



Little Phoenix


YARM SCHOOL
EDUCATING FOR LIFE

The Newsletter of Yarm Pre-Prep

Number 449

20th February 2025

Mrs Cardwell's message ...

STEAM Week at school has been an exciting and educational journey for our children, with a focus on trains and the fascinating world of engineering. Following our recent trip to the Shildon Railway Museum, the children have been involved in a wide variety of train-related activities which have sparked their creativity and curiosity. We were thrilled to welcome Sarah Gouldsbrough from Hopetown, who led an engaging workshop with the children, providing them with practical learning experiences. Additionally, we had the pleasure of hosting our friends from the Darlington Model Railway Club, who shared their expertise and passion for trains with the children. The Year 1 children were treated to a 'Bridge the Gap' workshop, courtesy of staff from the Locomotion Museum. The Reception and Nursery children were also lucky enough to witness real-life trains crossing the impressive Yarm Viaduct, including the famous Flying Scotsman, which was an unforgettable experience for all. We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the parents for your continued support throughout this half term, including the donations of cardboard boxes. Wishing everyone a relaxing and enjoyable half term break.

M. Cardwell



Tes Schools Awards 2024
Winner
Independent Prep School of the Year



Locomotion Museum Trip



Locomotion Museum Trip



Locomotion Museum Trip



STEAM Week

The Nursery children have had so much fun during STEAM Week. They have built train tracks and bridges, created train paintings, enjoyed a model railway and also walked to see a train go over the viaduct. A very busy and exciting STEAM Week.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Florence

Simran

Esmé

Priya

Hussain

Rose

Harrison

Giacomo

Dates For Your Diary

20/02/25—Half term begins

21/02/25—INSET Day (school closed)

03/03/25—Pupils return to school

03/03/25—Rare Diseases Day (Jeans for Genes)

06/03/25—World Book Day

07/03/25—Bring Mums/Grandmas to School

14/03/25—Red Nose Day and Holi celebrations

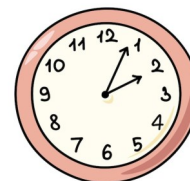
w/c 17/03/25—Parents Evenings

31/03/25—Eid celebrations

04/04/25—End of term, no after school care

Lateness

Please be reminded that the school day starts **promptly at 8.35am** each morning. If your child arrives after 8.35am then they will receive a late mark. Your cooperation with this is much appreciated.



[You can find the Yarm School](#)

[Calendar by clicking here](#)

Holi Festival—Friday 14th March

The Hindu festival, Holi, will be celebrated on Friday 14th March. Commonly, the festival is also called The Festival Of Colour, or The Festival of Love.

In Pre-Prep, we will be celebrating this festival with a 'colour run' in the Pre-Prep Garden!

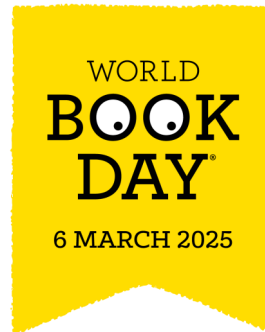
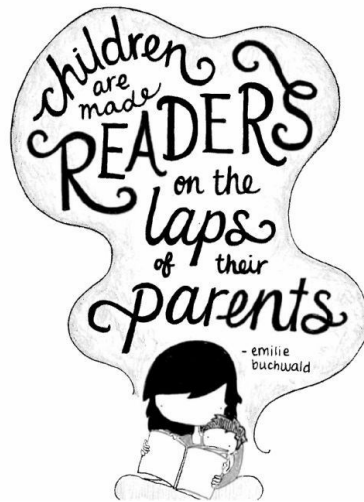
On Friday 14th March, please send your child to school wearing home clothes that you don't mind getting covered in paint!

If your child is in Nursery and does not usually attend Nursery on a Friday afternoon, you are more than welcome to drop them off at 2pm and collect at 3.30pm so that they can join in with the celebrations.

If you have any questions, please feel free to get in contact with any of the Pre-Prep team.



Thursday 6th March - World Book Day 2025



Reading Café and Book Fair

World Book Day presents the perfect opportunity to celebrate literature and reading together. This year, we would like to celebrate that children are more likely to enjoy reading when their choices are championed and we make reading fun. Therefore, every year group will be invited to celebrate the joy of reading as a family by bringing their favourite story along to enjoy at our 'Reading Café' at the Prep School.

All parents from Nursery to Year 6 are invited to attend the **reading café** on **Thursday 6th March** from **3 - 5pm**.

Alongside our reading café, we are inviting the children to participate in our reading competition, where they can redesign the front cover of their favourite text in any medium they choose. This will culminate in winners being selected from the entries and vouchers awarded to spend at the **book fair** being held from **Monday 3rd - Friday 7th March**. The book fair will be available in Pre-Prep and the foyer at the Prep School. Children will be able to select and purchase books, or order others to be delivered to school. Every purchase made at the book fair provides the school with commission to be spent on new books for our children to share.

On Thursday 6th March we would like the children to come dressed in a costume from their favourite book, bringing their favourite story to share with other children during the day. The YSPCC are introducing their World Book Day costume exchange this year. Please see their flier below. **We politely ask that football kits are not worn this year.**

Every child will be given a £1 World Book Day token to swap for one of the ten books available this year in local stockists. Unfortunately, they cannot be used for the Scholastic book fair books.

We look forward to championing reading with you.

2025 Delancey UK Schools' Chess Challenge—School Round Match

Report

Saturday 15th February

This year's internal UK Chess Challenge tournament attracted a record entry of 77 players, despite stiff competition from parties and numerous other events.

This meant we had more than enough players to provide categories for everyone from Year 2 all the way up to Year 6, without having to combine any of the sections.

The Year 2s were playing in their first-ever chess event. We had 16 of them in action; a record in itself.

Miesha was the champion of the section and, of course, the Best Girl. Harrison and Ollie shared the Best Boy title.

Arya and Omran kept up their family traditions when they shared first place (and title of Best Boy) in the Year 3 section. Isabelle played extremely well to capture the title of Best Girl.

The Year 4 section was the largest and most competitive category of all, but that did not stop Jayden from winning all of his games to become the overall (and Boy) champion. Zoyaa played very well too, to become the new Girl Champion of Year 4.

Dara kept up his excellent form with a very convincing victory in the Year 5 section, winning all of his games and taking the Best Boy title, with Scarlett once again taking the title of Best Girl.

Fathe outscored all of the opposition to win the Year 6 section - and the title of Best Boy. Manha and Sandy battled away all day to try and become the Best Girl and after various adventures they ended up sharing the title.

The full scores can be found on the school's chess notice board.

Well played, everyone!

Sean Marsh

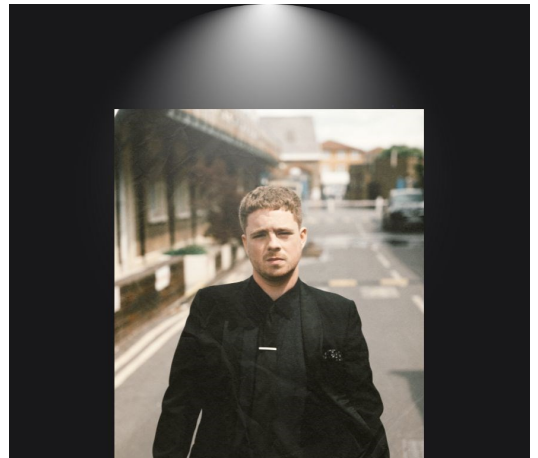


Tom Ball—Spotlight

Wednesday 16th April, 7.30pm

Tom Ball shot to fame on Britain's Got Talent, with Simon Cowell telling him he was 'simply sensational', and Amanda Holden saying he was among the best she'd ever seen. Following the release of his debut album, *Curtain Call*, Tom is embarking on his first major UK tour. The singer has been likened to such stars as Michael Ball and Michael Buble – and now it's time for him to step into the Spotlight.

<https://www.thepaaonline.org/whats-on/tb-spotlight/>



Dave Finnegan's Commitments

Sunday 11th May, 7.30pm

Direct from the hit Hollywood Film "The Commitments", the man who has fronted the touring band for the last ten years, is here with his sensational show and his own 8-piece band behind him, performing all the hits from the film and much more. Dave Finnegan's Commitments features the same commitment to their music, with the instantly recognisable horn section, and that sweet soul rhythm section.

<https://www.thepaaonline.org/whats-on/commitments/>



Something About Lennon

Friday 6th June, 7.30pm

Imagine a show that tells the story of one of popular music's most iconic figures in a totally unique way. In a brand-new show from the creators of 'Something About Simon' and 'Something About George', Something About Lennon – The John Lennon Story will show you a life that wasn't always filled with peace and love. A tale of controversy, genius, politics and protest, Something About Lennon charts John's story from the breakup of The Beatles to his untimely death in 1980, featuring incredible songs like 'Woman', 'Instant Karma', and 'Imagine', and his story wouldn't be complete without a few Beatles' classics along the way.

<https://www.thepaaonline.org/whats-on/lennon/>

