



Newsletter

Friday 1st April 2016

This Week at Yorke Mead



CONGRATULATIONS ELENA

Well done to Elena (Y4) who completed a gruelling 2.5km at the Cassiobury Park run last week. A fantastic achievement I am sure you will agree.

STITCH PERFECT

Well done to the Year 6 knitting club who have completed their knitting projects; a fantastic selection of knitted toys and purses. Thank you to Mrs Steere who has worked with the children at lunch times.



DANCE MORNING

Thank you to the many parents who filled the school hall to watch the dance morning. The children performed tremendously - with even the most nervous and those pupils lacking confidence managing to join in with the event. Thank you for staying through for all dances - the whole event took around 30 mins- and we appreciated maintaining a full hall all the way through.



FOREST SCHOOL

Mrs Girling is in the final stages of completing her Forest School training and this week she took her class out for their first session. Dressed for the weather, and rather muddy ground, the children loved their first taste of Forest Schooling with one pupil asking "Can we stay out here all day?" Learning outdoors is fun and also great for children's well-being. Please make the most of the start of the good weather over the next two weeks and encourage your children to spend time outdoors.



Dates for your diary

Up and coming events

--- *** --- EASTER BREAK 4th – 15th April --- ***

Have a lovely two week break everyone!

Monday 18th April - Return after Easter break
w/b 18th April - Level 2 cycle training Year 5
Wednesday 20th April - Y4/Y5 swimming lesson (weekly)
Thursday 21st April - Tennis Taster sessions Y2 and Y3
Monday 25th April - Perform Dance workshops
Tuesday 26th April - Y4/Y5 Secondary school transfer meeting
Thursday 28th April - Tennis Taster sessions Rec and Y1
Key Steps gymnastics competition
FOYM Meeting 8pm
Monday 2nd May - Bank Holiday Monday
w/b 3rd May - Level 1 cycle training Year 4
Tuesday 3rd May - Y5 Play leader training
Friday 6th May - Yr4 to River Chess

Try talking to your child
about...

Keeping
emotionally
well

It is widely recognised that playing outdoors is an important part of being healthy – but fresh air and playing outdoors is now also recognised as being a key factor in helping people stay emotionally well. Please support your children by getting them out and about this holiday and talk to them about the importance of limiting 'screen time'.

Y4 Class Re-organisation

As the children currently in Year 4 enter Year 5 the classes will be re-organised and mixed together. This will enable us to ensure groups are balanced and will support the children in the process of widening friendships as they enter Upper Key Stage 2, the final stage of education before the children are split for secondary school. I appreciate this is not always a popular decision with parents but I genuinely believe that splitting the groups supports the children in the transition for secondary school. It is an option we did not have as a one form entry school, and is I feel one of the benefits of being two forms of entry.

This week the children have been able to have their own say about who they feel they are friends with and are also able to work well with in school. If any parents have strong feelings about their own children and relationships they are welcome to put this information in a letter to me. Please ensure any letters are with me by the end of the first week back after Easter (Friday April 22nd). Thank you.

Video Games and Online Safety

We have recently had to speak to a number of parents as their children have told us they are playing games on the PlayStation, X-Box etc. that have a 16 or even 18 ratings. These game ratings, like in movies, are because the content of these games are not suitable for children. They are often violent, sexual or may contain offensive language. In addition some children are connecting to strangers online to play with them – these are often adults who they do not know. Sometimes these games were not being played at home, but were being played at a friend's house without their parents' knowledge.

Similar dangers can arise from allowing your children to access their own YouTube accounts and other social media. I have been made aware recently by a parent who is monitoring their own child's account that they discovered attempts made by strangers to make connections with their child.

I cannot reiterate enough that it is important that parents know what their children are accessing online and that parents remember the age ratings are there for a very good reason.

School Clubs

Please remember that after Easter we will be re-enrolling for our school clubs. There will be a new club letter and with the onset of the summer term (and hopefully better weather), a new selection of clubs for the children.

Children's University

Remember that Yorke Mead clubs all count towards the Children's University hours. Have you remembered to log all of the hours your child has done? The graduation date will soon be here!



4 pint milk cartons

Miss Winter would like as many 4 pint milk cartons that you can provide to enable her to recreate her wonderful igloo! As the igloo will be a feature of Year 2 for a number of weeks please ensure the milk cartons are all well washed out – the smell of stale milk is really not very pleasant. Please ask your children to take any milk cartons you can provide to Year 2. Thank you



Lucille Pollard
Head teacher