



It feels like a very speedy half term has come to an end before we return on 1st November. Whilst we are still battling with the impact of positive COVID cases, the significant change in government guidance has resulted in no isolation and therefore more pupils in school and less lost learning. Thank you to those who participated in our Poverty proofing Audit. We have not had any written feedback yet but the verbal feedback is highly positive. The Poverty Proofing team were very impressed with our pupils and enjoyed spending time with us in school. Thank you for sending your children to school looking so smart in full school uniform and with all the necessary equipment they need. I am pleased that this term we have already taken pupils out of school for educational experiences. Our Year 4 pupils attended High Borran, Year 5 and 6 attended an event at the Theatre Royal in Newcastle and our Year 1 pupils visited St Aidan's Church on Lynn Road. We have also had a number of sporting events including football and rugby. We have been pleased to welcome visitors into school for assemblies and lessons in music, basketball and rugby. All staff agree that it is good to be back and great to be able to take advantage of all the wider educational opportunities that have been missing for so long. Please ensure that you look at the diary dates as the Christmas events are in the diary now.

Mrs Shaw

Attendance

Our current whole school attendance is 92.3 which is below our target of 96.5%.

W/C	Whole School	Winning Class	% (of winning class)
11.10.21	93	12NS	94.6
4.10.21	92	7RB	97.8
27.9.21	89.8	5LM	96.7
20.9.21	89.5	10CD	98.9



Reminders

Parent Consultation Meetings.

Please note the dates for Autumn term consultations (9.11 KS1 and 11.11 KS2). Parents will be allocated a 10 minute slot to discuss the progress and development of their child. These meetings will take place in the school halls. Copies of pupil proud work will be sent to parents via SeeSaw - please watch out for this.

Attendance and Punctuality

Parents and carers have recently received a letter from school about the importance of pupil attendance and being on time for the start of the school day. There are some interesting statistics about the impact of absence on a child's education. The adverse impact of absence and being late for school is significant. Please read the correspondence that was sent out this week and contact school if you require any support in getting your child into school and/or getting your child into school on time each day.

Poetry Day

In Reception we learnt and performed a poem by James Carter called Funny Faces - we hope you all enjoyed watching us!

In Year 1, we learnt to retell a rhyming poem, using actions to help us remember it. We then made our own rhyming strings.

In Year 2, we used our reciprocal reading skills to analyse a poem called Snowball. We predicted what we thought the poem might be about, clarified any words that we weren't sure about and asked some fantastic questions!

Year 3 wrote some lovely free verse poems all about Autumn. We wrote three verses about seasonal changes, Autumn activities and Harvest. There was lots of lovely descriptive language used to describe things you find in Autumn.

In Year 4, we looked at our Harvest poem 'Harvest Moon'. In the poem, it talks about the food that may lay upon the table. We shared ideas about what we might eat at a family meal and we discussed the laughter and stories we might share together. Then we wrote our own verses.

In Year 5, we read a poem by Kwame Alexander (after seeing him perform at The Children's Book Show) called 'The Undeclared' which links in with our topic of Africa and inspirational people. Children performed the poem as a class, thinking about the meaning behind the words.

In Year 6, we read a poem by Joseph Coelho and Daniel Gray Bennett called 'Say How You Feel'. We discussed what happens to our body when we feel different emotions, and how we could write these using metaphorical language. Then we wrote our own verses using different feelings.

Year 5/6 Rugby Festival

On Tuesday 12th October, 35 year 5 and 6s attended a tag rugby festival at Percy Park Rugby Club. We had 5 teams, which all represented New York extremely well, showing determination and resilience.



Year 3 Rugby

This half term we have been lucky enough to have PE lessons with specialised rugby coaches. We have learnt the rules needed to play the game and demonstrated how we can work as a team.



Primary Science Quality Mark

In September, New York Primary School was awarded the highest level of Primary Science Quality Mark - the Outreach award. This award shows the fantastic science and STEM work that goes on at New York and the brilliant work of the scientists we have in school - from Nursery to Year 6!



STEM HUB

You will have seen the progress of the building of our new outdoor STEM Hub. We hope to have flooring down by the end of the week with walls up after we return at half term. We are all looking forward to a completed structure that we can start to use to extend our science and engineering learning.

Assemblies

Our lovely friend Claire came to visit us to host an assembly for KS1 pupils. She did her usual amazing magic tricks and told us a bible story of a miracle and the power of positive thinking. We look forward to welcoming her back soon.

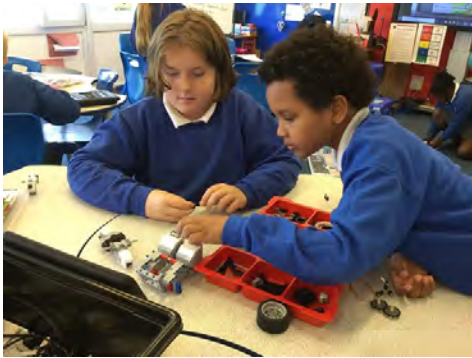
We continue to enjoy our weekly assemblies where we celebrate our PROUD words and show how we are able to apply them in our days. So far this half term we have focused upon cooperation, self awareness, teamwork, positivity, empathy, resilience and respect.

Apparatus on KS2 yard.

At the end of the day when collecting KS2 pupils from the yard a number of parents are allowing younger children to play on the KS2 apparatus and gym equipment. These items are designed for KS2 age pupils only and are not suitable for younger children. We do not have enough school staff to supervise this apparatus at the end of the day. I must ask that parents supervise their younger children when on the KS2 yard and do not allow them to access the older pupil apparatus as this is a Health and Safety risk. Younger pupils may play on the main yard and can access the tyres at the bottom end of the KS2 playground.

Lego League

After some outstanding applications, Miss Drake and Mrs Prince have now selected the team that will participate in this year's Lego League tournament in January! The children chosen have already shown excellent commitment and teamwork - working hard over their lunchtimes to prepare our Lego models and robot!



School Council Elections

The school council elections took place on the 6th of October. There were some wonderful speeches which mentioned the schools core values, British values and our proud words. It was so nice to hear pupils from all year groups using our key vocabulary! The pupils elected from each year group were:

Year 1

Elected- Theo and Evelyn

Year 2

Elected- Alice and Albert

Year 3

Elected- Elle and Erdzhan

Year 4

Elected- Lailah and Blake

Year 5

Elected- Peyton and George R

Year 6

Elected- Bethany and Oscar



Roald Dahl Day

In Reception we talked about the role of an author and looked at all the books Roald Dahl has written. We looked at Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, this made us think about which sweet treats are our favourite.

Year 1 listened to the story of The Enormous Crocodile. We then labelled the crocodile with adjectives to describe him. We thought the crocodile was mean, nasty, bad and greedy!

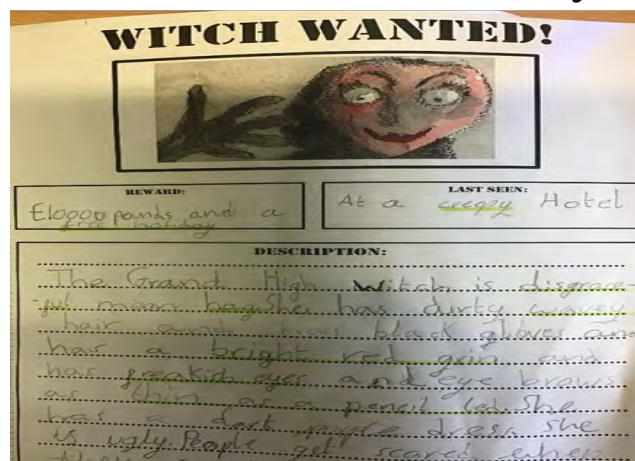
Year 2 were excited to learn about Roald Dahl ahead of our topic in Spring! We learned facts about his exciting life and wrote statements about him in our books.

Year 3, read part of Esio Trot and Alfie helped us to estimate where numbers were on a numberline.

Year 4 looked at character descriptions. We read a part of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and created our own character based on Roald Dahl's style. We then wrote sentences and used similes to describe our characters' habits, behaviour and appearance.

Year 5 created a character description of the Grand High Witch. We described her physical appearance to create a wanted poster and even added a reward for her capture. We used lots of descriptive adjectives.

Year 6 read part of Fantastic Mr Fox. We linked this to our English learning by writing a balanced argument on whether fox hunting should be illegal. The children demonstrated excellent empathy and awareness on the subject.



Year 1 visit to the St Aidans church

On Tuesday 12th October Year 1 visited the local Church - St Aidans. We have been learning about the Christian faith in RE and wanted to explore the inside of a Church. We looked for pews, an altar, a pulpit, a bible and a candle. We met the Vicar and listened to a story from the Bible. We designed our own stained glass window, based on the story we listened to.



Online Safety

At New York, we have started this academic year with a real focus on how to stay safe online. All children in KS1 and KS2 are currently completing a series of lessons on different areas of Online Safety and we are really emphasising the importance of our SMART rules, which we expect all children to know and to follow. We are also currently updating our website with useful information and resources regarding Online Safety and how parents can support their children at home. We will inform all parents when this part of our website is complete and will continue to post relevant information via our Twitter page.

Harvest Festival

Thanks to you to all who were able to kindly donate items of food for our Harvest trollies! Even though we were not able to invite you in to celebrate Harvest with us you still supported with items of food for us to gather and donate to our chosen charity, The People's Kitchen in Newcastle. This charity has been supporting homeless and vulnerable people in Newcastle for over 3 decades and they are always very grateful for the New York donations.

We hope you enjoyed the videos of our performances.



Halloween crafts

On Thursday 21st October, classes participated in a Halloween craft afternoon. We created a variety of different crafts including paper crafts and spooky hats! Pupils enjoyed a Halloween cake and juice and had lots of fun within their classes.



Littleton League

Well done to members of the New York Primary School football team who played their first fixtures of the season in the Littleton League. We were beaten by Christ Church in our first game, lost 2-1 in a close encounter against Spring Gardens and then beat Preston Grange 1-0. It was fantastic to see such resilience and enthusiasm throughout all three fixtures.



Year 5 and 6 Trip to Theatre Royal

On 24th September, Year 5 and 6 visited the Theatre Royal as part of The Children's Book Show. Kwame Alexander, an award winning poet (and whose poetry we have studied in school), was the presenter who talked to us about his childhood and what inspired him to become a writer. The children were enthralled by his stories and Mrs Marshall ended up winning the teacher competition! At school, children enjoyed performing their own version of his poem, 'The Undefeated' and brought back their own book to take home.

Dates for your Diary

Dates for diary

Friday 22nd October - Break up for Half term

Monday 1st November - Children return to school

Monday 1st November - Year 5 swimming starts

Thursday 4th November - Year 5 Trail and Challenge

Tuesday 9th November - Year 3 Miss Burn trip to George Stephenson Museum

Wednesday 10th November - Year 3 Miss Ransome trip to George Stephenson Museum

Parent Consultations - KS1 9th November, KS2 11th November

Christmas Dates:

Thursday 2nd December - Christingle KS1 and KS2 (morning) and Diorama Competition

Friday 3rd December Christmas Fair - children event only afternoon

Monday 6th December KS1 Christmas Performance afternoon and evening performances

Tuesday 7th December EYFS Christmas Performance morning

Wednesday 8th December Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 9th December KS2 Christmas Performance afternoon and evening performances

Wednesday 15th December Carols on the Yard 9.00am

Monday 13th December EYFS party (pm)

Tuesday 14th December Year 3 and Year 4 party (pm)

Wednesday 15th December Year 1 and Year 2 party (pm)

Thursday 16th December Year 5 and Year 6 party (pm)