Yorke Mead School Newsletter

Friday 13th November 2026

This week at Yorke Mead!

Remembrance Parade

Thank you



We are so proud of the children who represented Yorke Mead at the community Remembrance Parade and wreath laying – they really did us proud!

Thank you to them all and to Mrs Walke who organised this









News Items this Week
Odd socks day
Thank you
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Walking Wednesday

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

Reds

Dates for the diary

This week

W/b Mon 16th Nov
Antibullying week
Y5 Level 2 cycling
Mon 16th Nov
Odd socks day
Tues 17th Nov
Y6 to Ricky School – science
Fri 20th Nov
Author visit EYFS and Y1

This month

Fri 27th Nov
Occasional Day – school closed

Next Month

W/b Mon 7th Dec
Year 6 bikeability

Odd Socks Day

Odd Socks Day is designed to be fun! It's an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique!
There is no pressure to wear the latest fashion or to buy expensive costumes. All you have to do to take part is wear odd socks to your school, at work or at home, it couldn't be simpler! Odd Socks day will take place on the first day of Anti-Bullying Week to help raise awareness of bullying.



Anti Bullying Week

Week beginning 16th November 2026



This year the official theme for Anti Bullying Week is "Break the Silence".

- The Core Action: Encouraging children, young people, parents, and adults to start open conversations, speak up about bullying, actively listen, and take collective action against both face-to-face and online bullying.
- **Odd Socks Day**: The week kicks off on Monday, November 16, with Odd Socks Day (featuring Andy Day and Andy and the Odd Socks), where participants wear mismatched socks to celebrate what makes everyone unique.

The theme was shaped directly by the voices of more than 200 children and young people across the UK who highlighted the heavy silence that often surrounds bullying. Many young people talked about the difficulty of telling someone how they were feeling hence the theme, breaking the silence.

Author Visit -EYFS & Year 1

Author visit: **Zeo has BIG feelings**, Friday 20 November

On Friday 20 November, local author and illustrator Ash Patel is visiting Yorke Mead to read her new picture book, Zeo has BIG feelings, with children in Early Years and Year 1. Zeo is a character whose antennae change with his feelings, helping children aged 4 to 7 name and understand seven big feelings.

If you would like to buy a copy that your child can bring in and get signed by the author on the day there is a link below:

- Step 1: Buy it on Amazon UK (paperback £9.99, hardback £14.99): https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/1066960402, or order it from any bookshop (paperback ISBN 978-1-0669604-0-8, hardback ISBN 978-1-0669604-1-5).
- Step 2: Put a sticky note inside the front cover with your child's name and the name you'd like it signed to.
- Step 3: Send it into school with your child by Thursday 19 November. It will come home signed the same day.

Learning Next Week

Nursery – Acorns

Focus: *Key Texts: Shark in the Park; phoneme – t; rhyme of the week 12345 Once I Caught a Fish Alive; using one handed tools to create our own telescopes;using longer sentences to describe wgat we can see*

Reception – Lime & Willow

Focus: *Preparing for our Christmas play; Phonics: learning z, qu, ch phonemes and words ending in 's'; Literacy: Reading in our reading groups and writing CVC words (e.g. 'cat'); Maths: repeating patterns - making ABAB / ABCABC / AABAAB patterns; Expressive Art and Design: continuing to learn songs for our Christmas play; PHSE: celebrating families; Communication and Language: Show and Tell - RED GROUP.*

Year 1 – Elder & Silver Birch

English: *The Story of Rama and Sita*
Phonics & spelling: */ee/ e-e these /oo/ /yoo/ ew chew new /ee/ ie shield /or/ aw claw*
Maths: *Numbers to 10 equality and balance*
Science: *Do animals have different features?*
Wider Curriculum: *What is a capital city and what are they for the UK?*
P4C/Growth Mindset: *Who can help you if you are sad at school?*
Internet Safety: *Devices for Internet Information*
Reading for Pleasure: *The Baddies and other short stories*

Year 2 – Cedar & Horse Chestnut

English: *Writing a non-fiction text*
Phonics & spelling: *Why do some words end in c or ck? Or ch and tch?*
Maths: *add and subtract 2-digit numbers*
Science: *Which objects can be bent, squashed, twisted and stretched and why?*
Wider Curriculum: *Great Fire of London Workshop, What is the difference between warm and cool colours?*
P4C/Growth Mindset: *Anti-Bullying Week - Can bullying be about difference?*
Internet Safety: *Can I describe people's online feelings? How can I organise my ideas in a concept map?*
Reading for Pleasure: *Cedar - Diary of a Puss in Boots by Ben Miller HC - Magic Hamster by Pamela Butchart*

Year 3 – Laurel & Sycamore

English: *planning our travel brochure about Tobago*
Phonics & spelling: *doubling consonants*
Maths: *statistics (bar charts)*
Science: *What are muscles and why do we need them?*
Wider Curriculum: *Why is food important in celebrations?*
P4C/Growth Mindset: *Anti-Bullying Week- Break the Silence*
Internet Safety: *Online Relationships*
Reading for Pleasure: *Charlie Changes into a Chicken (Laurel) Skunk and Badger (Sycamore)*

Year 4 – Maple & Pine

English: *Writing our own poems based on 'Still I rise' about saving our planet.*
Phonics & spelling: *suffix 'ly'*
Maths: *factor pairs, integer scaling and correspondence problems*
Science: *Can I research and find out the different ways humans can have a positive impact on the environment?*
Wider Curriculum: *Where are the key cities in the UK located in relation to each other (8 compass points)? Can I plan and prepare my own vegetarian filo parcel?*
P4C/Growth Mindset: *Why can bullying sometimes be hard to stop and how should you deal with it?*
Internet Safety:
Reading for Pleasure: *Maple class book – The Last Firefox by Lee Newbery*
Pine class book - Maisie vs the Pyramids by Jack Jackman

Year 5 – Ash & Rowan

English: *The Adventures of Odysseus: Identifying and using cohesive devices in our writing*
Phonics & spelling: *words spelt ei /ie and words with ei after c*
Maths: *Using column addition and subtraction including with decimals and reasoning questions.*
Science: *How do balanced and unbalanced forces effect objects?*
Wider Curriculum: *How can you make sure that you meet a design brief? What religious or symbolic artefacts are used in prayer?*
P4C/Growth Mindset: *Celebrating Differences - What is bullying and how can I get help?*
Internet Safety: *What are the different ways to report concerns about online bullying and access support both in school and at home?*
Reading for Pleasure:

Year 6 – Red Oak & White Oak

English: *BlackBerry Blue by Jamila Gavin Fairytales for older children*
Phonics & spelling: *suffix- cious*
Maths: *equivalent fractions and comparing fraction*
Science: *Can you make a classification key to classify microorganisms?*
Wider Curriculum: *When did the Mayans live? How is colour and pattern used in Mayan masks? How are Buddhist stories a source of wisdom?*
P4C/Growth Mindset: *Anti bullying week PSHE- why do some people bully others?*
Internet Safety: *link to anti bullying week*
Reading for Pleasure: *Skellig by David Almond*

David Walliams Books

Like many schools, we have taken the decision to remove books written by David Walliams from the school library. We feel that whilst these allegations are being investigated, it is wrong to be promoting his work and bringing him to the attention of children.

We understand that some parents may wish to allow their children to read the books out of school – that is a decision not for us to be involved in – but please do not allow your child to have these books in school. I am sure you understand the reasons and will support this. Thank you in anticipation.

Yorke Sport

Cross Country

Wow. What a fantastic performance by @yorkemead5 this week @trw_ssp Cross Country event! 🏃‍♀️🏃‍♂️ ⭐
Incredibly, we had 6 boys (placing 1st-6th!) & 2 girls finish in the top 10 of the cross-country races who have qualified for the district finals next year 🏅
Other highlights include the Ash boys relay team finishing 2nd in their race 🥈 and the Ash girls team finishing 1st in theirs 🥇
We also saw more medals awarded to several children who finished in the top 10 of the fun run to close a brilliant afternoon 🤩 🏅
A massive well done to everyone involved-all that practise has clearly paid off! 👏 #yorkesport







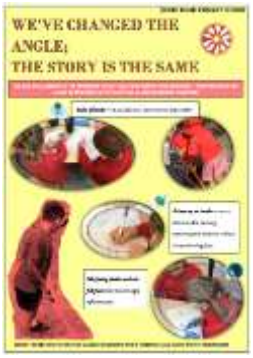

Football

Last week finished with a great afternoon of football for these @yorkemead5 boys who competed in @stmargsbushey 7-a-side tournament which is always such a well-run event ⚽ The boys started well with a 2-0 win in their opening game but a narrow defeat in the following match meant they finished in second in their group and through to compete for the Shield 👏
This proved to be a bridge too far as Yorke Mead were defeated twice to finish the event in 6th overall.
A great effort from everyone involved and another opportunity for the boys to show their skills ★ Well played boys! #YorkeSport

Freddie's Garden

Thank you for the generous donations towards creating Freddie's Garden around Freddie's Tree. Freddie's mum has met with the school council, and the plan is to create a small labyrinth that children can walk through, the idea being that children walk in with their worries and walk out leaving them behind. So far there has been a very generous £353 donated as part of Freddie and Jessica's Day. It is not too late if you still wish to donate. Your donations are very gratefully received.

Instagram



You may have noticed that Instagram has gone a little quiet … this has been intentional as we have been reflecting on the images. I wrote to you a few weeks ago explaining that we are moving towards reducing the online images and changing the angle so that the work and experiences are shared but as much as possible without the faces. This will be the case other than for the team photographs, where children are together as a team.
A further decision has been made to reduce the number of groups and only use the yorkemeaddaisy page and the yorkemeadsport page.
If you are not yet following these and wish to, the profile names are:
Yorkemeaddaisy and Yorkemeadsport



Eco Minute

National Tree Week
21-29 November 2026

This year's theme 'trees near you' is all about celebrating the trees that are part of our everyday lives. From the trees lining our streets and parks to those in school grounds, communities and local green spaces, these trees make a real difference where we live. They provide homes for wildlife, improve our wellbeing and help create healthier, greener spaces. National Tree Week is a chance to notice, appreciate and take action for the trees right on our doorstep.

This year, to celebrate National Tree week why not make a small donation to support our School Council who want to develop the area around Freddie's tree, to become a quiet reflective space.



Letters this week!

Y1 Wild Science Visit.
Y6 Mayan Day.
Reception Screening Information.

Lucille Pollard
Head teacher