

Fishergate Primary School Newsletter

12.9.25

WELCOME BACK

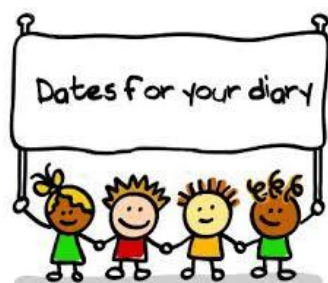
The assemblies this morning, in which the children shared what their class has been learning about so far this year were educational and entertaining. As I type I can hear Marianne Renny teaching the group of children that is currently with her (Y3/4s) about samba rhythm and beats – it is very percussive, and I can also hear strains of music from Ellie Ball's class as I am directly underneath the classroom and, although I can't hear it I know that Harriet Champness is getting her steps in as she is teaching each class a Mexican dance. I really hope that you are able to join us this evening to see what your children have been doing, chat with the teachers and other parents and share some food.

Please remember to send your child in looking ready for their school photo on Wednesday. If you have a child who isn't in school with us and you would like a family photo then please come into school for 8:15am, all other sibling groups will be done during the morning.

Have a lovely weekend.

DATES

Weds 17th – Individual and Family Photos



FRIENDS OF FISHERGATE

Pre-Loved Uniform Stall Join us on Monday 15th Sep at 3:15pm in the school yard, we will have pre-loved uniforms available for free. Donations of school shoes and winter coats accepted. Cash donations appreciated, but not necessary.

Bake Sales These now take place on Mondays! This allows more time to bake with your family. We are encouraging sweet and savoury home bakes; fruit is welcome as well. We'd rather you didn't bring shop-bought cakes as they usually have more sugar, but this decision is up to you. Donations must be nut-free. See when each phase group will be hosting their bake sale:

Monday 22nd September - Year 5/6

Monday 6th October - Year 3/4

Monday 10th November - Year 1/2

Monday 1st December - Early Years

We need three helpers for each bake sale, please email friendsoffishergateschool@gmail.com to get started. The bake sales wouldn't happen without you, and the money raised goes directly back to your child's classroom. Thanks!
See flyers at the end of this newsletter for further Bake Sale helper details & to see how you could win £1,000 for our school by shopping online with Tesco

PHASE UPDATES

EYU – We have had a great week in Early Years, we have been out to the forest to pick apples and today we are making apple crumble - we love baking! We have also been reading Aliens Love Underpants - Miss Dibden got confused and thought the underpants were hats! We are looking forward to our nursery friends starting with us next week.

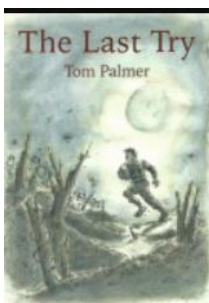
Year 1/2 – Key Stage 1 have enjoyed a fantastic Global Fortnight learning Finnish dancing, Brazilian instruments and the South African National anthem. We look forward to seeing parents on Global Evening to show off all the fantastic work the children have been doing about their chosen countries.

Year 3/4 - the children have had another excellent week finding out more about their global country/state and we enjoyed their performance in assembly today.

Y5/6 - Come on Friday night at 6.00 to see your children's fabulous artwork. Miss Ball's class have produced beautiful paintings of Kenyan sunrises and Mrs Walton and Ms Rees/Miss Champness's classes have produced fantastic self-portraits inspired by artists from Brazil and Mexico.

AN IDEA FOR THE WEEKEND

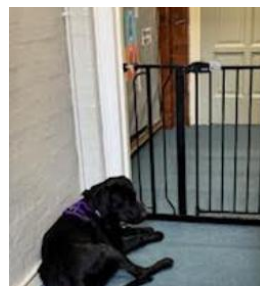
Looking for something to do tomorrow? The children's author Tom Palmer who visited Fishergate twice last year will be in York this Saturday at The Blue Bookshop, Bootham. He will be reading from his new book and bringing his hero Judy with him. The children in KS2 really enjoyed his visits and many have read some of his fiction.



BODHI NEWS

Bodhi has had a great week, coming out onto the field and playground duty with me and watching the KS2 children at our Global assembly this morning.

The children have been fabulous at letting him decide if he wants to come into their space and have been brilliant at helping his confidence to grow. When he is a fabulous therapy dog it will be mainly down to their care, respect and patience!





CAN YOU HELP LIBRARY CLUB ON FRIDAY LUNCHTIMES: 12.30-1PM?



Library Club opens our school's beautiful library to members from Y1 - 6 once a week during lunchtime. Children get the chance to unwind with a book, dive into creative activities and have a little chat when the mood strikes.

These popular clubs are staffed by parent/carer volunteers, and we need your help to keep them going please!



WHAT'S INVOLVED?

We're looking for another one or two volunteers to support the Y3/4 library club on Friday lunchtimes, 12.30 - 1pm.

Volunteers supervise and chat with the children, tidy books if needed, and do some drawing or colouring alongside the children if they feel like it!

FIND OUT MORE

Email Dani via
admin@fishergateschool.com

If you can volunteer roughly **once a fortnight for 30 minutes on a Friday**, we'd love to hear from you!



City Of York Council

Fishergate Primary School, Fishergate, York. YO10 4AP

Head Teacher: **Tina Clarke**

Tel: **01904 555335** Absence Line: **553869**

Email: admin@fishergateschool.com

AUTUMN TERM 2025 CLUBS

Dear Parent/ Carer,

We will be starting clubs for this term from **Monday 22nd September**. Class teachers manage the allocation of club places internally and keep a register of all school-run clubs so that everyone gets a fair turn. If a club runs after school, your child will bring a letter home with information of start and finish times.

Application forms for Total Sports clubs have been sent out separately.

Some clubs in school are by invitation only, for example our Giggles club for Young Carers.

In addition, the building is used for lettings after school by a range of external providers. If you would like your child to join one of the following clubs, **please contact the provider directly** for further information about times, costs and availability. Remember, if your child is in receipt of pupil premium, school will fund at least half the fees.

Monday: KS2 Chess

dan@chessinschools.co.uk

Monday: Karate

adamgoodison138@hotmail.com or mobile 07859 903237

Monday: Rainbows

gracias.diddm@gmail.com or mobile 07870 121135

Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday: York Dance Works

yorkshiredance@outlook.com

Wednesday: York Allstars Taekwondo

lambleyyork@gmail.com

Wednesday: Year 4/5/6 Art Club

Lucy.monkman@btinternet.com

Thursday: York Tai Chi

paulpauljojo@gmail.com

Thursday: Total sports

enquiries@totalsportslimited.co.uk

Friday: Lets Act Drama

york@letsactdramaclass.co.uk

Friday: Year 5/6/7 Board Games Club

josh.burnell@fishergateschool.com

Many thanks

Dani Rees

Deputy Headteacher

Tesco's Bright Future Fund



Tesco and easyfundraising have teamed up to donate a £1,000 funding pot to FIVE schools and nurseries this September!

Do you shop at Tesco? Your next online Tesco shop could secure £1,000 in free funding for Fishergate Primary School!

Sign up to support us on easyfundraising, then shop with Tesco online via the easyfundraising website or app, and we'll receive a free donation courtesy of Tesco. If you do so by 30th September, we could secure an extra £1,000 funding boost.

If you haven't already, please sign up to support us:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fishergatefriends/?utm_campaign=pmc&utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_content=tesco-bff-fb1

Thank you so much!

Support our Bake Sales



A Sweet Way to Boost Your Child's Learning

Bake Sales enable each phase group (Early Years, Year 1/2, Year 3/4 and Year 5/6) to raise money that goes directly back to the hosting phase group's classrooms. By supporting our bake sales, you are directly benefiting your child at school. Sales can amount to £1,000 a year across the whole school! That amounts to classroom extras and rewards.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the guidelines for bringing donations for my child's class?

Whether you buy or bake your donation, please remember that our school has a nut-free school policy. Items are sold at 50p each, so portion accordingly.

How many helpers are needed to run the bake sales?

We like to have a team of around 4-6 parents per phase group for bake sales - the workload is lighter when shared. On the actual day of a bake sale, only 3 of your team are needed. Your child's phase group will host three bake sales a year, one each term.

What do bake sale helpers do on the day exactly?

- 1) A team of 3 helpers will make their way to the front office at 3:00pm. Pick up your "float" to make change during purchases as well serving supplies.
- 2) Set up a couple of tables in the lower hall and set out the donated bakes that families have brought to the school.
- 3) At pick-up time, delighted children will queue up and buy something to treat themselves with at the end of their school day. Unsurprisingly, this part happens in no time at all! Turn the money in to the front office, put the tables away happy in the knowledge that you made the Bake Sale magic happen for our children!

Organised by
Friends of Fishergate

f facebook.com/friendsoffishergate
✉ friendsoffishergateschool@gmail.com

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CONSPIRACY THEORIES

Conspiracy theories are false or misleading beliefs that explain events as secret plots, often involving powerful groups. While once fringe, they are now more accessible through digital media, online influencers and because of algorithmic recommendations. The DfE guidance document, 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (KCSIE) explicitly recognises conspiracy theories as potential content risks. This guide will help parents and educators understand the risks, spot the signs, and build children's resilience to conspiracy theories.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

UNDERMINING TRUST

Conspiracy theories can lead children and young people to distrust democratic institutions and British Values, teachers, and even their own families and loved ones. This erosion of trust makes young people more vulnerable to extremist narratives by isolating them from reliable sources of information.

ONLINE ALGORITHM TRAPS

Social media platforms can often recommend sensationalist content. Once a child engages with one conspiracy-themed video or post, algorithms push more of the same, thereby creating an echo chamber that can intensify their beliefs.

MENTAL HEALTH IMPACT

Exposure to frightening conspiracy content, such as global plots, viruses, or government control, can fuel feelings of anxiety, paranoia, or hopelessness. For some young people, it can trigger prolonged distress or obsessive thinking.

GATEWAY TO EXTREMISM

Conspiracy theories can often overlap with extremist ideologies. Narratives that blame specific groups, such as politicians, scientists, or particular ethnic groups, can groom children in ways that foster hate, bigotry, and radicalisation.

CONFLICT WITH PEERS

Belief in conspiracy theories can lead to isolation or conflict at school. Children may struggle with peer relationships if they express these beliefs or become distrustful of others who disagree; sometimes, confrontation can even result in a strengthening of the belief in the conspiracy theory.

ERODED CRITICAL THINKING

Young people influenced by conspiracies may reject evidence-based learning. This risks undermining their academic progress and weakening their ability to think critically, assess risks, or engage in healthy debate.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CREATE SAFE CONVERSATIONS

Don't mock or dismiss any questions that children and young people ask about conspiracy theories. Instead, create open, judgement-free spaces to talk. This strengthens trust and makes it more likely they will confide in you.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Teach young people how to assess information critically. Encourage them to ask appropriate questions, such as: Who is telling me this? What evidence is there? What do other trusted sources say? Use real examples from current media to explain your answers and reasoning.

MONITOR DIGITAL BEHAVIOUR

Be aware of the content children are accessing, especially on platforms such as TikTok, YouTube, or Reddit. Use parental controls, but more importantly, maintain ongoing dialogue about online experiences and influencers.

REINFORCE RELIABLE SOURCES

Point children toward trustworthy and reliable sources of news and information in a variety of formats tailored to the young person's age. Build habits of verifying facts using reliable sources, and teach them how to spot misleading content.

Meet Our Expert

Brendan O'Keeffe is a headteacher and digital education consultant with over a decade of experience in education. As Director of Digital Strategy across multiple schools and an advisor to The National College, he specialises in digital safety, PREVENT, and pastoral care.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/conspiracy-theories>



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