



The Phoenix Flier

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

Issue 755 — Friday 20th October 2023

INSIDE THIS WEEK... Year 4 science... PE and Games latest... Year 5 Community work...

A message from Mr Sawyer

Welcome to this week's edition of the Phoenix Flier. There has been a trail of ghosts, ghouls and other such spooky characters merrily skipping past my window this afternoon as our younger children have headed to the Halloween disco. The evident excitement and joy on their faces is a strong reminder of the importance of fun in our school lives. We don't have to dress up to enjoy school, but as a staff team we feel it is important that we engage and ignite curiosity in our learners. This final week before half term has been no different and, as this newsletter shows, our pupils have enjoyed dissecting owl pellets in science, touring the new build, engaging in an enterprise talk from a leading industry professional and much more in recent days. There is a constant hum about Yarm Prep - the sound of collaboration, discovery, learning and laughter.

It was a pleasure to sit down with Mr Neville Tate OBE, the founding Headmaster of Yarm School, alongside Dr Williams this week to hear about the school's inception. It's a rare opportunity as a school leader to be able to speak to the people who paved the way for future generations. Neville is certainly one of those people, and it was thoroughly enjoyable to discuss the pioneering spirit of the Governing Body, the strong parent partnership and the excitement of life for pupils in the early days of the school's existence. These founding principles are still at the forefront of our minds today and will continue to guide our way into the future.

Bill Sawyer

Head's Challenge:

What bird is seen in the museum?



Photo of the Week: Community spirit, owl pellet dissection, Head to Heads and new building tours—it has been a busy week at the Prep!

You are warmly invited to a

Maths at Yarm Preparatory School

Information Event for Year 2 - 6 Parents
Wednesday 8th November 2023, 4 – 4.45pm
Prep School Hall

- ✓ Counting/Number
- ✓ Written calculations
- ✓ Fluency
- ✓ Maths Apps
- ✓ Supporting at home



- ✓ R-Y6 Overview
- ✓ KIRFS
- ✓ Times Table Facts
- ✓ Resources
- ✓ Parent Workshops



*How does the school teach calculations?
Why is fluency so important?
How can I support my child at home?
What websites can I use at home?*

To allow us to plan and cater for the event, please can you fill in the Google Form below by **Monday 6th November**, indicating whether you will be attending.

<https://forms.gle/MWzkhLmR7uxaTPxC7>

Yarm Preparatory School, Grammar School Lane, Yarm TS15 9ES

Telephone: 01642 781447

Year 4 Owl Pellets

Year 4 used tweezers to dissect owl pellets to discover what an owl consumes. We found mice, shrew and vole bones as well as exoskeletons from insects and a lot of fur! We used ID charts to identify the bones and studied our findings using magnifying glasses and microscopes.

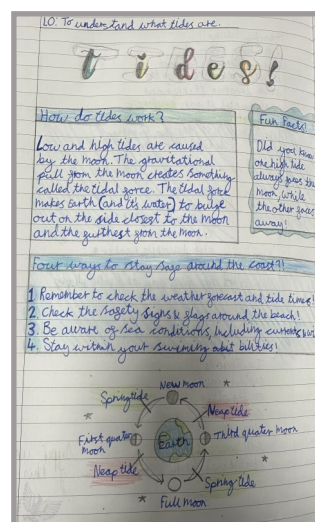
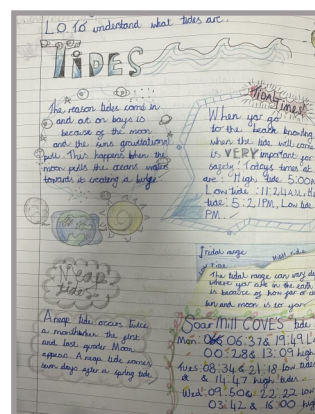
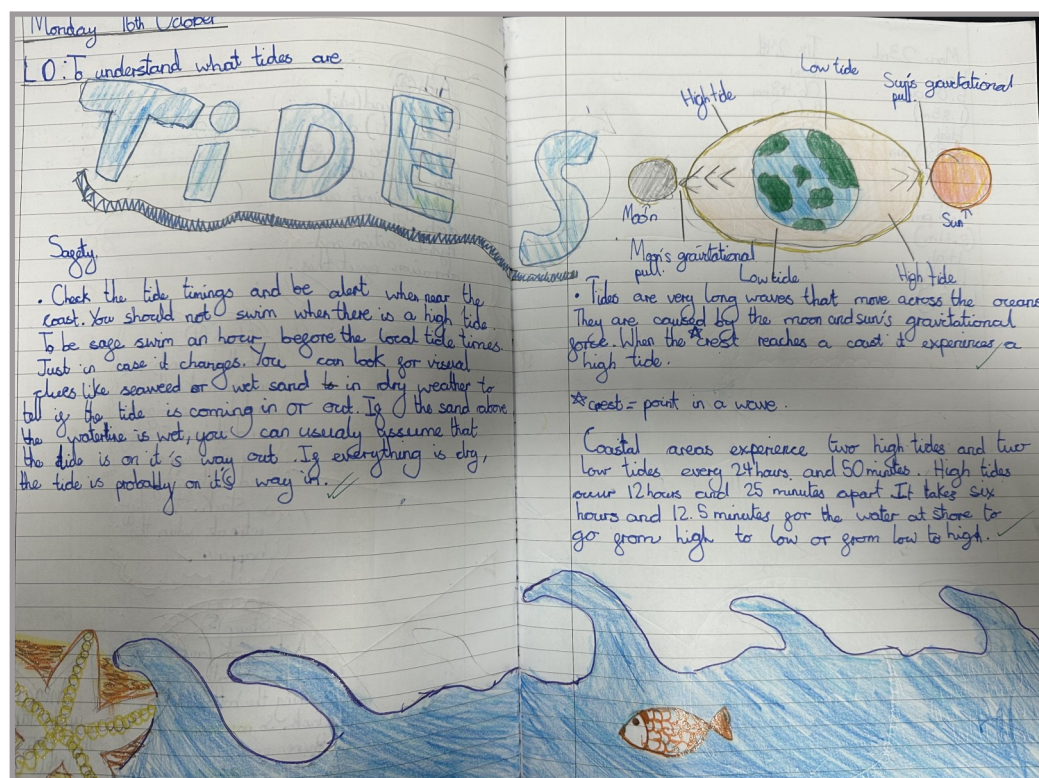
Mrs Smith



6W Humanities

6W have been researching tides to finish off their topic on coasts. They produced some eye catching and informative posters.

Miss Whitehouse



PE and Games News

Highlights of the Under 9 Hockey Festival

Harriet's highlight of the day was meeting Lizzie and making new friends.

Emma enjoyed playing lots of games.

Scarlett loved playing with her friends.

Emily enjoyed scoring lots of goals.

Jana enjoyed spending moments with her friends.

Edith was extremely proud of scoring.

Aditi liked making friends from a different school.

Sia played well and ensured we were working as a team.

Elizabeth was thrilled to score a goal against Red House.

I enjoyed scoring goals and having fun.

Annabelle A.

Under 8 Rugby v Dame Allan's

On our first big fixture away, it was pleasure to see how much the Under 8s have come along since the start of the term. The boys played excellently across all three matches, communicating and supporting each other at all times. They passed the ball well and put the other team under pressure when tackling. The best thing to witness however was how much they enjoyed it.

I am already looking forward to our next fixture after half term. Well done everybody.

Mr Underwood



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)

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.](#)

Coming Up at the PAA

[Gerardo Rodrigues](#)

Saturday 11th November, 7pm; featuring Yarm Pupils

Portuguese pianist Gerardo Rodrigues' compositions are already his mark, his second album has presented itself as the story of his own emotions, explored at a time when Gerardo redefined his path, his goals and priorities. In a very particular style, which balances between New-Age, Neo-Classical or Modern-Classical, his compositions show his love for the piano, resulting in a unique work in Portugal. Gerardo promises to excite, surprise and inspire all audiences when he brings the "Estado de Alma to our stage.



[Lindisfarne – Magic in the Air](#)

Saturday 17th February

Legendary 70's Tyneside folk-rock pioneers Lindisfarne present a classic five-piece line-up of long-time members fronted by founder-member Rod Clements on vocals, mandolin, fiddle and slide guitar. For their 2023 tour, Lindisfarne recall a memorable period of live shows focussed on the 1977 release of live LP 'Magic in The Air'.



[Off the Field and into the Jungle with Mike Tindall MBE](#)

Tuesday 20th February, 7.45pm

Join us for what promises to be a fantastic evening with the ex-England Rugby Union and World Cup winning legend, Mike Tindall MBE. There is no topic off limits with Mike and we look forward to welcoming you to what promises to be an outstanding evening.



Tooled Up Webinar

Tooled Up Education warmly invites you to register for their upcoming webinar:

[Understanding Girls with clinical psychologist Dr Tara Porter](#)

Join the author of Sunday Times Best Selling "You Don't

Understand Me: The Young Woman's Guide to Life" exploring why girls are struggling with their mental health so much at present. She will provide parents ideas for bolstering their relationship with their daughters whilst supporting their mental health.

Webinar date: November 21, 2023 - 19:30 GMT.

Year 5 Community Spirit

Year 5 have been busy creating a reading rainbow for our library in their Community Spirit activity.

Mrs Hart



Year 6 Enterprise



Brunel welcomed Mr John Connolly from Coca-Cola to their Enterprise activity this week. Here are some of their thoughts:

I learned that the Santa could have been blue or green if it wasn't for Coca-Cola, who made it red and white. They also serve 1.7 billion bottles a day.

Aphelia S.

I liked learning about how Coca-Cola has developed over the years and how many other companies they own!

Laurel G.

What I liked about the presentation was that finding out about how Coca-Cola faced difficulties like when Pepsi was created. I interested how Santa was designed by them.

Vedh A.

Year 3 Visit their New Classes!

There was lots of excitement in Year 3 this week as they got to visit their new classrooms with Mr Hodgson! We are looking forward to moving into them at some point after half-term.

Year 3 team



Message to Parents

Spaces are available in the following clubs. If you would like your child to join, please contact Mr Stone—gns@yarmschool.org.

Monday—Y4-6 Philosophy

Tuesday—Y5-6 Table Tennis (there is a charge for this club)

Thursday—Y5-6 Squash (there is a charge for this club)



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 at the Prep reception.



Thank you!

FUN AND FREE HALF TERM HALLOWEEN CAMPS

GRANGETOWN NETBALL

Friday 3rd November
Y5 & Y6 9-12pm
Y7 & Y8 1-4pm

Email: grangetownnc@hotmail.com to book your **FREE** place!

Grangetown Youth and Community Centre, TS6 7HP

YARM PREP SCHOOL SOCIAL COMMITTEE

CAPTAIN'S BALL

25th November 2023

IN AID OF NEO ANGELS CHARITY

Early Bird Ticket £75 - includes Drinks & Canapes, 4-Course Meal
Princess Alexandra Auditorium, 7pm - midnight

[Click here to buy tickets on Classlist.](#)

[In aid of Neoangels.](#)



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Having a new born baby in special care brings a lot of extra expense, including travel costs, parking, extra child care and missed days at work. We offer a small grant scheme and can signpost you to other support services that might be able to help.

www.neoangels.org.uk

neoangels

Neo Angels offer an array of services to families including financial support; help with food, travel and parking costs, as well as emotional support. We also work incredibly closely with our amazing medical team, meaning we are able to quickly implement new practice methods to best support baby, mum and dad and siblings too.



FOOD VOUCHERS

We're all about helping out in a practical way! One thing we do is provide food vouchers, because we understand the costs can stack up when you are eating in cafes and canteens every day. And that's not all – we can also signpost you to lots of great local services that can help.



My Child's Art

ARTWORK SHEET (SEND TO BE RETURNED)

Artwork Sheet

Send this sheet to: Yarm Prep School Social Committee, PO Box 100, Yarm, North Yorkshire YO91 1JH. Tel: 0191 485 1111. Email: ypssc@yarmschool.org

Please return this sheet with all other art to the YPSSC by the school drop deadline on 20th October 2023. The school drop deadline is 2.30pm on 20th October 2023. Please ensure you label your artwork with your child's name and class.

Some ideas and examples of children's drawings for inspiration

- Crackers
- Sheddings
- Christmas Jumper
- Strawed Glass Windows
- Penguins
- Snowmen
- Christmas Socks
- Reindeer
- Christmas Trees
- Angels
- Elves
- Hands & Footprints
- Wreaths
- Reindeer

Dear Parents

My Child's Art is a service that enables parents to order Christmas cards, as well as a host of other personalised gifts printed with your child's unique design. YPSSC earns commission from every purchase of the My Child's Art products which provide valuable funds to meet the cost of activities for the children.

Your child's form teacher has the option to complete the artwork in class or send the art sheet home.

To get the best results please follow the accompanying instructions.

With apologies, any artwork NOT completed on an official artwork sheet cannot be used.

Spare sheets are available from Louise White in Prep and Georgina Banham in Pre Prep.

Once your child's artwork is complete, please return it (**unfolded**) to their form teacher **no later than 20 October 2023** i.e. **before the end of term**.

What happens next...

Once we receive the artwork, we will send this off to My Child's Art who will scan and upload your sheets into a secure online order portal. We will then be able to share the details with you so that you can view the exciting range of festive products that are available, all including your child's unique design.

Thank you very much in anticipation of your support.

Many thanks

YPSSC



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.

ypssc@yarmschool.org



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

Saturday 18th November Christmas Market
Saturday 25th November Winter Ball- Tickets on Classlist

Coffee mornings

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

Wednesday 10th Jan 9-11am
Wednesday 28th Feb 9-11am
Thursday 14th March 9-11am
Friday 26th April 9-11am
Thursday 27th June 9-11am

Drinks evening

Thursday 12th October 7.30-9.30pm
Monday 20th May 7-10pm

@ 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

Christmas Fundraiser Artwork Guidelines

For best printed results we recommend full coverage designs that use bright / bold felt tip pens.

Do Use...

- ☒ Bold colours
- ☒ Felt-tip pens
- ☒ Poster paint

Don't Use...

- ☒ Light colours
- ☒ Pencils
- ☒ Crayons
- ☒ Metallic pens
- ☒ Glitter
- ☒ Collage

Tooled Up Education

As parents, we have to be ready for anything as we watch our children grow and develop. Pandemics can occur, war can break-out and unexpected challenges can sadly occur in family life. In such situations, we need to 'dig deep' and seek ways to support children and young people optimally. How do we do that?

[Making Sense of the World Webinar](#)

Watch this conversation, featuring child psychiatrist, Dr Dennis Ougrin and neuroscientist, Anna Tarasenko as they share 'tried and tested' strategies on how to talk to children about traumatic events. If you don't have time to watch, please read our essential [tips list](#).

[My Coping Menu](#)

When we feel strong emotions, such as sadness, anger, fear or anxiety, it's useful to have a [toolkit](#) of ideas that we know can help elevate our mood and help us cope better. Use our 'coping menu' as a springboard for family conversation and share what works for you. Encourage your children to reflect on activities and ideas that they can use to cope better in all aspects of their lives.



Making Sense of the World

[Making Sense of the Menopause: a Live Q&A](#)

It is World Menopause Day today so tune into this informative [webinar](#) with Dr Barton, The Menopause Medic, who talks us through how the menopause affects women and the wider family! She answers questions, separates fact from fiction and talks listeners through available treatment options.

[School Holiday Planner](#)

If anyone has a school break coming up or simply needs help thinking about how to spend time with one's children, enjoy our [template](#) that can help you navigate best use of time!

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!

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, 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. This guide focuses on one of many apps that 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

YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTube users by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Carers

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from chancing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.



TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.



CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.



CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.



MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.



LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!



Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Coming Up

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

OCTOBER 2023

Mon 23 October Half-Term Holiday School
(until Friday 27th October)

NOVEMBER 2023

Mon 6 **Pupils return**

Tue 7 U8 Hockey/Rugby workshops with Cundall
(away; 1.45pm start, 4pm return)

Wed 8 Maths Information Afternoon
(Prep Hall; 4pm)

School Council (Lab; 1pm)

Thu 9 Schools Cross-Country
(Barlborough Hall; 2pm start, 5.30pm return)

Fri 10 Remembrance Assembly

U10/11 Girls’ Hockey v Pocklington
(away; 12.30pm depart, 2pm start, 5pm return)

U10/11 Rugby v Pocklington
(home; 2pm start)

Mon 13 Diwali Celebrations

Children to come in traditional dress

Anti-Bullying Week

Tue 14 Schools Chess
(QEGS Wakefield; 10am start, 5.30pm return)

World Diabetes Day assembly

U8 Hockey and Rugby with Ashville
(away; 2pm start, 4.30pm return)

Term Dates

Autumn Term 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)

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
(after Prize Giving)

Celebration Assembly

	Values	Endeavour
3H	Genevieve P.	Elijah D.
3J	Noah S.	Lucy D.
3P	Zoyaa A.	Louis G.
4F	Monty B.	Mana H.
4J	Andres O.	Henry F.
4S	Sia S.	Wilbur M-S.
5G	Daisy C.	Stan D.
5H	Holly B.	Martha L.
5K	Logan M.	Livvie C.
6H	Zara P.	Clemmie H.
6L	Sylvia D.	Ollie B.
6W	Hugo M.	Harrison C.

Head Teacher Awards:

Joey P., Harry H. (Y6)