



## School Newsletter

*Barnabas the Encourager*

*Courage, Compassion, Creativity*

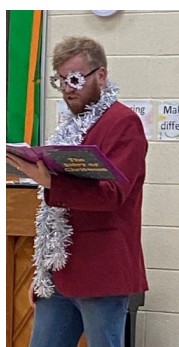
### Message from Miss Boardman

The new arrangements for the beginning of the school day appear to be working well with the vast majority of children now in their classrooms ready to start learning at 8:45am.

Remember that children are now able to come into school from 8:35am and the gates are closed at 8:45am prompt.

Thank you for your support with this.

It has been fantastic to see so many parents at the class Stay and Learn sessions this week. I hope that you enjoyed sharing our beautiful new Advent books and finding out more about our new phonics scheme at KS1 and online reading records (Go Read) at KS2.



This week we had fun while learning about the Christmas story in an assembly led by the YOYO team. Children in Attenborough and Farah gave some very thoughtful responses in the workshops that followed.

Next week we are looking forward to more Christmas activities (details on the next page). Please take note of the changes to the carol service in church on Thursday to ensure that we are COVID safe. We have had very few cases in school recently and would like it to stay that way.



### School Meals

Thank you for your continued support with the new school meals booking system. It is working well, resulting in less food wastage and children being happier with their choice of meal. As the weather gets colder, please consider whether your child would benefit from a hot school meal rather than a packed lunch.

Remember that meals are free for children up to the end of Year 2, so will help you to make savings too!

Please view our menu [here](#) and speak to Mrs Cook in the office if you have any questions about the booking system. There is a useful guide to help you [here](#)

**Parent Pay update - I am aware that some parents have had difficulties booking meals Wednesday onwards this week. I have reported this issue and I will keep you updated. If you have been affected, please contact the school office and I will book your child's meals.**

### Special Christmas Nativity for all ages.

*Finished your shopping and preparations? Then what do you do with excited children on **Christmas Eve**?*

Come to **St. Barnabas' Church at 4pm** for a whacky take on the wonderful Christmas Story, "**The Grumpy Innkeeper**". Dress as your favourite nativity character (angels, animals, shepherds, kings, etc.) and join in our 'drama from scratch' (with parts and costumes for absolutely everyone!). Share in Carols, new songs, and lots of fun, with refreshments (and simple directions for joining in) provided. It'll be fantastic fun!

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## Dates For Your Diaries

### Christmas events

Please click [here](#) to view the separate Christmas letter for more information

The Christmas reading café planned for Tuesday 14th has now been cancelled.

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

Christmas Dinner—wear Christmas jumpers. Remember to book your lunch on Parent Pay by Monday 13th.

#### **Thursday 16th December**

There will now be two separate carol services in Church to make us all Covid safe. They are as follows:

- **1:30-2pm Nyong'o, Attenborough and Johnson Classes**
- **2:15pm Farah & Kahlo Classes**

Please see the Covid safety guidelines on the Christmas [letter](#)

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

- Wear party clothes
- Santa will be visiting St Barnabas and will read the children a Christmas story. They will also be given a small gift.
- Christmas Parties including a disco and party lunch in the afternoon .
- School closes for the Christmas Holidays at 3pm

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

- School reopens at 8.45am



**Please remember to book your sessions for January as well as making the payment.**

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 16th December

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.

Supermarket vouchers for pupils entitled to free school meals will be sent out by next Thursday. Thanks to CYC to providing £15 vouchers for each

### **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. Click [here](#) to register and complete the survey—it will take no more than 5

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## **Nyong'o Class —Reception**

It has been lovely to be back in Nyong'o Class this week and the children have given me a wonderful welcome! Everyone has been working so hard and it's been amazing to see how they have all progressed in their learning. Well done everyone!

In Maths this week we have been recognising and ordering numbers and then matching them to their correct amount. We have also been showing how well we can subitise and enjoyed the NCTM challenges based on this skill.

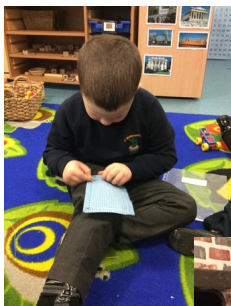
In Literacy we have been learning how to write Christmas cards and are very excited about the postbox coming into class next week! Our Phonics focus has been recapping the digraphs 'ch, sh, th, ng & nk'. It has been great to see how well the children are sounding out, blending and reading words with these sounds in.

We have been learning about the Christmas story in RE and enjoyed opening and then sharing our winter/Christmas books from our advent calendar. We have been practising our song for the Christmas service on Thursday and sung very well in the afternoon singing assemblies too.

Everyone has also worked extremely hard on their sewing and they can't wait to bring it home to show you all their hard work!

Well done everyone, another wonderful week of learning!

**For the Christmas service, please could all children in Nyong'o Class come dressed in black or dark clothes on Thursday, thank you :)**



## **Attenborough - Year 1**

This week the children have been rehearsing our songs for the Church Christmas service. We were pleased to see a few parents at our stay and learn session on Monday in the hall and thank you to all for getting to grips with our brand new reading systems! These will become clearer and easier as time goes on.

Christmas has started in abundance and we have been making cards, singing songs and reading the beautiful brand new advent books bought by the school. The children have enjoyed learning about Christmas events from around the world and other wonderful stories.

I just wanted to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you for allowing me to teach your wonderful children this term. Next week, as my last week in education after 22 years, I cannot express what a joy it has been to teach your fantastic children and I hope you are proud of each and every one of them. Thank you for all your support and kind words this term and I am thrilled to be passing on the teaching to Miss Davison, who will be wonderful as the new Y1 teacher in 2022.



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## Johnson Class—Year 2

We have had such a busy week! On Monday in Science we talked about winter, how the temperature is colder and the days are shorter. We used some evergreen plants to make ice decorations. I hope you managed to see them before they melted.

On Tuesday the children made vegetable stir fries with Mrs Lennon and Mrs Murrie. They looked delicious.

For our history lesson this week we made pictures of the Great Fire of London. The display looks brilliant.

We were delighted to see so many parents in Stay and Learn Thursday morning. It was lovely to be able to show off our phonics and share the advent books with you.

In the afternoon we had an indoor PE session with Mr Scaling and played games. It was great fun!

We are looking forward to the last week of term, seeing Mrs Taylor and enjoying our Christmas celebrations.



## Farah –Class—Year 3 & 4

As well as practising for our Christmas performance, we have been working on our timestables. The Year 4s have been building their knowledge, from 3s, to 6s and soon the 9s!

Year 3s have been learning about sharing into equal groups and what the divide symbols means. This has been very practical.

We have also been working with tint and shade to create beautiful images ready for our Christmas cards

Finally, we had an incredibly successful stay and learn.... We read our Advent books and our PE and sporting books with our adults. We also logged our reading and book reviews on our new reading logs - GO READ! Keep it up at home team Farah!



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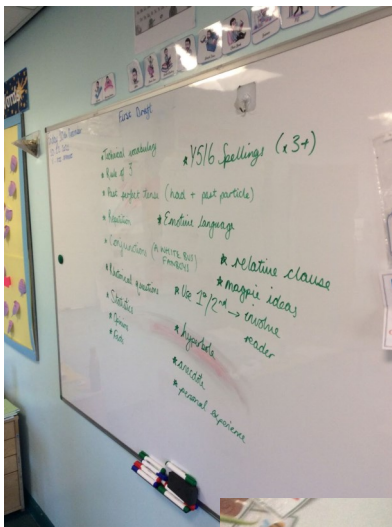
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## Kahlo Class—Year 5 & 6

Another amazing week has come to a close in Kahlo Class, and yet again I have been blown away by their determination, work ethic and attitudes to learning. In English, our speech writing has really progressed and I think there are some future politicians, lawyers and public speakers in amongst us all. In maths, we have been working hard to compare and order fractions, whilst in reading we've learnt lots about chariots and Pompeii.

Elsewhere, we have been investigating the varying effects we can have on a circuit, checked on our evaporation experiment from last half term, discussing the Equality Act in our PSHE lessons, thinking about Jesus as a Messiah in RE and delving deeper into our knowledge of the Romans. It was also fantastic to see so many grownups turn up for our Stay and Learn. All in all, a spectacular week!



## Reading News

It has been lovely hearing about the Stay and Learn this week and how much parents have enjoyed sharing our advent books with the children. The buzz and excitement in the hall was wonderful.

We hope you have learned more about the way we teach phonics and blending words and the Go-read reading records in KS2. The Little Wandle website has a parents section if you want more information.





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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 wintry 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  
cllr.rmelly@york.gov.uk  
m: 07845 159156



Cllr Kallum Taylor  
cllr.ktaylor@york.gov.uk  
m: 07931 557982



Cllr David Heaton  
cllr.dheaton@york.gov.uk  
m: 07773 552561



For more information  
please contact the  
Community Officer for  
Holgate Ward



HolgateWard



shiona.marsh@york.gov.uk



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