



DUNNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pear Tree Lane

Dunnington

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www.dunningtonprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Clare Thompson

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Friday 10th October 2025

Dear parent/ carer,

The teachers worked together to look at maths books this week. We were really impressed by the coverage in every class, the range of activities the children had experienced, the use of concrete resources and practical activities to support understanding, the opportunity for challenge and the beautiful presentation in books: it was so clear to see how much care and effort the children put into their work and the progress they are making.

We could see the positive impact of teaching maths in single age groups in upper key stage two and have decided to extend this to lower key stage two. From Monday, year 3 maths will be taught by Mrs Thompson and Mrs Lockwood, year 4 maths will be taught by Mrs Todd and Mrs Jones, year 5 maths will be taught by Mrs Bradley and year 6 maths will be taught by Miss Dickenson.

Yorkshire Learning Trust Video

Some of our children were involved in recording their thoughts about school for a Yorkshire Learning Trust video which will be shared at the Trust's Belonging and Mattering conference on Friday 24th October (remember school will be closed for children on this day). They did a great job in front of the camera!

We are so proud of all of our pupils and it was lovely to hear the different things they had to say about our school. Areas of enjoyment and praise from the children included reading in school, maths lessons, drawing in art, our new playtime areas for OPAL and learning the ukulele in music.

When asked to describe our school in one word, KS2 pupils described it as "fun!", "inclusive" and "amazing" - we don't think it gets much better than that!

Here are some other words children had to say:

"There is nothing in this school that can stop me feeling like I belong."

"Teachers are really good - they are supportive. If you're stuck, they come and help you."

"Everyone is inclusive, and makes you feel welcome."

"My teacher always says hello to me!"

"The thing I like best about my school is learning."

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on Christian Values**



Things that have been going on around school ...

Yousafzai Class

Yousafzai class have been practising their shading and sketching skills. They have been drawing European landmarks and practising how to shade in details for 3D objects.

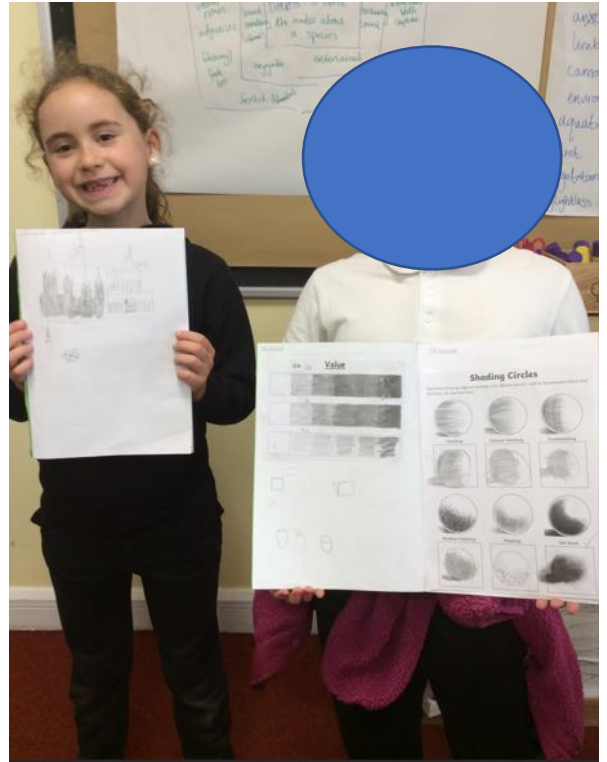
Great work!

Attenborough Class

The Antlered Ship – by The Fan Brothers
We have had so much fun this week in Yr1 creating our own 3D maps for our tinfoil ships to sail around. We discussed prepositions and how the ship would sail under the bridge or next to the rocky, snow topped mountains or even how it would sail behind a pirate ship so it wouldn't get caught!

The children used their imaginations to create excellent maps and have written some fantastic sentences describing where and how their ship sailed.

Great work Yr1 😊



RESPECT

Well done to all the children who have exemplified our values this week. What superstars you are!



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Message for EYFS parents: Supporting Your Child's Start to School

This year, the City of York is reviewing the systems in place to support children—and their families—when they begin school, with a particular focus on children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

To help us understand what works well and where we can improve, we've created a short questionnaire for parents and carers. Your views are incredibly important and will help us celebrate successes and strengthen the support we offer during this key transition.

Thank you for taking the time to share your experiences.

Please click on the following link or QR code to complete the short questionnaire before **14 November 2025**.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CYC-SENDTransition>



Admissions Consultation 2027-2028

Please follow the link below for information regarding admissions consultations for 2027-2028.

<https://dunningtonprimary.co.uk/school/#admissions-consultations>

Bugsy Malone

A few familiar faces will be appearing in Bugsy Malone the musical at the Opera House which is showing from October 31-November 8th.

Frankie, in year 5, is playing the parts of Baby Face/Doodles, alongside some familiar old Dunnington Primary faces – Theo, Nellie and Max.



Frankie's dates are:

Sat 1st Nov *matinee

Sunday 2nd *evening

Wed 5th *evening

Fri 7th *evening

Sat 8th *evening (last night)

<https://www.atgtickets.com/shows/pick-me-up-theatre-presents-bugsy-malone/grand-opera-house-york/calendar/2025-10-31>

Break a leg Frankie!



Dates for your Diary

New dates will be added in bold each week

October 2025	
Last Day of Autumn 1 for children	Thursday 23 rd October 2025
School Disco	Thursday 23 rd October 2025 – timings TBC
Inset Day – no children in school Break up for half term	Friday 24 th October 2025
November 2025	
Children return to school	Monday 3 rd November 2025
Individual school photos	Thursday 13 th November 2025
Parent Consultations	Tuesday 18 th November Wednesday 19 th November Thursday 20 th November <i>These will be in person in the school hall. Teachers will be available on 2 of the 3 evenings.</i>
Open Evening for New Starters September 2026	Tuesday 25 th November 4pm – 5pm Please spread the word!
December 2025 2025	
Tree Decorating Assembly	Monday 1 st December 2025
Flu vaccinations	Tuesday 2 nd December 2025
EYFS and KS1 Nativity	Tuesday 9 th December – Dress Rehearsal Performances for parents and carers on Wednesday 10 th December @ 2pm
Whole school Christmas Themed DT week	Monday 15th December – Friday 19th December 2025
Christmas Service in St Nicholas Church	Thursday 18 th December 2025 KS1 10 am KS2 11 am
Last day of the Autumn Term	Friday 19 th December 2025

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

With very best wishes,

Clare Thompson

Attachments:

- YLT October Safeguarding Newsletter
- Raise York Families Newsletter
<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKYC/bulletins/3f5dbf7>
- Parent Carer Forum Newsletter

Growing and learning together to be the best that we can be, in an environment based on Christian Values



For children starting school in
September 2026, we invite families to
come and visit our welcoming school.

OPEN EVENT



Growing and learning
together and aiming to be
the best that we can be, in
an environment based on
Christian values

This will be a drop in event where you will
have the chance to see our EYFS area and to
meet staff and ask questions.

DAY	TIME	
NOV 25	4 - 5PM	Dunnington CE Primary School

Garden Trees Scheme (with a sneaky shrub!)

For our 5th Garden Trees Scheme, we're keeping our roots in Dunnington but branching out even further to our neighbouring villages of Holtby, Warthill, Stockton-on-the-Forest and, for the first time, Osbaldwick!

For those concerned about space, we're sneaking in a shrub! To celebrate National Tree Week, GIG's offering 5 buzz-bringing beauties: Crab Apple, with sweet-smelling, pinky-white blossom and small yellow fruits loved by birds; Pear, a favourite with wildlife with attractive autumn leaf colour; Hawthorn, a biodiversity champion supporting over 300 insects; Elder, which can be pruned as a shrub; and Wild Cherry, with essential early nectar for bees emerging from their winter sleep.

Our community-spirited project is not-for-profit; donations beyond our costs (of £2 per tree) are put towards planting fruit trees in our green spaces. Orders to be completed by midnight Sunday 16th November. Please EMAIL DunningtonGIG@gmail.com with your VILLAGE NAME to receive an invitation to order BEFORE THAT DEADLINE, so you can complete your order by that deadline. CHECK your request has been CONFIRMED AS A COMPLETED ORDER (inc collection/delivery time). If not, please ensure you provide the further details requested (our request may be in spam/junk) and keep a check on spam/junk for our confirmation.

Don't miss out! Make a bee-line for our planet-positive, community-spirited project!

Juliet Pearce
Dunnington Green Initiatives Group

Nature Rangers half term fun Monday
27th October 🦇 All about bats

🦇 plus general autumn activities

🦇 outdoor and indoor activities

🦇 £15 per child

🦇 booking [visit@yorkshirearboretum
.org](mailto:visit@yorkshirearboretum.org)

🦇 or booking [01653 648598](tel:01653648598)

🦇 5 to 11 year olds

🦇 Hope to see you there, Kathryn
Hardaker The Yorkshire Arboretum