

Yorke Mead School

Newsletter

Friday 12th June 2026

This week at Yorke Mead!

Making it real...making it memorable!

International Day was such a great day and a big shout out to our upper key stage 2 children who took the lead on running workshops for the younger children, exploring a range of sports from around the globe. A good time was had by all.

Thankyou



Great workshops run by Year 6 and Peer Champions as part of International Day



Items this Week

Sports Day
Sports Week
Internet Safety Day
Maths Challenge Success
World Cup Fever
Yorke Sport
Opal Play
Eco Minute
Dates for the diary

Walking Wednesday

Well done to everyone who is making the most of 'Walking Wednesday' – the winners again this week are.....

Greens



There was a big gap this week – time for other colours to try to put up a challenge!

Dates for the diary

This week

Wed 17th June

Internet Safety Meeting

**Parent meeting at
9:00am**

Fri 19th June

Tourettes Awareness Day
(Wear green)

This Term

W/b Mon 22nd June

Sports week

Wed 24th June

FS/KS1 Sports Day

Thurs 25th June

KS2 Sports Day

W/b Mon 29th June

Y6 Residential

Wed 8th July

Y3 Roman Verulamium Visit

Fri 10th July

Cystic Fibrosis Awareness
Day (Wear Yellow)

Science Fair (pm)

Tues 14th July

Y4 River Trip

Thurs 23rd July

School finishes 1:45pm
SUMMER BREAK

Internet Safety Day

The Internet Safety Day will include a parent workshop run by the ECP safeguarding team. This will be at 9:00am in the school hall on Wednesday 17th June.

I cannot express enough the importance of attending these events. The IT world is a rapidly changing one and you cannot protect your children from risks that you do not know about.

Please complete this form to confirm your attendance:

<https://forms.gle/66Yat9WVvkQQUNW9d7>



Sports Days

We are looking forward to our sports days, which as many of you will know we spread over two days.

Wed 24th June

FS/KS1 Sports Day (FS morning/KS1 afternoon)

Thurs 25th June

KS2 Sports Day (Year 3&4 morning/ Year 5&6 afternoon)

The Thursday sports day culminates with the presentation of the cup for the winners and, at times, this can over run a little. Last year, some parents were upset by this. Whilst we do make every attempt to avoid over running, it is very difficult to get precise timing (we are not operating the Olympics – just a school sports day). We want EVERY child to be at the cup presentation – it is about them belonging in their team and the school community coming together. IF you are going to be upset if we overrun a few minutes, please can you email in and I will arrange a time to talk through options with you. I hope with sufficient notice of the possibility, parents can plan for this.

We cannot keep gates open all day and therefore, for the safety of your children, we have set times when these will be open.

Wed 24th June - FS/KS1 Sports Day (FS morning/KS1 afternoon)

Gates open: 10:15am Gates close 10:45am

Gates open: 11:30am Gates close 11:45am

Gates open: 12:45pm Gates close 1:15pm

Thurs 25th June - KS2 Sports Day (Year 3&4 morning/ Year 5&6 afternoon)

Gates open: 8:40 am Gates close 9:30 am

Gates open: 11:30am Gates close 11:45am

Gates open: 12:30pm Gates close 1:00pm

Each day there will be a family picnic – Wednesday this will be for FS/KS1 children and Thursday this will be for KS2 children. As always, we request that people stay for the full hour of the picnic so that we can keep all pupils safe and know who is on site.

A form asking for details about whether you plan to stay for the picnic and what option you would like if you are unable to attend will be sent home in the next week or so -please ensure you complete this form. Please ensure your children know your plans for the day, and are reminded on the day, as if they make an error and order a school lunch you will be charged for this.

Learning Next Week

Nursery – Acorns Focus: Key texts – <i>If I were prime Minister</i> ; Phoneme – ck; Rhyme of the week – Hickory, Dickory, Dock; Creating Father’s Day cards; Dressing up as people who help us- role play		Reception – Lime & Willow Focus: : 'Summertime Adventures!': Key texts: a selection of books with a farm theme, such as 'What the ladybird heard' and 'Farmyard Hullabaloo'; Literacy: learning to label farmyard pictures and handwriting practice focusing on the 'curly' family; Communication & Language: learning new language and facts about farmyard animals; Maths: making repeating patterns; Physical Development: practising for Sports Day; Understanding the World; having fun on our school trip and learning about the animals at Langleybury Farm!			
Year 1 – Elder & Silver Birch English: <i>Yucky Worms</i> Phonics & spelling: Phase 5 - /eigh/aigh/mb/kn/gn Maths: Fractions - equal and unequal parts of a shape Science: Which flowering plants can you find on our school grounds? Wider Curriculum: How can we care for a look after animals?: How does this music compare to others I have heard? What is a map and what is a plan? P4C/Growth Mindset How have you changed since you were a baby? Reading for Pleasure: We will explore lots of short stories including 'Why Elephant has a trunk' and 'All the ways to be smart'.	Year 2 – Cedar & Horse Chestnut English: <i>Florence Nightingale</i> - letter writing Phonics & spelling: How do I use the possessive apostrophe? Maths: Fractions - counting in fraction steps Science: How does an onion bulb change over time? Wider Curriculum: Who is Neil Armstrong and what is he famous for? How do axles and wheels work? P4C/Growth Mindset: What is the natural process of growing young to old? Reading for Pleasure: <i>Horse Chestnut - Matilda</i> by Roald Dahl; <i>Cedar - The Boy Who Grew Dragons</i> by Andy Shepherd	Year 3 – Laurel & Sycamore English: developing our own ideas for a story inspired by <i>Escape from Pompeii</i> Phonics & spelling: : 'ay' sound and words that include 'ei' and 'eigh' Maths: Adding and Subtracting Money Science: What happens when light is reflected? Wider Curriculum: How do Christians worship and pray? P4C/Growth Mindset: How do babies grow and develop in the mother's uterus? Reading for Pleasure: <i>Reading for Pleasure: Vetman</i> by Noel Fitzpatrick (Laurel) and <i>Happy to Help</i> by Tom Gates (Sycamore)	Year 4 – Maple & Pine English: <i>Fly Eagle Fly</i> - writing a book review Phonics & spelling: Year 4 Words ending -que Maths: Roman Numerals Science: What is a solid, liquid and gas? Wider Curriculum: Does justice and fairness mean everyone has the same? What are the features of a river and how do they form? How does an IF statement work? P4C/Growth Mindset Who can I turn to if I need help and support as I go through puberty?: Reading for Pleasure: <i>Maple - Birthday Boy</i> by David Baddiel and <i>Pine – A Mummy Ate my Homework</i> – Thiago De Moraes	Year 5 – Ash & Rowan English: Varying paragraph lengths for effect, and using precise vocabulary Phonics & spelling: Homophones Maths: Understand and use metric scale drawings and understanding pints, inches and pounds as an imperial unit of measure. Science: What is the process of sexual reproduction in plants? Wider Curriculum: What are renewable energy sources and what are the advantages and disadvantages? What are the social and environmental responsibilities of a Christian and a Jew and what are the golden rules? P4C/Growth Mindset: <i>Changing Me</i> Reading for Pleasure:	Year 6 – Red Oak & White Oak English: <i>Alma</i> - a retelling Phonics & spelling: Maths: constructing pie charts Science: how does the number of cells and voltage affect dimness of light and volume of a buzzer? Wider Curriculum: DT- what are some English savoury dishes and how are they affected by seasonality? P4C/Growth Mindset: Transition to secondary Reading for Pleasure: <i>Red Oak: The Imaginery</i> by A F Harold and <i>White Oak: Holes</i> by Louis Sachar

OPAL Play

The weather has not been kind to us this week – but hey, we live in England and that is a British summer for you!

With Opal play we are channeling our inner Wainswright ... and wet weather will not keep us inside. Fresh air is essential, even if it is raining, and we are now outside much more in wet weather conditions.

We have noted that many children are not bringing a waterproof jacket to school with them. For their comfort, they should have a waterproof .

NB: If anyone can donate any old waterproofs for children who might need them, could they please do so, to support those families who are struggling financially.



THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS BAD WEATHER, ONLY BAD CLOTHES.

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Sports Week

We have decided to make a slight change to the sports week as it is clear that many children are embracing the world cup this year and the important way this brings nations together. To help you dress your children appropriately for the week, Mr Furlong felt this table would help you:

22nd June – 26th June 2026

<p>Monday</p> <p>World Sports Day</p>	<p>Whole school wear appropriate sportswear showing their favourite sport or a sport they enjoy but needs to be appropriate for sporting activities (trainers) Possible examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rugby top • Football kit • Taekwondo whites
<p>Tuesday</p>	<p>Whole school wear PE kit to school</p>
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>EYFS & KS1 PACKED LUNCH/PICNIC ONLY</p>	<p>EYFS & KS1 wear their PE kit to school but with their colour group colour top.</p> <p>KS2 wear PE kit (red top) to school.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EYFS Sports Day: 10:30 EYFS & KS1 Picnic: 11:45 – 12:45 KS1 Sports Day: 13:00</p>
<p>Thursday</p> <p>KS2 PACKED LUNCH/ PICNIC ONLY</p>	<p>EYFS & KS1 wear their PE kit (red top) to school.</p> <p>KS2 wear their PE kit to school but with their colour group colour top.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Year 3 & 4 Sports Day: 9:15 KS2 Picnic: 11:45 – 12:30 Year 5 & 6 Sports Day: 12:45</p>
<p>Friday</p> <p>World Cup 2026 Day</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">World Cup 2026 Day</p> <p>As the World Cup is taking place, the children can wear colours for a country that is being represented at the World Cup 2026.</p> <p>This could be their own nationality or another country competing at the event. Examples could include sports kits from that country or simply colours from the nations flag – it is open to interpretation but needs to be appropriate for sporting activities (shorts, trainers etc.)</p>

Tourettes Awareness Day

Next Friday we will be holding our tourettes awareness day when we will focus on helping everyone develop their understanding that behaviours that result from Tourette's (known as tics) are not a choice and that when these happen, the person with Tourette's syndrome needs our support not our judgement.

Tourette's Awareness Month is running from May 15 – Jun 15, and Tourettes Action is asking people to pause, reflect, and recognise a simple truth:

People with Tourette's syndrome cannot choose their tics – but everyone else can choose how they respond.

Next Friday, June 19th, we will be marking this day. The children will be asked to wear green or teal to show solidarity with people who live with Tourettes. No donations are required we are simply focusing on educating.

World Cup Fever

I do enjoy these big tournaments and know how important they can be for bringing the community and countries together. However, the matches are on very late and even watching the earliest game will mean bedtimes will be disrupted. That, along with the hopeful return of better weather and warmer evenings (🌞) will quickly lead to tired and grumpy children. Please be selective about any games you allow your children to stay up to watch. The term is very busy and there is still a lot of key learning to be done. Thank you



Maths Challenge Finalists

A huge well done to our Year 3 Laurel Maths team who have reached the County finals for the maths challenge. Taking part in the challenge in the first instance is an achievement; to reach the county finals is amazing. We will all be rooting for them!



Eco Minute

World Refill Day is on the 16th of June

World Refill Day kickstarts a fun 5 day challenge to reduce single-use plastic waste. Approximately 11,000,000 tonnes of plastic enters the ocean every year. That is the equivalent of emptying 2,000 rubbish trucks of plastic into the ocean every day. There could be more plastic than fish in the oceans by 2050.

More than 100,000 marine animals and 1,000,000 sea birds are killed by marine plastic pollution each year.

It is estimated that UK households throw away 1.7 billion pieces of plastic packaging every single week. That means every year we throw away about 100 billion pieces of plastic, the same number of stars in our galaxy.

Individually we can't change the world, but by taking on small challenges like this one and making small changes to our habits together we can make a difference.

This World Refill Day, why not pledge to make one (or more) small change. Here are some ideas:

- Carry a refillable water bottle.
- Say no to plastic cutlery, bring your own.
- Wrap snacks in beeswax wraps or pop them in a Tupperware box.
- Use a reusable coffee cup and lunchbox.
- Choose loose fruit and vegetables instead of plastic-wrapped.
- Visit The Green Stores on New Road. They are a zero waste store with an aim to help their customers live a more sustainable life.



Letters this week!



Summer SEND Consultations
Wrap Around Care Bookings

Lucille Pollard
Head teacher