



Issue 013

1st April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

This school year has flown by, and Easter is upon us it seems in weeks as opposed to months! We are looking forward to the start of the summer term where the better weather allows us many more opportunities to be outside and explore our community. This will be the last newsletter for the Spring Term. **We break for Easter at 1230 on Friday 8th April 2022 and return on Monday 25th April 2022.** The Local Authorities and the taxi firms have already been notified, but please feel free to remind your individual driver.

Cake Sale



Our first ever Yarrow Heights Cake sale was a great success we raised £100.36 for our Blue Cross Animal Charity nominated by the children. Thanks, to all parents and pupils who provided cakes for the sale or purchased some. As you can see below the selection was enormous! We look forward to making this an annual event. Thank you for your support.

Yarrow Heights Values

At Yarrow Heights, we award pupils points for demonstrating our school values. Our values are:

- * *Responsibility*
- * *Initiative*
- * *Communication*
- * *Kindness*
- * *Resilience.*



At the end of each term these points are totalled and the pupil with the most points in each category is awarded one of the 5 trophies for that particular category. This trophy will be displayed in the pupil's tutor room for the term until they are awarded again the next term.

The pupils have been working hard producing ideas to show initiative, holding doors open and helping each other to show kindness, talking to staff about any worries they have or their successes to show communication, sticking with their tasks to show resilience and taking charge of themselves and their environment to show responsibility.

The winners for this term will be awarded the trophies on Friday 8th of April in our Celebration Assembly: Good luck to all our pupils!





Enrichment

Our shiny new Yarrow Heights minibus has arrived in school, and staff were not slow in arranging off-site Enrichment activities. In the last two weeks, the children and their staff have enjoyed four outings!

Classes MJ & LH – Visited milestones museum in Winchester, all staff and pupils had a wonderful time and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Class LG – Visited to Southampton Art Gallery where they made clay model heads in the Art Gallery workshop before walking around the gallery to look at the artwork. All pupils behaved incredibly and were rewarded with an ice cream/sorbet at the end of their trip.



Class RL – Visited Itchen Valley Country Park – all pupils had a great time and thanked the staff for taking them out. Below are some quotes from the children.

EB *"It feels like we're all one big family"*

BW *"Something I will always remember from the trip is everyone's smiley and happy faces"*

AW *"This is the first time I've ever been here"*

ML *"We're so lucky to be able to have ice cream on a school trip"*

IC *"I wasn't allowed on trips with my last school because I have autism"*

We are so proud of what the children have achieved in such a short space of time. We will be planning many more trips throughout the summer term, we hope, culminating in a whole school, day long visit to Woodmill Outdoor Activities Centre, in July.

New Laptops for every pupil

As part of our development plan for the summer term, we have purchased every child a new laptop which will be issued to them personally, to use to support their learning.

I have attached a copy of our Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) that we will be asking all pupils to sign next week prior to receiving their laptops after Easter. Please can we ask for your support to read through the AUP with your child to ensure that they understand the guidelines and the responsibility that comes with sole use of a laptop.

Parent Survey

As a new School we are determined to ensure that we constantly reflect upon and evolve our practice so that we can offer all pupils a high-quality and diverse education within a safe, engaging, and responsive environment.

We believe that there are always areas in which we can improve, not only what we do, but how we do it. We frequently ask our pupils, and staff to help us to identify such areas and do our best to embrace their suggestions. If you have not already completed the survey, we would really appreciate you accessing the survey via the link below.





Thank you for feedback, which we can use to make YHS even better for our pupils and our staff! The results of the survey will be shared once collated.

Link to the survey is here, <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=neUR3rW5sU-DMZtjVlOfnrIHElwWqZJr8TgXVkd8K5URTNPmIY0UkRKME9STUJMMThOSUJNOEI4Ri4u>

Parenting with Purpose

As you are aware we are offering a 6-week Parenting with Purpose Course, specifically designed for parents of children with Autism. Thank you to all our parents who have signed up so far, there are still a few places available if you would like to join either the online or face to face sessions. For more information or to sign up, please contact our Family Liaison Lead : Alana.lunn@yarrowheights.com We are running two courses, one online and one face to face at different times of the day. We have had 34 parents who have attended taster sessions.

Collections from school

We have a polite request for the transport for our pupils, whether that be parents/guardians or taxis, not to arrive on the site until 15.30pm (unless they are doing a pre-agreed early pick up for a pupil).

As our school continues to grow and flourish, we have more pupils joining which in turn means more cars on the drive during pick up times – this is causing some difficulties to other drivers accessing the site for non-transport purposes. Thank you for your understanding.

Absence and Attendance

Can we please ask that all pupil absences are reported to the main school office by 0800am on the first day of absence. Following which we do require a daily call please for our attendance records.

Email - reception@yarrowheights.com

Phone – 02382 124590

Dates for the Diary

Easter Holiday – term finishes 8th April 2022, reminder that school finishes at 12.30 and reopens on Monday 25th April.

Please note: The Bank holiday on Friday 3rd June 2022 to acknowledge the Queen's Jubilee, falls within the School's ½ term holiday (Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June 2022). Therefore, YHS will close for the end of the school year a day early on **Thursday 21st July 2022. All taxi companies will be notified nearer the time.**

Have a restful weekend

Karen Gaster

Karen Gaster
Head Teacher

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