



The Phoenix Flier

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

Issue 848—Friday 12th June 2026

A message from Mr Sawyer

Welcome to this week's edition of the Phoenix Flier! The school continues to be alive with activity which ensures that there is never a dull moment in our pupils' school lives. At this time of year we are finalising end-of-year reports which encapsulate the broad and diverse range of learning opportunities on offer here. Our curriculum is packed full of hands-on experiences delivered by a passionate staff team who are focused on helping every child thrive. Ultimately it is the vibrant culture of our classrooms and the deep trust between staff and pupils that help to realise such wonderful gains, both academically and in terms of personal development. Being involved in this daily growth is a true privilege. I hope you find the upcoming reports to be a real celebration of your child's progress when they are released next Wednesday.

In terms of celebration, the Dance Showcase last week was a spectacular exhibition of our pupils' dedication and talent. Bringing together dancers from across both the Prep and Senior School, the evening highlighted the unique benefit of an all-through school with the ambition to stage shows of this exceptional calibre. Our pupils rose to the challenge magnificently and were simply remarkable. It was a triumphant night to remember. On the sporting front, huge congratulations must go to our NEJS athletics and tennis players who represented Yarm so brilliantly at the recent regional competitions. My thanks also go to our School Captains for organising the recent School Captains' Day with such energy and maturity. We now look forward to the final few weeks of term with much excitement.

Photo of the Week: Another stunning Dance Showcase, as you can see from the images inside.

Head's Challenge: I am a word of five letters, but if you take away two letters, only one remains. What word am I?

Bill Sawyer



Dance Showcase

On Friday evening, I took part in the Yarm School Dance Showcase, A Night at the Museum, at the PAA.

This was my first time doing a dance show and my first year doing dance classes. I was in the Elvis, Tina Turner and Freddie Mercury dance and also the grand finale with everyone in the show. It was great fun learning the routines and performing in front of such a large audience.

The hardest part was learning the finale because there were lots of people on stage and lots to remember. I wasn't nervous before going on stage, but it was really fun waiting behind the curtain and watching everyone rushing around getting changed.

I spotted my family and some friends in the audience. At the end, everyone clapped really loudly and it felt great.

I really enjoyed the show.

Wilf M.



PE and Games News

NEJS Tennis

St Peter's held the annual NEJS tennis event on Monday this week. We took 3 boys pairs and 1 girls pair to this tournament. Depending on morning results the doubles pairs then went through to another round robin event in the afternoon with all playing for silverware.

Monty and Atti remained unbeaten in the morning securing wins over St Peter's, Ashville, Durham and Bradford. They then went into the Cup competition in the afternoon. The standard was very high on this court and the boys played extremely well. They won their first 2 matches and then faced RGS who had also won all their matches. The boys battled back to 7-7 from 3-7 down with RGS effectively having 4 championship points. Sadly RGS took the next point to win the Cup but the boys should be super proud of their efforts. Ralph and Ziad had a mixture of results in the morning so went through to the Bowl event, and with 3 wins out of 3 they secured the silverware. It was excellent to see their confidence grow with each match and they deserved the title. Ted and Zac again with a mixture of results in the morning went into the shield with 3 other schools. After the 3 matches both Ashville and Peter's along with our boys finished with 2/3 wins, so they tied on points. The points in all matches were counted and sadly Ted and Zac finished 3rd overall due to the countback system. Ellora and Sophie again enjoyed a win, draw and 2 defeats in the morning v Leeds, Bradford and Ashville so went into the bowl where they finished in 3rd place. Overall, it was a fantastic day of tennis with plenty of highs and some lows along the way. Well done to our 8 performers who should all be proud of their efforts.

Mrs Redhead-Sweeney

NEJS Athletics

We took over 30 children to the NEJS athletics competition down in York. With 16 schools it is a large event with over 500 children competing throughout the day. It is always a lovely kind of chaos when you add the parents and staff into the mix! Thank you to the many supporters who supported and cheered the children on.

Highlights for us included;

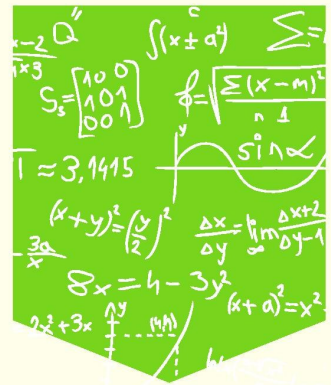
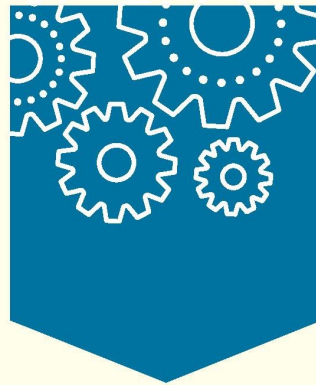
U9's Zuri finished 3rd in the vortex throw and Finn finished 3rd in the 80m sprint. The boys relay qualified for the final finishing a respectable 5th overall. In the U10's Josh A and Violet P won the long jump competitions George finished 4th in the javelin and Edie T finished 3rd. Zara finished 4th in the high jump and Ray finished 5th in the same event. Indie and Zara both qualified for the 80m and 200m finals both finishing 5th. In the U11 team Wilbur tied for long jump in 1st place. Amelie placed 4th in the shot putt and Zac a respectable 5th in what was a new event for both of them. Scarlett came 4th in the javelin and James M ran the 800m finishing 5th.

When all the results were added together as a school we placed 7th out of 16 schools which was a fair result. Well done to all children who competed for school.

Our next big athletics event will be our annual sports day which is held at Middlesbrough sports village on Fri 26th June.

Mrs Redhead-Sweeney





S

Science

T

Technology

E

Engineering

M

Mathematics

House Competition



Design and Make a Marble Run

You can make your marble run out of any materials but do please consider the impact on the environment of the materials you use.

You must keep the marble moving for at least 10 seconds but the longer the better. If you don't have marbles, you can use any similar small ball.

Marks will be awarded for ingenuity, length of time the marble runs for and overall appearance.

Every entry scores house points.

Please send a film or a photograph of your creation to Mrs Smith either printed out or via email to elizabeth.smith@yarmschool.org by **Friday 26th June**, remembering to include your full name and house.



YPSSC Summer Fair

Rides * Stalls * Raffle & more...

Friday 19th June 2-5pm



Just 1 week to go!



Class hamper donations closing

Class reps have now shared a guidance note Monday 8th for your non-perishable nut-free donations and decorating boxes to raffle off is underway. So please help by **dropping off your donations** into school receptions from NOW - Thu18th

And for the stalls:

- We're still taking:**
- Nearly new /new books and toys
 - Bottles
 - Bottle gift bags
 - Plants
 - Preloved uniform

Will you Volunteer?

We still need more volunteers so if there's one time in the year to give it a go, we'd really appreciate it:

- Sorting donations on Thursday
- Set up / stalls / clear on Friday

Please scan the QR code or contact your class rep or member of the YPSSC to help us get you involved.

Thank you.



Our classlist listing is now live via Events on the App; or use this QR
 You'll find Childrens, Adults, Siblings & Senior Wristbands **PLUS** raffle tickets for a chance to win those hampers!




Please buy your wristbands for access to all rides 




COFFEE IN THE CARPARK

IT'S BACK! MONDAY 15 JUNE 7.30



Fancy a coffee? June 15th and June 24th

Excited to share the coffee van has been invited back to school drop off. We will be in the prep school car park by the steps from 7.30-9am. Coffees, teas, lattes and hot chocolates available. Looking forward to seeing you for your caffeine fix.

Summer—Second Half of Term

Next to some events, you will be asked to confirm attendance by completing the [events attendance form](#). This is one single form, covering all of the key events noted below where place/tickets need to be requested. Please do take some time to fill in the form in conjunction with reading this letter, as it helps us significantly with event planning. [You also need to book your after school care requirements for the second half of term by May 30th by clicking here.](#)

Monday 15th June

Prep Induction Morning (Pre-School to Year 6)

Induction allows the children to spend time in their new classes with their new Form Teacher so that pupils will feel comfortable and familiar at the start of the school year in September. We will announce the new classes to the children on the day when they get to school as we find this avoids the potential for any upset prior to the day. All children (including Year 6) should wear home clothes for their Induction event; please no football shirts, beach wear or hair products. Please bring your child to school as normal, with our current Year 2 children being dropped off at the Pre-Prep as usual. After an initial form time, the children will be taken to their new classes for the morning. They will then spend the afternoon back in their current forms, reflecting on their morning and enjoying their usual Monday lessons and activities. Pre-School children who are moving up to Reception in September who do not usually attend on a Monday morning should arrive at 8.45am and be collected at 11.30am. Year 6 children and children not attending Yarm from September 2026 will have a range of activities planned for them in school on this day.

Tuesday 16th June

National Schools Quiz Final - Our three intrepid teams will be taking part in the online final during the morning.

Wednesday 17th June

Reports released to parents (All year groups)

The end of year report for your child will be made available via the Parent Portal from 4pm. If you have any problems logging in, please contact [our IT department](#).

Prep Summer Concert—4pm start in the Prep Hall. Parents of performers have been contacted with full details.

Thursday 18th June

ABRSM examinations week (select musicians in Years 3-6)

Some children are involved in music exams on this day. Further details in due course.

Friday 19th June

Summer Fair (All year groups)

We are delighted to write with details of our annual Summer Fair with the theme this year being 'The Letter Fiesta' (the alphabet). 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. As per our previous letter (and the regular reminders in the *Phoenix Flier*, please note these key points:

- 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.
- 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 £8. The YPSSC will be providing further details in due course.
- 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.

You can find - and up-to-date - information each week in the *Phoenix Flier*.

Monday 22nd June

Year 3 York residential departs (Year 3)

See above on how to sign up for the parents Zoom meeting. Year 3 will return on Tuesday 23rd.

Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd June

Yarm STEM Day (Year 5)

We welcome a number of local primary schools and visitors from a range of local industries for our STEM Days during this week. Some of our Year 5s will continue to act as 'Science Magnets', guiding our visitors to and from each activity.

Wednesday 24th June

Year 6 Pupils v Parents Sports (Year 6)

A time for parents of Year 6 children to dust down their trainers and participate in some 'competitive' sports with and against their children. The event begins at 5pm and ends at 6.30pm, after a barbecue. If you are a Year 6 parent and wish to attend, [please confirm this by completing the events attendance form](#).

Thursday 25th June

Open Afternoon (Years 3-6)

Parents of **children in Y3-6** are invited to come along to our open afternoon to celebrate your child's work. In addition, there will be an art and DT exhibition in the Prep Hall, as well as musical performances. Refreshments are also available. If you are a **Year 3-6 parent** and wish to attend, [please confirm this by completing the events attendance form](#).

There will be no after school clubs on this date.

Friday 26th June

Prep Sports Day (Years 3-6)

Commencing at 9.30am at Middlesbrough Sports Village, our annual Sports Day takes place. House points will be up for grabs and we invite parents to spectate. The event will finish at approximately 12.30pm. All of the children will be participating in every event, with the emphasis on participation and having fun. Please ensure your child comes in their games kit. All children must bring a bottle of water too. Snacks and packed lunches will be provided by school. Children will return to school afterwards and can be collected at the normal times.

All clubs and activities have finished today for the year.

Tuesday 30th June

Prep Prize Giving (Years 3-6)

All children in Years 3-6 will be participating in this event, commencing at 5.45pm in the Princess Alexandra Auditorium and lasting around one hour. As the event is compulsory for pupils in Years 3 to 6, the children will be supervised after school and provided with a light tea. They will then walk down to the auditorium accompanied by their Form Teachers and will be seated together. Prize Giving is a ticketed event with each family being allocated 2 seats.

[Please complete the form below by Monday 15th June to secure your allocated tickets.](#)

Priority for any additional tickets will be given to families with children in Year 6. Younger siblings who attend Yarm Pre-Prep will be permitted to stay in an extended After School Care facility which will be run by Pre-Prep staff until 7pm at no extra cost, with children brought to the Senior School for collection after this event. Please note that this will include a light tea. Please indicate, where relevant, if you would like your child to take advantage of this facility.

Parking is available at the Prep School and Senior School, and members of the school's Estates team will be on hand to direct you. Spaces are limited and once one site is full no further cars will be permitted on to the grounds for safety reasons. Please bear this in mind if planning to attend the event and arrive in plenty of time so that you can be seated ready for Prize Giving to start promptly at 5.45pm.

We are expecting the event to last just over an hour, following which you are invited to join staff in the Dovecot Courtyard /

Sports Hall for refreshments. Please collect your children from their Form Teacher following the ceremony and ensure you supervise your children closely after the event.

Thursday 2nd July

Lost Property Assembly (Years 3-6)

We will clear out the lost property cupboards and hope to reunite some items with their rightful owners. Please may we ask parents to have a good root around at home and send in and unrecognised uniform for the assembly.

Friday 3rd July

Water Run for the Mustard Seed Project (Pre-School - Year 6)

Our final fundraising event of the school year. Every child in the school will be taking part in our second annual Water Run, so a change of top and a towel are advised! We only ask that families make a donation to the Mustard Seed Project, [which can be done via our Just Giving page for the event by clicking here](#). Please note: we know water is a precious resource so we will not be using large quantities of it. Staff will be using water pistols and sponges, while there will be a sprinkler at the end too.

End of term - no after school care (All year groups)

Term ends at 11.30am for Pre-School and Pre-Prep and 12noon for Years 3-6. There is no after school care so we ask all parents to collect their children at the correct time please.

Monday 6th July - Friday 17th July

Summer Holiday Club

Mr Simpson will be sending further details and the booking form in the coming weeks.

Mr Stone

Music Lessons

If your child in Years 3-6 is interested in starting individual music lessons and exploring the joy of music making, please fill in [this form](#).

Mrs Pawluk

Summer Fair

We are delighted to write with details of our annual **Summer Fair**, taking place on **Friday 19th June (2-5pm)** with the theme this year being *On the Beach*.

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 is always very popular with the children. 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.

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.
- **Entry** is £2 for adults and non-Prep/Pre-Prep children.
- **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 £8. 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 these will be handed out by their class teachers before the children come to the fair on the day.** The wristbands will also be available on the day of the fair for all families.
- **If you want any extra wristbands for other family members who do not come to Yarm**, add them to your order.
- **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!
- **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. *Please note: some stalls run by the YPSSC will take card payments (e.g. food stalls); however we ask that children only bring in money.*
- **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.

- **Children can only stay at the fair beyond the end of the usual school day if they have a parent/guardian present.**
- **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, street dance and drama will not be taking place.
- **There will also be a fabulous hamper raffle!** The YPSSC will be sending out further details in due course.

Mr Stone

Coming Up at the PAA

**The Manfreds -
Get Your Kicks
on Tour '26—
Friday 18th
September,
7.30pm**



Join us for an unforgettable evening featuring the legendary Paul Jones and Tom McGuinness, two original members of Manfred Mann, along with the talented Marcus Cliffe, Simon Currie, Pete Riley, and Mike Gorman. Experience a thrilling two-hour performance packed with iconic hits, dynamic jazz, and powerful blues.

**The Drifters—
Friday 9th
October, 7.30pm**



The Drifters are back on tour in the UK performing all their classic hits including 'Saturday Night at the Movies', 'You're More Than A Number,' 'Come on Over to My Place', 'Under the Boardwalk', 'Kissin' In the Back Row' and many more!

**The Magic of
Motown—
Friday 23rd
October,
7.30pm**



Seen by millions, The Magic of Motown is back!

It's no surprise that this show is one of the biggest success stories in British theatre history. Come celebrate as we Reach Out and show you there ain't no mountain high enough with the biggest Motown party of the year.

School Captains' Day

Well done to our School Captains, who led a charity fundraiser in support of the Cats Protection league. Overall, we raised an incredible £412.60! Well done!



Mr Sawyer

On School Captains Day we raised some money for the Cats Protection League. We played a fun game of Heads and Tails in Assembly. We collected money at the gate in the morning. We had a BBQ lunch that was truly delicious! Our Legacy Project is placing a clothes bin in the car park for any spare clothes or clothes not needed. Every container full of clothes will raise funds for the school and provide a sustainable way of recycling used clothing.

Freddie B.



Sensory Art

This week, Brunel completed their exploration of using pasta in art.

Some children opted for creating patterns whilst others composed little scenes before painting them in bold colours.



Mrs Donoghue

Summer Holiday Club

Looking for exciting childcare this summer? Our Summer Holiday Club offers a safe, friendly environment packed with fun activities, school-based adventures, and exciting

Date	6/7	7/7	8/7	9/7	10/7
EYFS	Piglets	Art Day with Mrs Shepherd and Mrs Donoghue	Twiggys Softplay	Hope Town	Cinema
Y1/2	Piglets	Art Day with Mrs Shepherd and Mrs Donoghue	Plotters' Forest	Hope Town	Cinema
Prep	Art Day with Mrs Shepherd and Mrs Donoghue	Beamish	Plotters' Forest	Newby Hall	Cinema
Date	13/7	14/7	15/7	16/7	17/7
EYFS	Monk Park Farm	Art Day with Mrs Shepherd and Mrs Donoghue	Mboro SV Soft Play	Hall Hill Farm	Cinema
Y1/2	Monk Park Farm	Gibside	Mboro SV Soft Play	Art Day with Mrs Shepherd and Mrs Donoghue	Cinema
Prep	Fountains Abbey	Gibside	Wicked Dance Show	Baltic Art Musuem	Cinema

trips out. Give your child two weeks of new experiences, friendships, and memories while you enjoy complete peace of mind.

Full details were sent to parents earlier this week, with a booking deadline of 9am on Monday 22nd June. Cost is £44 per day, and you can view the timetable for the two weeks below.

Mr Simpson

Adventure Camps

Get ready for our biggest summer yet! Adventure Camps' Summer Holiday Programme 2026 is packed with five weeks of exciting, themed adventures, taking children on a journey from camp classics and around-the-world exploration to superhero training, wilderness survival, future technology, and epic hero quests.

Each week is filled with engaging activities, outdoor challenges, creative projects, sports, games, and team missions that encourage children to learn new skills, build confidence, and make lifelong memories.

With something new to discover every day, Adventure Camps offers the perfect blend of adventure, imagination and fun, ensuring an unforgettable summer holiday experience for children of all ages.

Find out more: <https://www.adventure-camps.co.uk/parents-faqs-school-holiday-club-yorkshire/timetables/summer-holiday-clubs-yorkshire/>.

Please note the website is for North Yorkshire - Yarm is running 5 weeks from 20th July to 21st August.

DISCOUNT CODE: YARM10 (for Yarm School parents)

SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2026
WEEK 3 - CAMP LEGENDS: RISE OF THE HEROES
20th - 24th July
Yarm School

SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2026
WEEK 4 - THE GREAT EXPEDITION
27th - 31st July
Yarm School, Yarm

SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2026
WEEK 5 - FUTURE BUILDERS
3rd - 7th August
Yarm School, Yarm

SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2026
WEEK 6 - ADVENTURE INTO THE UNKNOWN
10th - 14th August
Yarm School, Yarm

SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2026
WEEK 7 - CALL OF THE WILDERNESS
17th - 21st August
Yarm School, Yarm

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 & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE GROOMING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Online grooming is when someone builds a relationship with a child or young person online to gain their trust for the purpose of sexual abuse, exploitation, radicalisation, or criminal activity – such as county lines or financial scams. According to the NSPCC, police in the UK recorded over 7,000 offences involving sexual communication with a child in a single year – an increase of 89% since 2017/18.

STRANGERS USING FAKE IDENTITIES

Groomers often pose as children or teenagers online to build trust. They may create convincing fake profiles, share photos stolen from real people, or mimic the interests of the child. By pretending to be someone their age, they make conversations feel safe and relatable. Over time, they may ask for personal details, photos, or suggest meeting in person, exposing children to significant emotional and physical harm.

EXPLOITATION THROUGH GIFTS AND FLATTERY

To gain trust quickly, groomers often send gifts, gaming credits, or money. Alongside material offerings, they use excessive compliments, affection, and attention to create emotional dependency. These tactics make children feel valued and special, lowering their defences. Once trust is secured, groomers may escalate their requests, often asking for photos or private conversations, making the child feel pressured or indebted to continue.

GROUP CHATS AS HIDDEN PATHWAYS

Unmonitored group chats on platforms like WhatsApp or Discord provide a cover for groomers. They can watch how children interact, identify those who seem vulnerable, and then move conversations into private messaging. This transition makes detection difficult for trusted adults. The seemingly harmless group setting often masks the presence of predators, giving children a false sense of security.

THE RISE OF SEXTORTION

Sextortion involves pressuring children into sharing explicit content, then blackmailing them for more. Offenders may claim to have hacked a child's device, threaten to share images with friends or family, or demand money. Many victims remain silent out of fear and shame. This growing crime is particularly dangerous because children often feel trapped, believing there's no safe way to escape the situation.

GAMING PLATFORMS AS GROOMING GATEWAYS

Games like Roblox, Fortnite, or Call of Duty, which include live chat features, are frequent targets for groomers. Conversations often begin casually during gameplay and can become manipulative over time. Groomers may offer in-game gifts, credits, or exclusive add-ons to build rapport. Children using headsets or private chat features are especially at risk, as conversations are harder for adults to monitor.

CRIMINAL & RADICALISATION RISKS

Grooming is not always sexual. Some offenders manipulate children into criminal activities such as drug running or online fraud. Others attempt to radicalise young people with extreme ideologies. Groomers often use fear, money, shame, or promises of belonging to control their victims. These forms of exploitation can be just as harmful as sexual grooming, and often leave lasting psychological and social consequences.

Advice for Parents & Educators

KEEP CONVERSATIONS REGULAR

Rather than having one "big talk" about online safety, weave conversations into everyday life. Ask questions about children's online friendships and interests. Share real-life examples to make discussions relatable and encourage honesty instead of secrecy. When children feel comfortable discussing their digital lives, they are far more likely to share concerns or admit when something feels wrong, reducing the chance of risky interactions going unnoticed.

CREATE A "TELL ME" CULTURE

Children often keep silent because they fear being punished or losing access to their devices. Reassure them that coming forward with concerns won't get them into trouble. Emphasise that you are there to help, not judge. Creating a safe, open environment encourages children to speak up if something feels wrong, and helps to ensure they don't suffer in silence when facing potential grooming risks.

UNDERSTAND THE PLATFORMS CHILDREN USE

Take time to learn about the apps, games, and social platforms children are on. Familiarise yourself with privacy settings, parental controls, and group chat features. Use resources like The National College guides or conduct quick searches to stay updated. By understanding how these platforms operate, you'll be better equipped to set boundaries, guide safe use, and notice any unusual or concerning online behaviour early.

STAY ALERT TO WARNING SIGNS

Be attentive to both behavioural and digital red flags. Sudden secrecy, mood swings, or new online contacts may signal a problem. Watch for unexplained gifts, new social media profiles, or changes in sleep patterns. Increased anxiety or reluctance to attend school can also be indicators. Regularly checking in and showing interest in those whom they communicate with online help prevent small issues from escalating into serious risks.

Meet Our Expert

Staffordshire Police is dedicated to keeping people safe and tackling crime across both the physical and digital world. The force continues to strengthen its digital investigation and safeguarding capabilities to protect children and vulnerable people online, working in partnership with local, regional and national organisations, schools, and the wider community.



See full reference list on our website

X @wake_up_weds

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 18.03.2026

Tooled Up Education

With media coverage and public discussion around drugs, alcohol and weight-loss injections continuing to grow, many parents may be wondering how and when to start conversations about these topics with their children and teenagers.

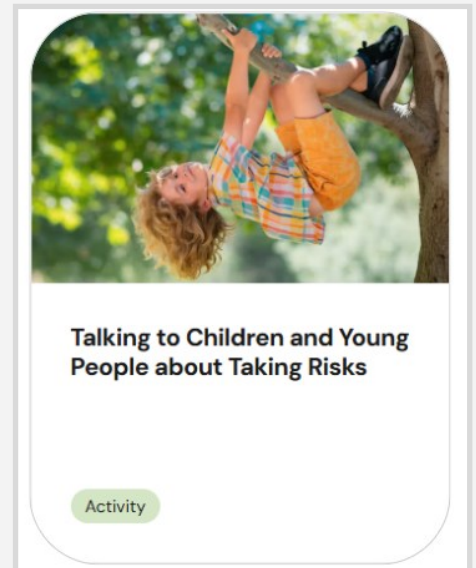
Young people are likely to encounter information, opinions and misinformation through social media, online content and their peers, making open and informal discussions at home more important than ever.

Whether you're looking for practical guidance, expert insights or conversation starters, the Tooled Up resources below are designed to help parents feel informed, prepared and confident when these topics arise.

For younger children, our [Talking to Children and Young People about Taking Risks](#) activity can help introduce the topic of risk in an age-appropriate way. By exploring big ideas together, it encourages openness and curiosity, helping to lay the foundations for more specific conversations in the future.

Our podcast [Teenage Drinking](#) explores what research tells us about underage drinking including the important role parents play in shaping attitudes towards alcohol. It also shares guidance on how families can encourage safer decision-making.

To understand the key facts on what young people and parents need to know about the risk of substance abuse, watch our webinar [I Wish I'd Known: Young People, Drugs and Decisions](#). It shares practical advice for initiating conversations to help young people make knowledgeable decisions about drugs and highlights further resources for information and support.



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: YPSII03 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.

Dr Kathy Weston

TOOLED UP®
BECAUSE EVIDENCE MATTERS

Coming Up

[You can find the Yarm School calendar for the Summer Term and beyond by clicking here](#)

JUNE 2026

Mon 15	Prep Induction Morning Welcome to Reception Evening (Studio Hall; 7pm)
Tue 16	National Schools Quiz Final (10am) U8 Cricket Workshop with Teesside High (home; 2.15pm start) Pre-School New Starters Information Evening (Pre-Prep; 6.30pm)
Wed 17	Reports released to parents Prep Summer Concert (Hall; 4pm) Nursery Sports Afternoon (Pre-Prep; 1pm)
Thu 18	Y2 Transition for parents (Prep Hall; 4pm) ABRSM examinations
Fri 19	Summer Fair (2-5pm)
Sat 20	You & I Clay Project launch (Stockton)
Mon 22	Year 3 York residential departs Yarm STEM Day
Tue 23	Year 3 return from York (3.45pm) Yarm STEM Day Year 6 fair winners lunch Reception Musical Showcase (1.30pm) Nursery Musical Showcase (2.30pm)
Wed 24	Pre-Prep Sports Morning (Prep Astro; 9am) Y6 Parents v Pupils Sports (Prep Astro; 5pm)
Thu 25	Prep Open Afternoon (2-6pm) No after school clubs
Fri 26	Prep Sports Day (Middlesbrough Sports Village; 9.30am-1pm)
Mon 29	Pre-Prep Celebration (PAA; 5pm) Pre-School finish at 3pm; Y1/2 at 3.15pm
Tue 30	Pre-School finish at 3pm; Y1/2 at 3.15pm Prep Prize Giving (PAA; 5.45pm)

JULY 2026

Wed 1	Pre-School finish at 3pm; Y1/2 finish at 3.15pm Nursery Celebration Assembly (2pm)
Thu 2	Pre-School finish at 3pm; Y1/2 finish at 3.15pm Lost Property Assembly
Fri 3	Water Run End of term at 12 noon No after school care
Mon 6	Summer Holiday Club begins
Fri 17	Summer Holiday Club finishes

Term Dates

Autumn Term, 2026

Preparation Day	Tuesday 1st September 2026
Preparation Day	Wednesday 2nd September 2026
All Pupils Return	Thursday 3rd September 2026
Half Term Begins	Friday 16th October 2026 (after school)
Pupils Return	Monday 2nd November 2026
Finish	Wednesday 16th December (after school)

*** Actionable Items ***

The **Summer Fair letter** was sent out prior to half-term, is repeated in this edition for your information.

The **'Summer 2nd Half' letter** has also gone out. This includes details for all of the end of term events, how to book places at these, and the all-important after school care booking form for June/July. You can find it in this edition of the Flier too.

Celebration Assembly

Head Teacher Awards: Year 5—Faye M, Dulcie B, Lucia RM, Faye A, Harris K, Zoeya A, Felicity T, Connie B. **Year 6**—Beatrice T.

Milionaire Readers: Year 4—Jemima T., Arya J. **Year 5**—Lucy A., Felicity T., Dulcie B., Lucy D.

	Values	Endeavour
3B	Joshua I.	Harry A.
3J	Madison E.	Amelia R.
4H	Meera S.	Teddy B.
4P	Joseph C.	Honey C.
4SU	Jack A.	Tupell'e M.
5D	Lucy D.	Arian L.
5G	Zane R.	Kathryn F.
5W	Ayah B.	Zoeya A.
6H	Amelie T.	Ralph E.
6L	Hattie P.	Beatrice T.
6S	Emma W.	Austin O.