

Friday 6th October 2023- Newsletter 5

## A message from Miss Towler...

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you so much to all those Parents and Carers who came along to join us to celebrate the Harvest Festival with the children in Years 1-6. It was a lovely opportunity to sing and perform in front of families. Thanks to Rev Paulie and the team at St Mary's Church, who made us so welcome. We really have had such generous contributions to our Harvest collection and I know that both Tadcaster Food Bank and Wetherby and District Food Bank will appreciate how our families 'put kindness first' which is something we discuss frequently in school.



A special thank you to those families and children who came along to the special Harvest service in St Mary's Church on Sunday. Some of our youngest children showed such courage to perform in front of our families and members of the local community. We heard some wonderful feedback from members of the congregation which is always appreciated.



Best wishes,

Caroline Towler, Headteacher

**Our school R-Y6 attendance this week is: 95.97%**

**Our school attendance target is 97%.**

**Nursery: 94.87**

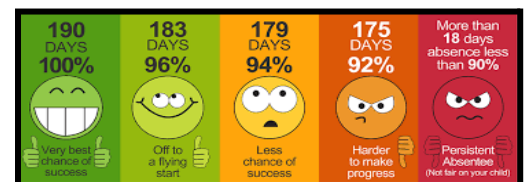
**Reception: 87.69**

**Jupiter: 95.00**

**Saturn: 100.00% Top Team Attendance!**

**Neptune: 97.33%**

**\*As Government guidance states, 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)



## Summer Reading Challenge!

Well done to this lovely group of individuals who took on Tadcaster Library's Summer Reading Challenge reading lots throughout the holidays. Local librarian, Katherine Wells enjoyed meeting the successful certificate winners and awarding them the certificates.

We really enjoy reading in Team TPA and are really proud of anyone who 'gets caught in reading'!

## Dates for your diary for the coming weeks

| Dates  | What's happening at TPA?   |
|--|--|
| Monday 9th October                           | Flu immunisation jab for those children where families have signed up for this   |
|  | Y1-6 Football Club with York FC Foundation 3.30pm - 4.30pm   |
| Tuesday 10th October                         | Hello Yellow World Mental Health Day in aid of Young Minds   |
|  | Y1-6 Singing Club with Mrs Oldfield 3.30pm - 4.30pm  |
| Wednesday 11th October                       | MSP Meetings with Mr White (SENDCO)  |
|  | Y1-6 Dodgeball Club with Five Star Sports 3.30pm - 4.30pm  |
| Thursday 12th October                        | Yorkshire Cricket School teaching children cricket in Team Reception Venus through to Team Neptune   |
|  | Year 5 / 6 Girls Football Tournament @ Selby College (details already shared)  |
|  | Y1-6 Dance Club with York Dance Space 3.30pm - 4.30pm  |
| Friday 13th October                          | Y1-6 Multi-Skills Club with Five Star Sports 3.30pm - 4.30pm   |
| Monday 16th October                          | Team Jupiter trip to Harewood house funded by TPAC   |
| Monday 16th October/<br>Tuesday 17th October | Parents Evening Appointments will be available with your child's class teacher on Monday and Tuesday evening of this week - look out for further details next week |
| Wednesday 18th October                       | TPAC Neon Disco - see letter that was shared this week<br>Mini Neon disco - 3.30pm - 4.15pm<br>Y1-6 Neon disco - 5.30pm - 7.00pm                                   |
| Thursday 19th October                        | Yorkshire Cricket School teaching children cricket in Team Reception Venus through to Team Neptune   |
| Friday 27th October                          | School closes for the Holidays   |
| Monday 6th November                          | School opens after the Holidays  |
| Thursday 23rd November                       | Everybody Dance at York Theatre Royal for children in Team Saturn  |



## Connecting Neurodiverse Families

(Tadcaster and the surrounding area)

[www.cndf.org.uk](http://www.cndf.org.uk)



Our group is for families of neurodivergent children in the Selby District. It provides a supportive space to share experiences and to work together to improve provision in the area. Although we welcome parents of all neurodivergent children most of our parents have children who are autistic or who have ADHD (or both!) alongside other diagnoses.

### We run 3 types of sessions



A monthly Tuesday evening or Friday morning session where parents can access information from professionals, get peer-led support and network.

We ask for a donation of £2.00 per adult attending to cover our costs.

**Sessions are normally run on the last Tuesday of the month 18:30 - 20:00**

#### Next Dates

26th September 23 / 24th October 23 / 28th November 23  
23rd January 24 / 27th February 24 / 26th March 24 / 23rd April 24  
28th May 24 / 25th June 24 / 23rd July 24



A monthly 90-minute youth group held on a Saturday afternoon for neurodiverse kids. Parents and carers can drop off their children so long as they have registered ahead of the day and also completed a needs assessment form that has been reviewed and approved ahead of the youth group date.

We ask for a donation of £3.00 per child attending to cover our costs.

**Sessions are normally run on the first Saturday of the month 14:00 - 15:30**

#### Next Dates

2nd September 23 / 7th October 23 / 4th November 23 / 2nd December 23  
6th January 24 / 3rd February 24 / 2nd March 24 / 6th April 24  
4th May 24 / 1st June 24 / 6th July 24



A monthly Friday morning session for neurodiverse 0-5 year old preschoolers where parents and carers can bring their kids, stay and play while accessing information, support and networking

We ask for a donation of £2.00 per child attending to cover our costs.

**Sessions are normally run on the second Friday of the month 11:00 - 12:30**

#### Next Dates

8th September 23 / 13th October 23 / 10th November 23 / 8th December 23  
12th January 24 / 9th February 24 / 8th March 24 / 12th April 24  
10th May 24 / 4th June 24 / 12th July 24



**Any date changes will be posted on our  
website calendar**

The groups run at  
The Barn, St. Josephs Street Tadcaster LS24 9HA

[www.tadcasterbarn.co.uk](http://www.tadcasterbarn.co.uk)



# SUPPORTING ND KIDS

A positive, collaborative working for families and schools



## WE ASKED .....

...parents and carers at a local support group, **Connecting Neurodiverse Families**, for their thoughts on what schools could best do to support based on their experiences

## SUPPORTING ND KIDS

Each ND kid has a unique way of working: what works one day, may not the next. It takes endless patience, re-adjusting and a bucket load of creativity.

Knowing their strengths and weaknesses, remembering "kids do as well as they can", there is no limit to what can be achieved.

ADHD, Autism, Anxiety, Dyslexia, Dyscalculia, Dysgraphia, Mental Health, Sensory Processing, Intellectual Abilities, Social Anxiety, Tourette Syndrome, Williams Syndrome, Behavioural Issues

## BE CONSISTENT

ND kids need a psychologically safe classroom where they don't worry about being different.

Where rules are set, remember ND kids will expect them to be followed to the letter not flexed.

It's helpful if there is consistency of key workers - and any transitions or changes need to be managed carefully

Be mindful of reward systems - not all children respond well to them or understand them. Punishments may also not work, with many ND kids having heightened rejection sensitivity.

## ITS ALL ABOUT THE INDIVIDUAL

ND kids may have unique interests which can be great avenues for growth and learning.

They may need downtime though so short bursts of learning with information presented in small chunks can work well.

They may struggle to verbally communicate - allow time for a response rather than push for an answer to participate.

"The best teachers have high expectations for my child - alongside endless kindness, understanding and flexibility"

## SUPPORTING THE FAMILIES

Parents or carers of ND kids might be dealing with a lot as they advocate and care for their child. They are more likely to be experiencing stress and mental health issues themselves.

They also may be neuro-divergent so its useful to remember this.

"I hate it when professionals refer to me as MUM and don't take the time to know and use my real name"

## POSITIVITY & HONESTY

Focus on the positives of ND kids. Be honest about what you see and what you can realistically provide. Consider the language you use and watch for "ableism"

## KNOW THE CHILD

Be open to the parent's and carer's experience. They really know their child best and as much, or even more, than professionals about the child's condition. Lots of ND kids mask at school so although they seem "fine", the parents or carers may see a totally different side to them at home.

## GOOD PRACTICE

- A **passport** of key things to know about a child for any new people working with them
- Opportunity for **SEND** parents and carers to meet each other and SEND staff to get to know each other / offer support.
- Opportunities for school to **listen** and take feedback
- Staff aware of the **pathways to support** services and assessment processes - and trained for working with ND kids.
- Information on supporting and including ND kids for **all** parents across the school.
- School communications are **accessible** and have dyslexia friendly font and design.
- A **friendly** and kind ear for parents who might need support on a difficult day.

"The most valuable thing is when I am really listened to and we are all on the same page about next steps"



[www.cndf.org.uk](http://www.cndf.org.uk)

I'm wearing yellow  
to show my 3 year  
old nephew that  
it is ok to reach out

## **World Mental Health Day - Hello Yellow**

*As we do every year, we are celebrating World Mental Health Day by asking the children if they would like to wear yellow. This year #Helloyellow World Mental Health Day is on Tuesday 10th October.*

*Next Tuesday your child is welcome to wear YELLOW or something that makes them feel happy (children can simply wear non uniform if they prefer).*

*We can all struggle with how we're feeling, but sometimes things get tough and it can be difficult to cope. To help with this, we are looking forward to taking the time to reflect on how we can prioritise our mental health and consider the strategies that will help us to do this. This is something we are passionate about as a school.*

*If you would like to find out more about Young Minds World Mental Health Day with your child, please take a look at the link below:*

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/support-us/fundraising/helloyellow/>

*Together we can create a brighter future for young people's mental health.*

