



Yorke Mead School Newsletter



Friday 10th July 2020

This week at and away from Yorke Mead!

Our Amazing Allotment!

It may not have been the year we expected, but the allotment has continued to be part of the school learning environment. During the first part of lockdown when school was only open for a few key worker children, it gave the children and staff all a much needed, positive, creative outlet. Children enjoyed planting seeds, weeding, watering, making recycled bunting and even scarecrows.

As the weeks have gone on the seeds have grown, been planted and thrived in the allotment. We even grew so many pumpkins we were able to exchange them with other people for different plants to grow in the allotment. Thank you also, to the many parents and staff members have donated plants and seeds, piping for tunnels - we are so grateful!

Children in school now are really enjoying their allotment sessions, so much to see and do; from finding minibeasts, to measuring corn, harvesting onions, garlic and peas to sitting under the bean tee-pee. We watch the pumpkins grow and wonder what really happened to the broccoli! Over the next couple of weeks, the plants will still grow and be looked after by all the other children returning to school. We are looking forward to sharing this with them.

The allotment has shown us all, that no matter what, things still grow, and we can still enjoy being together.

We have lots of plans for the allotment going forward, including a plant exchange next year and making a recycled bottle greenhouse, so if you want to get involved, please email admin and get in touch.



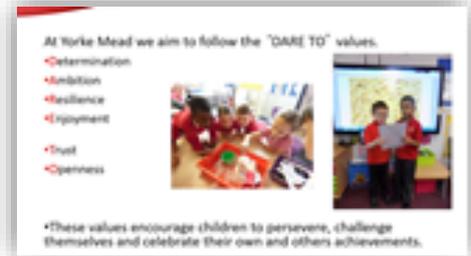
Letters sent out this week

- ❖ Home learning packs
- ❖ Year 6 leavers events
- ❖ Last 3 days – welcoming more children
- ❖ Welcome videos to support transition

Transition to Key Stage 1

Mrs Bates has put together this short film to support the parents of the Reception children who are about to transition into Key Stage One. The link to the powerpoint is: <https://youtu.be/kVUPgn6jZDg>

For other year groups each teacher has made a transition video message that will be sent to the relevant year groups.



More Internet Safety



Having written to everyone last week, this week we have dealt with more incidents of behaviour online that puts your children at risk. We cannot change time and take back the access to technology that children have; it is therefore essential that we help our children learn how to manage the technology safely. I strongly urge you to keep regular checks on your children's phones and ensure they are not either sending or receiving messages that could impact negatively on others or themselves. A second reminder about the 'Think you know' website, which is a great place for getting support to help you in this strand of your

work. Please follow the attached link. <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

Black Lives Matter

Recently I included in my newsletter a link to <https://yooopies.co.uk/c/press-releases/blacklivesmatter> which helped parents to explain the reasons behind this group and the important message they are trying to convey. As a school we are very aware of ensuring our curriculum reflects all communities in our school – we already include many things but know we can do even more, and are currently reviewing and reflecting on this. Moving forward we hope to have the support of a group of parents who can help us improve even further. We will write to you in September about this.

Included with this newsletter is a further resource that will support any discussions you may have with your children now and in the future.

What a team!

We are immensely proud of our Girls Football team, who after successfully being nominated for 'Team of the Year' took second place in this event. A great achievement and the girls should feel so proud of themselves. Well done girls!

KEY STAGE 2 TEAM OF THE YEAR

 **2nd Place**

Girl's Football Team

Yorke Mead Primary School

It has been a fantastic season for the girl's team this year as they won a very competitive family league without losing and not conceding a goal.

Contacting School

Please could we remind parents to contact the school office on the admin@yorkemead.herts.sch.uk email address, and not to use the reply function on school comms. Although these emails come through they do not automatically alert us and could easily be missed.

If your child is ill it is now imperative that we know the reason for illness. Schools currently are reporting directly to the DfE how many children are ill, whether the illness is coronavirus symptom related. If you contact us we would greatly appreciate being told the reason for absence to ease this process.

Lucille Pollard

Head teacher