



Head teacher's note

Welcome to the summer term! This is always a busy one so I have put some dates for your diary in the section below. Just to make sure that you can book time off work etc if you need to.

We have two staff teams for the quiz night so are hoping to see lots of you there and that we don't come too near the bottom!!

Thank you for all of your fabulous support for OPAL. Don't forget that you can send your children in in black jogging bottoms and black trainers if you would like to. Also, a huge thank you to the person who has bought the karaoke speaker - the children are going to be so happy when they find out that we have it!

Wishing you all a happy and sun-filled weekend!

Friends of Fishergate

Family Quiz on Tuesday

Tickets have nearly gone and we are delighted to be hosting a night of fun and food for the whole family! Join us at 6:00pm in the upper hall, and please be sure to enter and exit through the school building's back door only (accessible through the playground gate on Escrick Street). For the speed quiz, each team will need one smartphone/tablet, and you can have up to 6 members per team.

Upcoming bake sale dates

Please note the bake sales dates below. Your bakes have been so impressive this school year and we hope you all enjoyed time baking as a family as well as tasting the delightful treats brought in.

Year 5/6 - Mon 27th April

Year 3/4 - Mon 18th May

Year 1/2 - Mon 15th June

Early Years - Mon 29th June

Dates

Tues 21st - Friends Quiz Night

19th June - KS2 Eisteddfod - pm

2nd July - KS1 sports day - pm

3rd July - Y3/4 am and Y5/6 pm sports day

16th July - Leavers Show 9am

17th July - Leavers Assembly 9am



Phase group updates

Early Years - This week in Early Years, we've been diving into the world of Tiddler, using his tall tales to inspire our own reading and writing. We spotted that spring has truly sprung in the forest, back in the classroom, we have been busy mastering the difference between odd and even numbers. We also loved meeting our new nursery starters!

Year 1/2 - We hope all our families enjoyed a fantastic Easter break. We've had an exciting start to the term and Key Stage 1 have begun their new topic about 'The Great Fire of London' and have been learning all about Thomas Farriner and Pudding Lane! In Maths, Year 1 have been partitioning and adding using tens and ones whilst Year 2 have been working on time and learning to tell the time to 15 minute intervals.

Year 3/4 - On the last day before the Easter holidays, Yr 3/4 had fun learning how to draw that beautiful face of Bodhi. Mrs Engleman spent an hour teaching us how to use pastels to make our works of art. Look out for the display on the Yr5/6 landing in the next couple of weeks.

Year 5/6 - Year 5/6 have produced some wonderful observational drawings in Art, practising their shading skills. Year 6 have finished their guides to a fantasy country while Year 5 have finished their balanced argument writing. In Maths, Year 6 are exploring angles and Year 5 are learning about percentages for the first time.



Bodhi Corner

Hi everyone, it's me, Bodhi!

I had a very relaxing holiday and got to play with two of my best doggie friends – we had so much fun running around, chasing each other and having lots of sniffs and tail wags! I even had time for some cosy naps after all that playing.

I'm really glad to be back at school and have started learning how to roll a dice. I've been using my nose and giving it a little nudge – I think I'm getting the hang of it! When I do, I will be able to play some different games with the children.

Before I go, I just want to say – look at how talented Safa and Nyah are. I love their beautiful illustrations of me!



OPAL

Well done to the first ever winners of our weekly Golden Welly award. Daisy and Mallory are really impressing us with their communication, resilience and engineering skills! They are also inspiring other children with their imaginative and skilfully built constructions!

We wonder who will be next weeks winner?

Next week we are introducing an area for wheels and the MUGA will be used for a selection of ball games through the week.



LIBRARY CLUB

Do you have half an hour to spend to support our wonderful library club? We are looking for parent volunteers who would help tidy the library and support a group of children at lunchtime.

Year 5/6 library club is at 12.00-12.30 on Tuesdays

Year 1/2 between 12.30-1.00 on Tuesdays

Year 3/4 library club is 12.30-1.00 on Fridays.



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

AMIGO

Amigo is a social platform which purports to connect strangers from around the world – and, with built-in translation software, it reduces the expected language barriers. Focusing heavily on one-to-one chat, video calls and live streams, Amigo encourages its users to build up online relationships and unlock exclusive features such as private video and audio calls: essentially, the more that people chat, the more functions become available to them. This is an app designed with mature users very much in mind and is therefore definitely not recommended for children.

AGE RATING

18

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONE-TO-ONE COMMUNICATION

While online chats and livestreaming are a great way to communicate with people that children can trust (such as friends and family), Amigo encourages users to connect with complete strangers and develop a friendship through private chats, calls and videos. This will be a clear red flag for most parents, due to the possibility of a child encountering inappropriate content or an online predator.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTACT

Within minutes of signing up for our trial of Amigo (and without using a profile photo), users of the opposite sex were messaging with suggestive statements such as "You're just my type" and "Let's have fun". While the app's stated intent is to help people build friendships, some users obviously seek to take those relationships in a more mature and amorous direction.

MEMBERSHIP COSTS

Like many apps that are free to download, Amigo's business model is centred on in-app purchases. Users are encouraged to pay for VIP membership – enabling them to send more messages each day and boosting their profile's visibility. People can also buy coins (again, for real money) which allow them to send virtual gifts and further increase the number of messages they can send daily.

LACK OF AGE VERIFICATION

Amigo makes no secret of the fact that it's for people aged 18 or above. There's no age verification, however, so a young person could simply sign up under a false date of birth. The app's algorithm claims to match users of similar ages (making them more compatible), but either the algorithm isn't very reliable, or most users have entered a fake age which doesn't correspond with their profile pic.

REWARDS FOR REPEATED USE

Amigo gifts virtual coins to users if they reply to messages within 10 seconds, while there are also daily rewards for posting comments, sharing a video, getting likes or simply opening the app. It also encourages increasing 'Intimacy Levels' with other users to unlock extra features: once someone's online 'friendship' reaches Intimacy Level 3, they can hold one-to-one video calls with each other.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MONITOR DOWNLOADS

As well as frequent catch-ups with your child about what they've enjoyed doing online, you could consider taking the additional step of physically checking their phone every so often to see which apps they've installed. The safest option could be to enable 'ask to buy' (Apple) or 'purchase approvals' (Android) on their device, meaning your authorisation is needed to download any apps.

BLOCK, REPORT, DISCUSS

Many children already know that connecting with strangers online is dangerous, but it never hurts to refresh their memory. Whatever communication apps your child uses, make sure they're fully aware that if anything online makes them feel uncomfortable, scared or upset, then they can block the user responsible, report the content, take a screenshot as evidence and come to tell you straight away.

RESPECT AGE RESTRICTIONS

Apps have age restrictions for a reason, and Amigo is very definitely a mature content platform. Given that many of Amigo's users apparently use a bogus date of birth, you might want to remind your child about the implications of setting up a fake profile – such as being exposed to messages and videos that make them feel uncomfortable or feeling pressured into chatting with strangers.

ACTIVE LISTENING

If your child does approach you with a concern, make time to stop what you're doing and actively listen. Let them talk without interrupting or showing any judgement, then discuss their options and the possible solutions: this empowers them and reassures them that you're there to be supportive. If the issue is one that has put your child at risk, however, you may wish to contact the police.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



NOS
National
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Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

York Health and Arts Mela

Sunday 17th May 2026

10am to 5pm

York Museum Gardens, Main Lawn YO1 7FR

**Health & Wellbeing | Arts | Fitness | Dance | Music
Food | Henna | Facepainting**



Website



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RICHARD SHEPHARD

MUSIC

FOUNDATION

Join our Celebration Choir!

In 2026 we're celebrating 5 years of the Richard Shephard Music Foundation! To celebrate this milestone, we're looking for children aged 7-11 to come together and sing at events.

Rehearsals will take place in York, outside of school hours, and it's totally FREE to take part.

For more information, and to sign up, please scan the QR code below or visit www.rsmf.org.uk/choir

