

Yorke Mead School Newsletter



Thursday 28th March 2024

This week at Yorke Mead!

Stepping back into Tudor history at Hampton Court

I think we can safely say they had a great time!



Dates for the diary

This week	This Month	Next Month
28 th Mar – School finishes at 1.45pm		Easter Break 16 th April – Children return to school.

EID



A number of our families are currently partaking in the holy month of Ramadan. This is a period of fasting, worship, service, communal gathering, and spiritual development for Muslims. Fasting in Ramadan is one of the Five Pillars of Islam. During this time Muslims will also help those less fortunate than themselves and donate to charities. Ramadan ends with Eid al-Fitr, a celebration of thanks to Allah for giving people the strength to complete their fast.

In preparation for Eid I would like to take this opportunity to say Eid Mubarak to all of our Muslim families and staff members.

A sad farewell...

Today we have been very sad to say goodbye to some very special members of our team. Not all are leaving... one is simply stepping away for a short time as she gets ready to welcome baby number two. Miss Welsh Welling will begin her maternity leave today and will return next academic year. I know you will all join me in wishing her well. Mrs Singleton will be the nursery teacher for the summer term; I know the nursery families have had chance to meet her already.

We also say goodbye to Mrs Watkins, who is stepping back from teaching for a while. Although she only works with us one day a week, the contribution Mrs Watkins has made to the school curriculum, particularly the art curriculum has been amazing. We are so lucky to have worked with her and her hard work on the curriculum will support us for many years to come. We wish you all the best Mrs Watkins!

Our final farewell is to Mrs Seabrook. None of us can even begin to imagine what Yorke Mead will be like without her – none of us have ever known this. On a personal level, Mrs Seabrook has been at my side throughout my headship, helping and supporting every step of the way; she has helped develop many staff over the years; she has taught so many children and has the most amazing ability to get to know children so quickly. Mrs Seabrook will undoubtedly not remember this, but many years ago when Ofsted came to visit, the lead inspector made one comment to all the staff about Mrs Seabrook, it was simple... *'You should all go to see this lady teach'*. Now it is time for us to say goodbye...whilst Mrs Seabrook will not be at the school with us, she will live on in the stories we tell of her (there are so many!) and in the way the school works as she has been such an important part in shaping this. Happy Retirement Mrs Seabrook... you have made us all smile for many, many years – we will not forget you!

Yorke Mead 50th Anniversary



As you may be aware, Yorke Mead turns 50 this May. We thought it would be interesting to invite the Yorke Mead families to mark the event by entering a competition. The competition theme is **'Yorke Mead in Fifty Years Time'**. Pupils could create a storyboard, model, poem, or piece of artwork linked to the theme, which imagines how Yorke Mead will look in another 50 years time.

The official anniversary date is 13th May – this is the first day of the Year 6 SATS (something the children didn't have to do 50 years ago) and therefore, we have decided we will celebrate week beginning 20th May. There will be a party and we will be finding ways to mark this very special event. More details will be sent after the Easter break; for now I hope you can use the Easter break to start getting creative!

Yorke Sport News



A busy sporting term has finished on a high with an exceptional performance from Year 2 at the Three Rivers Sports Partnership indoor athletics event. Both the girls and boys teams took first prize – as Yorke Mead finished every race in the top two! Fabulous achievement!
Earlier this week Year 5 showed their running strength

at the Sports Partnership and Watford Harriers Cross Country District finals. The team ran superbly on a challenging course with three top ten finishers – incredible! What a performance from everyone of them.



Last Friday saw the Yorke Mead Girls squads, in both Year 5 and Year 6, play some wonderful football at Royal Masonic School. The teams won both their matches and no goals were conceded. What a result...two fold!

A final 'thank you' and well done to Mr Furlong for all the effort and hard work that he puts into the sport at Yorke Mead, and to the teachers who support him all the way. We certainly wouldn't be achieving what we are achieving without him.



Eco-Minute

The weather is getting a little warmer ... time to turn your heating dial off or at least down a little. Save the pennies and the planet by not wasting energy.

Letters sent out this week.

Year 5 Swimming
Year 2 Spellings
Year 1 Forest School

Thank you to all of the parents who attended the dance morning - I am sure you all were impressed and left with a smile on your face having seen the wonderful dances.

Wishing you all a very happy Easter break - fingers crossed the weather is kinder than it has been of late and we can all get outside and enjoy the start of spring. Have a wonderful time however you are spending it!

Lucille Pollard

Head teacher