

Christmas is coming and life in school is busier than ever!

Well Done to our Head Girl & Head Boy for representing the school
So brilliantly at the War memorial.

This is such a special occasion, and the children were not fazed by
the crowds or their role in the proceedings. I am very proud of these
young people.

Your Rocks for Remembrance formed the centre point for our Peace
Pathway reflections – well done to everyone who took part.



We owe a big THANK YOU to everyone involved in the FoYPS Christmas Fayre. All of
our children benefit from the funds raised and we could not do some of the things
we value in school without this.

Mrs Gartland will leave us at the end of the school term. She has been seeking
promotion that we unfortunately could not offer, and we will miss her so much BUT
are excited for her as she moves into her new post. We owe her a debt of gratitude
and wish her and her family wonderful things for the future.

We have just received this message from **Tees Community Dental Service** – we will
*be undertaking the National Dental Sample Survey of 5-Year-old children on
Teesside over the coming months. We will be in contact with your school next week
to arrange a convenient date and time for our dentist and dental nurse to come
into the school to conduct the survey. We will provide more information when we
have it.*

FAO **parents with children in Y1** – message from the DfE:

Notification for Yarm Primary School: One or more pupils in year one have been selected to take part
in the DfE Five to Twelve study

Five to Twelve is a national study of around 8,000 children and their families attending primary
school in the 2020s. By following children over time, the study aims to provide new evidence about
how children's environments and experiences impact on their education and wellbeing in the post-
pandemic period. The study will collect data about the child, their family and school.

For the first stage of the study, the research contractor (NatCen) will be sending letters to the
parents or guardians of the selected children at their home address in Nov/Dec 2023. The
information posted to families will list the ways they can get in touch with the study team should
they have questions about participating or opting out.

Understandably, families may contact your school to verify the legitimacy of the research. If so, then
we ask that you provide reassurance that this is an official DfE study.

Thank you for your support in the recent **Children in Need** fund raiser – your generosity means that £357 will be sent to the charity shortly. Thank you to Y3 for leading on this.

Reminder – the next **Y6 Tuckshop** is on Wednesday 29th November at 3.30pm – access through the small hall external door. Please support them – they are almost in profit!

We were contacted by Dame Rachel De Souza, Children's Commissioner for England – who has launched a campaign called **The Big Ambition**. Children in our upper school are taking part in the survey and if you wish to or want to support your child in doing so, please follow the link before 10th December and 'have your say.'
www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition

We are a relatively well-resourced school but must look after these resources – you can help by remembering to **return reading books promptly**. Staff have recently had plans thwarted when sets of 12 reading books have up to half of missing, which impacts on the offer the children are getting. We ask that you support us and return books to school – many thanks.

Christmas performances – KS1 & 2 performance is on Wednesday 13th December at Yarm auditorium. 1.30pm start (doors open at 1.00pm). Tickets are £1 and are available to buy through MCAS – under products - (to subsidise hire of the venue) – there will be 2 tickets per family available – if you require more you can let us know and we will start a list for any 'spare' tickets. These tickets are available from Tuesday 28th November.

Early Years – performance is on Thursday 14th December. 10am (doors open from 9.30am) Children will be sent home with 2 tickets per family later this week. There will be programmes available and a collection for the charity Shelter, so please bring along your loose change!

Congratulations to the recent **Y1 NSPCC Pants competition** winners – Lila, Florence, Archie and Layla.

Well done to the Y2 design a flag challenge – Sophie.

And a seasonal well done to Charlotte in Y1 whose design has been chosen as our Yarm Primary Christmas Card.



REMINDER – Thursday 30th November is our **Tree decorating day** – we look forward to seeing your home-made decorations, to help us 'step into Christmas.'

Christmas Parties will take place in the final 2 days of term – staff will be in touch with the detail shortly. Christmas jumper day (charity collection for Save the children) and Christmas Dinner day will be on the final day of term – Tuesday 19th December.

We can now share the **term time dates** for next academic year including PDDays:
We ask that children are in school and holidays are planned outside of term time – please do not ask staff for work if you are taking children out of school on an unauthorised holiday, as I have instructed them not to provide this.

School Term and Holiday Dates - Academic Year 2024/2025

AUGUST 2024						SEPTEMBER 2024						OCTOBER 2024						NOVEMBER 2024					
Monday		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		
Tuesday		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26		
Wednesday		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27		
Thursday	1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28		
Friday	2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29		
Saturday	3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30		
Sunday	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24			
DECEMBER 2024						JANUARY 2025						FEBRUARY 2025						MARCH 2025					
Monday		2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24		3	10	17	24	31	
Tuesday		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		4	11	18	25		
Wednesday		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26		5	12	19	26		
Thursday		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27		6	13	20	27		
Friday		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28		7	14	21	28		
Saturday		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22		1	8	15	22	29		
Sunday	1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23		2	9	16	23	30		
APRIL 2025						MAY 2025						JUNE 2025						JULY 2025					
Monday		7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28		
Tuesday	1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29		
Wednesday	2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30		
Thursday	3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31		
Friday	4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25			
Saturday	5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26			
Sunday	6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27			

PDDays will be:

Monday 2nd September 2024

Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Friday 29th November 2024

Monday 2nd December 2024

Monday 21st July 2025

Enterprise – Y5 will contact you shortly about a wishing/memory tree initiative. Y2 are planning a special Food bank event – details to follow. We hope that you will be able to support the children in these ventures – they learn a lot from them – thank you.

REMINDER school is closed on Friday 1st December and Monday 4th December. The school term ends on Tuesday 19th December and reopens on Wednesday 3rd January 2024.

Yours as ever
Mrs Wood