

The Phoenix Flier

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

Issue 769 — Friday 8th March 2024

A message from Mr Sawyer

Welcome to this week's Phoenix which gives you a summary of the happenings at the Prep School in the last week or so. We were delighted to see nearly 70 young chess players take part in the school round of the UK Chess Challenge last Saturday last. This is the oldest running chess competition in the world and for our pupils it presents the chance to put their skills to the test against familiar opponents. There was a great deal of high level chess being played throughout and a significant amount of development. It was pleasing to speak to the children who had suffered defeat, they spoke of learning from their losses and displayed a resilient mindset to setbacks. This 'win or learn' approach, as opposed to 'win or lose', is an empowering philosophy that can be applied in many areas of life. Embedding it at an early age is certainly key to a fruitful school career and something that for us starts in Nursery and continues throughout.

We were thrilled to see such warm support for our Telford House charity day this week in aid of The

Bungalow Partnership. Our Year 6 pupils always take great pride in running their stalls and the school community never fails to generously get behind such endeavours. We look forward to welcoming a representative from The Bungalow Partnership who will explain to the children how their funds will be used. The yellow items of clothing worn on the day were eclipsed only by the array of World Book Day characters that trooped into school on Thursday this week. It was a colourful and enriching sight to see a love of books being celebrated in this way and through the many activities that were organised. More on this in our next edition. I hope you enjoy this week's Phoenix Flier.

Bill Sawyer

Head's Challenge: I hold things with spines but they are not alive. What am I?



Photo of the Week: A fiercely competitive Year 5 House Netball competition last week saw one team come out on top. To find out who, look inside!

UK Chess Challenge—Prep School Round

Last weekend brought our latest major chess event, in the form of the initial stage of the Delancey UK Chess Challenge.

67 eager children entered the tournament, which featured all year groups from Year 2 to Year 6. We used the highly impressive new Hazel Andrews hall for the first time.

The Year 2s were playing in their first chess event and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. After seven tough rounds, Arya Jafari emerged as the section winner with a very impressive score of 21/21. The new Year 2 Girls' Champion is Shanaya Chauhan, who won all of her games apart from the one she lost to Arya.

Jayden Wang also scored 21/21 to win the Year 3 section but the battle for the Girls' title was much closer and ended in a four-way tie between Edie Thompson, Zoyaa Soni, Karunya Garg and Rosie Lowe.

In keeping with our usually policy, we didn't apply tie-breakers or play-offs (which is how other parts of the country like to resolve tied places) but instead we awarded all four girls with a title and a trophy.

We saw another 21/21 in the Year 4 section, which brought tournament success to Dara Jafari - and not for the first time. Scarlett Yang is the new Year 4 Girls' Champion.

The Year 5 section was the only one without a 21/21 scoreline. Rory Fitzgerald

lost his first game but then showed remarkable resilience and consistency to win his next six games, all against dangerous opponents, to win the section.

Manha Abdullah also recovered well from some early setbacks to finish strongly and become the new Year 5 Girls' Champion.

Miles Page was in full control in the Year 6 section and won all of his games to comfortably take the title.

The road to the Girls' title proved to be a much tougher battle and it ended in a dramatic three-way tie between Anika Sunkavalli, Lolwa Soliman and Kaira Nalawade.

Mr Marsh









The next stage of the UK Chess Challenge is the Teesside Megafinal, which will once again be held at the magnificent Princess Alexandra Auditorium, on Sunday 5th May. The Megafinal is open to ALL of our players, but please book early if you would to participate, as we always sell out of all 150 places and we cannot create any more once they have gone. Entry details and form are to be found here: https://www.delanceyukschoolschesschallenge.com/ product/2024-teesside-megafinal/ If you would like further details of this event please see Mr. Grundmann. We hope to see you all there.

Mr Marsh

Telford Charity Day

On Tuesday, the Y6 Telfordians ran a variety of stalls in order to raise money for the Bungalow Partnership In Middlesbrough. This is a charity that looks to improve the lives of young people in the local area through supporting and bettering their emotional

wellbeing. Further information on the charity can be found in this link <u>https://</u> www.thebungalowpartnership.co.uk/.

I am pleased to report that, at the time of writing, Telford have raised a staggering £519.21. This is an awesome achievement and shows how well our school community mobilises in order to support local charities. The Y6 Telfordians showed wonderful resourcefulness and independence in running their stalls and gathering donations. All children in Years 3 to 6 also wore an item of yellow, the house colours, and donated £1 to charity. Thank you, children!

I would like to thank my colleagues in Telford: Mrs Hart, Mr Frank and Mrs Underwood

for supporting the event. Additionally, I would like to thank the fabulous Y6 pupils (and their parents) for creating resources and providing prizes. Their entrepreneurial spirit and enterprise will have given them a taste for the Summer Fair where they will, once more, create and run stalls to raise money. Well done, Telford!

Mr Harandon

















PE and Games News

Year 5 House Netball

On Friday, the Year 5 girls took part in the House Netball Competition. Despite the rain and cold conditions, all girls gave 100% and worked well in their house teams. Some teams were supported by Year 6 players to make up numbers so that all teams had 7 members. There were some tactical centre

passes on display, accurate shooting and plenty of dodging and moving into space. The girls showed respect when doing the three cheers and they selected player of the match too! Congratulations to Daisy, Holly, Bella, Emily Q, Manha and Evelyn on getting Players of the Match! The final results were: Brunel, in fourth place; Arkwright, in third place; Telford, in second; and STEPHENSON, as our overall Year 5



House Netball Winners! Well done to everyone involved in what was a fantastic afternoon of netball!

Miss Whitehouse

Under 11 Football v NSB and Dame Allan's

On a cold, wet Friday afternoon in Gosforth, our Under 11 boys took part in a Northeast triangular derby against Newcastle School For Boys and Dame Allan's. The venue was Goals at Gosforth Park, right next to Newcastle Racecourse. The modern, 4G surface allowed slick, passing football. All of the boys enjoyed the fixtures and the football on show was fantastic. Many spectacular goals were scored by the players. Special mention must go to Joseph Austin for his Beckenbaueresque performance, confidently dribbling out of defence and creating attacking options. Pradyoth Karanam was a demon in goal, blocking many shots. Well done to all the boys for playing well in some tricky weather conditions.

Mr Harandon

In2 Boys' Hockey

On Wednesday the 14th February, the Year 6 boys played a fixture in the in2 hockey tournament. It was a great battle with the final score being 4-2 to Yarm. The scorers were Rex- 2 and Miles -2. It was a great opportunity to show off what we have learnt in the many games lessons we have participated in. We are very excited to see who we play next. Thank you to Mr Underwood, Mr Harandon and Mr Trubshaw for making the game enjoyable and possible.

Joseph A. and Rex W.

Junior Ski Trip

Clemmie, Harrison, Brian and Ronav joined Mrs Jennings, Mr Webb and a number of Senior School students on their recent ski trip to Austria! Here are some of their picture highlights.





Telford Enterprise Carousel

Mrs Covell, who has built up a large property portfolio which she rents out, came to speak to our budding entrepreneurs in Telford.

She gave a wonderfully informative presentation on being a landlady and a snapshot into her life as an entrepreneur. The children listened intently as she gave a 'warts and all' insight into what it is like to be self employed as a landlady.

Mrs Covell described how she built up her property portfolio over the years and also explained to us many financial terms like what equity is in a property and how one gets a mortgage from a bank. She then went through the types of skills one needs to be an effective landlady, which included being good at DIY, and also how she has had to respond to the

ever changing marketplace and customer needs.

Thank you Mrs Covell for giving up your time to talk to us today. It was a valuable learning experience and immensely appreciated by us all.

Mr Grundmann

<image>

Holiday School Dates

Easter 2024:

2nd to 5th April (4 days)

Summer 2024:

15th July to 2nd August (15 days)

Mr Simpson will be emailing parents shortly about the Easter Holiday School.

Parent Zone

Our Digital Schools membership gives you FREE access to Parent Zone's Parent Lounge with:

- Online training;
- Expert advice and information on all things digital;
- •Access to a free help service for all of your tech questions.

To get started, go to: <u>https://parentzone.org.uk/parents/discover-parent-lounge</u>

- •Click on ENTER PARENT LOUNGE
- •Click on the pink ADD TO CART button
- •On the next page click CHECKOUT. You'll be asked to enter your email address.

On the next page you will need to enter the coupon code YarmSchool to ensure you have free access. Please click ADD COUPON once the code has been entered. The code gives you a 100% discount.

I cannot recommend the Parent Zone service highly enough. In this day and age, when we are teaching the children how to be good online citizens and how to stay safe online, it is imperative that parents are in the loop too. Parent Zone offers this support.

Useful Online Safety Information for Parents

These links were shared with parents who attended our internet safety talk this week. They are free to access. Please also delve into the magnificent range of resources available on Tooled Up Education, which you can find full details of later in this edition.

Social networks made for children: www.internetmatters.org/resources/social-media-networks-made-for-kids

Age appropriate apps for children and young people: <u>www.internetmatters.org/hub/guidance/child-friendly-apps-your-</u> children-will-enjoy

Gaming: what's appropriate for your child? (PEGI ratings): <u>www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming-whats-</u> appropriate-for-your-child

Personal information: a guide for parents and carers: <u>www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/parents-guide-to-personal-information2</u>

Social media top tips <u>https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/social-media-top-tips-cards</u>

A practical guide for parents and carers whose children are using social media <u>https://www.internetmatters.org/</u> <u>resources/ukcis-social-media-guide-for-parents-and-carers</u>

Online contact and staying safe: <u>www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/online-contact-and-staying-safe</u>

In-game chat: what parents and carers need to know: www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/in-game-chat

Social networks made for children: www.internetmatters.org/resources/social-media-networks-made-for-kids

Is your child ready for social media: www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/is-my-child-ready-for-social-media

Social media privacy guides: <u>www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/social-media</u>

What is sexual grooming: www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/what-is-sexual-grooming



ld an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel Please visit nationalcollege.com for further quides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about Microtransactions (often abbreviated as "MTX") are digital purchases made within an app or game to unlock extra features or

additional content such as new levels. A popular sub-set of these are loot boxes, which contain a selection (usually random) of virtual items: from character skins to game-changing equipment like better weapons. Microtransactions (and loot boxes in particular) are now widespread in apps and games, but concerns persist that they normalise gambling and can foster addictive behaviours – especially among younger players.

GATEWAY TO GAMBLING?

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

icrotransactions have been iticised for promoting ambling-adjacent behaviour in jildren. Research has also iggested that exposure to the loot ox system could affect the ielihood of a young person iffering gambling harms later in er children who purchased or used ildren who purchased or use oxes in the last 12 months wer to be more likely to have

ADDICTIVE NATURE

actions (and loot boxes could lead to young laying compulsive . Loot boxes are desig are designed sought-afte dispensed at

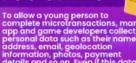
PAYING TO WIN

a many popular games (the FIFA eries being a notable example), hicrotransactions make it far easier succeed – which is a concern ecause children can often find it fficult to keep track of their bending. Once a child starts making - game purchases, they may pntinue buying to keep up with their iends and other players – pretimes without recognising the ounting real-world cost.



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to ha it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of

EXCLUSIVE CONTENT



DATA COLLECTION

personal data such as address, email, geolocation information, photos, payment details and so on. Even if this da remains secure (which is by no means guaranteed), there's al the chance that it will be used possibly sold on to third parties possibly sold on to third parties ing purposes

AFFECTING DAILY ROUTINE

Online games tend to revolve around repeated loops of activity that can affect purchasing decisi and potentially influence children spending patterns. This could lea ne potentially influence childr pending patterns. This could le our child not only handing ove nore money but also adjusting aily routine to match the gam chedule – potentially impactin hore important elements of the

SATELLITE SPENDING

you've linked a payment tethod like a debit card o ir own) or other mo ould also lead to th

Advice for Parents & Carers

DO YOUR RESEARCH

s important to have a serviceable ea of whether the games your child ays use the loat box system (even if it goes a dilferent name) or include the option of buying ms, equipment and so forth. If so, it's crucial to help ur child understand that this costs actual money, ad that they shouldn't feel pressured into making av purchase any purchases

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STOP SPENDING AT SOURCE

You might decide that the wisest strategy is to remove the potential for spending money on microtransactions. If so, most games, apps and devices have options in their settings to help you manage what your child can spend – or to disable that function altogether, preventing them from buying additional items for their games or boosted functionality for certain apps.

Meet Our Expert

is an experienced technology jour

CHAT ABOUT 'CHANCE' It may help to explain to your child that man microtransactions involve an element of cha

Stransactions involve an element of chance: could pay money and still not get what they in return. Emphasise that - while not usually ng much individually - these in-app and ime purchases can soon add up. Talk to you spending their money in a game have less to use in the real world

about how quickly that money went and how they could earn their next gift card.

99

GAMER

WATCH FOR THE SIGNS

ou're worried that your child's passion for a particular game app may tempt them into habitual spending on microtransactions, important to remember the indicators of addictive behaviour. tability, a lack of concentration and prioritising recreational screen ic ahead of homework or mealtimes could all be signs that you need to be a conversation about a more balanced routine.

(GIFT) CARDS ON THE TABLE

Investing in an in-game currency gift card can be a useful way of helping your child get i grips with budgeting. If you buy, say, a £10 V-Fortnite gift card, monitor how long it takes th spend it. When they come to you asking for m could make it the starting point for a conversi-chaut how quickly that moreny want and how



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Spring Key Events

New Build Open House visits

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

Wed 13/3 - Former Prep pupils currently in Senior School and parents. There is no need to book a place, just come along.

Friday 15th March - Red Nose Day

For Comic Relief, all children can come into school in the morning wearing an item of red clothing, along with their usual school uniform and should bring in £1 to donate to the charity <u>or you can donate via this link</u>.

Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th - Parent Consultations

Details to follow of how you can book an appointment with your child's form tutor to discuss their progress this term.

Thank you as always for your support.

Mr Stone

Coming Up at the PAA

EOS Live: Painting the

Modern Garden: Monet to

Matisse – Sunday 17th





Based on the sell-out show at the Royal Academy of Arts, London. Filmed and Directed by David Bickerstaff. From the exhibition walls to the wonder and beauty of artists' gardens like Giverny and Seebüll, the film takes a magical and widely travelled journey to discover how different contemporaries of Monet built and cultivated modern gardens to explore expressive motifs, abstract color, decorative design and utopian ideas. (Live stream - Friarage Theatre)

Royal Northern Sinfonia – Mozart's Dissonance

Quartet — Tuesday 2nd April, 7.30pm

Enjoy a cosy, friendly night of music with the string players of own Royal Northern



Sinfonia. It's a brilliant chance to hear them work in a smaller group and in a more intimate setting.

They're playing two quartets, by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Ghazaros Saryan, and Alexander Glazunov's Quintet. Alexander LOVED the cello so he added an extra one to the usual quartet line up.

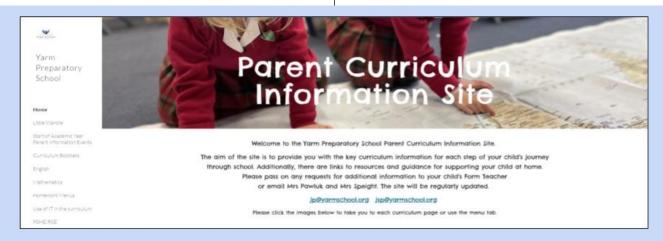
George Ko – The Moon Tour – Wednesday 17th

April, 7.30pm

Piano pioneer and Neo -impressionist George Ko (GKO) returns to perform a provocative exhibition of unconventional and



virtuosic originals and film music. Using classical virtuosity,



https://bit.ly/yarmcurriculum Click here to access the Parent Curriculum Information Site improvisation, and styles across genres, GKO creates cinematic and kaleidoscopic compositions. Critics describe his music and performance as "performing wizardry, flowing yet bright, lively and heroic... with moments of nostalgia, reverie, and reflection. Steinway says "He's great for music... making classical music exciting and accessible for the masses."

Curiosity Emporium

I went to the Curiosity Emporium which was about what Mrs Kirk would do in the future. She talked about her design job and she showed us all of the processes. This was inspiriing and it has got me thinking about this job!

Erin G.

Mrs Kirk's Curiosity Emporium was interesting and made me want to try new things. I found looking at her job fascinating.

Amelia C.

It was really interesting and her job sounds very exciting for her. Mrs Kirk showed us her design ideas and they look quite creative.

Rebecca N.

Mrs Kirk's Curiosity Emporium was interesting. I really liked the creativity of her designs.

Harry H.



All clean and reusable donations of outgrown uniform are welcome too- just bag them up and either pass them on to a



improvisation, and styles across genres, GKO creates cinematic I found it interesting learning about the different spaces and and kaleidoscopic compositions. Critics describe his music and how they nurture the needs of children with special nneds.

Olivia G.

The Curiosity Emporium was interesting. It taught me lots about design and the process you have to go through to be a designer. Overall it was an enjoyable experience for us all who came.

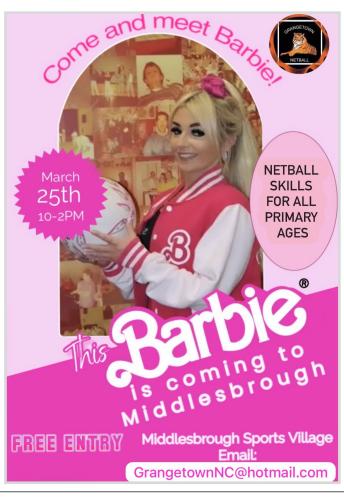
Thea S.

Under 10 Football

On Friday we played Scarborough. The score was 2-1 to Yarm. We played the match on the senior astro. Both teams were good because they were passing the ball down the line and into space. There was a light drizzle and some grey clouds. Henry Stanley was Yarm's keeper and a good one; he only let one goal in out of seven shots on goal.

Scarborough's keeper let two goals in out of about 15 shots on goal. Yarm's defenders were superb in the final quarter of the game. They kept the score down as Scarborough were on the constant attack in the last quarter of the game. Scarborough's defenders were always looking to mark our strikers as well as wingers. The game was a fair one and fun.

Roland M.



Tooled Up Education

If you have a school-aged child then you're more than likely aware of World Book Day on March 7th. This annual event promotes books, authors and a love of reading to all children.

As parents it's essential that we do everything we can to develop reading for pleasure in our children. As English teacher Patrick Cragg reflected in a <u>Wednesday Wisdom</u> from last year, research highlights the enormous long-term benefits for children of a healthy reading diet, not just in academic performance across all subjects but in emotional wellbeing and social skills.

Begin with our <u>tips</u> and <u>video</u> on reading to your child, and learn about the importance of phonics for early readers in this <u>webinar</u> from Professor Kathy Rastle.

Our platform contains <u>poems</u> you can read to your children, book lists for <u>11</u> <u>-13-year olds</u> and for <u>teenagers</u> with titles that will appeal to young people who just need that one, engaging book that will get their reading journey started. If you have any recommended titles to add, our <u>team</u> would love to hear from you.

March 8th marks International Women's Day and we have a wealth of resources and information for helping the girls and young women in your family feel empowered and inspired. Tune into our brilliant <u>podcast</u> on the



Reading To Your Child: Tips

importance of body knowledge for young women as well as the importance of exercise for mental fitness.

Families can read through our list of <u>50 Fantastic Female Sporting Role Models</u> with children and discuss which sporting stories inspire you the most! If you have children who enjoy sport and want to excel, consider watching our <u>Q&A</u> with England Women's Lacrosse captain Laura Merrifield.

Perhaps in this World Book Day Week with its focus on International Womens' achievements, it is the perfect time to introduce your children to this <u>list</u> of books featuring 'strong female characters'. Parents can derive some book inspiration from this <u>list</u> of recommended reads from the Tooled Up team.

Finally, this busy week also saw World Hearing Day on March 3rd. Explore Tooled Up's accessible and informative resources on deafness and hearing loss, beginning with our <u>20 Things to Know</u> about deafness, and this <u>webinar</u> with audiologist Dr Joy Rosenberg on building resilience in deaf children.

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 <u>research@tooledupeducation.com</u> 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 <u>here to register for an account</u>. 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 <u>support@tooledupeducation.com</u>. 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

Coming Up

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

MARCH 2024

| Mon 11 | Year 4 Drama Week |
|--------|---|
| | STEAM Person of the Week assembly |
| Tue 12 | Year 5 depart for London |
| | NE Schools Girls Football Tournament |
| | (9.30am depart, 11am start, 4pm return) |
| | U8 Netball Workshop with Queen Mary's |
| | (home; 2pm start) |
| Wed 13 | New build open house for former parents |
| | 2W Beach Clean |
| | RS visiting Yarm High Street |
| Thu 14 | U9 Netball and Hockey v Dame Allan's |
| | (home; 2pm start) |
| Fri 15 | Year 5 return from London (1.15pm) |
| | Red Nose Day for Comic Relief |
| | (£1—wear an item of red) |
| | Schools Boys' Hockey Tournament |
| | (Pocklington; 11am start, 4pm return) |
| | U11 Netball v Ashville |
| | (away; 2pm start, 4.30pm return) |
| | U10/11 Football and Hockey v DCSF |
| | (home; 2pm start) |
| | Teesside Hospice visiting for assembly |
| Mon 18 | Parents' Evening (4-6pm) |
| | Clubs and Activities finish this week |
| | ABRSM examinations this week |
| | Messiah rehearsal for those taking part (4-5pm) |
| Tue 19 | Parents' Evening (4-6pm) |
| Wed 20 | Prep Duologues Performance |
| | (Andrews Hall; 4-4.45pm Y3/4; 4.45-6pm Y5/6) |
| | 2J Beach Clean |
| | House assemblies |
| Thu 21 | U11 Sports Tour to Sedbergh departs (9am) |
| | Year 4 Work Celebration assembly |
| Fri 22 | All clubs and activities finish today |
| | U11 Sports Tour returns (7pm) |
| Mon 25 | International Week (details to follow) |
| Term | Dates |

Spring Term 2023

Finish

Thursday 28th March 2024 (after school; no after school care)

Summer Term 2024

Pupils Return Bank Holiday Half Term Begins

Pupils Return Finish Thursday 18th April 2024 Monday 6th May 2024 Thursday 23rd May 2024 (after school) Monday 3rd June 2024 Thursday 4th July 2024 At 12 noon

<u>Autumn Term 2024</u>

Preparation Day

All pupils return Half term begins Pupils return Term ends

Spring Term 2025

Pupils return Half term begins

INSET Day Friday Pupils return Term ends Friday

Summer Term, 2025

Pupils return Bank Holiday Half term begins

Pupils return Term ends (after Prize Giving) Tuesday, 27th August 2024 Wednesday, 28th August 2024 Thursday, 29th August 2024 Friday, 18th October 2024 (after school) Monday, 4th November 2024 Friday, 13th December 2024 (after school; no after school care)

(after school; no after school care)

Monday, 6th January 2025 Thursday, 20th February 2025 (after school) 21st February 2025 Monday 3rd March 2025 4th April 2025 (after school)

Wednesday, 23rd April 2025 Monday, 5th May 2025 Thursday, 22nd May 2025 (after school) Monday, 2nd June 2025 Thursday, 3rd July 2025

Celebration Assembly

| | Values | Endeavour |
|----|-------------|-------------|
| ЗH | Violet P. | Elijah D. |
| 3J | Faye A. | Ahaana C. |
| 3P | Hamdan A. | Jayden G. |
| 4F | Hattie P. | Amelie T. |
| 4J | Jana A. | Henry F. |
| 4S | Wilbur M-S. | Dara J. |
| 5G | James B. | Meadow E. |
| 5H | Holly B. | Jack M. |
| 5K | Kaiden G. | Olivia T. |
| 6Н | Florence A. | Will B. |
| 6L | Trisha K. | James A. |
| 6W | Miles P. | Pradyoth K. |

Head Teacher Awards:

Year 3: Zoyaa S.
Year 4: Harriet A., Gonzalo V., Robert W., Bertie H., Harrison G.
Year 5: Thomas Ma.
Year 6: Georgie W., Joey P., Charlie D-B.

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