

Yorke Mead School Newsletter

Friday 7th March 2025

This week at Yorke Mead!

Bringing Learning to Life

World Book Day!



Dates for the diary

This week	This month	Next Month
W/b 10 th March – Parent Consultations Tues 11 th March – Y5 DT Day Fri 14 th March – Y3 Stone Age Day	W/b 17 th March – Neurodiversity Week Wed 19 th March – Y6 Hampton Court. Fri 21 st March – Red Nose Day Wed 26 th March – Wear a hat day Thurs 27 th March - Class Photos	Friday 4 th April - Last day of term Easter break finish at 1.45

Learning Next Week

<p>Nursery – Acorns</p> <p>Focus: Continuing phonics with the phoneme 'h' and our rhyme of the week 'Ring-a-ring-a-roses'. Key texts - The Tiny Seed, Jasper's Beanstalk, Wibbley's Garden. Continuing to plant seeds and bulbs and learning how to take care of plants. Continuing to practise writing letters in our names. Using 2D shapes to print pictures of flowers and plants.</p>	<p>Reception – Lime & Willow</p> <p>Focus: <i>Ready, Steady, Go!</i> Learning about and studying minibeasts using our key text 'RSPB My First Book of Garden Bugs'. Going on a bug hunt in the Early Years Garden! Drawing Club: reading 'Jack and the Beanstalk'; Phonics: Longer words and words ending in 'ing'; Maths: continuing to learn about the composition of numbers - thinking about the whole and the parts of a number (e.g. 3 and 4 make the total 7, which is the whole) and counting on from 5; Tasty Tuesday: practise key life skills by cutting and tasting a banana. PE: Throwing and catching games. Expressive Arts: Making a class minibeasts picture.</p>	
<p>Year 1 – Elder & Silver Birch</p> <p>English: <i>to plan</i> and develop our own imaginative ideas Phonics & spelling: <i>a /or/ a /o/ ear /air/</i> Maths: <i>coins: recognising, comparing and calculating (including values that do not have a designated coin).</i> Science: <i>Which materials are most absorbent? (evaluating)</i> Wider Curriculum: Can I follow a conductor when singing? How is Chembakolli similar and different to Croxley Green? Why is art important to different cultures? P4C/Growth Mindset: <i>inspired by Aladdin, The Magic Carpet.</i> Focus book: <i>Pattan's Pumpkin by Chitra Soundar</i></p>	<p>Year 2 – Cedar & Horse Chestnut</p> <p>English: Sequence a known story. Innovate a known story and write the beginning and middle of a story. Phonics & spelling: Why do I swap the 'y' for an 'i' when I add the suffix -es. Maths: Exploring arrays. Understanding the language of multiplication and commutativity. Science: Animals including humans: What do you need to do to look after a pet dog/cat/lizard/hamster and keep it healthy? Wider Curriculum: Why do I need to use medicine safely? Which fruits would you use to make an appetising fruit kebab for a 5 year old? Using clipart images in a spreadsheet. How were boys and girls treated differently at school in the past? Who is a Christian and how do they show they care?</p>	<p>Year 3 – Laurel & Sycamore</p> <p>English: <i>Writing formal letters</i> Phonics & spelling: <i>suffix -ally</i> Maths: <i>Ordering and comparing fractions</i> Science: Which conditions do a tomato seedling need to grow? Wider Curriculum Stone Age Day. Can I use email safely? What sacrifice did God make to help Christians? P4C/Growth Mindset: How do I feel towards drugs? Focus book: <i>Cakes in Space by Phillip Reeve and Dirty Bertie Dinosaur by David Roberts</i></p>
<p>Year 4 – Maple & Pine</p> <p>English: Planning a travel brochure – Paris Phonics & spelling: Review ways the 'ay' sound is made Maths: Fractions of amounts Science: How can I light a lamp in a simple circuit? Wider Curriculum: If God is everywhere, why go to a place of worship? What is peer pressure and how does it play a part in people taking up smoking/vaping? What are the features of different settlements? P4C/Growth Mindset: Inspired by Aladdin-The Flying Carpet Focus book: Pine: To be a cat, Matt Haig Maple: I swapped my brother on the internet?</p>	<p>Year 5 – Ash & Rowan</p> <p>English- <i>to use modal verbs, subordinating clauses and conjunctions</i> Phonics & spelling: <i>common misspelt words.</i> Maths: estimate, measure, calculate and compare area Science: <i>Which materials will dissolve into a solution and how can I recover a substance from a solution?</i> P4C/Growth Mindset: <i>What are some of the risks with misusing alcohol?</i> Wider curriculum- <i>How can views of Heaven be explored through Art?</i> <i>How do we code a micro:bit dice using inputs, random numbers, variables and logic?</i> <i>What is the purpose of the guide and follower in effective cams movements?.</i></p>	<p>Year 6 – Red Oak and White Oak</p> <p>English: <i>Spiderwick- Writing in role as a boggart</i> Phonics & spelling: Maths: <i>Volume and measure</i> Science: <i>How have animals adapted to suit to their environment?</i> Wider Curriculum: Art-What colours are used in Tudor portraiture and how do we make them? RE: Does silence have a place in belief? PSHE: Topic- health and well being P4C/Growth Mindset: Focus book: <i>Treason by Bernie Doherty</i></p>

Sporting Success



Phoebe competed in a regional dance competition in Surrey during February half term. She spent 3 days there competing 5 dances. Phoebe won 2 gold medals (for her modern trio and her musical theatre duet) and 1 bronze medal for her musical theatre solo. At the end of the competition, it was announced that her modern trio had won the trophy for highest mark for a trio / quartet across 3 dance genres and up to the age of 11. What a star!



In a different sport - Lawrence Competed at the Chalfont Judo Club championship on Sunday 23rd February at High Wycombe. He achieved a bronze medal. Well done!

Year 6 Multi-sports event

Year 6 students took part in a Multi-sport event. They competed in matches against other schools in football and basketball before working as a team to set a high score in frisbee gold and Kinball (giant Volleyball). They were awarded a certificate for their passion demonstrated throughout the event.



Eco Minute

Please remember to walk to school if you can and to turn engines off when waiting outside of school. Keep the air clean!

Letters this week!

Y1 India Day
Y2 Woburn Safari Park
Summer Term Milk Letter



Maths day

We would be grateful for any donations of playing cards even if the set is incomplete. Please hand in to Mrs Feldman / Mrs Kenton via the school office.
Many thanks



Parent Consultations

During week beginning 10th March we will be holding our spring parent consultations. The booking system has now closed. Please remember there will be no teacher led clubs next week.

Tuesday (afternoon session)	Wednesday (evening session)	Thursday (afternoon session)
Willow and Lime Elder Cedar Laurel Pine Rowan Red Oak	All classes	Acorns S Birch H Chestnut Sycamore Maple Ash White Oak

Please remember that we cannot allow consultations to overrun in their timings – so be here in plenty of time for your meeting, not arrive in school at that time. Punctuality is important!

Teachers have also requested that you take your children's books with you when you talk to them; this saves time if they wish to show you anything or if you have questions. You may still keep the books to look at after the meeting if you wish to.

My final plea... **do not simply not turn up, especially in the afternoon sessions!** Children in Year 3 upwards do come out of class to join their parents for the discussion and there is **nothing sadder than watching a child wait for a parent that simply doesn't turn up.** If for any reason you cannot attend on the day, please do let us know so we can avoid this happening.

A gardening request + a little more

Do you have any spare plants you can help us with please? A few plants in our EYFS beds are in need of replacing. We are ideally looking for lavender, sage or rosemary plants? If you can help in any way we would be very grateful.

Could we also put a plea out for the following items to support play in Early Years:

- buggies or prams
- plastic funnels
- sponges
- plastic jugs
- plastic tea sets
- bath toys



Thank you

Walking Wednesday



Well done to everyone who is making the most of walking Wednesday – the winner this week is Yellows.



FOYM SPRING DISCO



We are looking forward to the upcoming disco and tickets can be purchased from Tues 4th March at 7pm; pta-events.co.uk/foym

Please volunteer to help make this event a success:
<https://volunteersignup.org/JFPM7>

SAVE THE DATE
21st March: Spring Disco

Important information

Any child in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 must be accompanied by a responsible adult (one adult can watch more than one child ie if bringing a friend's child/ren)

Year 3/4/5/6 children can be signed in at the beginning of the disco, but this must be done by an adult.

Year 3 children do not have to stay on site without an adult and can have an adult with them.

Year 4/5/6 children do stay on site without an adult (unless they are helping).

Children at after school club- any arrangements must be made in advance with Jo Floyd

Mobile phones are not allowed for any child at any point.

FOYM often receives queries around being a Responsible Adult (RA) for your child and whether you can also volunteer in view of this. The needs of the children will always come first. As organisers, we are also the RAs for our children during the disco(s), so we do indeed accept RAs putting themselves down as volunteers and thank you for this. Please be assured that if you need to tend to your child, we will provide signage for stations to advise that someone will be back to run it ASAP and provide our mobile phone numbers as organisers at each station to allow quick contact to inform us

See you there

Parent volunteers needed!

On the WC 17th March, we are celebrating Neurodiversity at Yorke Mead.

We are looking for volunteers who have knowledge or experience of Neurodiversity to come in and speak to our children. This can be a small talk, activity, presentation or if you are feeling brave an assembly! We can tailor it to what suits you.

Our children have really enjoyed these experiences in the past and it allows our teaching to come to life. If you have previously come in, we would love to have you again!

If you are available during this week, please let us know as soon as possible by emailing our admin team (admin@yorkmead.herts.sch.uk) with the date and time you are available.

Lucille Pollard

Head teacher