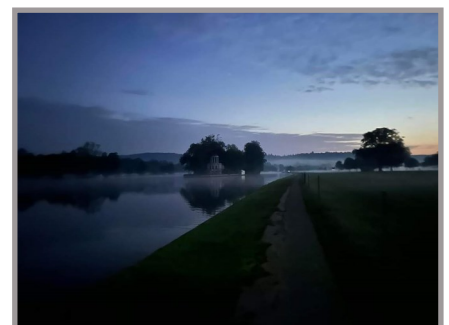
Congratulations too to Mrs Speight, who took part in the Great North Run this weekend, raising an impressive £1500 for Diabetes UK in the process.

## And Thank You!

A big thank you from me too to all of the school community for the support received for my Thames Path Challenge last weekend. I completed the 100km course, albeit in a very slow time as the sun and 34 degree heat took their toll on those taking part, with nearly 40% withdrawing during the event.

Overall I am close to raising £1500 for Alzheimer's Society and we appreciate every penny and every wet sponge donated.

Mr Stone





## Year 4 Visit Yorkshire Sculpture Park

Year 4 had a fantastic time visiting the Yorkshire Sculpture Park this week. They enjoyed the interactive exhibits and created some of their own 60 second sculptures.



### Holiday School Dates

**October half-term 2023:** 23rd to 27th October (5 days)

**Christmas 2023:** 18th to 21st December (4 days)

**Easter 2024:** 2nd to 5th April (4 days)

**Summer 2024:** 15th July to 2nd August (15 days)



## Message to Parents

The schools Capital Development Manager, Mr Alan Hodgson, would like to reassure the school community that Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) has not been used for the construction of any of its school buildings; Nursery, Pre Prep, Preparatory and Senior school sites.

## 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](#).

## Four Weddings and a Baby!

A busy summer for a number of our team here at Yarm...



Congratulations to Mrs Ashford (née Phillips) who married James on their family farm on 1st July.

Congratulations too to Ms Goodfellow, who married Brendan in Orlando on the 25th July.

Congratulations to Mrs Smith (née Ward), who married Robert on 14th August at St Mary and St Romauld Catholic Church in Yarm.

And congratulations to Mrs Jolly (née Bradley), who married Scott At



Middleton Lodge on 12th August.

Finally, congratulations to Mr Simpson and his wife Claire on the birth of Alexander on 24th August, weighing 8lb 12oz.



## Coming Up at the PAA

### Mission: Songs of Bond

**Saturday 14th October, 7.30pm**

New and exciting show all headed up with an AI computer. Mission: The Songs Of Bond journeys through the decades of these songs – with show stopping vocals and superb choreography – all headed up by our AI computer guiding the cast and the audience through the mission with amazing, detailed facts about each song.

## Ground Rules - By Eric Chappell

Wednesday 25th October, 7.30pm

From the creator of classic British sitcoms *Rising Damp*, *Duty Free*, *Only When I Laugh* and *Home To Roost*, Crime And Comedy Theatre Company proudly present Eric Chappell's final play – a tribute to this remarkable writer who sadly passed away in 2022.

Judith and Gerald look the perfect couple – he's a successful businessman, she's an aspiring counsellor, they live in a stylish suburban home and it seems nothing can spoil their happy marriage... that is until Jo and Ashley arrive on the scene! By the end, nobody's relationships – or perhaps even partners – will ever be the same again!

## 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

## Peer Mentor Training

Our Year 6 Peer Mentors met for the first time last week to discuss their new roles, what it means and how they can show they are compassionate members of the school community. Here are some of their reflections on what it means to be a peer mentor.

*"A peer mentor needs to be kind and respectful to others."*

*"A peer mentor is someone who is compassionate and responsible. They also help out children in the years below theirs."*

*"We support younger children with their worries and wobbles."*

*"A peer mentor does not take sides when solving arguments between children. We help to keep fellow pupils happy."*

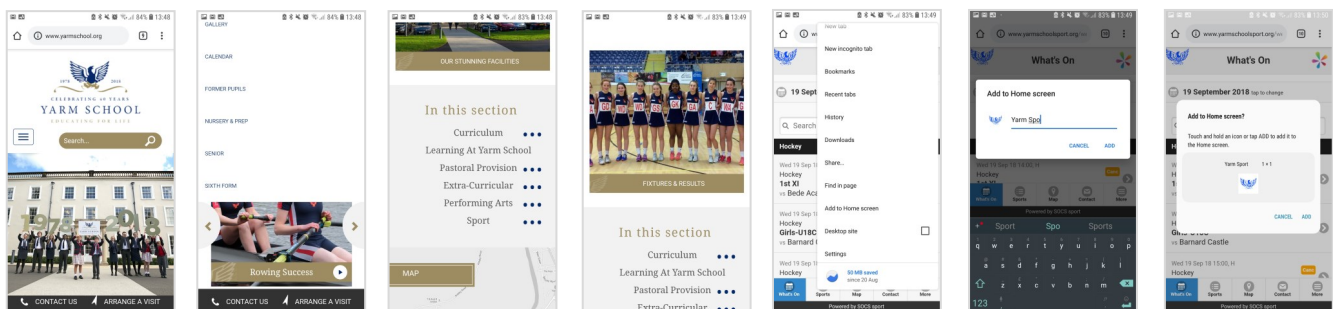
*"A peer mentor is someone you can trust and someone you can talk to."*

*"I think a peer mentor is someone to look up to, trust and feel comfortable around."*

## How to set up Fixtures Pro on your Smartphone

It's how to find details of sports fixtures and team line-ups for the Prep School. It is also very easy to set up on your Apple or Android device. Please follow these instructions.

### FOR ANDROID DEVICES:



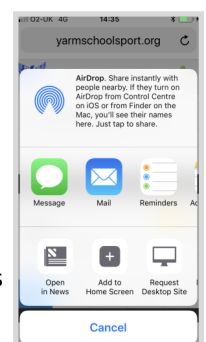
- |   |   |  |                                     |   |                          |                                   |
|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Access the Yarm School website via the browser on your device. | 2. Click on 'Senior School' at the top of the page. | 3. Click on 'Sport' which appears down the left-hand side. | 4. Click on 'Fixtures and Results'. | 5. In the top-right corner of the browser, click on the three dots, then click on 'Add to Home screen'. | 6. Give the link a name. | 7. Add to your phone home screen. |
|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|

### FOR APPLE DEVICES:

Follow steps 1-4 above, then:

5) At the bottom of your phones screen drag your finger up and you have a square and arrow icon (photo left) and if you click this you can then see the icon that says 'Add to home screen'. Click this.

6) Congratulations! You are all set and on your phone screen you should see the Yarm School logo which is now your very own shortcut to team sheets etc.







# Hello from the YPSSC

*(Yarm Prep School Social Committee)*

The YPSSC is made up and run by parent volunteers, like a PTA, our function is to provide a social network for the whole school community and raise funds for the children and local charities.



We are using Classlist!! An amazing app that keeps all events and info in one simple app. Get the app to never miss an event



**Dates for the diary – tickets available via Classlist**  
**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September** *New Families Welcome Event*  
**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September** *Oktoberfest @ PAA*  
**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November** *Winter Ball*

## Coffee mornings

*A chance to relax and meet other parents and catch up with what events are coming up*

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September 9-11am

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 9-11am

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 9-11am

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 9-11am

## Drinks evening

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 7.30-9.30pm

**@ The Keys, 65 High Street Yarm  
TS15 9BH**

## Class reps

Each class has a parent rep who is a great 'go to'. Your class rep can be found on the Classlist app.

## PreLoved Uniform

As an Eco School we are very keen on preloved uniform and have a good and varied stock.

Just drop us a message on the app and we'll see what we have.

Donations are ALWAYS welcome- we can find homes for clean items in good condition



# Tooled Up Education

As the school term is now in full swing, we're excited to share all the fantastic developments that have taken place at Toolled Up Towers over the summer. We've been working diligently to enhance our services, and can't wait to show you what's new.

## Introducing Our Brand New Platform

First things first, we are thrilled to unveil our shiny, new online platform designed exclusively for our members. Head on over to the [website](#) and explore what has changed. We're still settling in, so please bear with us if anything looks awry.

## Back to School Checklist

With the holidays fading into the background, many of us are transitioning back into work mode, including our children. If they need a gentle push to get back into the academic groove, look no further than our '[Back to School Checklist](#)'. It's the perfect tool to encourage their independence and start the year off right.

## Tools for Teens and New Secondary School Students

For your teens, we've introduced the weekly '[Mindset Planner](#)' to help them stay organised and motivated. If you have young ones embarking on their journey to a new senior or secondary school, our '[Settling In](#)' [journal](#) is here to guide them through their first few weeks with ease.

## Support for University-Bound Children

If you have teens heading off to university in the coming weeks, be sure to check out our '[Starting University Checklist](#)' and top tips for [supporting](#) them as they venture into the world of higher education. We also have fantastic resources specifically tailored to support [autistic young people](#) making this significant transition.

## Discover Toolled Up

If you're new to Toolled Up, take a moment to explore the [ten key benefits](#) that set us apart and make us your go-to resource for all things parenting and wellbeing. We're here to support you every step of the way.

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The Toolled 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 Toolled Up school, you have full unlimited access to the Toolled 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](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*

# TOOLED UP®

BECAUSE EVIDENCE MATTERS



Supporting Autistic Students as They Transition to University: A Video



Supporting Your Child as They Start University



Starting University Checklist



My 'Settling In' Journal



Mindset Planner



Back to School Checklist



10 Things You Need to Know About Toolled Up



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. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about — SHARING PHOTOS ONLINE

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

School is often a time chock-full of milestones for your child, and you may well be eager to share their accomplishments with the world. In today's digital age, sharing images of such precious moments on social media is commonplace, and – while that's a lovely thing to do – it does come with some risks attached. Our guide can help parents and carers to consider the potential dangers and make informed choices about safely sharing photos of their children online.

### INVASIONS OF PRIVACY

Even with the right settings in place, absolutely nothing online is 100% private. Anyone who can view your photos could take screenshots and potentially share them elsewhere. Privacy settings are still important, though, so it's always wise to ensure your social media accounts have them set up; just bear in mind that you can't completely control what happens to anything once it's gone online.

### REVEALING PERSONAL DETAILS

Small details in photos can often reveal personal information. Backgrounds can give clues to where you live, for example, while school logos on uniforms, sports kits, or bags could help someone identify which school your child attends. With interactive maps and reverse image searches commonplace online, information like this could easily be misused by an individual with malicious intentions.

### MISUSE OF IMAGES

Once something's been shared online, it's almost impossible to get it deleted. Photos can show up in search engine results and be downloaded, manipulated, and shared without consent. There's the potential for someone's images to be used for advertising purposes (which in many cases, isn't illegal) or even more inappropriate reasons, such as cyber-bullying or serious forms of exploitation.

### ONLINE GROOMING

Pictures that convey details about your child's interests, activities, or daily routines could arm an online predator with the kind of information they can deploy to gain a child's trust. They might use this knowledge to pretend to be the same age as the child or to have a shared hobby. Essentially, the more a predator knows about a young person, the easier it is for them to invent some 'common ground'.

### PRESSURE TO PLEASE

When their parents or carers share notable moments and accomplishments in a child's life on social media, some children may begin to feel an expectation to *always* meet certain standards, to achieve things, or to behave in ways that are "worth sharing". Knowing that other people (even friends and family) can see these posts on social media might also add to the pressure they're feeling internally.

### IMPACT ON DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Every photo of a child posted online contributes to their digital footprint. Young people's lives have never been so closely and publicly documented as they are now, and this permanent online presence could affect a child's future opportunities or the choices they make as they grow up – in addition to influencing how they see themselves and, consequently, their emotional wellbeing.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### REVIEW SETTINGS REGULARLY

Make sure your social media's secure in terms of who can view your content or see your location (only family and trusted friends, for example). Privacy settings aren't totally foolproof, but they *do* make it tougher for strangers to access your pics. Reviewing your settings regularly is also a good starting point for conversations with your child about managing their own social accounts when they're older.

### CONSIDER OTHER CHILDREN

When taking a group photo, make sure you get parents' or carers' permission to share it on social media. There may be an important safeguarding reason for them not wanting their child's photo posted publicly online, or it might simply not tally with their personal beliefs or cultural background. A quick conversation in advance, just to make sure, is usually hugely appreciated.

### CHECK YOUR PHOTOS

Photos of your child shouldn't provide any clues to where they live or go to school: even a house number, street name, or car number plate could be a giveaway. Cover up or blur out school logos, too. If you *really* want to share a particular pic, you could post a watermarked or low-res version, which can help to discourage misuse as those images are less appealing to download or reproduce.

### THINK AHEAD

Try to consider the longer-term implications of what you post. Would you be happy with that photo being online in 10 years' time? Would your child still be OK with the image when they're older? Once your child is mature enough, you could ask for their consent before posting: it respects their privacy, fosters trust and understanding, and helps them to start thinking about their own online life.

### Meet Our Expert

Gabriella Russo is a safeguarding consultant with more than 30 years' experience working with children, families, and adults in education, local authority, and mental health settings, both in the UK and internationally. She has developed online safety training for local authorities and foster care agencies across Britain and is the online safety expert for FosterWiki.



**NOS** National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday

@natonlinesafety

/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonlinesafety

@national\_online\_safety

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## Coming Up

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

### SEPTEMBER 2023

<b>Tue 19</b>	U8 Hockey with Queen Mary's (away; 2pm start, 4pm return) Parent Q&A webinars (9am, 6pm)
<b>Wed 20</b>	Year 5 Robinwood residential
<b>Thu 21</b>	Year 1 visit Hartlepool Art Gallery
<b>Fri 22</b>	Year 5 return from Robinwood (4.30pm) U11 Girls' Hockey v Durham (home; 2.15pm start) U11 Rugby v St Peter's (home; 2pm start)
<b>Sat 23</b>	Stokesley Show U10 Clegg Cup Rugby (Barnard Castle)
<b>Tue 26</b>	Staff professional development <b>No clubs run by teachers today</b>
<b>Wed 27</b>	Staff professional development <b>No clubs run by teachers today</b>
<b>Thu 28</b>	Year 2 trip to Great North Museum U9 Hockey & Rugby v Dame Allan's (away; 2pm start, 4.30pm return) School Council (Lab; 1pm)
<b>Fri 29</b>	U10/11 Hockey v Ashville (home; 2.15pm start) U10 Rugby v Dame Allan's (home; 2pm start) U11 Rugby v Durham (away; 2pm start, 4.30pm return) YPSSC Oktoberfest (PAA; 7-10pm)
<b>Sat 30</b>	<b>Open Morning (9am-12noon)</b>

## Term Dates

### 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

## Celebration Assembly

	Values	Endeavour
<b>3H</b>	Buddy T.	Dulcie B.
<b>3J</b>	Agam V.	Edie T.
<b>3P</b>	Edie P.	Max H.
<b>4F</b>	Amelie T.	Hattie P.
<b>4J</b>	Sajan G.	Bertie H.
<b>4S</b>	Elizabeth H.	Georgie D-B.
<b>5G</b>	Alia M.	Imogen C.
<b>5H</b>	Annalise D.	Henry S.
<b>5K</b>	Sophia B.	Rory B.
<b>6H</b>	Vadim S.	Emily W.
<b>6L</b>	Charlie D-B.	Noah WT.
<b>6W</b>	Aphelia S.	Joey P.

	(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)

### Autumn Term 2024

Preparation Day	Tuesday, 27th August 2024 Wednesday, 28th August 2024
All pupils return	Thursday, 29th August 2024
Half term begins	Friday, 18th October 2024 (after school)
Pupils return	Monday, 4th November 2024
Term ends	Friday, 13th December 2024 (after school; no after school care)

### Spring Term 2025

Pupils return	Monday, 6th January 2025
Half term begins	Thursday, 20th February 2025 (after school)