

# Yorke Mead School

## Newsletter

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026

### *This week at Yorke Mead!*

#### Making it real...making it memorable!

Tourettes Awareness is such an important campaign. Today we were privileged to hear from someone who really understands because he lives with this condition, and his friend who has fully supported him through the presentation today.

Your children showed respect and understanding throughout. Be proud of them.



#### *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 and Blues**

## Dates for the diary

This week

**W/b Mon 22nd June**

Sports week

**Wed 24th June**

FS/KS1 Sports Day

**Thurs 25th June**

KS2 Sports Day

This Term

**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

# Sports Week

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

# 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)**

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.

## Learning Next Week

<b>Nursery – Acorns</b> <b>Focus:</b> Key text- <i>Splash</i> by Claire Cashmore; Phoneme – x; rhyme of the week – 1,2,3,4,5, <i>Once I Caught a Fish Alive</i> ; making medals for Sports Week; sports focus-multi skills games		<b>Reception – Lime &amp; Willow</b> <b>Focus:</b> 'Summertime Adventures!': Key texts: 'Sports Day' by Nick Butterworth; Phonics - words ending in suffixes 'ing' and 'ed'; Maths: careful counting, number bonds and numeral recognition games; Physical Development: Sports Week activities throughout the week, including yoga, obstacle courses and of course our Sports Morning!; PSED: learning how to be part of a team.
<b>Year 1 – Elder &amp; Silver Birch</b> <b>English:</b> <i>Yucky Worms</i> - creating our own fact books <b>Phonics &amp; spelling:</b> Phase 5 - <i>su/si/dge/y/ge</i> <b>Maths:</b> Fractions - continuous quantities including capacity <b>Science:</b> Observing our broad beans grow! <b>Wider Curriculum:</b> Sports Week! What is a faith story? What are the physical and human features of Croxley Green <b>P4C/Growth Mindset :</b> <b>Reading for Pleasure:</b> We will explore lots of short stories including 'The Barnabus Project' and 'The Littlest Dinosaurs Big Adventure'.	<b>Year 2 – Cedar &amp; Horse Chestnut</b> <b>English:</b> <i>Florence Nightingale</i> - publishing <b>Phonics &amp; spelling:</b> When do I swap, double or drop letters before adding a suffix? (-er, -est, -ed, -ing, -y) <b>Maths:</b> Sports related maths problems <b>Science:</b> What do plants need to grow and stay <b>Wider Curriculum:</b> Sports week activities, How do the life experiences of Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong compare? <b>P4C/Growth Mindset</b> <b>Reading for Pleasure:</b> <i>Horse Chestnut - The Enchanted Wood</i> by Enid Blyton; <i>Cedar - The Boy Who Grew Dragons</i> by Andy Shepherd	<b>Year 3 – Laurel &amp; Sycamore</b> <b>English:</b> writing own Pompeii story <b>Phonics &amp; spelling:</b> grapheme 'y' long and short vowel sounds <b>Maths:</b> place value and decimals <b>Science:</b> How is light from the sun dangerous? <b>Wider Curriculum:</b> Sports Week <b>P4C/Growth Mindset:</b> How do our bodies need to change to prepare for having babies? <b>Reading for Pleasure:</b>
<b>Year 4 – Maple &amp; Pine</b> <b>English:</b> <i>Fly Eagle Fly</i> – Verbs, progressive tenses. <b>Phonics &amp; spelling:</b> ch (French origin) <b>Maths:</b> Negative numbers <b>Science:</b> Can changes of state be reversed? <b>Wider Curriculum:</b> How can I show my commitment to justice and fairness? Can you explain the process of the water cycle? <b>P4C/Growth Mindset:</b> How can I be prepared for changes ahead of me? <b>Reading for Pleasure:</b> <i>Maple - Birthday Boy</i> by David Baddiel and <i>Pine – A Mummy Ate my Homework</i> – Thiago De Moraes	<b>Year 5 – Ash &amp; Rowan</b> <b>English:</b> use precise vocabulary to annotate illustrations <b>Phonics &amp; spelling:</b> common mis-pelt words. <b>Maths:</b> Understand pounds as an imperial unit of measure. Fractions, decimals and percentages problem solving <b>Science:</b> <b>Wider Curriculum:</b> Sports Week What is Tikkun Olam? <b>P4C/Growth Mindset :</b> <b>Reading for Pleasure:</b>	<b>Year 6 – Red Oak &amp; White Oak</b> <b>English:</b> <i>Alma</i> - a retelling <b>Phonics &amp; spelling:</b> <b>Maths:</b> Scattergrams <b>Science:</b> <b>Wider Curriculum:</b> How are crops grown and harvested for a Scottish dish? <b>P4C/Growth Mindset:</b> Transition to secondary <b>Reading for Pleasure:</b> <i>English: Red Oak: The Imaginary</i> by A F Harold and <i>White Oak: Holes</i> by Louis Sachar

# OPAL Play

The Play Team met this week with the OPAL lead to go through the next part of our project, which involved large loose parts play!

- Suitcases of any size and type
- Anything on wheels/castors
- Plastic milk crates/supermarket delivery crates/plastic bread trays
- Briefcases, especially hard cased ones
- Road signs and cones
- Kitchen pots, pans, baking trays, work tables, wooden spoons, chopping boards
- Tools like small spades/shovels, trowels and brooms
- Tubes of various sizes and various materials
- Buckets
- Nets and thick ropes
- Keyboards/torches/laptops/calculators/mobile phones/desk phones/webcams/cameras etc that are no longer working
- Fabric (large sheets/brightly coloured fabric)
- Foam sheets/bodyboards/camping roll mats/yoga mats
- Wooden pallets
- Metal frames
- Cable drums
- Guttering
- Noodles (the type you use in the swimming pool!)
- Hats/scarves/jazzy shirts/elasticated skirts/waistcoats/wedding dresses/character costumes
- Pegs (to help to set up dens)

Can you help at all with any of these items? If so, please email Mrs Walke with a picture and she will let you know if it is of any use!

We are also after old footballs (not leather) as many of the new ones we have purchased have gone missing! If you do have an old football, then please bring it to Mrs Walke so that she can redistribute it to the classes most in need!

Thank you in anticipation!

# Yorke Sport

## **Cricket**

Well done to the Yorke Mead Year 6 cricket team!

After finishing 2nd & 3rd at the Rickmansworth family event, both Yorke Mead A teams were invited to the @trw\_ssp district final - a great opportunity for more competitive cricket.

Congratulations to the Red Oak team who won all three of their matches convincingly against Arnett Hills, Divine Saviour and White Oak (earning some bragging rights) to be named champions 🏆 🏏 for the second year in a row with White Oak playing well to finish the day in second place 🥈 🏏 🇬🇧

A fantastic effort and performance from everyone involved and a great way to spend an afternoon ★ #YorkeSport



## **TRDC Sports Awards**

Well done to our nominees who represented Yorke Mead brilliantly at the annual @trw\_ssp Sports Partnership awards ceremony with former Karate world champion @jordannjthomas as an inspirational guest speaker 🙌 🏆

Congratulations:

Hartley- Yorke Mead Play Leader of the Year

Charlotte - School Games Values Award

Roel - Captain of the Team of the Year Nominee

And a special mention for Amelia who won 3rd place for the KS2 outstanding achievement award in a category with some truly incredible performers ★



It was also great to see Yorke Mead alumni Bella & Summer also win awards for their contributions to Girls Football and Swimming respectively 🏆



## **Lacrosse**

These @yorkemead6 children had a great time learning new skills at the Lacrosse workshop 🏑 The children were taught the sport's fundamentals by York House coaches and former professional players. A difficult sport to master but lots of fun 😊 #YorkeSport

# Internet Safety Day



Children, parents and staff benefitted from a very informative session about the potential risks online and ways to keep themselves safe. The key learning from the session for everyone is the importance of children knowing that IF anything happens to them, that adults will support them and help them, not blame or judge them. A subtle shift in language changing 'What's wrong!' to 'What's happened' can play an important part in helping children feel safe to tell you. This important session again highlighted that as adults we need to keep an eye on children's online activity. Many of your children are already accessing sites that will be covered under the planned social media bans for under 16's due to come into force early next year. Waiting for the ban will just make this harder – why not monitor and reduce your child's online presence today.

# School Clubs Next Week

As the forecast is to be so hot and we are already doing sports activities each day, we have decided to cancel school run clubs next week. The exceptions to this are:

- Tuesday Mr Furlong's Rounders club
- Monday cooking club

We have taken this decision in the interests of the children's and staff's wellbeing. Classrooms are often warm due to no air conditioning and by the end of the day everyone needs the opportunity to get home, shower and sit quietly somewhere cool.

## The heat, sunhats, suncream, etc.

As you will be aware temperatures are forecast to soar into the low 30's. Lets hope this is one of those occasions when the temperature does not live up to the forecast! To alleviate concerns about sports day school has already reached out to the scouts to borrow gazebos... they have agreed to lend us four large ones. Parents are welcome to set up Gazebos on the field for themselves if they wish to.

With regards to the week this is the plan:

- Children are already coming to school in PE kits so hopefully this will be more comfortable for them
- **DO NOT** send your child to school wearing a jumper/cardigan – some children will refuse to take these off even when they are too warm, so it is much easier to start the day without this
- Please send in **an extra bottle of water** (ideally in a bottle that will keep it cooler) so your child can have cold water later in the day. Obviously we have tap water but this is not as cool as it would be in an insulated bottle
- Packed lunches – pack with thought for the weather – lots of hydrating foods such as cucumber and watermelon advised. Consider health & safety as we do not have fridges for the packed lunches so please avoid meats etc that could be impacted by the heat.
- Much of sports week is outdoors which will help avoid too much time in hot classrooms.
- No PE lessons will include extensive running and we will keep an eye on sports days and rearrange the long distance runs to earlier in the day if needed. These are likely to be held first thing on Thursday morning if this is needed.
- **Children must have sunscreen on and a hat** – there will be a limit on activities at lunchtime and again these will be quiet activities in the shade. Your child may wish to bring in a quiet activity such as colouring or a puzzle book if they have these. **Hats for school should be plain red or black – a cap or bucket hat please.**
- Hot feet: hot body... cooler feet:cooler body – teachers may allow children to slip off their shoes whilst sitting at their desks in lessons. Shoes will need to be put back on to move around the classroom etc due to risk of chairs on toes etc.
- Fans (KS2 only) – if your child brings a hand held fan into school they will be told when they can use these. They should also know how to use them safely and that they do not hold their fan towards the face of another child. We do not feel our youngest children will be able to manage these so only children in KS2 to be allowed to bring them. Any child using the fan when told not to or inappropriately will be told to put these away/have their fan removed.

We know the days will be hot ones – at the end of the day your children are likely to be more tired than normal, especially if the weekend heat has stopped them sleeping well. Greet them at the end of the day with something cool please!

I have attached the NHS heat advice for your ease if you wish to consult this <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/heatwave-how-to-cope-in-hot-weather/>



# Eco Minute

Clean Air Day is on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June

Clean Air Day was on the 18th of June. Every year, shockingly air pollution is associated with between 29,000 and 43,000 deaths in the UK. The World Health Organization and the UK Government recognise that air pollution is the largest environmental threat to our health. This clean air day, why not pledge to make a difference? You could visit [www.cleanairhub.co.uk](http://www.cleanairhub.co.uk) to :



**Learn:** Learn more about how air pollution impacts our physical, mental and our planet's health.

**Act:** Walk, wheel or use public transport on Clean Air Day to reduce your exposure and contribution to air pollution. Could you make the most of the brighter summer days and walk to school or work instead?

**Ask:** Get in touch with your local MP and ask them to support clean air measures to make it easier for you to breathe clean air.

## Batteries



Thank you for your batteries ... these have been sent off for recycling and will be purified and fed back into manufacturing to create new batteries, plastics, and metals, helping to build a sustainable circular economy.

*Lucille Pollard*

Head teacher

## Letters this week!



*Classrooms and teachers for September*

*Science Fair*

*Year 6 Level 3 cycle training*

*Year 6 online workshop*

*Free school meals for Year 2 going into Year 3*