



## School Newsletter

*Barnabas the Encourager*

*Courage, Compassion, Creativity*

### Message from Miss Boardman

This week has been assessment week in school with children from Y2 upwards completing some short tests. I have been proud of the children—they have worked really hard and tried their best.

Thank you to the Bluehouse Bookshop for welcoming a group of children this week who had the responsible job of choosing some new books for school. These children had been chosen as a reward for their consistently excellent behaviour and attitudes. Read on to find out more.....

We are enjoying our Wednesday Worship (Assembly) times led by one of the team from St Barnabas Church: Rev Paul Millard, Rev Chris Key, Anne Williamson and Andy Hagon. This term we are thinking about our school values of Creativity. You may like to have a look at the home school activity sheet to explore this value further.

[Creativity Home School Sheet](#)

### Tell us your views

We always welcome parental feedback as it helps us to know what we are doing well and the areas that we could do better in. Our last full parents survey was in March 2021 and as we are almost a term into the new school year we would like your views on a range of areas. Please take a few minutes to complete the Ofsted Parentview Survey. If you have completed it before, login with your email and password. If you haven't completed it before you will need to register for an account which is very easy. After that, it should take no more than 5 minutes to complete. Click [here](#) to register and complete the survey.

Please complete this by Monday 13th December.

### Promoting Reading at St Barnabas

Next Friday 3rd December, KS2 are going to have a visit from the author Mike Barfield. His show sounds very exciting and interactive - I am really looking forward to it. There will be a stall at the end of the day selling his books 'A Day in the Life of a Poo, a Gnu and You' and 'A Day in the Life of a Caveman, A Queen and Everything in Between' at the bargain price of £4. They normally retail for £9.99 so this is a great saving. Mike will be able to sign any books that are bought.

On Wednesday afternoon Mrs Bruce and Mrs Murphy had the pleasure of taking a group of children to The Blue House Bookshop on Bootham to help choose books for our advent project. We had a lovely time looking at books that we thought the whole school would enjoy. We will be using them in a variety of ways with the children during December and would like to invite parents and carers to a special reading cafe after school on 14th December so you can share the books and join us for refreshments.



We are also launching our electronic reading records, Go-read this week for children in years 2 -6. Your child will be given their log-in details and parents will need to sign up for the free app. It is very simple to do and will save losing reading records or forgetting to take them home. This helpful parents' guide should explain it all but please feel free to ask your child's teacher if you have any questions. <https://goapps.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/resources/goread-parent-guide.pdf>



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## Dates For Your Diaries

### Stay and Learn

Come and find out what and how your child is learning on the dates below:

- Nyong'o class : Thurs 9th December 2:30pm
- Attenborough Class: Mon 6th Dec 8:45am
- Johnson Class: Thurs 9th Dec 8:45am
- Farah Class: Tues 7th Dec 8:45am
- Kahlo Class: Friday 10th Dec 8:45am

### Christmas events

#### **Tuesday 14th December - 3-3:45pm**

- Christmas Reading Café in the hall— parents and children invited to read our new books together with refreshments.

#### **Wednesday 15th December:**

- Christmas Dinner—wear Christmas jumpers

#### **Thursday 16th December at 1:30pm:**

- Christmas Carol Service at St Barnabas Church. We will not be doing a separate nativity this year. Instead, each class will do a short performance as part of the carol service.

#### **Friday 17th December:**

- Santa will be visiting St Barnabas and will read the children a Christmas story. They will also be given a small gift.
- Christmas Parties with a party themed lunch , Please come to school in party clothes.
- School closes for the Christmas Holidays at 3pm

#### **Wednesday 5th January:**

- School reopens at 8.45am

**We are asking for a £3 donation, payable on parent pay for all the Christmas activities. They will get to see Santa and leave with a small gift, Christmas parties hosted by Dj Ollie and the children will also be watching an online pantomime by Riding Lights Theatre Group.**



We offer the following sessions every day:

Breakfast Club £4.75

After School Club Full Session 3pm to 6pm  
£7.50

After School Club Early Bird Session 3pm to 5pm £5

Christmas Craft Evenings:

- Thursday 9th December
- Thursday 16th December

Why not leave your child with us to enjoy our Christmas craft activities in after school club whilst you enjoy a bit of late night shopping. Book your space now via parent pay.



All now payable and bookable on parent pay. If you haven't activated your parent pay account, please contact the school office on 01904 555152 or [stbarnabasprimary@york.gov.uk](mailto:stbarnabasprimary@york.gov.uk) for an activation letter.

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## Nyong'o Class —Reception

We have been busy little bees this week! With our phonics learning we have been learning all about digraphs (2 letters 1 sound) with the sounds 'sh', 'th', 'ng' and 'nk' and we have learnt some more of our tricky words: she, push, he and of. Feel free to practice these at home! In maths we have been comparing the weight of different objects and have been amazing at using our weight language of heaviest and lightest. Our literacy topic of the Polar Express story has evolved to thinking about what items we would need for our own winter adventure and we have all written a list of what we might need. A pack up full of cake was a priority from the class....

In RE this week we looked at how babies are welcomed into the Christian family and we reenacted a lovely baptism. Our Wild Wednesday session was a calm time of making some delicious bird feeders. Everyone concentrated and worked patiently to make these tricky and sticky things.

Me and Miss Ross have been very impressed with all the hard work the children have done this week so well done to everyone!



## Attenborough - Year 1

This week the children are still enjoying our kitchen role play area and have been creating shopping lists to restock the cupboards after the tiger has been to tea! In other tiger-themed work, we have been printing tiger pictures and adding stripes, labelling tigers using information from books and re-reading our story.

As stated in the Class Dojo message, the school is switching to a new reading and phonics system called 'Little Wandle' and the children have been enjoying reading the brand new books in school before they bring them home - a school communication will explain this in more detail very soon.

We have been learning the sounds ai, ou, oy and ea this week and the children have been sorting sounds and writing sentences using these.

In maths, we are learning about subtraction and parts of numbers. Children are starting to use number lines to help them solve their number sentences and are counting back and finding difference.

As a group we have been sharing our similarities and differences as part of our PSHE (Personal, Social, Health education). We have been talking about kindness and celebrating this. In Science, we have been testing to see which items are magnetic.

We are proud to celebrate lots of names on our tree of recognition for showing teamwork this week and we are showing this in lots of different ways.





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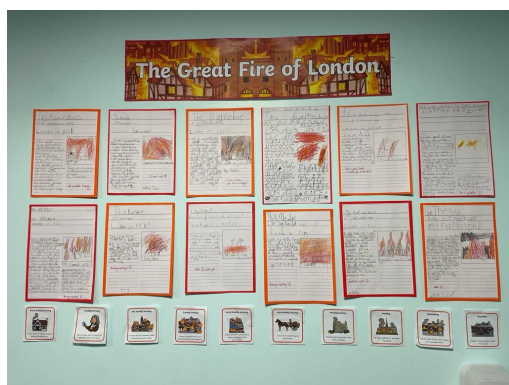
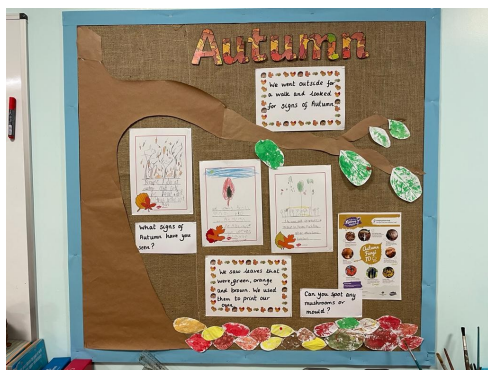
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## Johnson Class—Year 2

Johnson class have worked really hard this week and have been learning about signs of autumn and the Great Fire of London. We used a variety of leaves to print different coloured foliage for our display and found out that fallen leaves are eaten by worms, fungi and mould. They wrote some fantastic newspaper reports about the events of the Great Fire of London. In English we have been writing expanded noun phrases and using our descriptive skills to write a new adventure for Traction Man.

In PE, they are continuing to play football outside with Mr Scaling. Please make sure they have jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt as it can be cold now.

The children are settling into the new routine with Mrs Bruce on Monday and Tuesday and Mrs Shannon Wednesday - Friday. We are super proud of their achievements!



## Farah –Class—Year 3 & 4

This week, we have continued to explore how circuits work. We looked at different images and tried to predict and explain whether the circuit pictured would work or not! We then built them to test our predictions.

In History, we continued learning about the Romans, and we tried to understand what made the Army so effective. Here are some pictures of us using our shields to protect our bodies as the Barbarians tried to attack us with their primitive weapons!

In RE, we continued to learn about the Creation in the Bible. This week, we learned about how hard it is to be tempted and walk away. Adam and Eve were tempted..... were we tempted by Ms Graystone's box of Celebrations that she left open on the table ....?

Finally, we continued to think about our Setting Description for Nim's Island. We gathered exciting vocabulary from travel brochures that we can reuse to make our own. Ask us for some of our favourite phrases (a tiny gem of a coral island or perhaps surrounded by lush, green foliage)! As always, the class have worked supremely hard. Well done this week Team Farah!



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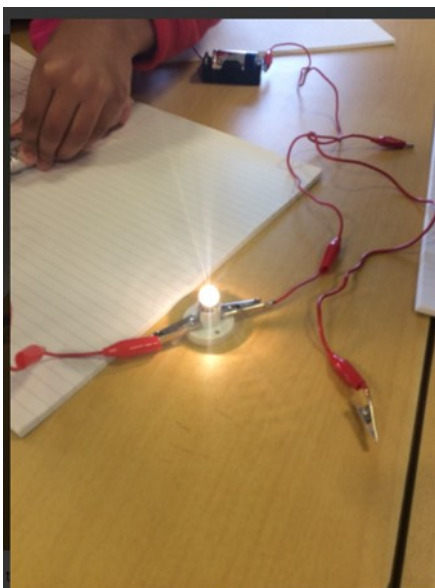
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## **Kahlo Class—Year 5 & 6**

It has been an intense week in Kahlo Class, as our assessment week took full swing. Everyone worked really hard to complete some mock SATs tests or their year 5 equivalents, and the results are looking brilliant already. We all know that we've just got to improve for ourselves and that it is not a competition, and that has really helped us to achieve the grades that we deserve.

Outside of this, we've done a lot of other learning. Our science this half term is all about electricity, and so we decided to experiment with different levels of voltage, and how this would effect the brightness of a bulb. In PSHE we discussed power relationships, and realised that we all have some form of power to control our actions in different situations. PE took us by surprise, when we had to complete some fitness challenges for a competition, but it was lots of fun and we all did our best. Overall, another great week in Kahlo - let's keep it up!



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## **York Families Update**

### **Festive Fun in the City Centre starts now**

The magic of Christmas in York officially starts today when the stunning Christmas lights illuminate the city to coincide with the start of St Nicholas Fair. The wonderful display gives a special back drop to the year-round beauty on offer in the city and adds a magical atmosphere with York's historic bars illuminated with thousands of twinkling lights.

This year young people can post their Christmas Wishes and Thank you letters to Santa in a sparkling illuminated Santa's Postbox in Museum Gardens.

You can read more about the city centre festive activities at <https://www.theyorkbid.com/news-and-events/news-list/festive-fun-in-the-city-centre-starts-now>.

If you're looking for winter activities to keep your little ones occupied you can also visit the Shine website for a range of free activities and ideas.

Visit <http://www.yor-ok.org.uk/shine> for exciting wintery and festive activities between now and the festive period.

If you are planning to take part in any activities, please make sure you're staying covid safe.

### **Do you have a two year old?**

Eligible families can receive up to 15 hours funded childcare at an Ofsted registered childcare provider, including childminders, nurseries and pre school playgroups.

To find out more and to apply for funded childcare visit or contact York Family Information Service on 01904 554444; TEXT '2yo' to 07786202241 or email [fis@york.gov.uk](mailto:fis@york.gov.uk)

## **Healthy Start Support and free vitamins on offer for York families**

If you are:

- claiming Child Tax credit
- receiving income support
- receiving income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- receiving Pension Credit
- receiving Universal Credit
- under 18 and pregnant, even if you are not claiming any benefits
- claiming income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and are over 10 weeks pregnant
- getting Working Tax Credit run-on only after you have reported you're working 16 hours or less per week

you could qualify for Healthy Start support to buy healthy foods and milk.

To find out how to apply, please visit <https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/how-to-apply>

If you're eligible, you'll be sent a Healthy Start card with money on it that you can use in certain shops. We'll add your benefit onto this card every 4 weeks. You can also use your card to collect:

## **There's still time to get more rewards this November!**

There's still two weeks left to get 4 times as many points through the BetterPoints app this November. Once you download the app you can earn points every time you walk, wheel, run, cycle or use public transport.

You can find out more about how to start earning rewards with York's BetterPoints challenge online at <https://york.betterpoints.app/>.





**All  
residents  
welcome**

# Holgate Ward Community Drop-ins

**Where: Lindsey Avenue  
housing office**

**When: 11am-1pm, Second  
Friday of every month**

Come along for a hot drink and get  
advice, assistance or support from:

- Citizens Advice York
- Local Area Coordinator
- Local PCSOs
- Housing Management Officers



Cllr Rachel Melly  
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For more information  
please contact the  
Community Officer for  
Holgate Ward



HolgateWard



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