



Head teacher's note

Our Y5/6 classes entered the Radio 2 500 words competition. We had an email this week to let us know that three of our fabulous writers - Ziggy Shield, Astrid Cave and Luca Orton have got through to the second round of judging. The email said that they received tens of thousands of entries and only around 5,000 got through to this round. They will be back in touch with an update when they have selected their shortlisted stories in January. What exciting news. Well done you three!

We enjoyed the EYU nativity on Tuesday - the children did brilliantly and left their audience full of Christmas spirit.

A huge thank you to our Friends for planning and running a very well organised and successful Christmas Fair. Tamsin and her team worked tirelessly to make this happen. It was lovely to see so many of you there and thank you for spending so much money!

Friends of Fishergate

Heartfelt thanks to our volunteers

To parents, teachers and staff who so generously gave their time to help with Donations Day and the Christmas Fair last week - thank you, thank you, thank you! We feel that the fair was a great success and it literally could not have happened without you. It was lovely seeing children looking happy, and we had such fun working alongside so many enthusiastic volunteers. Together, we raised over £1,300. Well done, everyone!

Thank you, Year 5/6s!

The Year 5/6 children hosted a fantastic games room at the fair and made a significant contribution by donating all money raised back to the school - an amazing figure of £229.30! Well done, and thank you to Ms Walton and others who helped to oversee the games room.

A special visit next week

To add to the festive fun, our own Santa and his brilliant Elf will be visiting each classroom on Mon 15th Dec to spread holiday cheer and give out a gift from Santa's bag.

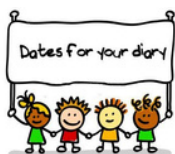
Dates

Mon 15th - KS1 dress rehearsal 9:30am
Mon 15th - EYU (am) and KS1 (pm) parties

Tues 16th - KS1 performance 9:30am
Tues 16th - KS2 party pm

Weds 17th - KS1 performance 1:30pm

Fri 19th - Break up 2:30pm



Phase group updates

Early Years were very proud of being able to show their grown-ups their Christmas production. We hope that you all enjoyed it.

Year 1/2 have been fully immersed in Christmas Show practices! The children are sounding fantastic and we look forward to seeing all our families at the shows next week. We've also been working on Christmas crafts in DT, sewing felt stockings and making our own pop up Christmas cards.

Year 3/4 This week in science, Yr 3 /4 have been setting up fair tests to investigate the hardness in rocks, for the caretaker's new patio. Next Thursday, we are excited about a geologist coming to our school to share his expertise on rocks.

Year 5/6 We have finished the newspaper articles many of you saw as part of last week's open writing lesson. There have been many disasters at Hogwarts involving potions! Year 5s have made terrific progress in using the formal ('bus stop') method for division while Year 6 are calculating with decimals. In Science, we have made beautiful salt crystals by evaporating the water from a solution.



Carols by Candlelight

What a beautiful evening we had last night! The hall looked so pretty and very, very Christmassy! The children were an absolute credit to their teachers, parents and to themselves! Thank you to everyone who made the magic happen - especially to Harriet Champness for pulling it all together so brilliantly.



Bodhi Corner

Woof woof, hello everyone! This week I had a pawsome time watching the EYU Christmas show rehearsal. I lay quietly (even though my tail wanted to wag!) and listened to all the singing and music. The children sang beautifully and were amazing performing in front of the whole school, using the stage and microphones like real stars. I was one very proud pup!



STICKY QUESTIONS

This week's sticky question was

'Is it fair that elves work all year while Santa works one night?'
(and Santa gets all the credit!)

Prompt questions for discussion:

Understanding the Roles: Do you think planning and organising is as important as making toys? Could Santa do his job without the elves? Could the elves do their job without Santa?

Fairness & Teamwork: Is it fair if some people work longer but others have bigger responsibilities? Should everyone in a team do the same amount of work, or just what they're best at?

Elf Wellbeing: Should Santa make sure the elves are happy and healthy at work? What could Santa do to make the elves' jobs easier or more fun?

Possible Solutions: Should Santa help in the workshop during the year? Could the elves get special rewards or celebrations for their hard work?



Monster Phonics Fun!

What makes sharing stories, songs and rhymes wonderful for children?

We will use a story book to explore ways to make stories and songs exciting and interactive for your child, using props, puppets and other materials to bring the story to life.

This is an introductory workshop which leads into the free 4-week 'Stories, Songs and Rhymes' course.

Who: Parents and Carers of 4 - 7 year olds

Dates: 14 January 2026

When: Wednesday Afternoons, 12:30 - 2:30

**Where: Low Moor Centre, Bray Road,
YO10 4JG**



Use the QR Code to enrol on the course or
for more information call **01904 554277**
email york.learning@york.gov.uk

Introduction to Supporting Children at School

This free 12 week course is aimed at people who are interested in volunteering in schools, becoming a teaching assistant or working in a childcare setting.

During the course you will learn about child development, communication and developing positive relationships, safeguarding and setting boundaries.

Who: Parents and Carers Dates: 24 February 2026 - 20 May 2026 When: Wednesday Mornings, 9:00 - 10:45 Where: Fulford Explore Library, YO10 4LX



Scan me!



Use the QR Code to enrol on the course or for more information call 01904 554277 email york.learning@york.gov.uk



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Supporting Children & Young People with Mental Wellbeing

This free 5 week introductory course explores Mental Health and ways to help you support your child at home with their mental well-being.

There will be an opportunity to understand which services are available to support you at home and school.

Following this course there will be an opportunity for you to take a Level 2 qualification.

Who: Parents and carers **Dates: 14 January 2026 - 11 February 2026** **When: Wednesday Mornings, 9:00 - 10:45** **Where: Fulford Explore Library, YO10 4LX**



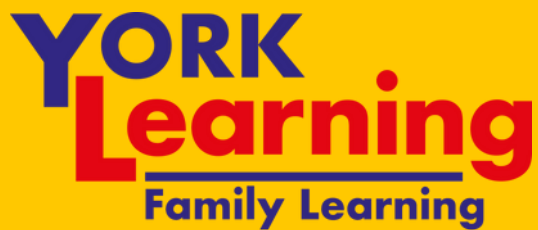
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Stories, Songs and Rhymes

Join our **free** 5 week course to boost your confidence in bringing stories, songs and rhymes to life for your little ones.

We'll share ideas and fun ways to engage children in speech, language, communication and play.

Find out how to tailor these activities to suit children of different ages and watch their early learning blossom.

Who: Parents and Carers of 4 - 7 year olds
Dates: 21 January 2026 - 11 February 2026
When: Wednesday afternoons, 12:30 - 2:30
**Where: Low Moor Centre, Bray Road,
YO10 4JG**



Use the QR Code to enrol on the course or for more information call **01904 554277**
email york.learning@york.gov.uk



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Early Start

Do you want to help your little ones thrive?

Let's play our way to super listening, talking, and sharing skills! We'll giggle with rhymes, explore wonderful books, and have fun with shapes, colours, and numbers.

Come join our free Early Start sessions to learn easy and fun ways to help your child grow. You'll get to meet other lovely families, swap stories, enjoy arts and crafts and share ideas.

Thursday mornings 9.30 - 11.30,

Hob Moor Children's Centre, YO24 4RF

Thursday mornings 9.30 - 11.30,

The Avenues Children's Centre, YO31 0UT

15th January 2026 - 26 March 2026

Free childcare may be available but please book to

avoid disappointment.



For more information call Kerry Johnson on **07554 115547**
or email **kerry.johnson@york.gov.uk**
or visit **www.yorklearning.org.uk**