

The Phoenix Flier

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

Issue 775 — Friday 10th May 2024

A message from Mr Sawyer

Welcome to this edition of the Phoenix Flier which rounds up the most recent news from across the Prep School. Our chess players were out in force over the weekend as they attended the Teesside Mega Final of the UK Chess Challenge which was hosted at the PAA. Players from across the region enjoyed the increased level of competition that this stage of the nationwide tournament brings. Our pupils performed very well and a number have qualified for the next round of the competition. Importantly all of them developed their skills for the game through being a part of this event. It is when we push ourselves out of our comfort zone that we grow the most and it seems our pupils understand this well with their ambitious approach to such opportunities. Ensuring that this is embedded and maintained as our pupils journey through school is a key aspect of our school culture.

It was great to see our first residential trip for the term set off earlier this week in the form of Year 4 who are exploring Northumberland. They will be closely followed by Year 6 who head to The Lakes and so as not to miss out on such character building endeavours, Year 3 journey to York later in June. Go well, our intrepid explorers! The cricket season has taken full flight, and it has been superb to see all of our boys and girls enjoying this wonderful sport. Whether learning their craft in Year 3 or progressing to full hardball matches at the top of the Prep School, we always make it accessible to all and look to stretch every player. There are many opportunities locally to further your child's skills in the sport if they are keen. Interested parents are encouraged to explore the ECB website to get signed up to a local club: <https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/find-a-club/>

Bill Sawyer



Head's Challenge: I pass before the Sun, yet make no shadow. What am I?

Photo of the Week: The Bank Holiday weekend saw Yarm host the Teesside Megafinal of the UK Chess Challenge. It was a successful event for our children too—report inside!

Teesside Chess Megafinal

The Seventh Delancey UK Schools' Chess Challenge Teesside Megafinal, held at Yarm School in the magnificent Princess Alexandra Auditorium on Sunday 5th May, was a great success.

Featuring 150 chess players from all over the UK across sections all the way from Under-8 to Under-18, the day brought the best out of our own players and we achieved a considerable amount of success.



Jayden Wang won all six of his games to win the Under-8 section.

Agam Vats and Edward Williams shared third place.

Shanaya Chauhan (Y2) was the second highest-placed girl in the section and Zoyaa Soni and Zoeya Alfaf



shared the place as third-highest girls.

The Under-10 section saw Dara Jafari share second place with an excellent score of 5/6.

Manha Abdullah and Scarlett Yang won trophies for sharing the Best Girls' place.

In the Under-12 section, Henry Stanley shared second place in the Best Boys' place. Lolwa Soliman and Kaira Nalawade shared the Best Girls' second place.



Many more of our players reached the magic tally of 3.5/6 to earn a place at the Gigafinal, which is the next stage of this nationwide competition.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the Teesside Megafinal such a great success!

Mr Marsh

PE and Games News

The U10/11's enjoyed an afternoon of cricket v Barnard Castle on Friday and lots of positives can be taken from the fixtures. Some great batting on show and it is always good to see wickets tumbling. In the U10's Zara M took a wicket and Sophia B had a caught and bowled alongside decent figures. Holly took a few catches which secured the win in the first match. All girls are always super ambassadors for the school and it was great to have some support on the sidelines too.

On Thursday the Year 4 girls had a lesson where they worked on bowling good line and length. They worked in pairs giving feedback to one another and the progress by the end was obvious.

Mrs Redhead-Sweeney

Under 11 Boys' Cricket v Barnard Castle

When we arrived we all started padding up. Ronav and Rex were the first pair. Unfortunately Ronav got out but that meant Vedh was going to bat which he really is good at. Rex and Vedh got a total of 78 runs which is really good for our league. Rex

was told to retire since he got 25 runs. We then got 23 runs from the next pair which got us with a total of 123 runs.

After batting so well we took to the field. James Booth started the bowling and got the next batter out. Then it was Rex. He had a good over of bowling but 0 wickets. Then it was James again and he got four batsman out in a row. Barnard Castle have some really good batsman but James was just too good. He kept on getting better and better each bowl until his over was finished. Ronav then bowled a few wides, but that didn't bother him he kept on going. Sri was next ,who is our spin bowler. He got 1 person out with some really good deliveries.

After the match we applauded the other team and cheered them on. We later got a water and a chocolate.

Ronav G,

Year 3 Cricket v Cundall Manor

On what felt like the first day of summer, the Year 3 boys enjoyed a fixture at Cundall Manor. It was a pleasure to finally see the boys with a bat and ball in hand. They all thoroughly enjoyed themselves in a competitive setting. Well done to all.

Mr Underwood



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.](#)

Mr Gooding

Summer Key Events

Please note this is an abridged version of the email sent to all parents prior to the start of term. **Please keep an eye on it each week for updates, which will be written in red.**

Monday 13th May - Y5 Drama Week

It will be Year 5's turn to enjoy their Drama Week, with a view to putting on a performance to parents. This will take place in the new hall on Friday 17th May at 4pm - full details will be sent to parents nearer the time.

Wednesday 15th May - Preparation for Year 1 (for Reception parents)

Parents of children in Reception are invited to a meeting to find out what Year 1 is like ahead of the new academic year. It takes place in the Studio Hall between 6-7pm. [Parents are asked to sign up for this by clicking here.](#)

Monday 20th May - Y6 Lakes residential

Year 6 depart for the Lake District today. They will return at 7pm on Thursday 23rd May.

Tuesday 21st May - Y2 Edinburgh trip

Full details of this trip will be sent to parents shortly.

Thursday 23rd May - Half-term begins (after school)

This is the last school day before half-term. Please note that [school is closed on Friday 24th May.](#)

As you will know, the second half of the Summer term is very busy indeed! We will send out key details closer to the time but in the meantime, here are a few dates for your diaries:

- **Monday 3rd June** - Pupils return to school.
- **Friday 7th June** - Dance Showcase (involving Y3-6 dancers).
- **Monday 10th June** - Y3 York residential departs

(return on Tuesday 11th June).

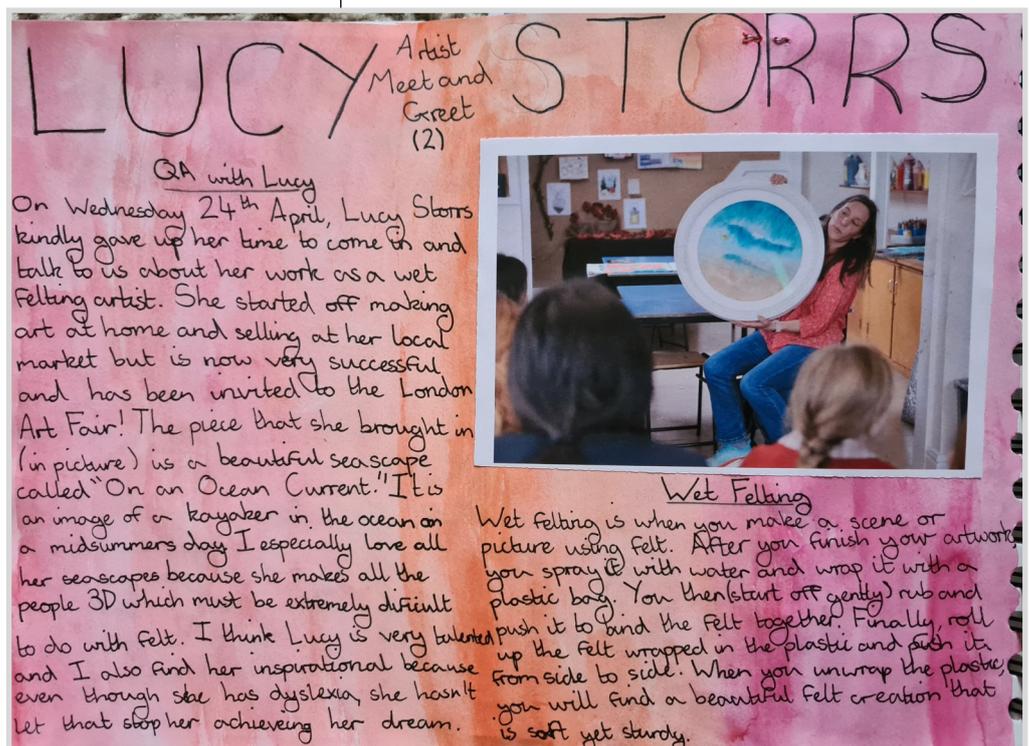
- **Wednesday 12th June** - Induction Day for current Year 6 at the Senior School.
- **Thursday 13th June** - Prep Summer concert.
- **Friday 14th June** - Bring Your Dads to School (Pre-Prep).
- **Wednesday 19th June** - Nursery Sports Afternoon.
- **Friday 21st June** - Summer Fair (2-5pm - full details coming in early May).
- **Monday 24th June** - Prep Induction Morning (R-Y5).
- **Tuesday 25th June** - Open Afternoon (Y3-6).
- **Wednesday 26th June** - Pre-Prep Sports Morning; Y6 Pupils v Parents Sports.
- **Friday 28th June** - Prep Sports Day (Middlesbrough Sports Village); All clubs and activities finish today.
- **Monday 1st July** - Pre-Prep Celebration (5pm; PAA).
- **Wednesday 3rd July** - Prep Prize Giving (5.45pm; PAA); Nursery Celebration (2pm; Studio Hall).
- **Thursday 4th July** - End of term at 12 noon; no after school care.

Thank you as always for your support.

Mr Stone

Arts Award reflections

Following on from the visit of Lucy Storrs last week, our Arts Award pupils have been reflecting on her visit.



Summer Fair

SAVE THE DATE—FRIDAY 21st JUNE

We are delighted to write with details of our annual **Summer Fair**, taking place on **Friday 21st June (2-5pm)** with the theme this year being 'Olympics'. The Social Committee and the Year 6 pupils are already planning on making it a fantastic event for all, with a range of stalls and games for all ages aimed at raising money for YPSSC projects.

Holding the event on a Friday has proven to be very popular with the children. As such we want to make the fair open to all children in the school community as well as their parents, many of whom would usually have other commitments over the course of a weekend. While this takes place during a school day, the impact on your child's education will be minimal.

We would like to draw your attention to a few logistical matters regarding the fair.

- **It will be a non-uniform day.**
- **Lunch will take place as normal.**
- **School will finish at the usual times** - 3.30pm for Pre-Prep and 3.45pm for Prep.
- **Pre-Prep children can be collected from 2.30pm to come to the fair.** Although the school day finishes at the usual time, parents of Pre-Prep children are welcome to collect early and bring their children to the fair. Pre-Prep will also be given priority to go on the rides between 2.30-3pm. Children who are in Pre-Prep on the day of the fair will also get to enjoy a special show by Tom Rolfe in the morning!
- **All Year 3-6 children will need to bring some money.** £15 max in change/coins (no notes please) should be plenty to have a go at the variety of games and activities taking place! This will be collected by form teachers for safekeeping during morning registration and handed out prior to the fair. All proceeds go to the YPSSC and the many projects they support the school with.
- **Parents of Y3-6 children can buy a rides wristband prior to the event.** There will be a wide range of fairground rides for the children to go on, with a wristband being available to purchase before the fair for £7. The YPSSC will be providing further details in due course.
- **Parents of Pre-Prep children can buy a rides wristband prior to the event and collect them on the day at the gate.** The wristbands will also be available

on the day of the fair for all families.

- **The fair will be fully supervised.** Teachers will be present supervising those children at the fair from 2pm. From pick-up onwards we would love parents to come along and join the fun too!
- **Pick up, after school care and buses will run as normal.** Pick up from after school care from 4pm will be from the Pre-Prep.
- **Year 6 will be expected to stay until 5.30pm.** A letter has gone out to Year 6 parents with full details.
- **There will be no after school clubs on this date.** Gymnastics, football and drama will not be taking place.

Mr Stone

Year 5 Community Spirit



Year 5 Telfordians made beautiful collage handprints from recycled materials to remind themselves of the various communities they belong to.

Mrs Hart

YPSSC PreLoved Uniform

Nursery, Pre Prep, Prep and Senior Uniform

PE and Games

See Listings on **Classlist** or

Email Us

YPSSC@Yarmschool.org

Donations of good condition, clean uniform and PE & Games items accepted all year. Kindly bag them and label them with 'YPSSC PreLoved Donations' and drop them at either Pre Prep, Prep or Senior School Reception.

Thank you!!

Coming up at the PAA

[The Rat Pack—Friday](#)

[28th June 2024 -](#)

[7:30pm](#)

Take three great singers, add a dash of comedy and rousing camaraderie with a pinch of the greatest songs ever written and what do you get? A perfect night's entertainment with 'Rat Pack – Swingin' At The Sands!'



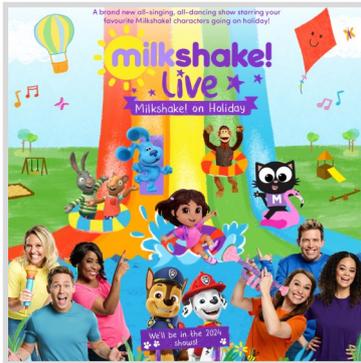
[Milkshake Live - On](#)

[Holiday—Sunday 21st](#)

[July 2024—12:00pm](#)

[and 3:30pm](#)

Join your favourite Milkshake! friends on Holiday with Dora, Pip and Posey, Blue from Blues Clues and You! Milo, Milkshake! Monkey plus two of your Milkshake! presenters for an all-new adventure! We are also delighted to announce that NICKELODEON is adding TWO PAW PATROL CHARACTERS MARSHALL and CHASE into the show just for this year, prior to PAW PATROL doing a Stadium tour in 2025.



[Andre Rieu's 2024](#)

[Maastricht Concert:](#)

[Power of Love \(live](#)

[stream\) - Saturday](#)

[31st August 2024, 7pm](#)

[and Sunday 1st](#)

[September 2024, 3pm](#)

From his picturesque hometown of Maastricht The King of the Waltz presents a must-see big screen spectacular. Accompanied by his world famous Johann Strauss Orchestra and a cast of hundreds this promises to be the music event of the summer by one of the world's most prolific artists.



Year 4 Theatre Trip

Last week, we went to the Theatre Royal in Newcastle and watched a show called the Boy at the Back of the Class. It is a show based on a book we have read in class! It is about a refugee called Ahmet who came from Syria and speaks Kurdish. He gets called rude names by the school bully and some parents are unkind too. Ahmet has lost his parents and

his sister and cat died. His friends worked hard (even contacting the queen!) to help Ahmet find his parents! The whole play was performed by just 10 actors, who played a number of different characters.



We really enjoyed going to see the show and eating our lunch at the monument! If you get the chance to, you should see it too!

Amelie T. and Austin O.

Tooled Up—Internet Safety

Please see below for some resources shared by Dr Kathy Weston following our webinar last week. Details of how to sign up for *Tooled Up Education* can be found overleaf.

[Family Digital Values](#)

[Andy Robertson - The Benefits of Gaming](#)

[Cultivating Good Gaming Habits](#)

[How Do Screens Affect Children and Teens?](#)

[Digital Use Parent Pledge Template](#)

[Raising a Detective in the Digital World](#)

Mr Stone

Holiday School Dates

Summer 2024:

15th July to 2nd August (15 days)

Mr Simpson will share the booking form after half-term.

October 2024:

21st—25th October (5 days)

Christmas 2024:

16th—20th December 2024

Easter 2025:

7th—11th April 2025

Summer 2025:

14th July—1st August 2025

Tooled Up Education

At Tooled Up, we believe in expertise.

So this week we're asking, how can we prepare our children to be the experts of the future, and how do we support them in areas where we might not be experts ourselves?

Building the experts of the future begins with cultivating their curiosity from a young age. Tooled Up offers packs featuring fabulous scientific questions to get young minds thinking, complete with answers for grown-ups to discuss. These [20 Questions for Bathtime](#) are written for younger children, while our [Learning Through Intrigue](#) and [Questions For The Car](#) activities will suit all ages. These [Questions For Curious Teens](#) are more representative of matters related to senior-school science or those taking GCSEs.

You can also bring a bit of science investigation into your next holiday with our Beach Science activities for [primary-aged children](#) and [teens](#).

Who better to engage young people in discussions about all the things you can 'do' with science, than a supercar engineer? Ella Podmore (MBE) answers parents' and pupils' questions in this inspiring [podcast](#).

Once your children are hooked on all things science, follow up with this [book list](#) of accessible and informative science books for children: perfect for the library of the young scientists and engineers in your home.

Do you know that one of the greatest levers for academic achievement is the quality of dialogue in our homes? Do you know that great questions can open up children's thinking? So, how do we do that? Emma Leeson is going to talk us through some ideas in this webinar on [Philosophy for Children](#), on May 20th, 19:00 BST. Emma will be sharing ways to philosophise at home and modelling how to have stimulating conversations with children in multiple ways! Not to be missed!

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



[20 Questions for the Car](#)



[20 Questions for Bathtime](#)

TOOLED UP®
BECAUSE EVIDENCE MATTERS

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

With more than two billion active users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently, as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging; WhatsApp is unwilling to do so and has reportedly considered withdrawing its service in the UK should this legislation go ahead.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency'. Plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original... and might not be entirely factual, either.

'VIEW ONCE' CONTENT

The facility to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this 'disappearing' content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

CHAT LOCK

Another new option allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. The risk here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safely on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Carers ...TYPING...

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage your child to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know *never* to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

THINKING BEFORE SHARING

Help your child to understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content to then be shared more widely (even publicly on social media). Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups') to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval: you can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...'. Additionally, if your child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

CHAT ABOUT PRNACY

Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could discuss their reasons for using this feature.

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

Source: <https://blog.whatsapp.com/an-open-letter> | <https://faq.whatsapp.com/1077018839582332> | https://faq.whatsapp.com/361005896189245?helpref=hc_inav | <https://www.whatsapp.com/security> | <https://blog.whatsapp.com/chat-lock-making-your-most-intimate-conversations-even-more-private> | <https://www.aura.com/learn/whatsapp-scams>

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YARM SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
PRESENTS:



CASINO ROYALE

SUMMER BALL 2024

SATURDAY, JUN 15TH

7PM - LATE

THE PAA



EARLY BIRD TICKETS JUST £75 FROM CLASSLIST



YARM SCHOOL

Yarm School

Dance Showcase

Once Upon
A DANCE

FRIDAY 7TH JUNE 2024, 6:30PM

PRINCESS ALEXANDRA AUDITOIRUM, YARM SCHOOL

TICKETS: ADULT £7, CHILDREN £3.50

YARM PUPILS, FREE

Coming Up

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

MAY 2024

Sat 11	Open Morning (9am-12noon)
Mon 13	Year 5 Drama Week commences Year 3 Activities Carousel 5 begins
Tue 14	School Captains Day
Wed 15	House assemblies Preparation for Y1 (meeting for Reception parents; 6pm)
Fri 17	Y5 Drama Week Performance (4.15pm) U11 Girls' Cricket v Red House (home; 2.15pm start) RD visit to Marske Beach
Mon 20	Year 6 Lakes residential departs
Tue 21	Yarm Clay Day (Partnerships event) Yarm Schools Quiz (Partnerships event) Year 3 Sports Afternoon (Partnerships event) Year 2 trip to Edinburgh
Wed 22	Digital Leaders visit to Yarm Primary
Thu 24	Year 4 Sports Afternoon (Partnerships event) Y6 return from the Lakes (7pm) Half-term begins after school After School Care as usual
Fri 24	School closed
<u>JUNE 2024</u>	
Mon 3	Pupils return Dance Showcase rehearsals (3-5pm)
Tue 4	Year 3 York residential—Zoom for parents (4pm; see previous email from Mrs Jones)
Wed 5	Arkwright Charity Morning Dance Showcase rehearsals (3-5pm)
Thu 6	Dance Showcase rehearsals (2-6pm) Y2/3 Transition Morning (9-11am)
Fri 7	Dance Showcase (6.30pm start; PAA) Northern Schools Athletics (Gateshead Stadium; 11am start, 4.30pm return)
Sat 8	Individual Chess Championships (Prep Hall; 9.30am-2.30pm)
Mon 10	Year 3 York residential departs Yarm STEM Day (with NESF) YPSSC (6pm; Library)
Tue 11	Year 3 return from York (3.45pm) Yarm STEM Day (with NESF) HMC Tennis (at Dame Allan's; 10.30am start, 4pm return)

Term Dates

Summer Term 2024

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	Buddy T.	Faye A.
3J	Leah R.	Baher S.
3P	Zoyaa S.	Naveah M-T.
4F	Hugo K.	Emma W.
4J	Freddie W.	Annabelle A.
4S	Wilbur M-S.	Georgie D-B.
5G	Imogen C.	Meadow E.
5H	Elliott E.	Annalise D.
5K	Logan M.	Olivia T.
6H	Georgie W.	Vadim S.
6L	Ollie B.	Samuel I.
6W	Sri R.	Eric P-F.

Head Teacher Awards:

Year 3: Harrison V., Hinako Y. **Year 4:** Ailee H., Henry F., Harrison G. **Year 5:** Manha A. (2), Henry St., Holly B., Charlie M. **Year 6:** Ronav G. Yasmeen S.

Music Awards:

Bronze: Anika S. **Silver:** Erin G. **Gold:** Emily B., Lolwa S.