



## Newsletter

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2016

### *This Week at Yorke Mead*



#### SCIENCE WEEK

Everyone has been immersed in scientific enquiry this week as Yorke Mead has enjoyed a focused science week. Key Stage 2 were challenged by a Forensic Science investigation workshop whilst Key Stage 1 enjoyed their own science work shop.

Children were also challenged to make the tallest, strongest, widest tree – using only paper – nothing else, no glue, sticky tape or other joining material. Definitely a problem solving week!



#### YEAR 3 EASTER LABYRINTH

Year 3 enjoyed learning all about the Easter story at the annual Baptist Church Easter Labyrinth. This wonderful event brings the Easter story to life and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.



### *Dates for your diary*

#### Events this week

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March : Parent Consultation Evening  
Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March : Parent Consultation Afternoon  
Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March Parent Consultation Afternoon  
Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March Easter crafts in Early Years and KS1 (parents welcome)

#### Up and coming events

--- \*\*\* --- **EASTER WEEKEND** 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> April --- \*\*\* ---  
W/b Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March Drug and Medicine Week  
Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March Rec / Year 1 dental hygiene & hand washing  
Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March Dance Morning (Y1 to Y6)  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April: End of Term 2:15 pm  
--- \*\*\* --- **EASTER BREAK** 4<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> April --- \*\*\* ---

*Try talking to your child about...*

*resilience  
and  
determination*

*The most successful in life have the ability to bounce back when things are difficult. They can struggle with something without giving up, and have a belief and determination that they can succeed. Praising effort supports these 2 values that are part of our DARE TO values.*

## Dance Date!

We are pleased to have a date for our annual dance morning. This year our dance theme will be to Disney tracks and will take place on 31<sup>st</sup> March at 9:15 am. The whole event lasts no longer than one hour at the most – yet every year we have parents who leave part way through having watched their own children. If every parent did this the last year group would have a very small audience. Imagine how the children feel having seen a full hall earlier and when it is their turn a half empty one. It is a simple show, but one that matters to the children, so please only attend if you are able to stay for every year groups performance. This year our dances are inspired by Walt Disney.



# Growth Mindset

Thank you to the parents who attended the Growth Mindset meeting on Wednesday. I am sure you agree that Robin gave a thoroughly entertaining and valuable presentation about this amazing new research. Remember to send the email request for the presentation – I hope you enjoyed it, and that it will help you as parents both at home and in understanding some of our school's approaches. How many of you have started on developing the next genius?

# Cars and Parking

We get many complaints from our neighbours about illegal and inconsiderate parking. Both Mrs Seabrook and I have observed vehicles being illegally parked this week and have had to ask parents to leave the school car park. Given the number of complaints we receive we have therefore decided to keep a log of registration numbers and if parents cannot park with consideration and respect for the law, we will need to pass this onto the community police who will issue tickets.

I am fully aware that parking near school is difficult, and will be meeting soon after Easter with local councillors and representatives from Hertfordshire Travel Team, however spring is upon us and the weather is improving. Now is the time to walk to school and get the benefits of fresh air and exercise at the start of the day – believe me, you will feel better for it, and your children will be in a better place for learning!

## Learning Next Week:

### Nursery- Acorns

**Learning Behaviour-** *To remember to put up your hand when you want to talk.*

**Focus** – *Patterns, animals, stripes, spots. Easter crafts, chocolate nests and egg hunt.*

### Reception- Willow & Lime

**Learning Behaviour-** *To use looking eyes and listening ears*

**Focus** – *Exploring Easter, Data collection in maths*

**Sound of the week** *revisiting ch, th, sh.*

### Year 1 – Elder & Silver Birch

**Learning Behaviour:**

**English** – *Hot seating and diary writing*

**Phonics** – *tch eg watch, ditch*

**Maths** – *place value*

**Topic** – *Henri Rousseau*

**P4C** – *The lonely beast*

### Year 2 – Horse Chestnut

**Learning Behaviour:** *Learning from a partner*

**English** – *Christopher Columbus role play*

**Phonics** – *suffix – ness -ful*

**Maths** – *fractions/ division*

**Topic** – *Christopher Columbus*

**P4C** – *Is curiosity always a good thing?*

### Year 3 – Sycamore & Laurel

**Learning Behaviour:** *Presenting our work with care*

**English** – *Belonging*

**Phonics** – *ey and ei (ay sound)*

**Maths** – *exploring measures*

**Topic** – *Moving machines*

**P4C** – *Science stimulus*

### Year 4 – Pine & Maple

**Learning Behaviour:** *Starting on time*

**English** – *Newspaper articles, introduction*

**Phonics** – *commonly misspelt words*

**Maths** – *written division and multiplication*

**Topic** – *How habitats are managed*

**P4C** – *Picture stimulus flood*

### Year 5 - Rowan

**Learning Behaviour:** *Using your initiative*

**English** – *Continuing debates*

**Phonics** – *ent, ence, ency suffixes*

**Maths** – *decimals*

**Topic** – *Viking Danelaw*

**P4C** – *What is the point of living if you know you are going to die?*

### Year 6 - Oak

**Learning Behaviour:** *Learning from our mistakes*

**English** – *Macbeth*

**Phonics** – *suffix - ough*

**Maths** – *revision of key topics*

**Topic** – *The end of the Tudors*

**P4C** – *Do all our decisions affect our future?*

# School Clubs

There will be no school run clubs next week due to parent consultations, and as the week after that is the last week of term there are no clubs that week.

Clubs will restart after the Easter two week break, when you will have the chance to sign up for the new summer term clubs.

. This week we welcomed Mrs Brett onto our teaching team. Mrs Brett is a teaching assistant working with children across the school. She is highly experienced and we are very pleased to have her joining our team.

# Welcome

# Hair & Uniform

Please can parents remember that school uniform does not include trainers, and that having hair dyed is not appropriate for school. Nail polish is also not allowed for school.

The same rules would apply for any secondary school – it is important that children learn that rules should be respected, and that parents support the school in ensuring these rules are followed

# Looking after the pennies!

School budgets, along with all public sector budgets, are getting tighter and tighter. We do not want to scrimp on the children's education so we are looking for ways to save money. We are starting with a charge for school envelopes as the donation box was not really successful. We therefore request that you ensure you bring any money to school already sealed in an envelope – if you do need an envelope we will be charging 5p for each one.

*Lucille Pollard*

Head teacher

# Parent Consultation

Have you signed up for your child's parent consultation yet? If not please contact the office as soon as possible.

We will be placing samples of the end of Key Stage tests out for parents to see. This will help you to understand the vastly increased expectations that your children are facing this academic year.