

Yorke Mead School Newsletter



Friday 7th June 2024

This week at Yorke Mead!

Bringing learning to life...

A busy first week back at Yorke Mead!



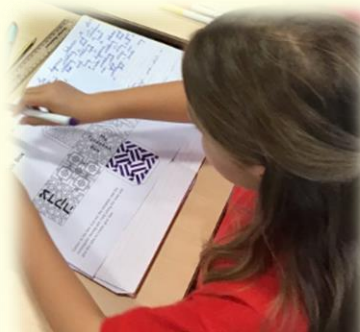
Financial education – so important as a life skill!



Working and learning together – essential in life!



Practise makes perfect!



Learning about and understanding other cultures

Tzedakah Box

- Tzedakah means charity in Hebrew.
- Jewish people collect money in these boxes to help people and to be kind.
- They would keep the boxes in synagogues or at home and give the money to charity on Friday's before Shabbat.



Dates for the diary

This week	This Month	Next Month
All week: Science Week Year 4 Swimming Tues 11 th June Y6 Science Visit Thur 13 th June Y5 Science Visit	Tues 18 th Jun- Rec audio catchups Wed 19 th Jun – Y3 trip to St Albans Fri 21 st Jun – Y1 Music festival Mon 24 th /Tue 25 th Y4 performances Wed 26 th Jun – Diversity Day	w/b 1 July All week: Sports Week Wed 3 rd July – EYFS/KS1 sports day Wed 3 rd July Y4/5/6/ dangers of vaping assembly Thur 4 th July – KS2 Sports Day w/b 8 Jul All week: Y6 Cycling Wed 10 th Jul – Nursery farm visit Thur 11 th Jul – Transition Day Fri 12 th Jul – Reports home Tue 23 rd Jul – Last Day of term. School finishes at 1:45pm

Learning Next Week

Nursery – Acorns

Focus: 'Once Upon a Time'. Story of the week: *The Gingerbread Man*. Phonics: focus on the sound 'qu'. Rhyme Time: 'Round and Round the Garden', focusing on rhyme. Maths: matching amounts to numerals. Communication & Language: describing how characters are feeling. Science week focus - looking at changes in materials using *Gingerbread!*

Reception – Lime & Willow

Focus: 'Once upon a time' topic. Reading the story of *The 3 Little Pigs*. Phonics: reading longer words ending in s / es. Maths: learning number bonds to ten. Recording in a whole/part cherry model. Both classes will be visiting forest school (Lime class on Monday and Willow on Tuesday). Making father's day cards and writing a message. Science week activities.

Year 1 – Elder & Silver Birch

English: hot-seating and writing sentences to sequence
Phonics & spelling: revision of all sounds - please see Summer 1's spelling lists.
Maths: fractions in the context of shapes (1/2 and 1/4)
Science: observing wild, flowering plants
Wider Curriculum: plant your pants; grow your socks
PD/P4C/Growth Mindset:
Book of the moment: Yucky Worms by Vivian French

Year 2 – Cedar & Horse Chestnut

English: Lila and the secret of rain. Creating a story map and re-writing a known story.
Phonics & spelling: spelling patterns 'ti' instead of 'sh'
Maths: doubling and halving 2 digit numbers and halving multiples of 10
Science:
Wider Curriculum: What is collision detection? How do axles and wheels work? Who is Neil Armstrong (1930) and what is he famous for?
PD/P4C/Growth Mindset: The natural process of young to old.
Book of the moment: Michael Rosen and Quentin Blake - Quick let's get out of here.

Year 3 – Laurel & Sycamore

English: research for non-fiction leaflets
Phonics & spelling: common exception words
Maths: tenths and decimals
Science: Science Week activities
Wider Curriculum: identify features of stop motion animation, How do timelines help us understand history?
PD/P4C/Growth Mindset: Science Week activities
Book of the moment: The Creepers and Lightning Girl

Year 4 – Maple & Pine

English:
Phonics & spelling: : explore words with the hard 'k' sound spelt 'ch'
Maths: Roman numerals
Science: record observations and write a conclusion. Science week
Wider Curriculum: Swimming / Play rehearsals
PD/P4C/Growth Mindset: What is needed to make a baby and what is needed to care for it?
Book of the moment: The Night We Got Stuck in a Story by Ben Miller / The Last Bear by Hannah Gold

Year 5 – Ash & Rowan

English: writing dialogues and using varied verbs :
Phonics & spelling: year 5 and 6 statutory spellings
Maths: proportions and scalings
Science: science week investigations Visiting Northwood College for a DNA lesson.
Wider Curriculum: What are the different sources of powers? Adding and editing images in word. What is Tikkun Olam and what are the golden rules?
PD/P4C/Growth Mindset:
Book of the moment: The Boy in the Tower by Polly Ho-Yen

Year 6 – Red Oak and White Oak

English: *Spider wick* - writing a report about a fantasy creature:
Phonics & spelling:
Maths: statistics- misleading data
Science: Science Week

Wider Curriculum: What are the main regions of the UK and what cities can be found in these?
PD/P4C/Growth Mindset: What considerations need to be made when building houses for people?
Book of the moment:

Classes next year

I know that at this point of the year many of you begin thinking about and speculating about your child's classes next year. I know that it helps pupils to know who they will be working with next year, and I promise that as soon as we are ready you will know. Please be patient. It will be with you as soon as possible.

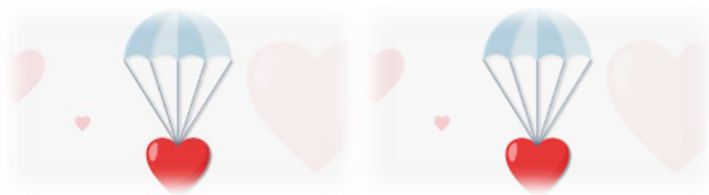
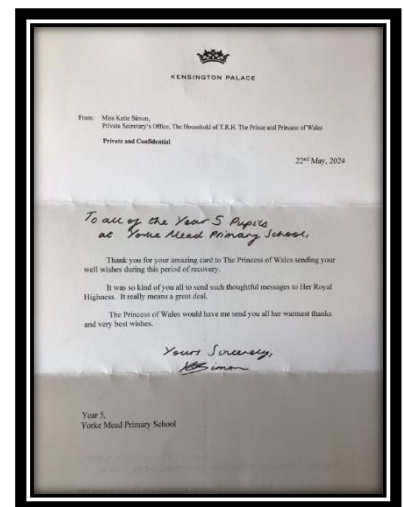
Science Week

Thank you to all parents who have supported their children to participate in Science week. This is a fabulous week when we encourage the children to explore and investigate the world of science and technology. By inviting in parents to talk about their careers in the world of science and technology we hope to inspire our children to think about the future – giving them things to aim for. This is an important week and one that the children simply love!



A very special letter!

This week Year 5 received a very special letter from Kensington Palace in response to their card to HRH The Princess of Wales who is currently battling her cancer. It has been an important time for the Royal Family and our children have shown compassion and care in sending their card – how lovely for them to know that this has been appreciated.



Egg Allergy

At Yorke Mead we have a number of pupils with allergies and intolerances. Some of these are mild and cause irritation; others are extremely serious and potentially life threatening. As parents you are very used to not being allowed to send products containing peanuts into school. This year we have a child in school who has an egg allergy. We have been able to manage this with relative ease as early years children are quite self contained at lunchtimes; this is less so as the children move to key stage one.

As a result of the risks that eggs pose, we have decided that from September we are to be as egg free as possible. We have spoken to the school kitchen and they have agreed to remove egg rolls and predominately egg based foods such as quiche from the menu. We need to ask that parents do the same for packed lunches please - so from September we will have no egg in lunchboxes and snacks; no snack eggs/scotch eggs; no quiche. We ask that mayonnaise is avoided if at all possible too.

I am sharing this information now to give you time to trial alternatives if your child particularly enjoys eggs and is used to enjoying these at lunchtime. I am sure you will appreciate that an egg allergy is not a choice and in this case could be very dangerous for the child involved.

I have attached a link to more information should you wish to access this.



https://www.anaphylaxis.org.uk/fact-sheet/egg-allergy/?utm_source=google-ads&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=anaphylaxis-campaign-egg-allergies&gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAjwIWzBhAlEiwAHHWgvS4CH1pCL5oZS40KhwIYS_ndJQTLnGYmFs36tF3E2DyKLKSiccG7ZxoC0VgQAvD_BwE

Term Time Holidays

Whilst I appreciate it can be difficult and expensive to have to go away in the school holidays, it is important that parents are aware of the rules around term time holidays and that we approach these in an open and honest way.

Taking your child on holiday, and calling in sick each day you are aware, teaches your child that it is okay to lie! It makes their return to school more difficult and creates distrust. Even though I may not be able to authorise a holiday in term time, I would prefer that we are open about it.

Holidays in term time

You have to get permission from the head teacher if you want to take your child out of school during term time.

You can only do this if:

- you make an application to the head teacher in advance (as a parent the child normally lives with)
- there are exceptional circumstances

It's up to the head teacher how many days your child can be away from school if leave is granted.

! You can be **fined** for taking your child on holiday during term time without the school's permission.

This is an extract from the government guidance around term time holidays; it will also help you understand the imposition on school leaders.

If your child already has low or unauthorised absences the chances of the fine being issued is much higher. This is why it is important that everyday that your child CAN come to school they do.

School attendance is very high on the political agenda and the government now collects data from school every day. But, more importantly than this, it is important for your child's social and academic development.

Parking

Here I go again – believe me, for everyone who feels tired of reading this, I am equally as tired of writing it. Just before the May half term, residents and parents alike experienced a particularly difficult encounter. It really isn't difficult – leave in time, park a little further away from school, walk a few minutes (it is good for your child's and your own wellbeing and helps them be ready for learning) and park with consideration. Everyone is happy!

Sport's Day

Many of you will be keen to know the arrangements for sport's day. Further details will follow but the basic information is:

Wednesday 3rd July Early Years and Key Stage One Sports Day (R/N am and Y1/Y2 pm)

Thursday 4th July Key Stage Two Sports Day. (Y3/4 am and Y5/6 pm)

In the middle of each day there will be a picnic. I do need to say that unless parents are prepared to stay for the whole hour of the picnic I would ask that they do not stay. Last year it became very difficult knowing which pupils we needed to be supporting and which were with their families and, especially with the youngest pupils, this meant it was hard to be safeguarding focused. This may sound harsh, but my priority is keeping your children safe. So, basically, if you wish to picnic with your child – plan an extra hour into your day.

On the day we ask your children to wear a t-shirt in their team colour. If you do not have one you may wish to organise this.



Friends of Yorke Mead



Key stage 2 Playground - School Hall if weather changes plans!
 Please bring your cake donations (no nuts) at school drop-off in the morning on Friday 14th June to the cooking room/MUR
 We can't run these events without your support - please head to the Volunteer Signup sheet (details to follow in Parentmail and class groups)

Please can I encourage ALL parents to consider how they can support FOYM in their work, and if you haven't started yet, the Father's Day Cake sale is a good place to start. There are many ways to help – volunteering on the day; making cake donations; offering to clear up at the end of the event.

FOYM make all the key events special and support the school to achieve and do things that we wouldn't be able to do – they can't do this without YOU!

TREASURER NEEDED

**Do you have a financial background?
 Can you spare a few hours a term to support FOYM?**



The current FOYM treasurer is stepping down after a long service period and the team really need your help. The role is very specific and whilst it does require you to take an official role, if you feel you are able to help, please contact the FOYM team to find out more information. Remember, there is no FOYM without you!

Our Library Development



A huge thank you to FOYM and all parents who have supported the fundraising for the school. We are extremely excited to be developing our library due to the support we have received. We have been able to order over £2000 of new books and will be introducing an electronic system so that we can give the children a more authentic library experience. The school has a new 'Librarian' in Mrs Rann who will be leading on the project.

There will be a short period of time when the library will be 'closed' as all books need to be logged on the system. We will also reorganise the books into genres to help the children find a book they love.



We hope to have a launch event to open the library -which is lovely in our 50th year.

Open Afternoon

10th July 2024



Each year we invite you to spend a little time in school at the end of the school day with your child. You have a chance to look at their work, visit their classroom and also, together, to go along and visit their new classroom. You can also pop in to introduce yourself to the new class teacher and see what your child will be learning next year.

The date is planned to allow you and your child to meet the teacher before the 'transition day'. I understand that there has been a date error on the calendar sent out earlier this year. The date for this is 10th July 2024, my apologies for any confusion.

Letters sent out this week.

Diversity Day
Year 6 Local Visit

Lucille Pollard

Head teacher