



The Huntington Buzz



Issue 41 - 13th February 2026

Bringing the Curriculum to Life: Enrichment and Personal Development

We've had a fantastic term of trips and visitors, all part of our commitment to "learning beyond the classroom." These experiences are so important—not just for the fun involved, but for building our pupils' "cultural capital" and helping them see how their lessons connect to the real world.

All our children had a unique look at how our local area is run thanks to visits from the Lord Mayor and our local MP.



Year 2 welcomed Dr. West and her colleague, Caroline, who shared fascinating personal stories about growing up in Kenya.

Our classrooms were transformed for the Early Years Pirate Day and Year 6 Egyptian Day. These immersive days are always a hit and really help the children "live" the topics they are studying.



In Year 1, the children had a brilliant time exploring nature and seeing the animals at Askham Bryan Wildlife Park.



Issue 41 - 13th February 2026



DATES FOR THE DIARY

HALF TERM - Monday 16th February to 20th February

Thursday 26th February - Year 2 Lotherton Hall

Friday 27th February - E-Safety Day

Wednesday 4th March - 2.30pm - SEND Drop In

Thursday 5th March - EYFS Healthy Child Screening

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day

Friday 6th March - Class Photos

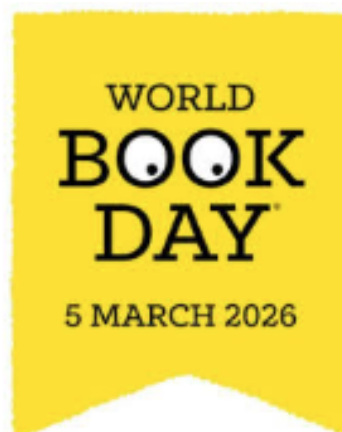
Tuesday 10th March - Year 5 Pantomime - HSS

Thursday 12th March - Parents' Evening

Monday 16th March - KS1 - Dentist Visit

Tuesday 17th March - Parents' Evening

EASTER HOLIDAY - Monday 30th March - Monday 13th April



Children's Mental Health Week

This week, school has been buzzing with energy as we celebrated Children's Mental Health Week. Through a variety of engaging activities, our children explored the theme "This is My Place," focusing on the vital sense of belonging that helps every child thrive.



The highlight was our non-uniform day, where the school was transformed into a vibrant tapestry of identities. From proud displays of cultural heritage and sports kits to youth organisation uniforms and favorite personal outfits, it was wonderful to see such a diverse range of expressions. These outfits did more than just look great; they sparked meaningful conversations about what makes each of us unique and how we all fit together within our school community.



ECO NEWS

Our Eco Warriors have now completed two projects with York University Sustainability Clinic. The students helped to devise legacy plans for irrigation and composting projects to ensure our raised beds will continue to enable every pupil in school to grow their own vegetables.

Mr Good has built a wonderful compost area out of reclaimed pallets to start us off and all pupils have begun the routine of breaktime organic waste collection. We will have amazing compost to feed and nourish the raised beds in no time!



The Gardening Club has hit the ground running this term, launching earlier than ever as we pursue our RHS School Gardening Level 3 and 4 Awards. Undeterred by the recent inclement weather, our pupils have been busy mastering their horticultural techniques. Highlights include creating vibrant 'bulb lasagne' planters, propagating spider and snake plants, and practicing sustainable cultivation by growing pea shoot salads in recycled containers.

Keep collecting used postage stamps - we send these to the British Hedgehog Preservation Society. Please give used postage stamps to your class Eco Warrior who can take them to Mrs Jackson (Y1).

Please keep sending in clean plastic lids to school. Thank you so much to everyone for the effort! If you would like to know more about the company here is the link <https://mygroupltd.com/schoolcycled/>

Remember we are also a collecting hub for York City's Changing Room Project for children's unwanted sports kit. The pre-loved kit which will be sorted and shared by the foundation with local children who would like to take part in sport, but do not have the appropriate kit. If you are having a sort out of any sports kit on the list please place them in the blue bin located in the front porch of school. We also have the other clothes bank recycling point at the school gates.

Remember you can recycle your own soft plastic waste and used batteries at most supermarkets.

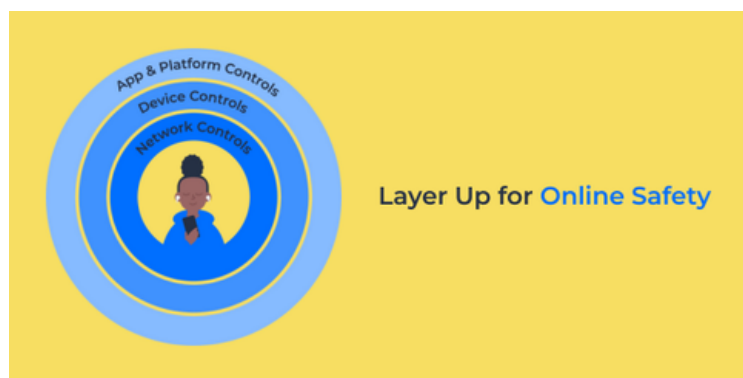
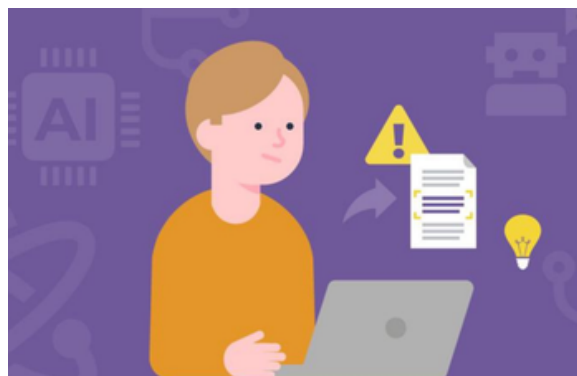




E-Safety

With artificial intelligence now part of everyday life, many of us are asking or being asked, new questions about how these tools work and how children are using them.

Ahead of E-Safety Day (27th February), we're sharing helpful resources from online safety experts Internet Matters. These include clear guides on understanding AI, its benefits and risks, and practical tips for talking to children about using it safely.



We're also highlighting the new 'Layer Up' campaign, which focuses on making the most of parental controls to give children extra protection online. Using multiple layers of safety settings – on broadband, mobile phones, apps and platforms – helps create a safer digital environment both at home and when children are out and about.

Click here to access the [Internet Matters Parental Controls Hub](#) which will give you advice on how to 'layer up' and help to keep children safe online.

Clicking here will guide you to [AI conversation guides](#) with lots of helpful ways to stay safe while using AI.

PE KIT REMINDER

On PE days, children should come to school dressed in their full kit to ensure they are ready for activity. The expected uniform consists of a white t-shirt (please note that football shirts are not permitted) paired with black shorts, or plain black jogging bottoms or leggings during the colder winter months. For footwear, students require either plimsolls or trainers suitable for outdoor use. To stay warm, children should wear a red school sweatshirt or cardigan; while the school logo is optional and small brand logos or initials are acceptable, we kindly ask that tops featuring sponsorships or large advertisements across the back and arms are avoided.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are looking to grow our wonderful team of volunteer readers and would love for you to get involved. Whether you are a parent, grandparent, or a member of the local community, your time can make a massive difference in a child's reading journey. We are looking for volunteers who can commit to a minimum of 30 minutes a week; while we require a current DBS check, we offer full flexibility on days to suit your schedule. If you are new to this, don't worry - we provide all the necessary tips and guidance to help you confidently support the children. If you're interested in inspiring a love of books, or know someone who might be, please reach out to the school office at office@hpa.pmat.academy.



Community News and Events



Raise York

Your Family Hub Network

Families Newsletter

Raise York is a City of York Council initiative operating as a Family Hub network, providing comprehensive support for families, children, and young people from pregnancy through to age 19 (or 25 for those with special needs). It connects families with local services, including education, health, and childcare advice, through a network of people, locations, and an [online platform](#).

[Click here for their latest Newsletter](#) and links to events in York.

York Kids' Art Open Studios

YorKAOS

KIDS' ART EXHIBITION

Are you 5 to 11 years old?
Do you like creating art?

Join YorKAOS!

Tues 17th - Sat 21st February @ SPARK*

Workshops running daily

1. Create one amazing drawing, painting, collage, computer art, photo or video!
2. Take your art to an explore library at York Centre, Acomb, Clifton, Tang Hall, Dringhouses or Haxby & Wigginton from Saturday 17th January
3. Bring your friends and family to see your amazing art at SPARK*

www.yorkaos.art

Fundraising for



ORGANISED BY KIDS FOR KIDS!



POLICE COMMUNITY DROP IN

@
THE FOLK HALL, NEW EARSWICK
FRIDAY 27TH MARCH 2026
10AM – 11AM



MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD
POLICING TEAM AND OFFERING
BIKE REGISTER



POLICE COMMUNITY DROP IN

@
VANGARDE SHOPPING PARK
SATURDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2026
11AM – 12 NOON



MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD
POLICING TEAM AND OFFERING
BIKE REGISTER





Digital Friendly York

New Earswick Coder Dojo



Join us at New Earswick Folk Hall, for a fun filled session of coding and tech exploration, **for young people aged 7-17** and their parent/guardian. Whether you're a beginner or a coding pro, this event is perfect for anyone interested in technology. Come learn new skills, work on projects and meet fellow tech enthusiasts. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to expand your coding knowledge and have a great time doing it. See you there!

Date:

Time:

The second Monday of the month
From 16.00 to 17.30

Venue:

The Folk Hall, Hawthorn Terrace, New Earswick, York, YO32 4AQ
Discovery Room



Use the QR code to book your ticket via Eventbrite



Notices

EARLY YEARS RESOURCES

We are also looking to refresh our classroom resources in Early Years! If you have any outgrown or unused items at home, we would gratefully welcome donations of K'nex, Mobilo, magnetic tiles, or toy car garages and ramps. Your contributions help keep our play-based learning exciting and engaging for the children.



DOES YOUR CHILD WANT TO PLAY MUSIC IN THEIR OWN BAND?



With Rocksteady, children learn to play an instrument through fun and inclusive weekly in-school rock and pop band lessons.

It's the perfect way to learn new musical skills, make friends and have a great time - all at school! There's no musical experience necessary and instruments for lessons are provided.

Rocksteady lessons are also shown to boost confidence, improve wellbeing and encourage teamwork!



Scan QR code to find out more!

98%
OF PARENTS SAY THEIR CHILD LOVES OR ENJOYS ROCKSTEADY BAND LESSONS

94%
OF PARENTS SAY ROCKSTEADY IMPROVES THEIR CHILD'S CONFIDENCE

0330 113 0330 (Mon-Thurs 8am-8pm, Fri 8am-6pm, local rate) rocksteadymusicschool.com

SEND Drop In

Wednesday 4th March
2:30pm-3pm

Come and meet our SENDCo and School Wellbeing Worker.



tea, coffee and biscuits



Learn Trumpet with Andy Hillier!



Lessons by visiting specialist Andy Hillier

All brass lessons take place in school time and are offered on an individual basis:

- 15-minute lesson - £26.25 per month (£305 per term)
- 30-minute lesson - £52.50 per month (£210 per term)

Free places available for families on low income - eligibility info provided during registration

Sign up now:

To sign up for lessons, please follow this link:
<https://uk.yorkmusic.speedadmindk/play/catalogue/courses/locationid=-1010>
If you have any questions about the lessons, fees or sign-up process, please contact support@yorkmusic.ed.uk



£956.80 of £1,352.00 target

46 tickets of 65 ticket goal

Next draw prizes

£25,000 jackpot

£7.50 guaranteed prize (this will go up as tickets are sold)

Next draw

1d 8h 36m

Sat 14 February 2026

Visit www.yourschoollottery.co.uk to purchase tickets!



Attendance - Every Day Counts

At Huntington Primary Academy, we are committed to providing a welcoming environment where every child feels they belong. We know that when attendance is high, a child's school experience is significantly more positive. Regular attendance allows students to build firm friendships, maintain familiar routines, and access the full curriculum. Simply put: happy children learn well and achieve success.

To celebrate excellent attendance, we award the class with the highest attendance each week with a small trophy to display proudly in their classroom!

	w/c 9th Jan	w/c 16th Jan	w/c 23rd Jan	w/c 30th Jan	w/c 6th Feb
Oak - Early Years	96.21%	94.83%	95.52%	93.1%	96.93%
Willow - Early Years	94.07%	98.89%	97.78%	97.04%	97.1%
Hazel - Year 1	99.33%	97.67%	93.67%	97%	95.33%
Rowan - Year 2	100%	98.52%	99.26%	97.04%	96.67%
Elm - Year 2	94.62%	96.15%	96.69%	97.67%	98.44%
Chestnut - Year 3/4	96.88%	93.44%	92.14%	97.5%	94.41%
Hawthorn - Year 3/4	98.71%	98.71%	97.42%	92.26%	94.19%
Yew - Year 3/4	98.95%	90.91%	94.14%	97.59%	98.26%
Beech - Year 5	93.08%	96.51%	98.46%	99.22%	94.69%
Birch - Year 5	98%	97.18%	97.6%	98.8%	99.22%
Aspen - Year 6	93.71%	95.31%	95.54%	92.5%	98.61%
Holly - Year 6	96.76%	97.09%	93.11%	93.87%	91.32%

For our Year 6 students, this year is a vital stepping stone. Every single day in the classroom counts as they prepare for the transition to secondary school.

- SATs Preparation: Consistent attendance ensures students do not miss the incremental building blocks of learning required for their SATs. Missing even a few days can create gaps in knowledge that are difficult to bridge during this fast-paced year.
- Social & Emotional Growth: Year 6 is a unique time for building lifelong memories. Being present for social times, team-building, and end-of-year traditions is essential for their emotional well-being and confidence.
- Building Resilience: Maintaining a strong routine now helps establish the independence and "can-do" attitude they will need for the increased demands of secondary education.

We are here to support you. If you have concerns or feel your child needs additional support with their attendance, please contact our attendance team: Mrs. Good, Mrs. Holton, or Mrs. Brett.

