

We are almost at the end of another busy term.

Such a lot of great learning and of course more to come!

It was lovely to see that so many of you had been in school for **parents evenings** last month and at **Open Door Friday** – we love to share the work your children are doing with you...



The children looked brilliant on **World Book Day** and stories were shared across school through the day – well done everyone and to the kitchen staff for their great themed lunch.

The **pancake and book swap** event was supported by a small team of Y6 children who deserve our praise for their hard work and commitment. We raised £373.00 towards the programme we have purchased to support developments in English across school.

Thank you to Y4 for organising our **Red Nose Day** and well done to those children who submitted the funniest jokes as judge by their peers. The sum raised for the charity was £236.00



I was privileged to take a small group of Y6 girls to Sunderland University's evening lectures on **international women's day** – it was great to receive the following from Prof. Lynne McKenna, from the university - *I just wanted to quickly drop you a line to say thank you for bringing the amazing girls to our International Women's Day event at the University last night. I do hope they enjoyed the evening. I thought the girls were so very well behaved and represented your school well. They were so engaged and interested which was great to see...* Well done to these young people for taking the opportunity to try something different.

Miss Williams will be returning after the break as **Mrs Danks** – Congratulations to her and her family on her impending nuptials – we hope you have a wonderful day.

**Miss Palmer** will be leaving us at the end of term to pursue the next stage in her career development. We say Thank you for her contributions to life in school and wish her well as she moves on to her exciting challenge. Good Luck!

**Miss Liaw** is joining us to work in upper school. We look forward to working with her as we move into this busy time of the school year.

Thank you for your continued generosity as you **donate your unwanted items** from home. We really do use everything you give us and children across school benefit. THANK YOU again.

Since our last newsletter we also had our **Ofsted inspection** – much is written and said about these visits – however, the children, staff and community were able to ensure that the inspection process was a chance to celebrate Yarm Primary. As a school we had been well supported and challenged up the inspection through the Trust and the Governors, which gave us confidence around our judgements. I wish to personally thank the Governors who gave up their time during the inspection – Rebecca Lennon & Lee Kirtley are great supporters of the school and I greatly value our collaborations. I am delighted that the Inspector saw what I see (about our staff) - **Staff care deeply for every child** And **All staff are proud to be members of the school**. Thank you for your support and **please find the report attached**. The Inspector is limited in what he can write (in word count and expression) in an ungraded visit and although not in the report, he may very well have written about the fantastic strength that is reading across our school and that Writing is an emerging area of improvement. Due to the nature of the inspection, not all curriculum areas were able to be showcased, however, I was able to present evidence around the breadth of the curriculum we offer. We are delighted that the personal development and behaviour in school continue to be recognised as of the highest standard.



External accountability will continue to be a regular part of what we do, through our termly Enquiries and regular visits from the central team around all aspects of school life.

Children have continued to access **enrichment** through visitors (authors, vicars and ducklings included!), visits, sporting events, performance, and projects such as Mrs Meeks 'growing schemes across school', Y6 Legacy projects, whole school financial awareness work, Science week etc. and the summer term promises to include even more for our young people to link to their learning.

#### **Dates moving forward:**

School closes for Spring break on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March and reopens on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April.

#### **APRIL**

17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> – Robinwood residential (Y4)

24<sup>th</sup> - Y6 Tuckshop 3.15 – 4.00pm

26<sup>th</sup> – Open Door Friday

#### **MAY**

7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> - Carlton residential (Y5)

Wk. Beg. 13<sup>th</sup> – Y6 SATs

22<sup>nd</sup> - Y6 Tuckshop 3.15 – 4.00pm

School closes for ½ term on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May and reopens on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

**DON'T FORGET** – Y6 are holding their *chicktastic* crispy treat sale on the afternoon of Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March – all profits go to their enterprise (which is currently paying for their canvases for their outdoor painting initiative).



Our biggest fundraiser of the year is yet to come – **Festival on the Field** is our annual community event, which this year is on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June. This year we are benefitting from some funding from Yarm Town Council, which will help with running costs; for which we are grateful. This event takes a huge amount of work; and FoYPS are a very small team of hardworking parents who really do 'go *the extra mile*' for everyone in school. PLEASE consider if you can support this team in anyway – big or small – as this would really make a big difference to the capacity of this group.

The fundraising this team has done for us has meant that THIS ACADEMIC year this is the financial support they have provided for us:

Voice 21 Oracy project	Involving whole school	£1400
Christmas productions	KS1 & KS2	£200
Christmas Crackers	Whole school	£200
STEM project	Upper school	£200
Tabards	Y6 contribution initiative	£200
Lunchtime resources	Whole school	£100
Maths resources	Whole school (inc. setting up shops in Y2)	£1200
Art resources	Whole school (inc. January Art afternoons for everyone)	£1000
TOTAL		<b>£4500</b>

I am sure you will agree that this is an amazing contribution, which impacts positively on the whole school community.

As our budgets are squeezed even more, the ability to access these funds becomes even more crucial in being able to offer the children a breadth to their experiences in school.

We would welcome your feedback and any contributions you could make – e.g. do your employers/friends/family have any schemes or resources we could access?

However, helping to prepare e.g. the raffle for the Festival on the Field could be a starting point?

Please get in touch via the school office if you would like to contribute.

You will receive the **knowledge organisers** with news about the new themes for next term, this week. If you do not get a copy please let us know.

I hope that you and your family have a good break and enjoy some family time together.

We will see you back in school on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April.

Yours as ever

Mrs Wood