



## Introduction

It has been another busy week in school with two really great experience days taking place. The Year 1 children enjoyed their History of Toys Day in which they had a wonderful zoom call from the Tyne and Wear museum all about old and new toys, created their own 'old' toy (a thaumatrope) and designed a brand new futuristic toy! They also enjoyed watching the videos that some very kind grandparents had filmed.

To start the week, the Year 4 children had a visit from a Viking from the Jorvik centre who delivered a Viking saga and they then continued their week with a fun filled Viking day. This involved writing their names in Elder Futhark and creating their own Viking name, a rune hunt, eating toasted bread with butter and honey and working as a team to build a Viking longboat out of recyclable materials.

Next week, we open up our Hempland Art Gallery which the children and staff are very much looking forward to. If you are unable to attend, presentations will be uploaded to Tapestry for Early Years and Year 1 and Google Classroom for Years 2 to 6 for you to enjoy.

As ever, have a lovely weekend  
Mrs Innes



## What have we been working on this week?

Our staff training this week has been about teaching and learning of spelling. We talked about how phonics is the first step to spelling and also how morphology (the study of words and their parts) and etymology (the study of the origins of words) helps children to understand how words are spelt. Also, we discussed different teaching methods and strategies for helping children to remember how to spell increasingly difficult words and will be putting this into practice in our classrooms.

## Local Governing Committee Update

We are delighted to welcome David Taylor to the LGC. David brings with him valuable experience, having been a governor at Archbishop Holgate's School for the past two years. Mat Watt has decided to stand down and we thank him for his hard work and commitment during his time on the LGC.

We held our first LGC meeting of 2022 this week. Mr Stevens presented on Little Wandle, the new phonics scheme the school has invested in. This will ensure fidelity to a single scheme, as recommended by Ofsted. Mr Stevens also presented the plans for Early Years. There are detailed actions in place to ensure quality first teaching.

You might have already seen some of the investments which have been made in outdoor equipment in Early Years, including a new mud kitchen, stage area and water play. There is more to come externally, as well as enhancements to the indoor area of provision.

We are planning that at least one member of the LGC will be available at the upcoming parents' evenings in March and we look forward to speaking with many of you then.



## Times Tables Rockstars

As mentioned on last week’s newsletter, all children in Years 3 to 6 have now set up their Times Tables Rockstars accounts and have their own login so they can use at home if you would like. Please find attached a letter from Miss Bevin detailing more information.



## Parking on Whitby Avenue

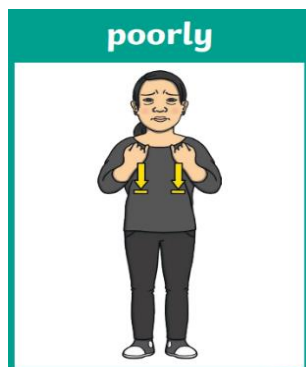
There have been a number of concerns raised by parents recently about the parking on Whitby Avenue at school drop off and pick up times. Please can parents and carers be considerate when dropping off and collecting children. If you wish to report any misuse of parking outside of school and encourage safer parking and driving for our children please ring the parking hotline 0800 1381119. We have also contacted the school travel department at City of York Council for further information and advice.

## E-safety tip of the week

Concerns over the impact of social media on mental wellbeing have often been raised in connection with the substantial growth in mental health problems among the young. In the same context, however, social media can also be a force for good: it enables children to – privately and discretely – check in with friends who they believe are experiencing a bad time.

In support of Children’s Mental Health Week, National Online Safety have produced a special #WakeUpWednesday poster that can be printed and displayed in classrooms. It’s designed to remind young people that their friends might not always be OK – and when that happens, simply reaching out and being there for them can be a wonderfully reassuring act.

## Deaf Awareness



## ‘Be Amazing Arts’ Opportunity

Are looking for a cast made up of dancers, singers and actors based across to Yorkshire to join us on this exciting adventure. If you are aged 7 years or over and love to dance, sing or act this could be for you!

Auditions will take place at Huntington School YO32 9WT Sunday 13th March 2022 2.30pm - 6.00pm with registration from 2.15pm

The performances will take place on 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> June at Joseph Rowntree Theatre, York.

Register to audition at <http://beamazingarts.co.uk/cats-by-be-amazing-youth-theatre/>





## Dates for the week ahead

### Hempland Art Gallery Week

	1.15-2.00	2.15-3.00
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	Early Years	Year 3
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 1	Year 4
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 2	Year 5
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 6	

The children are really looking forward to showing off their art work with you next week and telling you a little about the artists they have been studying.

All year groups will also be putting together a presentation of their art work and these will be shared on Tapestry for Early Years and Year 1 and Google Classroom for Years 2 to 6.

Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>Year 2 Shackleton Day</b>
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>Year 3 Robot Day</b>  <b>Year 4 (Miss Bebbington's class) Football Tournament</b>  <b>'Team Tigers' non uniform day</b>



## Future diary dates

We will be sending home next week an overview of all the diary dates we have planned in so far for Spring 2. Further dates will be added as the half term progresses and visits and visitors can be confirmed.