

# The Phoenix Flier

#### The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

Issue 751 —22nd September 2023

INSIDE THIS WEEK... Year 6 visit Boggle Hole... Year 3 make Lego Mazes... Brunel Charity Day...

#### A message from Mr Sawyer

elcome to this edition of the Phoenix Flier which rounds up another week in the life of Yarm Prep School. It has been another fun-filled few days since our last newsletter during which time we have seen our first charity event of the year, sports fixtures with other schools and more trips travelling far and wide to support the curriculum. These rich learning experiences offer our pupils a purposeful and opportunity laden school life. It is to their credit that they engage in so much and respond with real gusto. We have discussed recently what it means to wear our school emblem, the phoenix, and how through our many actions we can demonstrate pride in our badge. It is therefore pleasing to note that our pupils' collective endeavour, commitment and good natured approach has been commended by visitors, opposition coaches and members of the public when representing us recently. They are great ambassadors for the School!

It has been joyous to see the Tinkershed open this week. In essence this space is a haven for the recreational disassembly of items and the creation of models, sculptures and projects from a range of reclaimed materials. It is a venue to further curiosity and spark creativity. We look forward to seeing how the Tinkershed develops in the coming weeks and months.

# Bíll Sawyer

#### **Head's Challenge:** How can you add eight fours together so the total adds up to 500?



**Photo of the Week:** Our new Year 6 cohort got to enjoy the delights of Boggle Hole and Robin Hood's Bay last week. Full report inside.

#### Year 6 Visit Boggle Hole

Last week, over three days, our Year 6 classes took turns to visit Robin Hood's Bay and the cave formation at Boggle Hole. The trip is perhaps a right of passage for our Year 6 pupils as it has run each year for almost as long as the Prep School has been in existence. The point of the trip is twofold: a scientific study of the marine life found in our shoreline and a chance to understand the geology and geography of the North Yorkshire coastline.

Each day, our forms departed in two minibuses and drove over the spectacular North Yorkshire Moors. Sublime views of Whitby and the sea were witnessed by the children. After clambering out of our minibuses, we put on our wellies and packed our nets into each rucksack. We then meandered down the main road of Robin Hood's

Bay and on to the beach where we commenced with an activity in the Rock Pools.

When examining the rock pools the children observed a diverse range of seaweed and creatures that inhabit this area. With great care and attention, the children were able to handle crabs and identify different species and their characteristics. This activity tied in with our science study of classification. In addition to crabs, the children found a variety of fish, shellfish and sea urchins.

After a packed lunch on the quarterdeck (followed by an ice cream) we walked along the beach. First, we observed the sea defences around the town such as the seawall (currently being repaired) and the rock armour. Prior to these engineering projects in the mid-1970s it has been estimated that some 200 properties had been lost to the sea! Where there were no sea defences, the pupils could see first hand evidence of cliff erosion from processes studied in our geography lessons such as abrasion, attrition and hydraulic action. The children also observed the two headlands, North Cheek and South Cheek, that have contributed to the prominence of the bay, as well as an excellent example of a wave-cut platform. At Boggle Hole, they were able to see an example of a cave. Furthermore, a walk along the top of the cliff, along the Cleveland Way, also gave them the opportunity to see evidence of coastal erosion from up high.

On the way back to the car park, we learned that Robin Hood's Bay was a prominent area for smuggling during the 18th Century. The various wynds and ginells in the village were ideal for hiding contraband from the customs officers and inspectors. The children enjoyed exploring these narrow passageways where little has changed in terms of the architecture and building materials used over the past 300 years.

It was a pleasure to lead this trip. The children displayed the school values so well. Indeed, it was heartwarming to listen to members of the public and business owners complimenting the manners and behaviour of Year 6. As a school we look forward to more visits to this stunning part of our region. My thanks go to all children in Year 6 as well as Mrs Lofthouse-Hill, Miss Whitehouse and Mr Pearce.

Mr Harandon







My favourite part of Boggle Hole was the rock pooling and I found a crab and two shrimp along with a fish bone. I named them Crabby, Shrimpy and Shrimps.

I think it was really interesting to see all of the marine life and seeing the erosion first hand was awesome.

#### Francesca F.

I enjoyed learning and doing the sea creature activity. I also enjoyed learning about the sea wall that was there and how it was £40 million to build it and when we went it was having its first ever repair.

#### Dylan M.

I really enjoyed Boggle
Hole because of all of
the marine life we
found. I even found a
huge crab! My
favourite part of
Boggle Hole (and I
think most people will
agree with me) was
definitely the Ice
cream!

#### Laurel G.

On Wednesday, 6W

went to Boggle hole to learn about erosion in action and the thing I enjoyed the most is when we got to go rock pooling and we learned about different types of erosion.

We got to see a massive wall which separated the town and the ocean. This wall had a great big curve on the bottom so the ocean would hit the wall and fall back down.

#### Alice S.

Wow! What a trip! We got to explore new things and find new creatures and got to learn the history of the great Robin Hood's Bay. My favourite trip ever and we

got ice cream. A brilliant trip, I hope everyone liked it.

#### Pradyoth K.

On Wednesday, 6W went to Boggle Hole. I loved Boggle Hole because of the marine life. We did rock pooling for crabs and stuff in the seaweed and water. I also loved the Ice cream.

Violet F.









#### **PE and Games News**

In PE the children have been working hard on their fitness levels. They have learnt to take their heart rate and see what type of exercise effects it most. So far, the children have done the Cooper run as a base test, some have done some Fartlek training which means 'speed play' and all have taken part in a fitness circuit plotting heart rates as they went. It has been great

Mrs Redhead-Sweeney

to see the children's enthusiasm.









It has been fantastic getting fixtures up and running this year. The Under 11s enjoyed a hockey session alongside Red House on Friday with all girls improving their positional understanding. On Tuesday the Year 3 girls were super ambassadors at Queen Mary's and had a great time developing their hockey skills and making new friends.

# **Brunel Charity Day**

Well done to Brunel, who raised £627.61 for the local *Hearing Dogs* charity on their Charity Day this week.

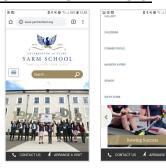




#### How to set up Fixtures Pro on your Smartphone

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 | 3. Click on 'Sport' School' at the top of the page.

which appears down the lefthand side.

4. Click on 'Fixtures and Results'.

corner of the browser, click on the three dots, then click on 'Add to Home screen'.

5. In the top-right | 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.



#### 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.nortonhockevclub.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 wel as a host of age group teams. For further info email: <a href="mailto:grangetownnc@hotmail.com">grangetownnc@hotmail.com</a>

Headlanders Netball Club in Darlington where Mrs Jolly coaches. Contact <a href="mailto:dheadlanders@outlook.com">dheadlanders@outlook.com</a> for further details re. Wednesday night training. 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 - <a href="https://yarm.rfu.club/teams">https://yarm.rfu.club/teams</a>

Darlington Mowden RFC - https://www.mowdenpark.com/

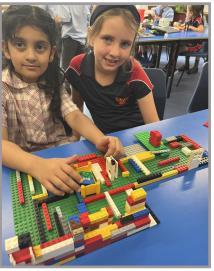
Darlington RFC - https://www.pitchero.com/clubs/darlingtonrfc/

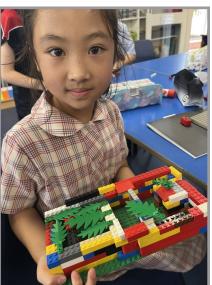
# Year 3 Design & Technology

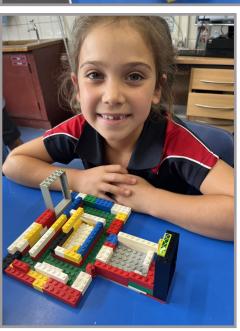
Y3 have been making Lego mazes in D&T in preparation for making a wooden one!

Mrs Smith















# **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)

Careful, quiet Yasmeen

contentedly doodling in her journal.

#### **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.

#### **Safety Week**

We welcomed visits from Dogs Trust and the Canal and River Trust last week as part of our annual Safety Week, with speakers talking to us about dog safety and water safety respectively. There were also talks about fire safety and internet safety.



Mr Stone

#### **6L Class Poem**

Creative, caring Kaira painting a perfect picture. Trustworthy, competitive Lolwa swimming at lightning speed. Confident, sporty Flynn running rapidly down the wing. Clever, quiet Wahaj Laughing with his friends. Friendly, kind-hearted Amelia forever caring for others. Sporty, competitive Maisie always hanging upside down. Confident, ambitious Ollie running faster than a flame. Arty, efficient Ronav forever making me laugh. Smart, kind Brian hitting winners all day long. Funny, considerate Hannah sharing her love of animals.

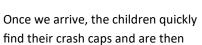
Cheeky, determined William sprinting to get the try. Optimistic, smart Samuel always playing football. Modest, sporty Sylvia having fun in French. Honest, cheerful Charlie offering to help out. Sporty, speedy Phoenix regularly winning races. Supportive, enthusiastic Trisha always being kind. Amusing, techy Haashir constantly clicking on the keyboard. Humorous, (very) cheeky Noah talking all the time. Entertaining, compassionate Tallulah always doing flips. Funny, friendly James Jumping nimbly from grip to grip.

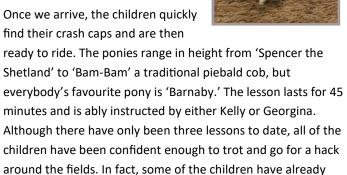
#### **Horse Riding**

Cheerful, unique Mrs Hart

helping people everyday.

Every Wednesday, 12 children from Years 2 and 3 travel by minibus to Kirklevington Riding Centre for their weekly riding session. There is always great excitement as we drive to the riding school and lots of chatter!





Although there have only been three lessons to date, all of the children have been confident enough to trot and go for a hack around the fields. In fact, some of the children have already mastered a 'rising trot' which is a challenge and requires very good balance and core strength.

Throughout the lessons the children also learn facts about the tack and the points of the horse. All abilities are welcome to join horse riding and this term we have some children who are complete beginners and some who have been riding for much longer. For the parents



who come to spectate there is also the chance to purchase a cup of coffee and a piece of delicious, homemade cake. Next term, there will be another chance for 12 children to attend and who knows, we may be in the presence of the next AP McCoy, Charlotte Dujardin or William Whittaker!

Mrs Jones

#### Coming Up at the PAA

#### <u>Halloween</u> Spooktacular

#### Monday 30th October, 2.30pm and 6.30pm

Join Tommy The Ghostbuster and all the gang as they embark on another spooktastic



adventure this Halloween! Will everything turn out okay in the end? Will the party go ahead? Will everyone live spookily ever after? Find out by booking your tickets today! Fancy dress encouraged!

#### Fireman Sam



#### Sunday 5th November, 12pm and 3.30pm

When all of his friends go away, Norman Price decides to find adventure in Pontypandy and become the star of a visiting circus. But with a tiger on the loose and faulty lights, the adventure soon turns to danger. Can Fireman Sam come to the rescue and save the circus?

#### **DT Requests**

#### **Tinkershed**

This week we have opened the Tinkershed. This is a 'makerspace' cabin on the playground where children can tinker, express their creativity and make whatever they would like to. In a bid to make the tinkershed as sustainable as possible, we would be grateful for donations of items

throughout the school year. The remit is quite broad: Interesting packaging, old pieces of fabric, plastic bottle tops, junk modelling items, leftover bits of wool or anything that you think children would enjoying using as a building material. The tinkershed is also a place of disassembly so any unwanted electrical items, or non-electrical items which would be interesting to dismantle, would be also gratefully received. Please remove any batteries prior to sending in though! Thank you.

#### Lego and K'Nex

We are also looking to augment our stocks of Lego and K'Nex. If you have a surplus of either these at home and are willing to donate it to school, it would be appreciated and put to good use.

#### **D&T Curriculum - Slippers and Pencil Cases**

To support textile projects in the D&T room, we would be grateful for any donations of old slippers and old pencil cases for disassembly. These can be donated at any point during the school year on a continual basis. Thank you for those donations already received.

Mrs Smith

#### **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

#### **Parent Handbook Reminders**

**Chromebooks**—As the Chromebooks will be the responsibility of the children, they are to be taken home each day after school. They will need to charge them at home too, as well as complete any homework, as we will be unable to provide charging facilities at school. It is not the responsibility of class teachers to do this and there should be no Chromebooks on charge in classrooms.

Appearance—The wearing of jewellery is not permitted. The wearing of earrings and ear studs is not permitted for safety reasons. Please avoid ear piercing which will necessitate the wearing of ear studs at school. Children will be asked to ensure any ear piercings are taken out as soon as possible. It is recommended and expected that any ear piercings take place in the school holidays, not during term time. If your child has had their ears pierced, we recommend that they wear small, clear and discreet plastic 'placeholder' retainers at school.

Mr Stone



# 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 12th 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 welcomewe can find homes for clean items in good condition

# **Tooled Up Education**

The initial excitement and confusion of starting the new year have given way to a welcome sense of routine. This transitional phase marks a pivotal moment for families, where children adjust to new environments and set their sights on the future.

Setting Up Success: Thriving in the Academic Year Ahead

Now that the Autumn term is well and truly underway, it's time to instil good habits and organisation skills. This is particularly crucial for students embarking on an examination year. Remember, a strong start paves the way for a successful journey ahead! Discover our 'Goal Planner' to boost self-esteem and confidence in your child, take the stress out of school mornings, and explore valuable tips tailored for students in their GCSE year. If you're a parent of a younger child, there is plenty we can do at home to help feel prepared and calm ahead of an exam as well, so make sure to take a look at our quick and simple tips.





Books about Body Boundaries, Consent and Healthy Relationships

11+ Season: Navigating the Path to Secondary School

For those of us with children moving up to Secondary, the school application process can be a source of anxiety. But for students taking the ll+ in the next couple of months, help is at hand! We have worked with an award-winning ll+ tutor to create an <u>information sheet</u> and recorded a <u>webinar</u> that should help to support you and your child through the exam process.

Healthy Relationships, Healthy Boundaries

With the news regularly featuring sexual assault allegations, we need to be opening <u>conversations</u> with our children about healthy, mutually respectful relationships as well as questions of consent and personal boundaries at an early age. We have various practical resources designed to help teens think critically about <u>how formative romantic relationships should make them feel</u>, how to <u>navigate potential pressures</u> to share intimate images, and general <u>facts</u> on teen relationships today. And if you need some help with conversation starters, you can always check out our <u>list</u> of fact and fiction books for all ages.

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 <a href="mailto:research@tooledupeducation.com">research@tooledupeducation.com</a> 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 <a href="https://example.com/here-to-register-for-an-account">here to register for an account</a>. 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 <a href="https://example.com/support@tooledupeducation.com">support@tooledupeducation.com</a>. 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

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 for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about



# SHARING PHOTOS



WHAT ARE THE RISKS? Schooliseitenatimechock-fulletmilestenesforyourchild, and you may well be egger to share their accomplishments with the world. Into day's digital age, sharing limages of such predous moments on social media is common place, and — while that is allowed you hill go to be little second with some risks attached. Our guide can help parents and care is to consider the potential dangers and make informed choices about safely sharing photos of their children on line.

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. 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 et it deleted. Photos can show p in search engine results and e 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 xploitation

#### **ONLINE GROOMING**

Pictures that convey details about your child's interests, activities, or daily routines could arm an online predator with the kind 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

#### PRESSURE TO PLEASE

When their parents or carers life on social media, some children may begin to feel an expectation to always meet certain standards, to achieve things, 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

#### CONSIDER OTHER CHILDREN

#### **CHECK YOUR PHOTOS**

#backtoschool

#### THINK AHEAD

#### Meet Our Expert

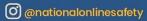














Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 30.08.2023

# **Coming Up**

You can find the Yarm School calendar by clicking here

#### **SEPTEMBER 2023**

Sat 23 Stokesley Show

U10 Clegg Cup Rugby (Barnard Castle)

Tue 26 Staff professional development

No clubs run by teachers today

Wed 27 Staff professional development

No clubs run by teachers today

**Thu 28** Year 2 trip to Great North Museum

U9 Hockey & Rugby v Dame Allan's

(away; 2pm start, 4.30pm return)

School Council (Lab; 1pm)

Fri 29 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)

Sat 30 Open Morning (9am-12noon)

#### **Term Dates**

#### Autumn Term 2023

Preparation Days Tuesday, 29th August 2023

Wednesday, 30th August 2023 n Thursday, 31st August 2023

All Pupils Return Thursday, 31st August 202
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

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(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

# **Celebration Assembly**

	Values	Endeavour
3H	Harrison V.	William D.
3J	Oscar W.	Leah R.
3P	Ned F.	Zara G.
4F	Alice J.	Paari M.
<b>4</b> J	Deia TM.	Jana A.
45	Amani R.	Francesca S.
5G	Thomas M.	Fathe C.
5H	Emily Q.	Rosa W.
5K	Olivia T.	Jack S.
6Н	Erin G.	Jacob B.
6L	Flynn N.	Hannah C.
6W	Olivia G.	Lewis D.

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)

INSET Day Friday 21st February 2025 Pupils return Monday 3rd March 2025

Term ends Friday 4th April 2025 (after school)

#### Summer Term, 2025

Pupils return Wednesday, 23rd April 2025
Bank Holiday Monday, 5th May 2025
Half term begins Thursday, 22nd May 2025

(after school)

Pupils return Monday, 2nd June 2025 Term ends Thursday, 3rd July 2025