



# The Phoenix Flier

The Yarm Preparatory School Newsletter

Issue 798—Friday 24th January 2025

## A message from Mr Sawyer

A warm welcome to this week's edition of the Phoenix Flier, where we highlight the activities, events, and adventures from the past week across the Prep School. It's always a pleasure to see how eager our pupils are to engage with school life, not only by participating in a wide range of opportunities but also by sharing their views through the various pupil voice channels we maintain. At Yarm Prep, we believe that encouraging pupil voice fosters a sense of belonging—when pupils know their opinions matter, they feel more connected. It also helps develop citizenship skills, enhances learning by providing valuable feedback on curriculum areas, and promotes inclusivity, ensuring that diverse perspectives are represented and heard.

Our pupil voice channels are varied, including School Council, Eco Council, Food Council, pastoral focus groups, subject review teams, online surveys, and lesson-by-lesson feedback, all of which help us shape the school to meet the needs and aspirations of our pupils. These channels allow us to gather valuable insights directly from pupils, influencing everything from playtimes, learning approaches and sustainability initiatives to meal offerings based on feedback. Each avenue for pupil voice plays a crucial role in the school's ongoing improvement while empowering pupils and enhancing their leadership, communication, and collaboration skills. We are continually inspired by their enthusiasm and dedication to shaping a school environment that reflects their voices. We must always listen, learn, and grow together.

*Bill Sawyer*

**Head's Challenge:** Hard to catch, easy to hold. Can't be seen, unless it's cold. What am I?

**Photo of the Week:** The longest running competition in the Prep School—House Chess—got underway this week with some close matches.



**Tes Schools Awards 2024**

**Winner**

Independent  
Prep School  
of the Year



## House Chess—Round One

The House Chess Championship is always eagerly anticipated and the children are always highly competitive, taking great pride in representing their respective Houses.

The first round brought two extremely competitive and close matches, as all four teams were keen to get off to a winning start.

Brunel, the defending champions, had to work very hard to overcome a tough challenge from Arkwright.

Harrison Vanek, Connie Bowers, Scarlett Yang, Agam Vats, Edie Thompson and Monty Bowen all scored great wins for Brunel, which made captain Fathe Chahal very happy.

Arkwright's winners were captain Paari Muthukrishnan (with three wins - the top scorer in round one), Jayden Wang and William Garratt.

Therefore, the champions started with a hard-earned 8-5 victory, to keep their plan of retaining the title very much on track.

Meanwhile, Stephenson won an even closer match against Telford, with a victory to the tune of 8.5-6.5.

Dara Jafari, Freddie Bonner, Ziad Salim and Max Hollingsworth all won excellent games for Stephenson and there were also draws for Edward Williams (three draws!), Sandy Omar and captain Stan Dugdale.

Winners for Telford were captain Henry Stanley, Rory Fitzgerald and Felix Maredia. The Telford score was boosted by draws from Felix, Rosie Lowe, Felicity Thompson and Andres Oliver, but it wasn't quite enough to hold the match.

Next week brings both of the remaining rounds of the championship; one on Monday and then the finale on Wednesday.

It is still all to play for and we are looking forward to more exciting games.

*Mr Marsh*



## Free Chess Webinars with Mr Marsh!

Mr Marsh is delivering a weekly series of FREE chess webinars for children aged 7-13. Places are limited for these worldwide events. Click on the link/image below for further details!



## Year 5 D&T

During the last few weeks 5S have been working on designing and then actually making their own salad in D&T.

Working groups of three or four they had to think about:

- The name of their salad company.
- The name of their salad.

They then developed their own design criteria - they thought about:

- The taste, texture, colour, smell, durability and appearance of different ingredients.
- Who is your salad for and what event?
- What will make your product unique/different?
- How will you present the product?
- How will you know if you have made a successful product?
- The 4 Ps of The Marketing Mix.
- To consider food miles/sustainability when choosing ingredients.
- Create a base recipe - what will be your base mix?
- What ingredient will each person in the group change to make their salad different?

5S thoroughly enjoyed making their salad and most of all eating it at the end!

Mr Grundmann



# Eco Club

Our Eco club helped tidy the school grounds ahead of our Open Morning. What a brilliant job they did!

Mr Pengilley



## Reduce- Reuse- Recycle



### New Pre-Loved Uniform Shed!

YPSSC are excited to announce our Pre-Loved Uniform Shed is officially up and running!

**We are located near to the entrance for Nursery on the Pre Prep site.**



**We provide & Collect Pre-Loved Uniform**

**Summer- Winter – PE – Games – Accessories**

**Nursery, Pre-Prep, Prep, Senior & Sixth Form**

Come and have a browse-The shed will be manned periodically throughout the week by volunteers and enquiries can still be sent by email or **classlist**.

[ypssc@yarmschool.org](mailto:ypssc@yarmschool.org)

[Ypssc.co.uk](http://Ypssc.co.uk)

## Give the Pre-Loved Uniform Shed a Name!

We are running a competition to give our new uniform shed a name! To enter, use one of the suggestion boxes on Mrs Banham's or Mrs White's desks, or [fill in the Google Form here](#). The best names selected by the committee will go forward to a vote!

Get those thinking caps on!

YPSSC

## CEOP



The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) aims to keep children and young people safe from sexual abuse and grooming online.

Parents, carers and children can report a concern about child sexual abuse or online exploitation to the CEOP Safety Centre.

**ANY CHILD IN IMMEDIATE DANGER SHOULD ALWAYS CALL 999 FIRST.**

You can contact CEOP by clicking on the logo on this page. This links to the CEOP website where you can report any concerns you may have. Alternatively, click [www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/](http://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/).

*Mr Stone*

## Arkwright House Assembly

As we celebrated 'Sustainability Week' last week, Arkwright's house assembly focused on how we can help be sustainable. We thought about the basic ideas of 'reduce, reuse and recycle'. Then we thought in more depth about clothing and toys, how we could get more use from single items; giving our old toys, books and small clothes to charity shops or donation centres and buying and selling clothes on marketplace websites for more people to have them at a much cheaper price. Also how clothes can be made from sustainable materials or old items which are then taken apart and made into something new. We were fascinated by the concept of clothes telling a story, the children were challenged to imagine what secrets and surprises their clothes might hold.

Cooper - To be sustainable we need to be more resourceful and recycle more.

Noah - Don't litter, put stuff in the bin.



Thomas - Using renewable energy, electric cars and solar panels.

Livvie - Reusing things.

Kaiden - With fuel you need to be sustainable use electric cars because fossil fuels will soon run out.

Amelie - Picking up litter and making sure you're recycling more.

Ralph - Caring for the environment.

Jamie - Recycling rather than throwing plastic waste in the bin so it doesn't end up in the ocean.

Rae - Give items to people that haven't got them.

Zoyaa - If your things are in good condition give it away.

Bea - Give stuff to charity shops or to certain charities.

Logan - I get stuff from Vinted.

Edward - My grandma got me a scooter pads and helmet for £50 when the scooter should have been over £100.

Will - We can use recycled materials in STEAM Week.

Lucy - Sharing old clothes with friends when you grow out of them.

Ada - Annabel and I share skiing clothes when she's grown out of them I get them and then when I grow out of them I give them to Thomas.

Bea - It's really cool to imagine that there's adventures and secrets in your clothes.

Cooper - I always check the tag when I buy school trousers, it uses 80% recycled bottles.

*Mrs Barton*

## Food Council

On 15th January, pupils took part in a food council meeting. As long as they were chosen by their form teacher as a class representative, a house captain or a form captain, then they could take part in this meeting, sharing their classes' opinions on school food.

Each class could choose 3 things they thought worked well and 3 things we thought that we could improve on. The school captains proudly ran this meeting, with great confidence.

Pippa respectfully listened to the pupils and took notes to make sure that our points got through to the catering team.

The majority of children loved the katsu curry and when they were asked what can be improved, they asked for more! The food council meetings are a great way for children to share their voice and state their opinions.

These meetings are very important, since it is crucial for children to get a say, especially in school lunches. In addition to this, it is a great chance for the kitchen staff to understand what is working well and what is not.

I'm sure that pupils are keen for their key points to be taken

into consideration and hopefully, there is a good chance they will!

Immy C.

We also have some spaces in the following after school clubs:

## Clubs and Activities

**TUESDAY:** Year 3 Silver Stories, Years 3-4 Biography Club, Years 4-6 Music Theory, Years 5-6 Winter Cricket Training

**WEDNESDAY:** All Years Philosophy, Years 4-6 Chess for Fun

**THURSDAY:** Years 3-4 Netball, Years 5-6 Drama\*

**FRIDAY:** Years 3-4 Street Dance\*

*Clubs marked with an \* incur a cost to parents.*

If your child is interested in joining any of these clubs, [please email me](#).

Mr Stone

## Prep Philosophy Club

The Philosophy Club is designed and set up to help pupils develop their debating and critical thinking skills so that they gain new understanding for perspectives beyond their own as well as a firmer understanding of their own beliefs and where they come from.

In each session, we discuss a question based around a philosophical or ethical question and then allow the discussion to evolve and develop according to the responses from the pupils.

In our first session this term, we discussed what makes us "us" as I was getting to know a new group of pupils. Previous discussions have addressed a wide variety of topics including the treatment of animals, how to make moral decisions and the meaning behind events such as Remembrance and Christmas. We have also varied our approach towards these discussions. For example, the pupils once completed an activity where they had to build their own societies which included coming up with their own rules and solving ethical dilemmas.

In 2023-24, we watched episodes of "Recess", an American cartoon from the 90s that also raised questions of a philosophical nature such as the power in a name, the corrupting influence of power and the inevitability of change and growing up.

Throughout our discussions, pupils are constantly challenged on the "why" rather than the "what" of their arguments in order to help them develop and better prepare for life at Secondary School.

Mr Lyle

## PreLoved Uniform

Nursery, Pre Prep, Prep & Senior Uniform

PE and Games

See Listings on [Classlist](#) or  
Email Us

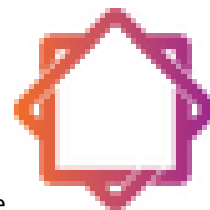
[YPSSC@Yarmschool.org](mailto:YPSSC@Yarmschool.org)

Donations of good condition, clean uniform and PE & Games items accepted all year. Kindly bag them and label them with 'YPSSC PreLoved Donations' and drop them at either Pre Prep, Prep or Senior School Reception.

## Telford Charity House Event

\*\*\* WEDNESDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 2025\*\*\*

Telford would like to support the [Corner House Youth Project](#) for our local charity nomination. Corner House Youth Project is a leading community organisation supporting children and young people in Stockton-on-Tees. They work to enable children and young people to have opportunities, get involved in their communities, enjoy their lives and achieve their potential. Furthermore, they provide high quality youth services for the area through their own direct youth work and by liaising with and supporting partner organisations working with young people.



The Corner House Youth Project offers open access youth provision across the borough of Stockton-on-Tees in 4 locations. This means that children and young people can simply turn up to sessions and join in with planned activities for free. Sessions run on a weekly or bi-weekly basis, dependent on funding.

Further information about the charity can be found here:

<https://www.cornerhouseyouthproject.co.uk/>

It is the intention of our house to raise awareness and money for the charity. On **Wednesday 5th February** we will run a charity event with each pupil in Years 3-6 paying £1 to the charity. Form teachers will collect the money during registration. In order to raise awareness children can wear one item of 'funky' clothing with their uniform e.g. bright ties, a pair of odd socks/bright tights, quirky hair accessories (no hair product such as gel or dye please), bright jumpers/T-shirts.

On the day, our Y6 and some Y5 pupils will also run various stalls such as a tombola, "guess the number of sweets in the jar" and various challenges. Therefore, it would be wonderful if your child/children can also bring in small amounts of change e.g. 10p, 20p, 50p and £1 coins (no more than £5) in

order to participate in the events. There will be prizes up for grabs!

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact one of us at school.

Mr Harandon

## Y6 Publishers Activity

Our Year 6 Stephenson pupils are nearing completion of their Monday Carousel activity, *Publishers*. The children created their own children's books and read them to the Reception classes this week.

Mr Hutchcraft



## STEAM Person of the Week

Thank you to Mrs Melissa Gurney for presenting our STEM Person of the Week assembly. Mrs Gurney, who started her career in the RAF, now works in cyber security and shared her work with the children, as well as tips about how to stay safe online. If you work in a STEM related role, and would be willing to present an assembly in school, please get in touch with Mrs Smith or Mrs White at reception.

Mrs Smith



## Holiday Club Dates

Easter 2025: - 7th—11th April 2025

Summer 2025: - 14th July—1st August 2025

Please contact Mr Simpson ([holidayschool@yarmschool.org](mailto:holidayschool@yarmschool.org)) should you require any further information regarding our Holiday Schools.

## Speech and Drama

### Face Time

Our focus in Speech and Drama is communication. Ask most pupils around school what they think we do in our lessons, and they might say something like this,

“In Speech and Drama lessons, children learn poems all year around - and then recite their best ones to an examiner at the end of the year”.

Of course, they are right to a certain extent – but there is so much more to our lessons than this.

Our learners will tell you that in their lessons we enjoy focusing on so many other subjects: we touch on Biology, when we learn about the anatomy of the voice and how its produced and projected; there is some physical education, when we warm up our bodies in exercises, to enrich the use of our vocal cords. We explore English skills, when we learn to appreciate poets, authors and their work and where we learn the rules of grammar and pronunciation and explore the richness of accents and dialect.

But aside from all of this, our learners collaborate; share, learn from each other and support and grow as confident speakers. They learn the value of communication.

We learn that our voices communicate – through variations in tone and projection and through, pitch, pace and clear pronunciation, but we also learn that **our faces, hands and even our feet** can project our feelings and communicate messages. We call this passion and through this we love to explore the value of connecting with others, using non-verbal skills.

So, from time to time until the end of term, we will post a photo of a learner's facial expression and body language. We will call it **Face Time**.

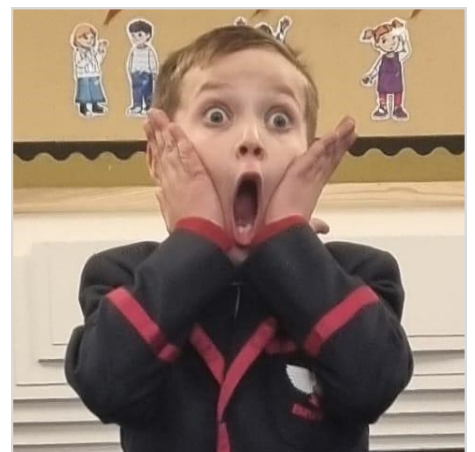
Your task will be to work out what emotion or feeling is being communicated just by reading the learner's facial expression or body language.

And THEN, see if you can email a list of synonyms to describe the emotion, to [Mrs Ham-Ying](#). Put **Face Time** and the Phoenix Newsletter's date, as the subject of your email.

Here's an example for week one.

What's the emotion?

- Shocked?
- Horrified?
- Aghast?



- Amazed?
- Surprised?

Can you think of other words? How many can you think of?

The pupil with the longest list of synonyms will get a mention in the newsletter. Let's see who can create the longest list of adjectives to describe the emotion each time in **Face Time**.

I wonder who will get the most mentions?

Mrs Ham-Ying

## Coming Up at the PAA

[Importance of Being Earnest — Live stream — Thursday 20th](#)

[February, 7:00pm](#)

While assuming the role of a dutiful guardian in the country, Jack lets loose in town under a false identity. Meanwhile, his friend Algy adopts a similar facade. Hoping to impress two eligible ladies, the gentlemen find themselves caught in a web of lies they must carefully navigate. Max Webster (Life of Pi) directs this hilarious story of identity, impersonation and romance, filmed live from the National Theatre in London.

[Jesus Christ Superstar \(Live Arena Tour\) - Live stream - Friday 14th March, 7pm and Saturday 15th March, 2pm](#)

Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's rock classic Jesus Christ Superstar

returns to its roots with this sensational performance filmed in the UK during the Live Arena Tour.

An incredible cast including Tim Minchin as Judas Iscariot, Melanie Chisholm as Mary Magdalene, Chris Moyles as King Herod and Ben Forster as Jesus Christ, perform hit songs including "I Don't Know How to Love Him," "Gethsemane," "Heaven on Their Minds," "Everything's Alright", "King Herod's Song" and "Superstar" in an exciting and contemporary interpretation.

[Billy Elliot The Musical Live - Live stream - Sunday 30th March, 2pm and Wednesday 2nd April, 7pm](#)

Based on the Academy Award® nominated film, Billy Elliot the



Musical has won the hearts of millions since it opened in London's West End in 2005.



Set in a northern mining town, against the background of the 1984/85 miners' strike, Billy's journey takes him out of the boxing ring and into a ballet class where he discovers a passion for dance that inspires his family and whole community and changes his life forever.

## Primary Schools Singing Day

We welcomed children from three local primary schools this week to join our Year 5/6 choir for a day of singing in the Princess Alexandra Auditorium. It was a fun-packed day, with the children learning a range of catchy songs together all morning, before performing to parents in the PAA in the afternoon. Well done to everyone for taking part and for being such courteous hosts.

Mr Stone





## Tooled Up Education

What is your parenting style? Are you a permissive parent, an authoritarian, or an authoritative one?

Is your partner on the same page as you? Do you always present a united front to your children, and would you agree that doing this is not always easy?

You've probably realised there are different ways to be a parent, even if you've never consciously adopted one style of parenting. Tooled Up has a range of resources to help you consider your own parenting technique and to help you be the best parent you can be.

Our [Exploration Into Parenting Styles](#) webinar is a great place to start. In this guide, Dr Kathy Weston and Professor Stephen Scott of Parenting Matters discuss differing parenting styles and explain how these can best support children with family life.

Our webinar [United Front Parenting](#) explores the ways you and your co-parent can stay in step with each other when it comes to rules, arguments and interactions.

If you have a question about parenting, rest assured others are asking the same thing! Browse our [A-Z of Frequently Asked Parenting Questions](#) and discover how Tooled Up can help you.

If you are parenting younger children, Dr Gauri Seth answers your questions on topics including boundary pushing, arguments and screen time. You can access her Q&A webinar here: [Parenting Younger Children](#).

The Tooled Up library is already packed with almost 350 evidence-based resources, including interviews with over 80 leading experts from around the world. But, it's your library and we want to know how else we can help you? What new resources would you like to see? Which ones do you love? What could we do better?

We always value your feedback and want to ensure that we are giving you the resources that you need. Email us at [research@tooledupeducation.com](mailto:research@tooledupeducation.com) to let us know how we are doing!

### A quick reminder :

As a parent at a Tooled Up school, you have full unlimited access to the Tooled Up library. If you have not created your account yet, click [here to register for an account](#). It takes less than 2 minutes to enter your details and unique school PIN: YPS1103 and if you need assistance, we are always happy to help. If you already have an account and you have forgotten your password, then simply click on any of the resource links above, click "Lost your password" and follow the instructions.

*Dr Kathy Weston*

**TOOLED UP<sup>®</sup>**  
**BECAUSE EVIDENCE MATTERS**



An Exploration Into Parenting Styles

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](http://nationalcollege.com).

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# FORTNITE



## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Fortnite was launched back in 2017, but it remains massively popular – with more than 650 million active players. That’s partially due to the competitive nature of its player-vs-player combat, its pop culture crossovers and its constantly shifting map. Significant updates are rolled out with each new version of the game – known as ‘chapters’ – and within these sit shorter ‘seasons’.

### ALWAYS ONLINE

There’s no single-player offline mode in Fortnite: it can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you’re out and about (both in terms of connectivity and using up data), so you may find that dedicated young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

### IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – cosmetic ‘skins’, music tracks and LEGO items – which don’t really impact on gameplay but can cost a significant amount. These items are bought with in-game currency, V-Bucks – earned through completing the Battle Pass (which also costs V-Bucks) and can also be purchased from the game’s store for real money.

### POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite’s appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from movies and TV shows like Family Guy and Avatar: The Last Airbender to comic book characters including Batman to other games such as Street Fighter. This means you could have children asking questions about the monster from Alien or Geralt from The Witcher a little sooner than you otherwise might have.

### CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

De@#!

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. ‘Crossplay’ lets friends play with each other, regardless of whether they’re on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC – while the ‘party chat’ feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can, however, put youngsters at risk of hearing inappropriate language from older players in the heat of virtual combat.

### VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

At its core, there’s no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there’s no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as fishing mini-games and dancing emotes. Machine guns, shotguns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, however, so discretion is advised.

### FREQUENT UPDATES

The game’s developers release content in ‘seasons’ that usually run for around ten weeks. Each fresh update sees items added to the in-game store, changes to the environment’s map and a different over-arching theme (such as ‘medieval’, ‘pirates’ or ‘party’). These regular renewals help to hold players’ interest – but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### MATCH GAMING TIMES

Younger players tend to play Fortnite with their friends. With that in mind, it could be worth speaking to the parents and carers of a child’s social group and coordinating their gaming around certain times of day. Safety in numbers is obviously a factor here, but it will also help children feel that they’re getting adequate opportunities to socialise with their friends online.

### SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite’s rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authorisation. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

### USE UPDATES AS REWARDS

Fortnite’s seasonal updates are free, but each also brings the option of a ‘battle pass’, unlocking exclusive rewards for playing the game and completing set challenges. The passes cost around £8 and are also available as part of larger bundles. The purchase of passes can be an effective reward to young Fortnite fans for good behaviour or academic performance, or as an incentive for completing chores like tidying their room.

### BE WARY OF SCAMS

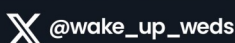
The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there’s no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite’s loading screens, they never ask for a player’s account password outside of the game: make sure any young player knows this.

### ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child’s friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents and carers to do something fun with their child, while also making sure they’re playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A long-time gamer, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Release date: 12.04.2023 Last reviewed: 30.10.2024

## Coming Up

[You can find the Yarm School calendar for the Spring Term by clicking here](#)

### JANUARY 2025

- Mon 27** Year 6 Drama Week begins
- Tue 28** U8 Netball Workshop with Cundall Manor (away; 1.45pm start, 3.45pm return)
- Wed 29** Chinese New Year celebrations  
Wear item of red—£1 donation to St Teresa's Hospice  
House Chess—Matchday 3
- Fri 31** Year 6 Drama Week Performance (4.15pm)  
U10 Netball v Queen Mary's (home, 2pm start)  
U10 Football v Durham (home; 2pm start)

### FEBRUARY 2025

- Mon 3** Activities Carousel 3 begins (for Y4-6)
- Tue 4** National Schools Quiz Championships  
Opening round; online; 10am-11am)
- Wed 5** Prep Duologues launched
- Thu 6** U9 Netball v Durham School (away; 2pm start, 4.15pm return)  
U9 Football Festival at NSB (away; 1.30pm start, 4.30pm return)
- Fri 7** U10/11 Netball v Pocklington (home; 2pm start)  
U10/11 Hockey v Pocklington (away; 2pm start, 4.45pm return)  
First Lego League (Sunderland; times TBC)
- Mon 10** Internet Safety Week  
Internet Safety Workshop (Partnerships event; 10am-2.30pm)  
Y3 Stephenson/Telford swimming starts  
YPSSC meeting (Library; 6pm)
- Tue 11** Dentistry assemblies  
Y3 Silver Stories trip to Middleton Hall (5pm return)
- Wed 12** Internet Safety event for parents (Prep Hall; 4pm)  
NEJS Football & Netball
- Thu 13** Year 3 trip to Arbeia Roman Fort
- Fri 14** STEAM Week launch assembly  
U11 Girls' County Hockey (details TBC)  
U10/11 Hockey v Cundall Manor (away; 2pm start, 4.30pm return)  
Pre-Prep trip to Shildon
- Sat 15** UK Chess Challenge—School Round (Prep Hall; 9.45am-2pm)
- Mon 17** **STEAM WEEK**  
House Coding begins

- No Y3 Swimming today  
No activities this week; clubs as normal
- Wed 19** Riding and Golf activities/clubs as normal  
Year 5 London Trip—Zoom for Parents (4pm)
- Thu 20** **Half-term begins (after school)**  
After School Care as normal
- Fri 21** **School closed (Staff INSET)**

### MARCH 2025

- Mon 3** Pupils return

## Term Dates

### Spring Term 2025

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Half term begins | Thursday, 20th February 2025 (after school) |
| INSET Day Friday | 21st February 2025                          |
| Pupils return    | Monday 3rd March 2025                       |
| Term ends Friday | 4th April 2025 (after school)               |

### Summer Term, 2025

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Pupils return    | Wednesday, 23rd April 2025             |
| Bank Holiday     | Monday, 5th May 2025                   |
| Half term begins | Thursday, 22nd May 2025 (after school) |
| Pupils return    | Monday, 2nd June 2025                  |
| Term ends        | Thursday, 3rd July 2025                |

## Celebration Assembly

	Values	Endeavour
3B	Clemmie D.	Wilf M.
3J	Tupell'e M.	Meera S.
3P	Isabelle F.	Harman K.
4F	Lucy D.	George B.
4J	Ayah B.	Ray M.
4SU	Baher S.	Aynoor R.
5G	Andres O.	Scarlett Y.
5S	Dara J.	Freddie B.
5W	Ted H.	Shanvi P.
6H	-	-
6K	-	-
6L	-	-