



The Phoenix Flier

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

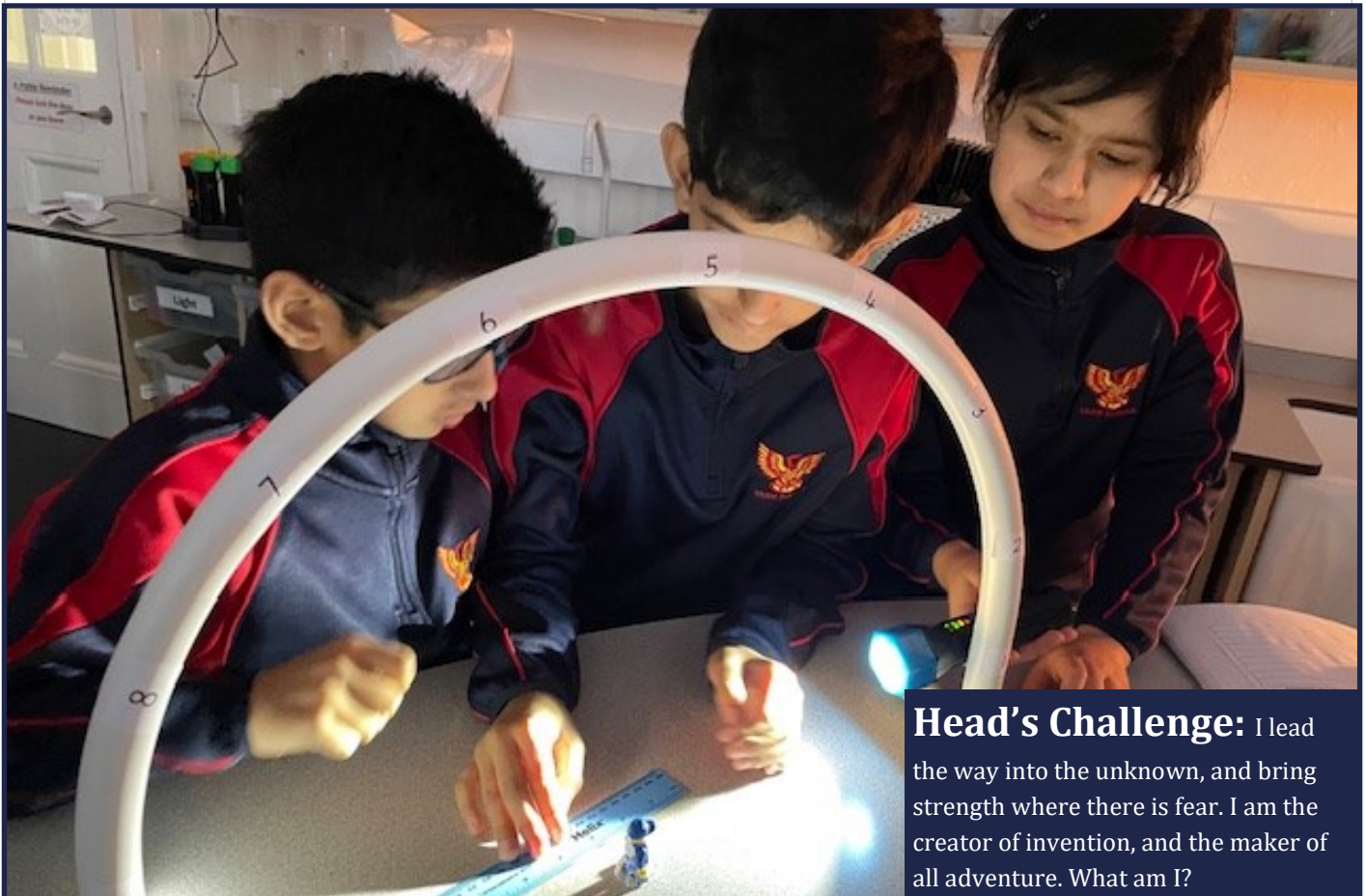
Issue 763 — Friday 19th January 2024

A message from Mr Sawyer

Welcome to this week's edition of the Phoenix Flier which rounds up the pursuits and adventures of our school community. There is certainly a great deal going on and this issue reports on fixtures, eco club, science investigations, the recent house typing competition and much more! At this time in the term our activities and clubs are in full swing. There is an abundance of extra curricular exploration taking place with clubs happening before school, at lunchtime and after school, and activities on a Monday and Wednesday during lesson 6. It was one such activity, Community Spirit, that saw our pupils send gorgeous thank you notes and cards to members of staff this week. Over the next few weeks they will be looking for other ways to show gratitude and spread kindness.

The significance of kindness and gratitude within our school community cannot be overstated. It fosters a positive and inclusive environment, promoting a sense of belonging for all. When we treat each other with empathy and respect, it creates a culture that encourages collaboration, teamwork, and a shared commitment to learning of all kinds. Showing gratitude helps to cultivate an atmosphere where everyone feels valued and recognised for their contributions. Furthermore, experiencing kindness and being thanked for your efforts helps us to feel safe and supported, and leads to improved mental well-being. As staff we always aim to model gratitude and display kindness. It sets a powerful example, reinforcing our School Values which help to lay the foundations upon which our pupils can flourish.

Bill Sawyer



Head's Challenge: I lead the way into the unknown, and bring strength where there is fear. I am the creator of invention, and the maker of all adventure. What am I?

Photo of the Week: Year 3 have been investigating shadows in science this week.

Year 3 New Build

The new classrooms have been well received by Year 3. Here are some of their thoughts...

I love the size and how light it is. I like the green paint because it makes me feel cosy and relaxed.

Leah R.

It's so much bigger than the old 3J and we can all sit on the carpet for phonics!

Senon W.

I really enjoy eating lunch in the new dining hall with my friends.

Hannah M.

It's really modern and the furniture is clean and new.

Harrison V.

The walls are peaceful and calming colours.

Jayden G.

I like the new lunch hall because it's much quicker and we can sit to eat with our friends.

Max H.



Eco Club

In Eco Club we were surveying our Global Citizenship impact and effectiveness.

As a school we needed to check whether the kitchen were thinking about the global impact on the choices they make when purchasing food products.

Pippa was given a time limit and managed to find three items in under 50 seconds!

Mr Pengilly



UNIFORM UPDATE

We have recently reviewed the Pre-Prep and Prep PE and Games kit, in particular the white shorts and socks. A number of parents have commented that white is not the easiest colour to keep clean.

Moving forward the PE and Games kit will be the current navy games top or rugby top and navy shorts or skirt and games socks. I hope that you will agree that this will be a more serviceable colour when it comes to laundering. As all pupils will already have the navy games kit there is no need to purchase any additional items. The white PE kit can still be used until the end of the school year.

To confirm - the white PE shorts and white PE socks going forward will now no longer be needed.

The white PE polo shirt with house colours however will still be needed for Sports day and summer activities such as tennis and athletic meets.

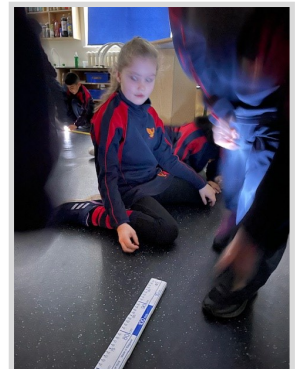
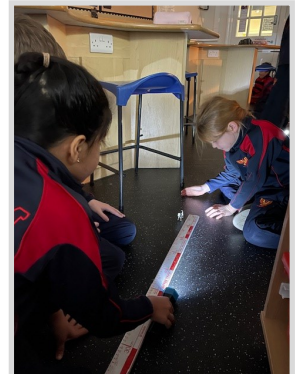
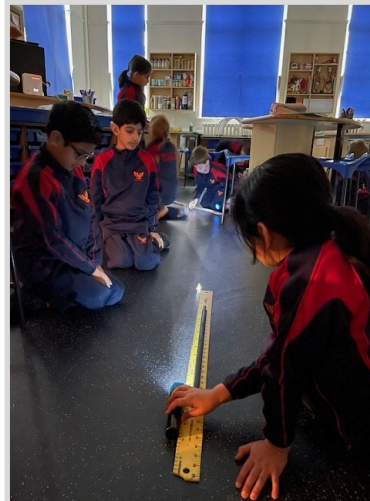
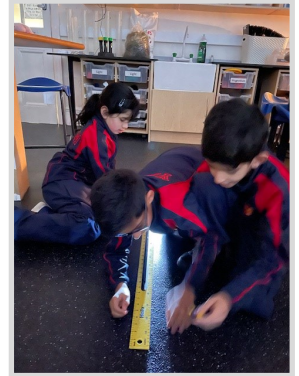
Please feel free to get in touch with me if you have any further questions or you would like to make an appointment for the Uniform Showroom.

[Mrs Porter, Uniform Showroom Manager](#)

Year 3 Science

Year 3 have been investigating shadows in science this week.

Mr Pengilley



Holiday School Dates

Easter 2024:

2nd to 5th April (4 days)

Summer 2024:

15th July to 2nd August (15 days)



House Typing

Our first house competition of the new year saw Brunel continue their winning ways with success in the second even House Typing event. On average Brunellians were able to record an average speed of 19.6 words per minute to retain their title, pipping Telford who came second with an average of 19.2 wpm. Stephenson (17.3 wpm) came third, with Arkwright securing fourth with 15.7 wpm.

As expected, the fastest typists in school came from Year 6. Zara Paul (Stephenson), Ahmad Ifrahim (Telford) and Rebecca Nicholson (Telford) topped the speed charts overall with an incredible 43 wpm. The fastest in the other year groups were as follows: Year 5—Rory Brearey (Brunel; 31 wpm); Year 4—Aditi Kumar (Stephenson; 29 wpm); Year 3—Karunya Garg (Brunel; 31 wpm).

Well done to all who took part.

Mr Stone

New Build Open House

'Open house' visits for parents and pupils have been arranged to tour the facilities (between 4pm and 4.15pm) in groups on the following dates:

Tue 30/1 - Year 3

Weds 31/1 - Pre-Prep

Thurs 1/2 - Pre-Prep

Thu 8/2 - Year 4

Wed 28/2 - Year 6

Fri 1/3 - Year 5

Wed 13/3 - Former Prep pupils currently in Senior School and parents

Mr Stone



YPSSC PreLoved Uniform



We have a huge and varied stock of preloved uniform available.

Boys & Girls Blazers
Coats & Cagoules
Hats
Summer uniform
Winter Uniform
Games Kit Items
PE kit Items

From Nursery through to Year 6.

Prices start from £1!

If you are looking to add to your uniform wardrobe or simply want a few spares, visit our website www.ypssc.co.uk or scan the QR code below to complete a stock check/order form.

All clean and reusable donations of outgrown uniform are welcome too- just bag them up and either pass them on to a committee member or drop them off at the Prep reception.



Thank you!



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



<https://bit.ly/yarmcurriculum>

Click here to access the Parent Curriculum Information Site

Tooled Up Education

One thing about parenting: it is a journey! When every day throws up new questions and challenges, from friendship groups to body changes to exam stress, it can feel like one has to become an instant expert in a whole new field every day.

That's where Tooled Up comes into its own. One hundred schools and organisations subscribe to access our platform, and we receive a vast range of parenting questions every week. In response, to date, we have created nearly 800 resources on a huge range of topics.

Ever wondered what other parents have asked our research team? Our [A-Z of Frequently Asked Parenting Questions](#) gives a great overview of the most common questions and concerns that parents put to Tooled Up.

If you ever feel overwhelmed by the amount of content on our site, use our quick guides for an easy-to-digest overview of some of our most popular subjects. Each guide links to different Tooled Up resources available to you. Here are some of the most popular:

Our [Quick Guide to Neurodiversity](#) offers key terms for beginning to navigate autism, ADHD, OCD and more, with links to expert panels, conference recordings and support resources.

We have a [Quick Guide to Anxiety](#) which helps with identifying the symptoms of anxiety, starting points for parents to help, and links to our many resources on coping strategies and staying calm. Our [Guide to Self-Harm](#) contains resources to help you give optimal support to children and young people.

Emotional Literacy refers to our ability to recognise our emotions, and the strategies we use to cope with difficult feelings. Our [Quick Guide to Emotional Literacy](#) gives you some tangible ideas for promoting emotional literacy within family life. Many of these tips are just as useful for adults!

For parents of teenagers trying to keep up with the range of substances available to them at parties, on social media or through peer groups, our partnership with the drug education charity The DSM Foundation has led to guides on [energy drinks](#), [alcohol](#), [vaping](#), [cannabis](#), [nitrous oxide](#), as well as [cocaine](#), [MDMA](#) and [ketamine](#).

Remember, "it takes a village to raise a child" so thank you for allowing us to support you!

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: YPSII03 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 devices which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalcollege.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

SMARTPHONE SAFETY TIPS

for young people

7

You may have been lucky enough to have unwrapped a smartphone at Christmas, or you might be eagerly anticipating getting a new one at some point during this year. Whether it'll be your first ever phone or an upgrade on your old model, it's always useful to have a refresher about how to set it up and adjust the settings to keep yourself – and your valuable personal info – safe and secure. We've collected some expert tips to help you enjoy your smartphone in the healthiest way possible.

NEVER SHARE YOUR PASSCODE

Alongside face or fingerprint recognition, your passcode is crucial to unlocking your phone and accessing your apps and personal information. You shouldn't give it out, even to close friends – after all, you wouldn't hand them a key to your house and let them go in for a nosy around! If a friend wants to use your phone, ask them why and make sure you can see what they're doing with it.

RESPECT PARENTAL CONTROLS

If you're allowed to have a smartphone, it's because your parents or carers feel that you're mature and responsible enough to use it safely. They might set controls and boundaries on your device – not to spoil your fun but to help you avoid hazards like too much screen time or costly in-app purchases. Following these rules means you can enjoy using your phone while respecting their wishes.

TALK TO A TRUSTED ADULT

Whether it's to listen to music, play games, create content or chat with friends, using a smartphone should be fun. If you're ever feeling anxious, worried or scared about going on your phone, then something isn't right. It's important not to ignore these feelings; instead, talk to a trusted adult about what's happening and how it's making you feel.

STAY ALERT

Two words: look up. It might sound obvious, but it's so easy to get immersed in what we're looking at or listening to on our phones that we can become unaware of our surroundings – or who might be around us. People often walk with their head down, focusing on their phone, and forget to check for obstacles in their path, cars or other pedestrians coming towards them, which is clearly dangerous.

DEVELOP HEALTHY HABITS

Phones offer a vast amount of content and the chance to chat with friends whenever we feel like it, which can make it difficult to take time away from the screen. If that's something you struggle with, you could try setting time limits on certain apps. Putting our phones down for a while gives us more time to interact with others or do something physical that helps keep us fit and healthy.

IGNORE UNKNOWN NUMBERS

There are some scammers who might call or text asking you to share personal data or to click on a link and provide your details. Some may claim to be from a genuine company, but trustworthy businesses don't spontaneously call or message to ask for your information. It's safest to ignore calls or texts from unknown numbers, and never give your personal details out over the phone.

ONLY USE AGE-APPROPRIATE APPS

Before downloading a new app or game, check what age rating it has. Don't feel pressured into getting a particular game or app just because your friends are using it. If it's intended for older people, there's a definite risk that it could include content (which is violent or frightening, for instance) or language which isn't suitable and may leave you feeling upset or disturbed.

REMOVE TEMPTATION

A good night's sleep is so important for concentration, mood and overall health. Unwinding properly before going to bed – which means not staring at a screen late at night – can often improve sleep quality. Put your phone on charge overnight, but not in your room. This means you'll have a lot less temptation to check any notifications, reply to messages or get caught up scrolling on social media.

THINK ABOUT OTHERS

Watching videos, listening to music or calling someone can all help to pass the time while we're on the bus, waiting in a queue or walking down the street. It's important to remain mindful of other people, though: they might not want to hear your tunes or your conversation. Likewise, if you're calling from a public place then don't forget that anyone could overhear something personal about you.

SWITCH OFF GEOLOCATION

In your phone's settings, you'll be able to disable geolocation for individual apps and photos; this means that people online (including strangers) can't see information about where you are when you share or post a pic. On the subject of images, it's also important to ask permission before taking or sharing a photo of someone – and don't share embarrassing images of your friends with others.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The
National
College



National
Online
Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

@natonlinesafety

/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonlinesafety

@national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 17.01.2023



YARM SCHOOL PROUDLY PRESENTS AN AMATEUR
PRODUCTION OF

RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S

Click here
for tickets!

Cinderella

ENCHANTED VERSION



MUSIC BY RICHARD RODGERS
BOOK & LYRICS BY OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II



WEDNESDAY 31ST JANUARY - SATURDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2024
7.30PM

THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA AUDITORIUM, YARM SCHOOL

ADULTS £15.00 CHILDREN £8.00

TO BOOK TICKETS CALL 01642 792587 OR VISIT WWW.THEPAAONLINE.ORG

This amateur production of CINDERELLA is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of The Rodgers & Hammerstein Organization. www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

KINDLY SPONSORED BY
ACTIVE CHARTERED FINANCIAL PLANNERS AND CLEVELAND LAND SERVICES



Active



LIVE MUSIC FROM THE COUNTERFEIT CELTS

YSA PRESENTS

ST. PATRICK'S DAY



CELEBRATION

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH, 7-11PM

LIVE MUSIC - FOOD - DRINK

THE BASEMENT BAR, THE PAA

Coming Up

You can find the Yarm School calendar for the Spring Term by clicking here

JANUARY 2024

Sat 20	Open Morning (9am-12noon)
Mon 22	Year 6 Drama Week begins House Chess begins STEAM Person of the Week—Thomas Hanson
Tue 23	U8 Football/Netball with Clifton (away; 2pm start, 4.30pm return)
Wed 24	Primary Schools Singing Day (PAA performance at 2.15pm)
Thu 25	U9 Netball v Red House/Durham (home; 2pm start) Year 1 Plane Fuselage visit
Fri 26	Year 6 Drama Week Performance (New Hall; 4.15pm) U10 Hockey v Cundall Manor (away; 2.15pm start, 4pm return) U10 Netball v Cundall Manor (home; 2pm start) U11 Hockey v Teesside High (home; 2pm start)
Mon 29	House Chess—Matchday 2
Tue 30	New Build Open House—Year 3 parents
Wed 31	New Build Open House—Pre-Prep parents National Schools General Knowledge Quiz heat House Chess—Matchday 3

Term Dates

Spring Term 2023

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	Ayah B.	Felicity T.
3J	Edie T.	Leah R.
3P	Myla GB.	Theodore C.
4F	Monty B.	Gonzalo V.
4J	Freddie W.	Ralph E.
4S	Ted H.	Georgie D-B.
5G	Imogen C.	Roland M.
5H	Felicity W.	Henry St.
5K	Ayanna K.	Amaya S.
6H	Ahmad I.	Thea S.
6L	Phoenix E. Flynn N.	Tallulah M.
6W	Lewis D.	Anwita D.

Head Teacher Awards:

Year 6: Trisha K. (2), Hannah C. (2)