

Yorke Mead School Newsletter



Friday 22nd March 2024

This week at Yorke Mead!

Bhaktivedanta Manor *what an experience!*



Dates for the diary

This week	This Month	Next Month
25 th Mar - Rec Height/Weight checks 27 th Mar - Y6 trip Hampton Court Rec Height/Weight checks 28 th Mar - Dance Morning - see <i>section below for times.</i> 28 th Mar - School finishes at 1.45pm		Easter Break 16 th April - Children return to school.

Learning Next Week

Nursery – Acorns Focus- 'Focus-Ready, Steady, Grow. Story- The Teeny Tiny Tadpole. Learning about the life cycle of a frog and completing craft activities to support this. Easter craft. The Easter Story. Easter cooking. Finalising our dance routine ready for dance morning.			Reception – Lime & Willow Focus: "Ready steady grow' topic. Planting out our potatoes. Looking at the work of artists Lucy Arnold and Georgia O' Keefe. Making own artwork based on their work. Learning about Easter. Making Easter nests and having an Easter hunt. Maths: Combing two parts to make a whole and recording in a 'cherry model'. Phonics: reading and writing CVCC words e.g., lost, went		
Year 1 – Elder & Silver Birch English: writing sentences to tell a story. Phonics & spelling: revision of graphemes this half term / spelling test. Maths: sharing into equal groups Wider Curriculum: What is the Easter story and why is it important for Christians? What are the similarities and differences between India and the UK? P4C/Growth Mindset: What keeps you healthy and why does this make you happy?		Year 2 – Cedar & Horse Chestnut English: The Magic Finger - writing the end of our own version of the story using time adverbials and adjectives. Phonics & spelling: Prickly spellings and homophones Maths: Finding halves, quarters and thirds. Science: Create our own creature for a habitat with it's own features and choice of diet. Wider Curriculum: making fruit kebabs and evaluating. What worked well with my fruit kebab and what do I need to improve?		Year 3 – Laurel & Sycamore English: The Bear and the Piano - writing a diary. Phonics & spelling: End of Half Term Spelling Test Maths: Formal Multiplication method Science: Wider Curriculum: Life in the Bronze Age, Life in the Iron Age, Sending emails with attachments. P4C/Growth Mindset: How can I take care of my body?	
Year 4 – Maple & Pine English: Writing our own travel brochure. Phonics & spelling: End of half term spelling test. Maths: Fractions of amounts Wider Curriculum: What key features of settlements are common in the capital cities? How can we create a light up landmark?		Year 5 – Ash & Rowan English: Identifying and Using Parenthesis Phonics & spelling: Test week Maths: calculating percentages of amounts Science: Using a classification tree to sort materials Wider Curriculum: Viking Law and The Anglo Saxons. Finishing and evaluating our moving toys P4C/Growth Mindset: Nutrition		Year 6 – Red Oak and White Oak English: Alma- writing suspense Phonics & spelling: Half-termly test. Maths: ratio and proportion Wider Curriculum: History: Visit to Hampton Court	

Dance Morning

To ensure all classes have an audience we ask that parents stay for the whole session; please if you cannot stay, do not come as it is disheartening for children to dance to empty seats. Each dance lasts just a few minutes and we split the classes into two sessions so that each session lasts no longer than around 30 minutes.

Session One: 9:15am Nursery, Willow, Silver Birch, Cedar, Sycamore, Maple, Ash, Red Oak

Session Two 10:00am Lime, Elder, Horse Chestnut, Laurel, Pine, Rowan, White Oak

Unfortunately, there will be some parents with pupils in both sessions, and I can only apologise.

This is a lovely morning; I hope you can come along and enjoy the dances from all year groups.

Please note: to make it easier for parents and to reduce the chances of items being left in school over the Easter break, we have decided that the children should come to school in what they are wearing for the dance that day and stay in their dance clothes for the day.

Sport Consultation Permission

We are trying as much as possible to save paper and printing costs – looking after our pennies and the environment. Mr Furlong has asked me to remind parents that when permission requests for the competitions are sent out, these are intended to be responded to on the online google form and not printed. Thank you.

Decorate an Egg Competition



It is a Yorke Mead tradition to celebrate the end of the Easter Term with an egg decorating competition. The rules are simple... simply hard boil an egg and then turn it into something creative. All egg entries need to be in school by Tuesday 26th March. These will then go on display for the children to see on Wednesday. Prizes will be announced in the school assembly on Thursday. Entries do not have to be extravagant; a boiled egg and some good felt tips/scraps of material works wonders!

Yorke Mead 50th Anniversary



As you may be aware, Yorke Mead turns 50 this May. We thought it would be interesting to invite the Yorke Mead families to mark the event by entering a competition. The competition theme is **'Yorke Mead in Fifty Years Time'**. Pupils could create a storyboard, model, poem or piece of artwork linked to the theme, which imagines how Yorke Mead will look in another 50 years time.

The official anniversary date is 13th May – this is the first day of the Year 6 SATS (something the children didn't have to do 50 years ago) and therefore, we have decided we will celebrate week beginning 20th May. There will be a party and we will be finding ways to mark this very special event. More details will be sent after the Easter break; for now I hope you can use the Easter break to start getting creative!

FOYM – Thank you



It has been a great term and everyone at Yorke Mead wants to thank FOYM for everything they have done to support the school



Golden Boot Winner

Well done to everyone who has walked, scooted or cycled to school over the past two weeks. The winning class and Golden Boot heroes are: White Oak.



Yorke Sport News

History has been made! For the first time in over 10 years Yorke Mead has won the football league. This week, the team's 5-0 win against Ricky Park sealed the top position in the Rickmansworth League. What a result! Our goal scorers were Arthur, Taylor, Charlie, Roman and Reggie!



A huge well done also to the Year 3 Cricket Team who represented the Three Rivers District competing at the Rapid Fire Cricket County finals this week. The team finished joint 2nd in their group, narrowly missing out on the next round by points difference. A fabulous effort – they should be feeling very proud!



Just to let you know...



Schools like many other services and businesses have to try to carry on as normal despite what is happening. Often, we are like swans ... trying to glide along smoothly when underneath our legs are paddling furiously to stay afloat. 2024 has so far been a very difficult year for many staff at Yorke Mead. In the past week alone four staff members have experienced a bereavement of a close family member. In addition, staff have their own medical investigations and procedures or members of their household having these. Then of course there has been the horrible virus that has impacted so many of us. We know that many of our parents will be experiencing the same sad and difficult times too. Why am I telling you this? Simply to say that if a different adult has greeted your child for a few days...if your child's reading record has not been checked... if an expected intervention hasn't happened for your child... please understand

this will be temporary and we hope all will be back to normal after Easter. Thank you for your understanding and being kind.

Parking outside of school

I know that we are all in a rush and we are all busy people. However, no matter how rushed we are the safety of your children and the rights of pedestrians to be safe on pavements must come first. Yesterday, I was called outside due to the abusive nature of a conversation between adults ... simply because they place the right to park right outside of school over the safety of the community, I found myself again apologising for the behaviour and upset caused by a parent at our school. Whilst doing this, I watched three cars stop in the middle of the road and drop their children in the road. I have no words!



Eco-Minute

Yorke Mead eco councillors want to draw your attention to Earth Hour, which is on Saturday 23rd March. Between 8:30am and 9:30am we are all encouraged to turn off our lights, to show we want the powers that be that we want action to help the environment.

All you need to do is simply participate – turn off your lights – go a little further and turn off the TV too. If we all do this we can make such a difference.

Our planet can be saved if we all work to make simple changes. Our future can be brighter simply by turning off the light!

Letters sent out this week.

Dance morning letters

Lucille Pollard

Head teacher