

Yorke Mead School Newsletter



Friday 10th November 2023

This week at Yorke Mead!

Sporting Stars @Yorke Mead!

It has been a fabulous sporting week for Yorke Mead this week with another tournament this afternoon, it may get even better!



What a fantastic team performance from our Year 6 team at the TRW-SSP Basketball competition. Yorke Mead finished runners-up with only one defeat 🏆 Their passing and knowledge of the game was outstanding throughout, encouraging each other until the end 🙌 #YorkeSport



Another quite sensational performance from Year 5 at the @TRW_SSP Fun run this afternoon 🏃. Everyone gave their absolute best! We had a 1st place finish and three top 10 finishers in the Boys Elite race who have now qualified for the District finals next term. Rowan Boys also finished as team winners for the race! Congratulations boys!



🏆 #YorkeSport.

We had four top 10 finishers in the Girls Elite race who have now qualified for the District finals next term.

Rowan Girls also finished as team winners for the race! Congratulations



Girls! 🏆



Dates for the diary

This week	This Month	Next Month
<p>W/b 13th Nov Anti Bullying Week</p> <p>Fri 17th Nov Managing your money workshop.</p> <p>Children In Need Day</p>	<p>Fri 24th Nov Occasional Day – school closed</p>	<p>Mon 4th Dec Year 3 Rapid Fire Cricket</p> <p>Tue/Wed 5th/6th Dec Rec Nativity</p> <p>Wed 6th Dec FS/Ks1 Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Dinner</p> <p>Thur 7th Dec Ks2 Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Dinner/ Nursery Performance</p> <p>Fri 8th Dec – Year 1 Song & Dance Performance</p> <p>Mon/Tue 11th/12th Dec -Year 2 Christmas Performance.</p> <p>Tue 12th Dec Y3/4 Pantomime</p> <p>Thur 14th Dec KS2 Carol Concert</p> <p>Fri 15th Dec KS1 Parties</p> <p>Y5/6 Pantomime</p>

Learning Next Week

<p>Nursery – Acorns</p> <p>Focus: <i>Amazing Animals. Rhyme time-Hickory Dickory Dock. Story of the week-The Gruffalo. Thinking about how the animals from the story felt. Counting purple prickles onto the Gruffalo's back. Painting the Gruffalo to include all of his features. Finding out about other woodland animals.</i></p>	<p>Reception – Lime & Willow</p> <p>Focus: <i>'Amazing animal' topic Learning about British Woodland animals using non-fiction texts. Creating hedgehogs using clay. Phonics: learning phonemes z, qu and ch. Learning to read words with 's' endings e.g. cats, naps. Writing words using known sounds. Maths: Learning about pattern. Following patterns and creating our own. Christmas songs</i></p>	
<p>Year 1 – Elder & Silver Birch</p> <p>English: <i>Voices in the Park - recount (sequencing sentences)</i></p> <p>Phonics & spelling: <i>a-e i-e o-e u-e</i></p> <p>Maths: <i>equality and balance (understanding =)</i></p> <p>Science: <i>understand what humans and pets need to stay happy and healthy (visit from</i></p> <p>Wider Curriculum: <i>labelling the surrounding seas of the UK</i></p> <p>P4C/Growth Mindset: <i>What is Remembrance Day?</i></p>	<p>Year 2 – Cedar & Horse Chestnut</p> <p>English: <i>Great Fire of London - newspaper report</i></p> <p>Phonics & spelling: <i>Bridge to spelling, ck and tch at the end of a word.</i></p> <p>Maths: <i>Rebalance for an equal sum</i></p> <p>Science: <i>Same material, different uses</i></p> <p>Wider Curriculum: <i>Warm and cold colours</i></p> <p>P4C/Growth Mindset:</p>	<p>Year 3 – Laurel & Sycamore</p> <p>English: <i>Persuasive travel brochure for Tobago</i></p> <p>Phonics & spelling: <i>adding 'ing' and 'ed'</i></p> <p>Maths: <i>Statistics</i></p> <p>Science: <i>Muscles</i></p> <p>Wider Curriculum: <i>Importance of light Final pieces of Pointillism</i></p> <p>P4C/Growth Mindset: <i>What is bullying and what should I do if I witness bullying?</i></p>
<p>Year 4 – Maple & Pine</p> <p>English: <i>Writing our own poem</i></p> <p>Phonics & spelling: <i>Suffix -ly</i></p> <p>Maths: <i>Multiplication and division strategies</i></p> <p>Science: <i>Global warming experiment</i></p> <p>Wider Curriculum: <i>8 figure grid references/vegetable tasting</i></p> <p>P4C/Growth Mindset: <i>What is bullying and why do witnesses sometimes not act as they should?</i></p>	<p>Year 5 – Ash & Rowan</p> <p>English: <i>The Adventures of Odysseus</i></p> <p>Phonics & spelling: <i>words spelt ie/ ei</i></p> <p>Maths: <i>methods of addition and subtraction</i></p> <p>Science: <i>balanced and unbalanced forces</i></p> <p>Wider Curriculum: <i>planning Mars Rovers/ the Ancient Greek Olympics</i></p> <p>P4C/Growth Mindset: <i>What is bullying and how can I help?</i></p>	<p>Year 6 – Red Oak and White Oak</p> <p>English: <i>Tyger. Using imagery in poetry writing</i></p> <p>Phonics & spelling: <i>'able' and 'ible' suffix</i></p> <p>Maths: <i>Percentages</i></p> <p>Science: <i>The Linnaeus classification system</i></p> <p>Wider Curriculum: <i>Mayan masks (Art link)</i></p> <p>P4C/Growth Mindset: <i>Discussion linked to anti-bullying week</i></p>

Children In Need

On Friday 17th November the United Kingdom will come together to support Children In Need. This year the School Council and Eco Council have come together to consider how to mark the event. Together, they have decided the following:

- Come to school in non-uniform – with as many spots as possible.
- Complete a 'Spotty' Fun Run
- Re-use milk bottle tops to create our own Pudsey.
Green tops to make 'Eco-Pudsey' and other colours to decorate him.

We will throw a few coins in a bucket to support the Children In Need Charity.

For now, please start collecting your milk bottle tops to help us re-use these.



Parking

Here we go again! The weather has started to turn and the upset begins. This week I was called outside by parents worried about the safety of their children due to parents parking on double yellow lines, unsafe corners and blocking pathways. Last night the emails from local residents started and the concerns around the inconsiderate parking, including blocking driveways and making access for emergency vehicles and sometimes residents getting out of their driveways difficult and at times impossible.

I have said everything there is to say on this matter:

I could remind you of the environmental benefits. I could remind you of the fitness levels of your children. I could remind you that walking to school helps your child be ready for learning. I could remind you of the benefits to your children's and your mental health. I could remind you of the petrol money you will save. It doesn't matter what I say... it is what YOU do that will make the difference. Be part of the change ... one small change can make one BIG difference!

Tissues

We always need tissues – if you can please donate a box. The sniffles are now definitely in full swing and we greatly appreciate your support.



FOYM Update

Date for the diary: The Christmas Funday on Saturday 9th December from 13:00-16:00PM

Letters from Father Christmas!

Fully personalised letters delivered straight to your door. Beautifully presented to create that magical moment!

To order please go to pta-events.co.uk/foym or via QR code

On sale NOW!

Just let the FOYM Elves know on the ordering site what you'd like them to pass on to Father Christmas to mention!



Letters from Father Christmas

This is the opportunity to arrange a lovely, personalised letter from Father Christmas, delivered to your doorstep. The deadline for organising this is 2nd December...Santa gets incredibly busy at this time of the year!

Christmas Funday Planning Event

FOYM are having a Christmas Funday Planning Meeting in the MUR room on Thursday 16th November from 20:00pm, soft drinks/wine/nibbles provided-graphic attached. After the meeting we will circulate a link to sign up to volunteer. FOYM need lots of help to make this event possible/a success and will break down the slots into manageable chunks so that volunteers can also enjoy the event with their families.



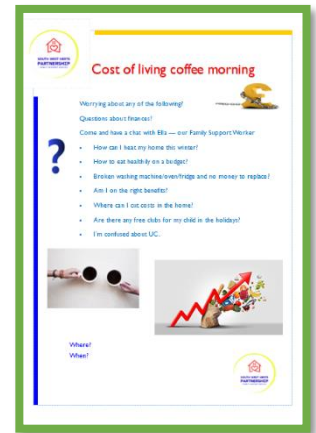
Please remember that the events organised by FOYM that your children love can only happen if ALL of you do your part. Every parent is automatically part of FOYM, please support the events by helping as well as attending.

Managing your money - helpful tips!

Everything costs more and our money just seems to run out far too quickly! Times are difficult for everyone, and with Christmas approaching the pull on our purse strings gets harder and harder.

On **Friday 17th November at 9:00am**, our Family Support Worker will be offering an informal coffee morning to explore key elements to help you manage on a budget and how to get support if needed.

We all would benefit from this; please do attend. I am sure there will be something to help you.



Christmas Cards

You may recall that last year we took the decision to encourage your children to not send Christmas Cards to their friends in school – they see each other every day and can say Merry Christmas verbally. The reason for this was twofold:

- Even recycled cards create a footprint on the world that by not sending these we can avoid.
- Christmas cards are costly, and to be honest, most children read and discard them...most don't even make it out of the classroom.
- Christmas cards sadly turn out to be a popularity contest; some children sit there every day and watch their friends get cards when they don't. This is never nice to see.

Our alternative is this:

- Make one card for the class if your child is keen to send a card.
- Gift a book for the class, wrap it and give it as a Christmas gift from your child to their class. (This is paper that will be re-used every day!)
- Say 'Merry Christmas' ... it costs nothing ... no money, no carbon footprint.



Yorke Mead Open Morning

Saturday 18th November



On Saturday the 18th November we will hold our open morning, inviting future prospective parents to look at our lovely school. Please tell your friends and spread the word.

Yorke Mead is such a lovely community, and we want to share that with as many families as we can. Many years ago, when I first applied to be a teacher at Yorke Mead, someone told me that 'Yorke Mead is Croxley's best kept secret' ... let's not be a secret anymore!

Attendance

The attendance of the majority of pupils at Yorke Mead is very good. Most children achieve well above the national average and because of this they achieve well.

When things are going well, parents only hear from me at the end of a term when their child is rewarded with a 100% attendance badge of certificate.

When attendance becomes a concern, we monitor more closely and may write to parents, raise it at parent consultations or the local authority may become involved. A key factor in this is the communication of parents as attendance can only be authorised if on every day of absence parents make contact with the school office and answer the telephone etc if we call you. If your child's attendance is a concern, we may not authorise the absence unless we get proof of illness through a GP etc.

However, the reasons children should come to school are far more important than this. Good attendance is about developing positive habits they will take into the world of work, supports their emotional wellbeing, friendships and of course their education. Low attendance rates may creep up on us quickly, so to help you I have attached a flyer to explain how the number of days absent converts to percentages.



Letters sent out this week.

Year 1 Jungle Juniors Visit

Lucille Pollard

Head teacher