



“Children are at the centre of all we do.”

### NEWSLETTER 7<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2025

Our newsletter is also available to view on the school website at:

<https://heslerton.n-yorks.sch.uk/parents/newsletters>

#### BADGER WOOD

96.36 %

#### KEEPER WOOD

96.23%

#### FARTHING WOOD

90.0%

#### DIARY DATES

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February**, Badger Wood parental videocalls 1:10 – 5pm.

- Farthing Wood in person parent meetings 3:30 – 5:30pm.

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February**, Keeper Wood parental videocalls 1:10 – 5pm.

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February**, Y1 & Y2 Dodgeball MCSC.

- Farthing Wood parental videocalls 1:10 – 5pm.
- Keeper Wood in person parent meetings 3:30 – 5:30pm.

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February**, Badger Wood in person parent meetings 3:30 – 5:30pm.

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February**, School closes for half term.

#### HALF TERM BREAK

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February**, School opens to pupils.

- Pop up library.
- Gymnastics Club YR to Y2 week 1.
- Final day to return Y3 – Y6 parental lunch slip.

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February**, Drama Club Y3 – Y6 week 1.

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**, FW Jorvik Viking Centre trip.

- Gymnastics Club YR to Y2 week 2.

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March**, Drama Club Y3 – Y6 week 2.

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March**, KW Maths Day – see box.

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March**, World Book Day.

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March**, Friends Disco 3:30 – 5pm.

These are some of the dates we know. There may be changes so please check the school website and Dojo for details.

<http://www.heslerton.n-yorks.sch.uk>

#### Y1 & Y2 DODGEBALL

The children in Y1 & Y2 will be taking part in a Dodgeball event at MCSC on **Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> February**.

The children will travel with Fletcher’s coaches and be accompanied by Mrs Triffitt and Miss Johnson. We will leave school after lunch at 12.30 and return for the end of the school day. Pupils will need to take their own inhalers if necessary. School carries insurance for all school trips. In case of emergency please contact the school.

#### PARENTS EVENING

Thank you for booking appointments. Staff are looking forward to discussing your child’s successes.

It is expected that parents attend termly parents evening. If you have not booked an appointment, you have missed this opportunity this term.

Our next event will be an Open Evening on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July.

#### AFTER SCHOOL FOREST CHILDCARE CLUB

Sessions for next half term are open and available to book on ParentPay. Places are booked quickly as numbers are limited.

#### SENT HOME

- Y3 & Y4 Residential letter.
- Friends Disco flyer & song requests.
- Parental lunch letter Y3 – Y6.
- A pencil for each child from the National Horseracing College for their brilliant behaviour!
- Spring / Summer 2025 Menu

#### REVD TURNER

Revd Cate Turner visited school again on Thursday. If your child accessed this, you will have received a Dojo message.

If you require this information in a different format, please contact the school office.

### PARENTS EVENINGS

Due to recent national events, we have had to consider how we provide parents evenings for the safety of all. We have had to review and amend our previous plans.

Instructions for booking online and in person appointments were sent out last week and we are pleased to see the booking process has been used by parents who wish to book to see their child's class teacher.

If you are visiting us in person, please use the main front door and wait on the red sofa. Class teachers will call you into the hall for your appointment. Please stick to time as these evenings are fully booked and we cannot extend your appointments beyond the time booked.

We are looking forward to speaking with you.

### KEEPER WOODS MATHS DAY WITH PARENTS

Join us for the day to work with pupils from Keeper Wood to discover lots of fun maths. Family members of all ages with children in any class are invited to join us free of charge for lots of storytelling, problem-solving and puppet making, all involving everyday maths.

In their pupil voice meetings, children requested the chance to make puppets. This will be a chance to make and play with them.



**Magical Maths with Multiply**

Join us for a magical time!

**A Town Called Plentiful**

A fun, creative activity day for parents and children.  
A day of storytelling, problem solving, puppet making and performing.

The story of a greedy town that loses numbers.  
How will they manage?  
Parents and children working together to make puppets, problem solve, and identify how numbers are valuable in every way.

 West Heslerton CE VC  
Primary School

**Wednesday 5th March**  
9am to 3pm



### DRAMA CLUB

The Drama Club at West Heslerton CE School has been extended into next half term for **6 weeks** for pupils in **Years 3 - 6**.

**Please note that we have extended the club and current bookings for those children booked in for this half term.**

**This is to provide the children with the opportunity to take part next half term due to illness of coaches this half term.**

The club will be run by Stephen Joseph Theatre and will be free of charge.

This will take place from 3.30pm – 4.30pm from **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February to Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 inclusive**. Numbers are limited therefore, places will be on a first come, first served basis.

This club is accredited by the Children's University.

This club is funded by school sports funding. Should your child decide not to continue, please let us know. Places are limited.

### GYMNASTICS CLUB

There will be a Gymnastics Club at West Heslerton CE School next half term for **6 weeks** for pupils in **Reception, Years 1 & 2**.

The club will be run by Harry Sheader Sports School, funded by school sports funding, free of charge to children.

This will take place from 3.30pm – 4.30pm from **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February to Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 inclusive**. Numbers are limited therefore, places will be on a first come, first served basis.

This club is accredited by the Children's University.

Should your child decide not to continue, please let us know. Places are limited.

Should your child wish to join this club, please book the sessions on **ParentPay**.

### FRIENDS DISCO

Friends of School have organised a disco for children who go to West Heslerton Primary School. This will be held on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025, 3:30 – 5pm**. Bring your party clothes to school, change at the end of the day. Please bring your water bottle. **Please pay £3 on ParentPay by Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February**. Price includes snacks.

If you require this information in a different format, please contact the school office.

## NATIONAL HORSERACING COLLEGE VISIT

We were visited by staff from the National Horseracing College and ex pupil Joanna Mason. All pupils saw a video of a foal being born, how it stands up at less than an hour old and how it grows to be a fully grown horse. We looked at the training provided by the National Horseracing College to help us to learn to ride racehorses.

All children looked over the helmets and body protection worn by jockeys to keep them safe. We tried on the colourful jockey silks and learnt that each horse owner has their own colours. We looked over saddles worn by horses during the races and learnt that these saddles can be many different weights. We felt and sniffed the horse's food for their nose bags to keep their energy up.

Children brushed piled carpets and used templates to explore patterns made on the horses during grooming.

Everyone tried out the balance activities to practice being really steady before trying out the exercise horse.

We had a super morning, thank you to all involved.



Further information can be found at [www.theNHC.co.uk](http://www.theNHC.co.uk)



If you require this information in a different format, please contact the school office.

# Free Parenting Clinics

with  
Anisa Lewis  
Positive Parenting

[www.anisalewis.com](http://www.anisalewis.com)

February

11th @ 12.30 pm

Screens

- Does your child resist turning off the TV, tablet, or games console?
- Do you dread the meltdowns when it's time to step away from a screen?
- Are you frustrated by endless arguments over screen time limits?
- Do you feel unsure about how much screen time is too much?

If any of these sound familiar, you're not alone. Join Anisa Lewis (Parenting Coach) for her monthly Free Parenting Clinic in February. This month, we'll tackle the challenges of screens and share practical tips to create healthier habits for your family.

Details:

- 📍 On Zoom
- 🕒 30-minute session

Book your place here:

<https://anisalewis.as.me/theclinic>

or email: [hello@anisalewis.com](mailto:hello@anisalewis.com) for the booking link

The clinic is recorded and the replay sent out to all who register to attend.

## INTERNET SAFETY

Next week is Internet Safety Day on **Tuesday 11th February**.

At school, children use a filtered internet system that makes it highly unlikely for children to access things they should not see. This system is closely monitored and immediate alerts sent to school if children type in unsuitable words or access anything inappropriate.

At home, simple monitoring can ensure that your child stays safe on the internet. This is provided free via your broadband provider. GoCompare have compiled a guide to broadband parental controls and internet safety for children. This includes many of the main internet providers. Now is a great time to check that restrictions are age appropriate. <https://www.gocompare.com/broadband/parental-controls/>

## PARENTING SMART

Parenting can be joyful but also very hard. Each week we aim to bring you a link that may be useful to you to find your way. This week's short clip is about bullying.

[My child might have bullied someone | Place2Be's Parenting Smart \(youtube.com\)](#)

## DROP OFF AND COLLECTION REMINDER

If you are walking your child up to school, please drop them at the school gate each morning. This saves congestion on the ramp! A member of staff will be on duty from 8:30am.

We have had concerns from residents this week about children playing unsupervised near the church after school. Some residents' gardens are in front of their houses and children have been playing in their gardens. Please check that you are aware of your children's whereabouts for their safety.

Please turn round at the top of the hill in the school gateway **NOT** in people's driveways for pedestrian safety. We had a very near miss this week!

For the continued safety of everyone in the school community we request that you drive at a safe and appropriate speed up and down the hill to school.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

If you require this information in a different format, please contact the school office.



**West Heslerton CE Primary School**  
**DRAFT Vexatious Behaviour Policy**

**“Children are at the centre of all we do”**

We encourage everyone in our school community to live life well reflecting Christian attitudes and values and working in partnership with families as part of a wider, caring community.

The hallmarks of a Christian life lived well are shown in the fruits of the Spirit – But the fruit of the Spirit is Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-control. Against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22 – 23

**Note:** This policy can also be adapted to manage unreasonable or persistent contact not directly associated with, or resulting from, formal complaints.

West Heslerton CE Primary School is committed to dealing with all complaints fairly and impartially, and to providing a high quality service to those who complain. We believe that all our stakeholders have the right to be heard, understood and respected. We also believe that our staff have the same rights. We will not normally limit the contact complainants have with our school. However, we do not expect any of our staff to tolerate unacceptable behaviour and will take action to protect all staff in all roles at school from that behaviour, including that which is abusive, offensive or threatening.

We aim in all our dealings to:

(a) make it clear to everyone we deal with, what staff can and cannot do to meet their concerns and expectations;

(b) be open and not raise expectations that we cannot meet;

(c) deal fairly and professionally with all stakeholders, their representatives and other individuals linked to our school;

(d) provide an efficient and effective service that is easy to use, transparent and accessible to all; and

(e) ensure that our staff and all those linked to West Heslerton School are not disadvantaged as a result of the unacceptable behaviour of others.

This Policy covers all areas of work undertaken by our school. It applies to the people our staff come into contact with during the course of our work, including parents, their representatives, other individuals and third parties. Contact covers various forms, including social media, telephone, face to face and written correspondence.

Any incidents of unacceptable behaviour between employees will not be covered by this Policy. Such incidents will be handled under school's Disciplinary Policy and other relevant policies.

### **Unacceptable Behaviours**

Heslerton School understands that people may act out of character during difficult times or when they are distressed. We do not view behaviour as unacceptable simply because an individual is forceful or determined. However, we consider behaviours that result in unreasonable demands on school activities or unreasonable behaviour towards our staff as unacceptable.

### **Aggressive or abusive behaviour**

Violence, aggression and verbal abuse towards our staff is not tolerated. Violence includes physical acts of aggression, behaviour or language, whether spoken or written, that makes staff feel offended, afraid, threatened or abused. This includes, but is not limited to, language, tone and volume that is abusive, rude or derogatory, statements that are inflammatory, threats, offensive remarks, swearing and allegations about staff that are defamatory. Language which is offensive or derogatory towards others in relation to race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, gender, sex, sexual

orientation, age and/or disability is unacceptable. Making serious unsubstantiated and/or false allegations that staff have engaged in criminal or corrupt conduct will also be considered unacceptable.

### **Managing Unacceptable Behaviours and/or Aggressive or abusive behaviour**

West Heslerton School will take action when unreasonable behaviour impairs the functioning of our activities or has a detrimental impact on our staff. We will take into account the personal circumstances of the individual when taking action and ensure that our response is reasonable and proportionate to address the unacceptable behaviour identified.

If the individual who is behaving in an unacceptable way is a representative of a supplier or other organisation that West Heslerton School has an existing relationship with, the matter should normally be escalated by the headteacher to our contact within that organisation for resolution. Where West Heslerton School has an agreed complaints process or escalation route in place with the relevant organisation, this should be adhered to.

When an individual is identified as behaving in an unacceptable way, West Heslerton Primary School may at our sole discretion take any one or more of the following actions, where applicable:

- (a) advise the individual of this Policy;
- (b) request that the individual modifies their behaviour;
- (c) terminate a telephone call, advising the individual at the time of the incident;
- (d) ask an individual to leave our premises, advising the individual at the time of the incident;
- (e) restrict contact to written correspondence only;
- (f) restrict telephone contact to set days and/or times;
- (g) restrict contact to a nominated member of staff;
- (h) restrict the individual's contact with school to certain issues or requests;
- (i) if appropriate, refuse to register or progress a complaint or appeal;
- (j) take a decision to escalate a complaint or appeal to the next stage of the process, including to an Independent Assessor;
- (k) inform the individual that complaints or appeals will be responded to outside school's standard service level times for response;
- (l) where appropriate, contact third party organisations including police, other law enforcement agencies, social services and/or the individual's education provider;
- (m) delete comments, report users, block or otherwise restrict access to our school platforms
- (n) file, return or, where appropriate following previous warnings, destroy excessive or irrelevant documents;
- (o) in exceptional cases, terminate all direct contact; and/or
- (p) take any other action which West Heslerton School or North Yorkshire Council deems appropriate.

We will not respond to correspondence in any format that is abusive towards staff, or which contains offensive statements.

If a credible security threat towards staff or our school site is made, a report must be made to the Headteacher, Chair of Governors and police as appropriate.

### **Unreasonable demands and excessive contact**

Individuals may make unreasonable demands on school staff, such as the amount of information they request, the nature or scale of the service they expect, imposing unreasonable timescales or deadlines for responses outside our normal practice or published timeframes, or the number of approaches they make. If behaviours start impacting on our ability to deliver our service, we consider them unacceptable.

What constitutes an unreasonable demand or excessive contact will depend on the facts and circumstances of each case. A demand becomes unreasonable when it starts to (or when complying with the demand would) impact substantially on the school by taking up excessive amounts of staff time. This includes but is not limited to repeatedly demanding more urgent

responses from staff than is reasonable or normal recognised practice; insisting on seeing or speaking to a particular member of staff when this is not possible; insisting that particular members of staff may not deal with the individual's account, appeal or complaint; and/or making what we consider to be an excessive number of contacts. We would also consider individuals repeatedly sending written correspondence or online messages in the same or similar terms; repeatedly contacting different parts of the organisation about the same or similar issues; attempting to contact staff via alternative channels outside of work (including social media); repeatedly demanding information or documents which the school staff have explained we do not hold; and/or repeatedly sending excessive or irrelevant documentation to amount to unreasonable behaviour.

West Heslerton School considers the level of contact with an individual to have become excessive when the amount of time spent talking to the individual on the telephone, or responding to, reviewing and filing emails or written correspondence impacts upon our ability to deal with the individual's requests, complaint or appeal effectively or impacts on our ability to deliver services to others.

### **Unreasonable use of School's complaint or appeal procedures**

West Heslerton School recognises that individuals may have cause to make complaints or appeal decisions in accordance with school procedures. The school's complaint and appeal procedures are open and accessible. We will therefore only limit access to these services in exceptional circumstances and when it is proportionate to do so.

West Heslerton CE School will follow its complaints handling and appeals procedures for each and every complaint or appeal that is received. However, if the school reasonably considers that the effect of the frequency or nature of individual complaints or appeals is intended to harass staff, prevents school staff and governors from pursuing resolution of an issue or implementing a legitimate decision or aim, we may consider this behaviour to be unacceptable.

It may be deemed unreasonable if the complainant makes unjustified complaints about staff who are trying to deal with the issues, and seeks to have them replaced

If the complainant refuses to articulate their complaint or specify the grounds of a complaint or the outcomes sought by raising the complaint, despite offers of assistance or refuses to co-operate with the complaints investigation process, we may consider this behaviour to be unacceptable.

If the complainant refuses to accept that certain issues are not within the scope of the complaints procedure, insists on the complaint being dealt with in ways which are incompatible with the complaints procedure or with good practice or seeks an unrealistic outcome we may consider this behaviour to be unacceptable.

Where an individual changes the substance of a complaint or appeal on a number of occasions or continuously raises new concerns, questions or falsified information which, in the reasonable opinion of West Heslerton School, is intended to hinder the resolution of the complaint or appeal, this may be regarded as unacceptable behaviour. We may also consider an individual's behaviour to be unacceptable where they persist in pursuing a complaint or appeal which West Heslerton School reasonably regards as having been fully and properly exhausted in accordance with our complaints handling and/or appeal procedure.

Complainants should therefore try to limit their communication with the school that relates to their complaint, while the complaint is being progressed. It is not helpful if repeated correspondence is sent (either by letter, phone, email or text), as it could delay the outcome being reached.

Whenever possible, the headteacher or Chair of Governors will discuss any concerns with the complainant informally before applying an '*unreasonable*' marking.

If the behaviour continues, the headteacher will write to the complainant explaining that their behaviour is unreasonable and ask them to change it. For complainants who excessively contact West Heslerton CE Primary School causing a significant level of disruption, we may specify

methods of communication and limit the number of contacts in a communication plan. This will be reviewed after six months.

In response to any serious incident of aggression or violence, we will immediately inform the police and communicate our actions in writing. This may include barring an individual from West Heslerton CE Primary School premises and events.

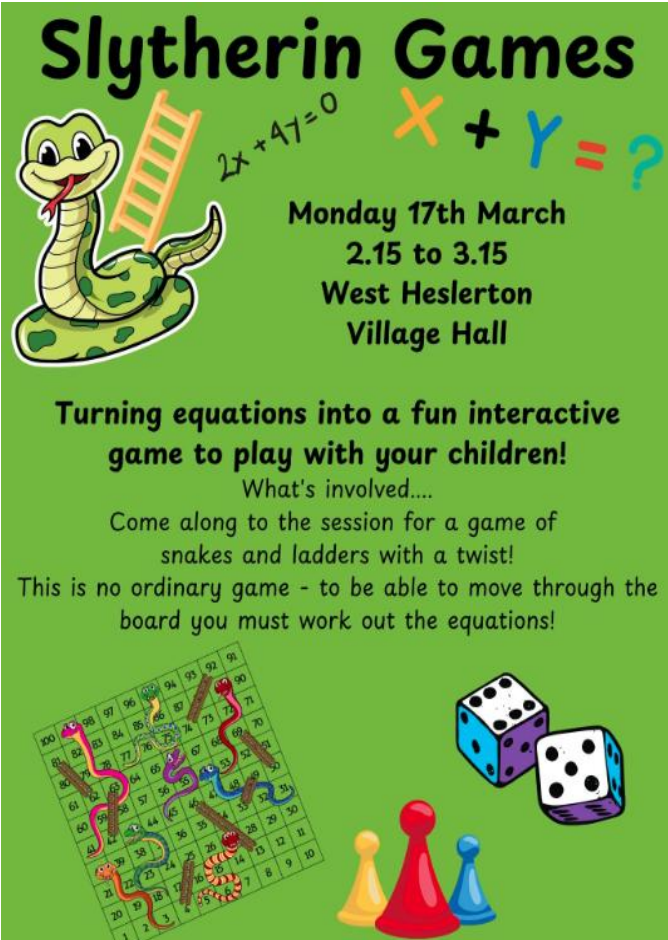
The School's complaints panel may examine whether the individual's behaviours have wrongly been identified as unacceptable, whether the restrictions imposed are reasonable and proportionate, whether the restrictions imposed may have an adverse effect on the individual based on their personal circumstances and whether any other reasonable adjustments can be made. However, a review request under this Policy cannot be used as a mechanism to reconsider the content of any complaint or appeal.

Introduced: Autumn 2024

Next review: Spring 2027 or sooner if required.

### COMMUNITY CUPPA

Residents of all ages, parents and pre-schoolers are invited to join us at the village hall for a cuppa, a chat and a game of snakes and ladders.



**Slytherin Games**

$2x + 4y = 0$     $x + y = ?$

**Monday 17th March**  
**2.15 to 3.15**  
**West Heslerton**  
**Village Hall**

**Turning equations into a fun interactive game to play with your children!**  
What's involved....  
Come along to the session for a game of snakes and ladders with a twist!  
This is no ordinary game - to be able to move through the board you must work out the equations!

The poster features a green background with a cartoon snake on the left. In the center, there are mathematical equations:  $2x + 4y = 0$  and  $x + y = ?$ . Below the equations, the event details are listed: Monday 17th March, 2.15 to 3.15, West Heslerton Village Hall. The bottom section describes the game as a twist on snakes and ladders where players must solve equations to move on the board. At the bottom, there is an illustration of a snakes and ladders board, two dice, and three game pieces (yellow, red, and blue).

### SCHOOL DINNER MENU

North Yorkshire Caterers have planned a menu change next half term. This new menu will start on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February. A hard copy has been sent home with your child today.

In addition to the dishes shown, the children will have seasonal vegetables and bread offered each day.

A vegetarian option is also available daily. Please ask at the office for menu variation forms for a vegetarian option or any dietary requirements to be met. These can be provided once forms are returned to school and alternative ingredients ordered.

We thank Mrs Sefton (cook) and Mrs Charlton (kitchen assistant) for their hard work in preparing our meals and dining room experience each day.

If you require this information in a different format, please contact the school office.