

Friday 6th January 2023- Newsletter 15

A message from Miss Towler...

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful Christmas break and managed to stay safe and well. The children have been excitedly sharing how much they have loved spending time with their families and receiving some lovely gifts. It has been wonderful to see all the children back in school, ready and raring for their learning. We have had great attendance on our return to school and in fact over the last term we have had the highest figure across the whole of Ebor Academy Trust. Top out of 23 schools is fabulous...long may it continue! Thank you for your support with getting your child in school, on time, everyday!

This term we have moved on from our Go Global! topic to our new creative curriculum learning focus: 'Yorkshire' Please read overleaf to see what your children will be learning this term in class.

We will also be starting our next extra curricular clubs next week, for those that have booked places. I am sure the children will enjoy these opportunities which see some new clubs to add to those that we have been offering for a while now. You will have noted that our Art Club has now been switched for Dodgeball for Key Stage One and Two. There are still places in KS2 football club as well as in KS1 and 2 Music club so please contact the school office if your child is keen to take part.

Have a lovely weekend,
Caroline Towler
Headteacher



Our school attendance this week is: 96.97%

Our school attendance target is 97%.

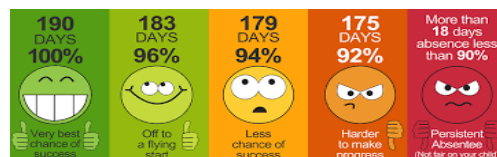
This week's whole school attendance is:

Jupiter: 96.43%

Venus Reception: 100% Top Team Attendance 😊

Saturn: 98% Neptune: 95.83%

***Your child's attendance is compulsory in school and unless they are unwell, we ask that you ensure they are in school, on time, every day.**



Twitter at TPA

Please click on the link below to see if your child is appearing on Twitter right now!

[Tadcaster Primary Academy 🌈 \(@TadPrimaryAcad\)](https://twitter.com/TadPrimaryAcad)

Happy New Year Team TPA! Here's to a fabulous 2023!

Dates for your diary for the coming weeks

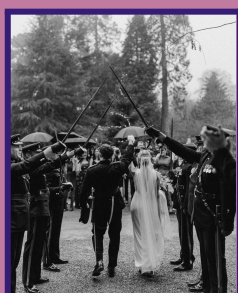
Please see dates for this term's diary. We will always try to give you as much notice as possible if circumstances mean that dates need amending.



Dates	What's happening at TPA?
Monday 9th Jan	NEW: KS2 Football Club with York FC Foundation 3.30pm - 4.30pm. Please collect your child from the front school entrance
Tuesday 10th Jan	NEW: KS1&2 Music and Singing Club with Mrs Oldfield 3.30pm - 4.30pm. Please collect your child from the front school entrance
	NEW: KS1&2 Dodgeball 3.30pm - 4.30pm. Please collect your child from the front school entrance
Wednesday 11th Jan	Team Saturn swimming session (see letter for further details)
Thursday 12th Jan	NEW: Team Venus Reception Craft Club with Miss Ambler 3.20pm - 4.25pm. Please collect your child from the EY front entrance.
	NEW: KS1&2 Dance Club with York Dance Space 3.30pm - 4.30pm. Please collect your child from the front school entrance.
Thursday 19th Jan	Super Census day lunch: More details to follow shortly.
Friday 20th Jan	Individual and Sibling Photographs Day (rescheduled from Autumn Term) - Families with younger siblings that don't attend school on a Friday can access school from 8.40am at the main entrance to have their photographs taken.
Wednesday 25th Jan	Y6 SATs parent and carer information evening at 5.00pm with Mr Sands and Miss Towler - more details to follow shortly.
7th February	Safer Internet Day
Monday 13th Feb - Friday 17th Feb	Half Term - School Closed for the week
Monday 21st February - Friday 24th February	Whole school learning through week celebrating 'Different Families, Same Love'. Throughout this week we will be celebrating difference in our families, recognising that uniqueness is special.

Congratulations Miss Blythe!

Many of our families will know that our previous Assistant Headteacher and Early Years Lead, Miss Blythe, was getting married. It is my pleasure to share some lovely photographs of Miss Blythe, now Mrs Holder-Williams, at her wedding ceremony over the Christmas break. Many families have asked me how she is doing so I am sure you will enjoy taking a look at her lovely wedding snaps and will join me in wishing her and her husband all the best for the future.



Yorkshire!

Our whole school topic next term is Yorkshire. Each of the class teams has a different focus as part of this topic but this term there is a big drive on all things Geography related. Please see a message from your child's class teacher below to find out more about what your children are learning throughout the curriculum. As always we use our school newsletter to give you an insight into next term's topic. We will also have a focus on families and the differences that make up our own family networks for our Learn through Week. Throughout this special themed week we will celebrate the differences we have that make us unique. Watch out for more information shortly on our '**Different families, Same love**' learning week.

Team Venus (YN/R)

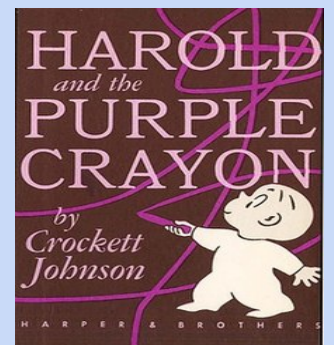
In the Spring term our topic in EYFS will be '**Yorkshire & Adventures**'. We will be following 'The Boy' from Lost and Found on his journey to the Arctic and Antarctic and all the different environments in between, like the desert and the rainforest. We will be learning about the similarities and differences between these environments and the animals and plants that live there. We will decide how to pack the different clothes he will need for the different climates and make some of the food he could take on his journey. In our Pond and Beyond learning we will continue thinking about seasonal changes as we experience Winter and Spring and using some more of our favourite stories to help us learn about our own environment and the theme of adventures.



Team Jupiter (Y1/2)

In the Spring term we are focusing on Yorkshire with a Geography led topic. The team will Join Harold and his Purple Crayon on his journeys. We will investigate the county of Yorkshire, its castles, rivers and mountains as well as the coastline. In science, we are investigating materials and seasonal changes. Our history learning makes us think about Yorkshire's Castles with virtual tours and castle making in design technology. In computing, we will look at digital writing, digital photography and virtual reality! In art we will investigate sculpture and prints from Yorkshire's famous artists including Henry Moore and Jane Revitt

<http://www.janerevitt.co.uk/>. Our music teacher Mrs Oldfield will teach mediaeval music and rhythms. In PE we will cover gymnastics and dance. In RE we will look at the Islamic faith and the meaning of the word sacred when talking about the Christian faith.



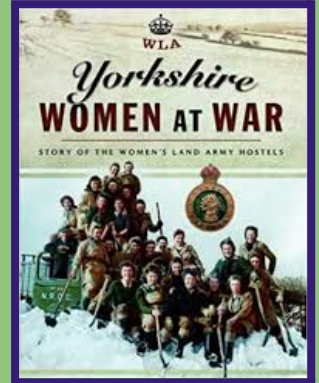
Team Saturn (Y3/4)

This term or topic is **Yorkshire**. In History, we will be learning about the Romans including the part Yorkshire played in their empire. Our Geography work will compare and contrast the geographical features of **Yorkshire** and Italy. In Science our topics are Sound, Forces and Magnets. In Design & Technology we will be making Roman shields and **Yorkshire puddings**. For our RE topic we will look at why believers think that life is a journey. In PE we will be going swimming and learning gymnastics. Our art will look at some famous **Yorkshire artists** and those who were brought up in **Yorkshire**, including David Hockney. Our music teacher Mrs Oldfield will teach songs and pieces of music by composers from and linked to Yorkshire. In German, we will be learning about clothing and birthdays. All in all a very busy term, full of exciting activities.



Team Neptune (Y5/6)

This term we are learning about the Home Front during World War Two in Yorkshire and the wider UK focussing on the effects of the Blitz including safety measures like Evacuation and the Blackout. We will learn about Rationing. We will find wartime locations in Yorkshire. In Design Technology we will be designing and making replica shelters. In PSHE our themes are Living in the wider world, valuing diversity, challenging discrimination and stereotypes. We will be sharing The Mirror, a picture book showing different viewpoints by Jeannie Baker as well as the Story of Anne Frank. In the wider world we are comparing locations in Brazil and Germany with the UK and looking even further afield in Science in our Earth and Space topic. In Art we will be recreating David Hockney's Yorkshire landscapes. Our new learning includes phoning, weekdays with months, weekdays with activities as well as families with activities and birthdays. In RE we will be exploring the question: If God is everywhere, why go to a place of worship? In English we will be developing our VIPERS skills with a new class study text. In PE the children will play competitive games including tennis, developing flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance. In short - lots of learning experiences!



Internet Safety with Mr Ramzan



Please see the link below for some useful guidance for Parents regarding Roblox. This is a popular game which many children access. There are risks when using this app and so please take a good look at the guidance on this poster below.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one game of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guidance, links and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about ROBLOX

With more than 150 million users worldwide, Roblox is one of the most popular video games of recent times. Roblox allows users to create their own gaming experiences using Roblox Studio: building levels and games then allowing other people to play them. Similarly, players can play each other's creations, either on their own or with other people online. While it's a tool that can help foster creative thinking, Roblox is also intermittently in the news amid concerns over young users' safety.

PEGI 7+

No Age Rating

Roblox is rated 7+ by PEGI, but the platform itself doesn't have a minimum age requirement. It does ask for a date of birth when registering, but this can be easily falsified. The sheer quantity of games available on Roblox means that some will fall into teen/adult categories. Users can also interact with each other freely – and the game has, historically, attracted scammers, griefters and online predators.

Chat Functionality

Users can join group chats with almost anyone through the Chat & Party function. While the chat has some filters, predators still try to find ways around these to prey on young children. There have been recent reports of adults pretending to be children, attempting to groom younger players and encouraging them to chat privately in an unmoderated environment away from the game.

In-App Purchases

Robux is the in-game currency used to buy things like special outfits or emotes, and to play certain sections of the game. A subscription service (costing £4.99 per month) called Roblox Premium offers more privileges and more in-game currency. Robux can also be purchased in batches, for up to £4.99. Children can easily pay for these, or purchase a membership, without realising it.

Online Predators

Roblox's developers aim to maintain a safe place for children; they employ human moderators for their players' protection. But there will, sadly, always be individuals who try to bypass these safeguards as they can chat to children and attempt to communicate outside the game. Anyone asking for your child's personal information or to talk privately should be blocked and reported.

Orders

An 'Older' (online avatar) joins Roblox to find someone to 'date' online. While there's nothing inherently wrong with finding love on the internet, it becomes an issue in a space that's populated by children and young teens, like Roblox. Online dating is against Roblox's community guidelines, but certain player-built games on the platform are specifically for 'Older' and should be avoided by children.

Advice for Parents & Carers

Take Note of Ratings

Recent press reports drew attention to Roblox's issues with potentially offensive content. Some players were using Roblox Studio to create games featuring nudity, sexual activity and extreme political views. In response, Roblox is introducing a ratings system which will mark content by age appropriateness, with clear warnings if a game is not suitable for younger players.

Set Parental Controls

Roblox has controls that allow parents to moderate who their children can talk to and which games they can play. To enable these, add your email address to your child's account through the Security menu, and create a secure PIN to stop settings being tampered with. Then head into the Privacy menu where you can apply moderation to in-game chat, personal messages, invites and more.

Disable Messages

It's advisable to block all messaging if you have concerns over your child's safety. If they're trying to contact friends or family in their life, encourage them to chat in another way (like on the phone), so you know exactly who they're talking to and how. Accounts can be tweaked to allow messages from specific groups of people, such as friends or users that your child follows.

Block and Report

To report players in a game, find the Roblox symbol on screen (or the 'Settings' button on some devices). Identify the offending player and click the flag icon. Clearly why the player is being reported by choosing a reason from the list. If you think a particular game is inappropriate, you can also flag it for a moderator to check by following the same steps but selecting 'Game' instead of 'Player'.

Encourage Creativity

It could prove a little too complex for younger children, but Roblox Studio is a great place to start learning the fundamentals of game design. Many building developers have created Roblox games which have become popular among the community. There are plenty of tutorials on making games on sites like YouTube. You never know, your child's creation might be the next big thing!

Meet Our Expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for several years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the gaming editor of one of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, IGN. He is also a member of the UK's leading gaming charity, the UK Gaming Foundation. He has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.

National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

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