

The Phoenix Flier

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

Issue 807—Friday 4th April 2025

A message from Mr Sawyer

Welcome to the final Phoenix Flier of the Spring Term, bringing you a collection of reports, photos, and reflections from recent weeks, along with a range of announcements and useful resources. Inside, you'll find joyful memories from the recent Year 6 sports tour, which took in the delights of the North West and provided an exciting opportunity for our girls and boys to compete against different schools. A huge congratulations to our Ull team, who were crowned Yorkshire and North East champions and went on to win the Northern Final as part of the tour—an outstanding achievement! This edition also features reports on our Eid celebrations, a



festival we are always delighted to mark alongside many other cultural events throughout the year. Additionally, there is feedback from the recent Show Racism the Red Card workshop, kindly sponsored by the YPSSC. And, in true Easter tradition, we reveal the results of the Stephenson House Egg Jarping contest, where a new champion has been crowned!

As the term draws to a close, I want to congratulate every pupil across the School for their determination and commitment this term. Their enthusiasm, resilience, and ever-present smiles are truly inspiring. I hope the holiday period provides everyone with a well-deserved chance to relax and recharge. My sincere thanks go to all our staff for their dedication in supporting, inspiring, and challenging our pupils to achieve so much this term. I am also deeply grateful to our parents for their invaluable partnership. A special thank you to my wife, Sarah, and family for their unwavering support and love—without them, I would be lost. Wishing you all a safe and restful Easter break. I look forward to the Summer

Term, which promises to be another exciting adventure for us all!

Bill Sawyer

Challenge: If you make 10 chocolate eggs every hour but eat 2 egg

Head's

every hour but eat 2 eggs every 30 minutes, how many eggs do you have after 3 hours if you started with none?

Photo of the

Week: Year 6 took to the road last week for their sports tour of North -West England. Diaries and photos inside.



Year 6 Sports Tour

Day 1

First of all, we arrived at school at about 08:15. We had a short play time and a quick chat about what was going to happen before setting off on the minibuses to Bowes museum at 08:50. Once we had arrived at Bowes museum, we had a snack and went inside. We had a workshop with Zoe who was very kind and helpful. We learned a lot about self portraits and how you can tell how someone is feeling in an image by their body language and facial expressions. Another activity we did in the workshop was using different materials and colours to put in a big square on the floor to create a background for a portrait.

The background had to express an emotion, my group was peaceful so we made a sunset background.

After the workshop, we had a look around at the most elegant and heartfelt paintings including the silver swan. We then had our lunch and left the museum. At 15:00 we arrived at Sedbergh Prep School and at 15:30 our matches began. Unfortunately, our team lost our match but we played really well as a team and tried our hardest. In the end our score was 11-9 to Sedbergh. We

had a delicious meal at Sedbergh then left for our Premier Inn. When we had changed into home clothes, we left to go to Bowling. We were in groups of 5 and in my group I won the bowling (the points were really close though). We supported each other and cheered each other on. We departed from bowling and headed to the Premier Inn to go to bed at 10:00pm.





Day 2

After a good sleep, we woke up at 07:30 and went to breakfast. The food was amazing and I really enjoyed it. Once we headed up to our room after breakfast, we packed our bags and left for Morecambe on the minibuses. At 10:30 we arrived at Morecambe and got our lunch from Morrisons. We then went to the arcades for a short while and played games with our friends. It was so much fun! We left Morecambe at 11:45 and then left for St Mary's Hall School, Stonyhurst. At 13:30 the matches began and we played really well. We supported each other and managed to score 14 goals. Although the attackers were really good, so was the defence because St Mary's scored 2 goals. So in the end, amazingly the score was 14-2 to Yarm! We worked really hard as a team and our great teamwork really got displayed in that match. St Mary's were amazing host's and still played extremely well though.

Emily Q.

Cooper's Sports Tour Diary

An exhilarating start!

The mini bus is bubbling with excitement. Everyone is talking about the big fixture of the day at Sedbergh Prep. Let's hope it goes well. We are about to arrive at the Bowes Museum for an art workshop.

Bowes was beautiful! Some people went off to look at paintings while others tried some challenging drawing activities. "It was a unique place filled with artwork" - Ben O.

Later on we arrived at Sedbergh for our first enthralling fixture. Afterwards we were treated to a delightful chicken curry for dinner. "I thought it was a really great experience and the people were lovely" - Fliss W.









Later after checking in at the Premier Inn everyone headed out for bowling. It was a great environment and we all loved it.

After a cosy night sleep at the hotel, everybody enjoyed a delightful cooked breakfast to fuel us for the day's fixture. Soon after we headed to Morrisons for some lunch and then onto the arcades. "We had a lot of fun collecting tickets!" - James B. and Charlie M.

And then it was time for our last game of the tour! Stonyhurst were a great team, and

were lovely to play against. They then gave us a packed lunch for the journey home!

On the whole, this was a great fixture! Everybody had a great time! Although, I think everyone could agree... The food was the best part!



As part of the Year 6 sports tour, the team who had qualified for the Regional

finals had a thrilling end to their hockey season. We played 5 matches in total and secured 5 fantastic wins. Versus Cundall (Yorkshire champions) the score was 1-0 with Sophia scoring the decisive goal. In the 2nd match v Hymers, a nervous game Georgina popped up with the winner which then gave the girls lots of confidence. After a break the team had two games v Terrington and Dame Allan's and won 2-0 and 3-1 respectively. Georgina scored another 3 and Evelyn got a deserved goal for all her efforts in attack. She never stopped running and caused the opposition lots of problems. Going into the final match v RGS we knew we couldn't be caught so we were able to mix the team up and give everyone good game time.

We did have a few tired legs so the girls relied on their passing game to good effect. They finished 2-0 winners and were therefore crowned Yorkshire and NE champions. There is no next round at U11 level for hockey but if there was they would be

heading to another national final this year. I look forward to following their progress and hopefully they will continue the improvements made this season and get to nationals in the next couple of years.

A huge well done to Georgina P, Darcey, Isla, Manha, Annalise, Holly, Evelyn, Rosa and Sophia for making herstory as this is the first time we have won this competition.

Mrs Redhead-Sweeney









Eid Assembly

On 1st May we celebrated Eid al Fitr in school. All the children came wearing an item of green or in traditional dress and Pippa prepared a delicious lunch. The Prep School were thrilled to listen to a confident group of children share their knowledge of Eid

and how they celebrate at home. Manha, Zane, Nael, Raheem, Zoyaa S. and Zoeya A. spoke about normal Muslim practices on Eid and traditions around the world. When asked about their favourite parts of Eid they shared:

Manha - presents

Nael - food

Zane - presents

Raheem - being with my friends and family

Zoyaa - sharing food and getting presents

Zoeya A - receiving money

Eid Mubrak to all our Muslim friends!

Mrs Barton



Show Racism the Red Card

We welcomed *Show Racism the Red Card* again to share their important anti-racism education messages to the Year 5 children this week. Our thanks to the YPSSC for funding this key part of our PSHE programme.

Mr Stone

The Show Racism the Red Card workshop told me that people can be discriminated against in different ways such as skin colour, religion, nationality and culture. They also said that there are some bad words which are racist and some people are trying to change the meaning of it. I enjoyed playing the games such as whisperers and "Stand up and swap places if ..."! At the end, they gave us red.

Aditi K.

The message that I took away from the Show Racism the Red Card workshop was that you could experience racism because of four main things: culture, skin colour, nationality and religion. They mentioned about stereotypes and judgement and an

example of a stereotype could be like boys like blue and girls like pink. A judgement is where you base your views of someone on their culture, skin colour, nationality and or religion.

Paari M.

I enjoyed the workshop because we played games with the red card and looked at different types of people in the world and what you can do if somebody is being racist. Racism can make some people feel really bad and not happy because it is really offensive. Nobody should be racist. We also looked at what type of people you could be neighbours with and we also looked at world views.









CEOP



The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) aims to keep children and young people safe from sexual abuse and grooming online.

Parents, carers and children can report a concern about child sexual abuse or online exploitation to the CEOP Safety Centre.

ANY CHILD IN IMMEDIATE DANGER SHOULD ALWAYS CALL 999 FIRST.

You can contact CEOP by clicking on the logo on this page. This links to the CEOP website where you can report any concerns you may have. Alternatively, click www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/.

Mr Stone

Mrs Jones

Coming Up at the PAA

Let's Hear it for the Girls— Saturday 10th May, 7.30pm



Dig out your

sparkles and dancing shoes, and indulge yourself for over two hours of music with the girls, as we celebrate the music of ABBA, Chaka Khan, Beyoncé, LaBelle, Whitney Houston, Aretha Franklin, Shania Twain, Sister Sledge, The Bangles, Alanis Morisette, Lady Gaga and so much more!

The Magic
of Science—
Tuesday
27th May,
11am and
3pm



Fusing the

mystery of magic with wondrous and miraculous feats of science. Hang on to your seats and experience a non-stop action packed interactive magical science show with

experiments and magic that will capture the imagination. New

for 2025!

Rob
Lamberti Presents
Perfectly
George—
Friday 5th



September, 7.30pm

Returning to Yarm in 2025!

Featuring the incredible voice of Rob Lamberti, this show has wowed audiences around the country and Europe and lifted them to their feet, in a dynamic show that tactfully and appropriately celebrates the career of one of the most gifted performers of a generation. From Wham! all the way through to the diverse eras of George's hugely successful solo career, including timeless hits like 'Careless Whisper', 'Faith', 'I'm Your Man', 'Club Tropicana', and so many more, the show tells the story of George Michael in the vast repertoire of songs that made him an icon to so many.

Yarm Cricket Club Girls Team

The final sessions of the Yarm Cricket Club girls indoor are coming up over the next fortnight. These sessions will take place on the following dates:

Apr 5/12—Times 1:30-3pm

Venue: Conyers School; Cost £47

Following this, training will switch to outdoors and players can sign up to the Teamo app to join Yarm CC, who play in the North Yorkshire/South Durham League.

Coach Chris Gibbons has entered an Under 12 team into the softball league, and there will be a number of games across the season. There is also an opportunity for those mums interested in women's softball with a team entered into a Hundred competition.

Yarm CC

Speech and Drama—Face Time

Did you know that voices communicate — through variations in tone and projection and through, pitch, pace and clear pronunciation, but our faces, hands and even our feet can also project our feelings and communicate clear messages?

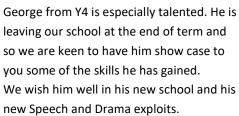


In Speech and Drama our learners love to explore the value of

connecting with others, using non-verbal skills, supporting each other as they grow as confident speakers.



Everyone loves working at using their bodies and faces to communicate and they are excellent at it.





So it's over to his friends:

See if you can think of an adjective or two to describe each feeling.

Mrs Ham-Ying

Stephenson House Assembly

To celebrate the end of term, Stephenson House held an egg jarping tournament. One egg had to 'dunsh' the other one and the unbroken egg moved through to the



next round.
Ralph Ellis
claimed the
title of
Stephenson Egg
Jarper 2025,
defeating all
eggs in his path.





Mrs Smith





New Pre-Loved Uniform Sned:

YPSSC are excited to announce our Pre-Loved Uniform Shed is officially up and running!

We are located near to the entrance for Nursery on the Prep site.



We provide & Collect Pre-Loved Uniform

Summer-Winter - PE - Games - Accessories

Nursery, Pre-Prep, Prep, Senior & Sixth Form

Come and have a browse-The shed will be manned periodically throughout the week by volunteers and enquiries can still be sent by email or **classlist**.

ypssc@yarmschool.org Ypssc.co.uk

Holiday Club Dates

Easter 2025: - 7th—11th April 2025

Summer 2025: - 14th July—1st August 2025

To sign your child up for the Easter Holiday Club,

please fill in the form here.

Prep Baccalaureate

It has been great to see just how many children are taking part in the **Yarm Prep Baccalaureate** this year! It is never too late for your child to take part; if you need a new booklet please let me know.

The YPB is an opportunity for the children to:

- Develop new skills,
- Stretch themselves; and
- Recognise their talents and achievements.

Every child in the Prep School can do it! The overall aim is to encourage and recognise pupil involvement in their school, with a clear focus on our School Values. There are also

elements of *Education for Social Responsibility* within the tasks set—all of which are age-appropriate and achievable based on the year group of each child.

What do the children need to do?

Each page of the YPB covers one of our School Values. On each page, a child needs to complete **four TASKS** and the **PROJECT**. These need to be dated and signed by a teacher. Form time will be used to do this. There is also a lunchtime club on Tuesdays for children to do this with Mr Stone.

What are the tasks?

The tasks are based around each School Value and offer a mix of those that can be achieved in school and those that will need some support at home to complete. Some will be completed during day-to-day life at school (and at home!), so we are encouraging children to look for these first before exploring and tackling some of the more challenging tasks.

Four tasks need to be completed from the 7/8 under each School Value. They need to be dated and signed by a teacher.

What are the projects?

The projects are designed to promote the School Values. All your child has to do is record how they have demonstrated each value—on one side of A4 paper—and present it to their teacher or Mr Stone.

Some examples might include: demonstrating 'Safe' by

producing a poster for Safer Internet Day; highlighting how they are being 'Resourceful' by drawing some diagrams of how an old item was fixed; or showing how they are 'Ambitious' by putting together a report and pictures of an assembly/event they took part in.



What do parents need to do?

- Discuss and share with your child what they are doing.
- Work with them to complete each of the projects (and sign them off!)
- Encourage your children to come along to the lunchtime clubs on Tuesdays.
- Make sure that the YPB booklet is kept safe and secure—both at home and at school!

DON'T FORGET TO COME ALONG TO THE LUNCHTIME CLUB EVERY TUESDAY!

Mr Stone





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.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about



On messaging apps, social media and online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they can be great for connecting with others, there are several risks posed by these tools.

WHAT ARE

. . .

BULLYING

Teens are often trying to find their place in their social group. Unfortunately, group chats can sometimes lend themselves to unkind comments being shared freely, putting people down to make their peers laugh – often creating a vicious circle that encourages others to join in. Being bullied so publicly – in front of friends and acquaintances – can also amplify the hurt, embarrassment and anxiety that the victim feels.



This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: for instance, starting a new group, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one person doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss events that exclude them – for example, sharing photos from a day out that they didn't attend.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by a child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some apps have features that cause messages to disappear after they're viewed, so children may be unable to report something they've seen, as it can only be viewed once or for a short time.



Group chats can feel more private and protected, allowing children to share inside jokes and video calls with a smaller group of friends. It's important to remember that while the chat's content is private between those in the group, individual users can easily share material with others outside of the group, or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something a child intended as private becoming public is higher if there are strangers in the chat.

UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely for children to communicate with people they don't know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly towards everyone present. It's wise for young people to avoid sharing personal details and remember that they have no control over what others do with the material they send into the chat.

NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications they tend to generate. Every time someone sends a message, each member's device will be 'pinged' with an alert. This could result in hundreds of notifications a day. This is often highly distracting, and young people's fear of missing out (FOMO) can cause increased screen time as they try to keep up with the conversation.



Advice for Parents & Carers

(h) 00

CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats can become an arena for young people to compete for social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse which could upset others. Help children consider how people might feel if they behave in this way. If the child does upset someone, encourage them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake

PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Ensure children understand the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school, or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they can't be certain where it might end up and how it might be used.

GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Group chats are an excellent way for children to connect and feel like they belong. However, remind them that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their feelings and empower them by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. You can also encourage children to speak up if they witness others being picked on.

AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their identity to gain a child's trust and serve their own ends – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure the child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and why they should never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If a child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block whoever sent the material, report that person to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could put a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise that it's OK for children to simply leave any group chat that makes them feel uncomfortable.

SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a device bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be an irritating distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to children that they can still be part of the group chat while disabling notifications – and that it would be healthier for them to do so, avoiding a situation where they could feel pressured to respond.

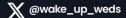
Meet Our Expert

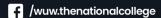
Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour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

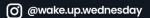


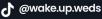
The **National** College

Sources:https://www.frihtwknowcoutk/in_118/jets-talk-about/so<mark>cialsing-online/group-chats/|https://www.nspoc.org.uk/keeping-childr</mark>









Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Release date: 27.04.2022 Last reviewed: 30.05.2024

Tooled Up Education

If you have children of any age sitting exams in the coming months, you'll know that whilst they are an opportunity for enormous accomplishment and pride, they may also bring feelings of pressure and anxiety for students and families alike.

Whether your child is taking SATs, entrance, public or music exams or even competing in sports trials, good preparation, alongside an active approach to managing anxiety is incredibly important for helping them reach their potential.

Exams won't ever be totally free of stress, but Tooled Up has plenty of resources to help you support your child and make the process as positive as possible.

Dr Kathy Weston's video on <u>Managing Exam Stress</u> is packed with practical, tried-and-tested tips to support teenage students through exam season. It includes advice on how to talk about exams with your child, the revision habits to encourage and the importance of nutrition and sleep.

For younger children, you can find quick, simple tips in the video <u>Supporting Exam Performance for Parents of Younger Children</u>. It offers examination preparation advice and also aids planning for exam day itself.

One of the key jobs for parents in exam season is to manage anxiety: their child's and their own! These Resources to Reduce Exam Anxiety for Parents and Teens will show you everything Tooled Up has to offer to manage stress.

Finally, the <u>Smart Reviser</u> is one of our most popular resources. It's filled with evidence-based advice and suggestions for effective revision, perfect for helping your child build good habits to use their study time in the most positive way.

REMINDER: to register for our webinar Adolescence on Netflix: Action Points for Parents and Staff, taking place on 23rd April 2025, click here.

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!

A quick reminder:

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. If you already have an account and you have forgotten your password, then simply click on any of the resource links above, click "Lost your password" and follow the instructions.



Coming Up

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

APRIL 2025

Mon 7 Easter Holiday Club begins
Fri 11 Easter Holiday Club finishes

Wed 23 Summer Term begins; pupils return

Choristers visit Park Rest Care Home Peer Mentor training (3.45-4.45pm)

Thu 24 Y4 Vindolanda Trip—Zoom for Parents (4pm)

Mon 28 Clubs and Activities begin

YPSSC AGM (Library; 5.30pm)

Knockout Chess begins

Tue 29 Reception trip to Highfield Care Home

Wed 30 School Council (Lab; 1pm)

MAY 2025

Thu 1 Pre-Prep Poetry Competition

Junior Maths Challenge

Fri 2 LAMDA examinations (all day)

U10/11 Boys' Cricket v Teesside High and NSB

(home; 2pm start)

Sun 4 UK Chess Challenge Mega Final

(PAA; 10am-5pm)

Mon 5 School closed; Bank Holiday

Tue 6 Class Photographs

Curiosity Emporium (Library; 1pm) Reception trip to Highfield Care Home

U8 Girls' Cricket v Queen Mary's (away; 2pm start, 4.15pm return)

Wed 7 Year 4 Vindolanda residential departs

Thu 8 Yarm/NESF STEM Day

Fri 9 Year 4 return from Vindolanda

U10/11 Boys' Cricket v Durham (away; 2pm start, 4.30pm return)
U10/11 Girls' Cricket v Durham School

010,11 0...0 0........

(home; 2.15pm start)

Sat 10 Open Morning (9am-12noon)

Mon 12 Year 5 Drama Week

Whole School Photograph (9am)

Food Council (1pm)
Arkwright Charity Day
Teesside Mind assembly

Activities Carousel 4 begins (Y4-6)

Tue 13 School Captains Day

Summer Fair prep begins for Year 6 U8 Boys' Cricket v Cundall Manor (away; 2pm start, 4.15pm return) Reception trip to Highfield Care Home Wed 14 Year 6 Heart Workshops (Science Lab)

Fri 16 Year 5 Drama Week Performance (Hall; 4pm)

U11 Girls' Cricket v Red House

(home; 2pm start)

Mon 19 Year 6 Lakes residential departs

Tue 20 Year 3 Sports Afternoon

Yarm Primary Schools Quiz (Hall; 10am)

Term Dates

Summer Term, 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)

Autumn Term, 2025

Preparation Day 1 Tuesday, 26th August 2025
Preparation Day 2 Wednesday, 27th August 2025
All Pupils Return Thursday, 28th August 2025
Half Term Begins Friday, 17th October 2025

(after school)

Pupils Return Monday, 3rd November 2025

Finish Friday, 12th December 2025

(after school)

Celebration Assembly

	Values	Endeavour
3B	Lewis S.	Matthew M.
3J	Matilda M.	Ethan S.
3P	Harman K.	Albert L.
4F	Annabelle L.	William D.
4J	Max H.	Mael S.
4SU	Naveah MT.	Harris K.
5G	Amelie T.	Emma W.
58	Jude C.	Ailie H.
5W	Amani R.	Thomas H.
6Н	-	-
6K	-	-
6L	-	-

Head Teacher Awards:

Year 5: Thomas H. Year 6: Sandy O.

Millionaire Readers: Bertie H., Gowri P., Mana H., Shanvi P.,

Wilbur MS.