



DUNNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pear Tree Lane

Dunnington

York YO19 5QG

Tel 01904 552910

dunningtonprimary.school@york.gov.uk

www.dunningtonprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Clare Thompson

head.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk

Friday 17th October 2025

Dear parent/ carer,

We are hurtling towards the end of this half-term with only one week left before the holiday. I am sure that all of the children will feel very ready for a break after a bumper eight-week half term – the summer holidays certainly feel a long time ago.

Please remember that there is an inset day on Friday 24th October, so the children's last day is Thursday 23rd October. The staff are looking forward to the Yorkshire Learning Trust's first collaborative inset day, the focus of which is on belonging and mattering, areas that the staff here at Dunnington are incredibly passionate about.

As always, it really has been a super half-term, filled with lots of learning, but also trips, visits, sporting events and other opportunities for enrichment – all of which are so important to us here at Dunnington. More than ever, the children have been absolutely superb, showing a love of learning, confidence, resilience, friendship and kindness. I am lucky enough to be outside with them most lunchtimes and I am always so impressed by the love and care they show for one another.

As this will be the final newsletter before half-term, I hope everyone has a lovely break when it arrives, and the opportunity to have some rest.

RESPECT

Well done to all the children who have exemplified our values this week – it is really hard to choose when they are all so wonderful!



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Lunch options Thursday 23rd October

As Thursday is the last day of half-term, Friday's menu will be served. Meal Manager will be updated to reflect this.

Christmas Cards

Please remember to send in your Christmas Card designs by Monday 20th December. There are spare templates in school if you need to pick one up today.

Harvest Services

Thank you to everyone who came to watch our Harvest Services and were able to contribute to the collection. £193.65 was raised for York Food Bank.

Message from Mrs Bradley:

Yousafzai and Turing class, as part of their history topic, will be creating some artwork using cardboard next week. Please could children bring in a piece of cardboard, approximately 30cm in diameter. A cereal box would work well for this activity! Thank you.

Next Thursday, Yousafzai class will be walking down to St Nicholas church in the afternoon to perform to some of the Dunnington community for their harvest celebration. We are excited to have been invited to sing our harvest song! This means that children do not need to wear their PE kit next Thursday, but should please instead wear their school uniform.

Road Safety

We have had some communications from families who are worried about road safety, with some children seeming unaware of the dangers of crossing roads/ cycling. In response to these concerns, we will talk about road safety in assembly next week. The children also receive pedestrian training and cycling proficiency training during their time in KS2.

If any parents would like to talk to their children about road safety, there are various resources you can find online to support these discussions, some of which can be found by following these links:

- <https://www.rospa.com/siteassets/pages/road-safety/road-safety-resources/free-road-safety-information/parents/teaching-road-safety-a-guide-for-parents.pdf>
- <https://www.brake.org.uk/get-involved/take-action/mybrake/knowledge-centre/advice-for-parents-and-families>
- <https://www.york.gov.uk/road-safety-1/think>

Things from around school...

Owens Class

Owens class have been really busy over the last few weeks learning about evolution and inheritance in science. We have learned about Darwin's finches and we investigated the effectiveness of different types of beaks. The "beaks" were pegs, spoons, tooth picks and tweezers; the food was lego, marshmallows, rice, wool and elastic bands. We had great fun.

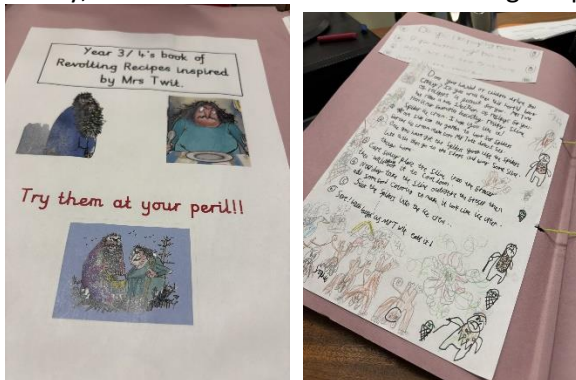


We have also investigated how fossils are formed. We used bread, jelly sweets and used weights to replicate the weight of the rock layers.



We were very excited as our fossils were revealed.

Finally, we have written a book of revolting recipes for Mrs Twit to make for Mr Twit.





YSSN Cross Country Event

Well done to the superstars who represented the school at York's cross country event which took place at Askham Bryan College this week.

We are so proud of everyone who took part – what a fantastic effort!

School Disco – 23.10.25

We are looking forward to seeing all of the children who are planning on coming to our Autumn Disco next week. I am hoping that the children come out a little less sweaty than they were after the summer disco. Thanks in advance to all the PTA members and staff who are giving up their time to put on this event for the children.

School Choir

Mrs Oldfield is registering new and existing choir members for the new block starting after half term.

We're having lots of fun at the choir which runs every Monday morning at 8am and there will hopefully be some Christmas performance opportunities.

We'd love some new members. Please sign your child up for next half term by emailing Becca Oldfield at bek_19@hotmail



Message from Nancy, Violet and Freya

Fundraising for Oscars

We are raising money for the Oscars charity in memory of Milo who was in our year. A small thing is a big difference. So we are making stuff and selling it to raise money for Oscars. All the money will make a difference. If you work hard everything will be possible. Nothing is impossible, now we will be telling you what we are making:

Item	Price
3D printed mini animals	50p
3D printed bookmarks	50p
3D printed love hearts	50p
Loombands	£1
Knitting/weaving	£2
Origami	£1

The girls will be selling these items in the outside the car park entrance in the first week back after half term.

Admission Consultations for entry in 2027-2028

Yorkshire Learning Trust are carrying out their own consultation for 2027-2028 admissions, which is provisionally scheduled to take place from **Monday 20 October 2025**. This will relate to policies and admission arrangements for the following York schools:

- Fulford School
- Dunnington Church of England Primary School
- Bishopthorpe Infant School
- Archbishop of York Church of England Junior School
- Wheldrake with Thorganby Church of England Primary School

Information and documents relating to this will be published on the YLT website at <https://www.ylt.org.uk/policies> when the YLT consultation opens. Further admissions information, including current admissions policies, is available from the YLT website.

Dates for your Diary

New dates will be added in bold each week

Please note an additional Nativity date has been added. This had been omitted in error previously.

October 2025	
Yousafzai visit to St Nicholas Church School uniform not PE kits please	Thursday 23 rd 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 and Thursday 11th December @ 2pm
Whole school Christmas Themed DT week	Monday 15 th December – Friday 19 th 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:

- What Parents/ Carers need to know about Memes
- October Half Term Over the Rainbow Holiday Club
- How to keep children safe this Halloween:
https://capt.org.uk/halloween/?utm_source=capt&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=parentsoct25&mc_cid=376a41f0ed&mc_eid=d72f37d350

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



Event date - Saturday 1st November 2025

Where - Primrose Hill, Buttercrambe Road, Stamford Bridge, YO41 1AW (behind the nursery).

Gates open - 17.30 - 18.30, fireworks 19.00, event finishes at 20.00.

Catering - All tickets include a hot dog and hot drink and bonfire toffee!

We aim to cater for everyone if we can. We are serving hot dogs and hot chocolate as standard.

If you have any allergies or other dietary requirements, please e-mail:

stamfordbridgebonfire@hotmail.com by **25th October**.

Sparklers – Sparklers are 2 for £1 on the evening, plus tombola, bottle raffle & cake stall.

Parking - Very limited parking only available for disabled badge holders. Please walk from Stamford Bridge which takes about 5-7 minutes.

Tickets - Available on Eventbrite (<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/> Search Stamford Bridge Fireworks). Tickets also available from Stamford Bridge Post Office. The event is open to all, so please let friends know too!

All proceeds to Stamford Bridge Scout Group, registered charity 517561

York St John Communities Centre Services

Please see details below of drop-in sessions which are **free** to children, young people and their families:

Groups and Drop-ins

Breastfeeding Group

- **About:** Treasure Chest aims to provide new families a chance to talk with peer supporters as well as other families who are breastfeeding or combination feeding.
- **Facilitated by:** Treasure Chest
- **Duration:** 10:30am to 12pm
- **Location:** York St John University's Chapel on Campus
- **Fee:** FREE
- **Dates:** Every Tuesday
- **Further information:** www.yorks.ac.uk/working-with-the-community/communities-centre/drop-in-sessions/#Breastfeeding

Bereavement Support Group

- **About:** A free online support group for people who are bereaved or experiencing grief.
- **Facilitated by:** York St John Communities Centre
- **Duration:** 4:30pm-6:00pm
- **Location:** Online
- **Fee:** FREE
- **Dates:** Every Tuesday for 10 weeks, commencing 28th October 2025
- **Further information:** <https://www.yorks.ac.uk/working-with-the-community/communities-centre/bereavement-services/#BereavementSupportGroup>
- **Self-referral:** <https://yorks.solveit.co.uk/csr/>

Bereavement Café

- **About:** Come along to one of our cafés for bereaved people, to help you understand what you are going through.
- **Facilitated by:** York St John Communities Centre
- **Duration:** 1:00pm-3:00pm
- **Location:** York St John University Campus
- **Fee:** FREE
- **Dates:** Wednesday 12th November 2025 | Wednesday 10th December 2025
- **Further information:** <https://www.yorks.ac.uk/working-with-the-community/communities-centre/bereavement-services/#BereavementCafe>

Children and Young People

Community Language School

- **About:** The Community Language School caters to the language learning needs of children aged 6 to 13 years from migrant, multilingual families as well as those for whom English is currently the only language in use.
- **Duration:** classes are run on Saturday afternoons for 1 to 2 hours.
- **Location:** York St John University Campus
- **Fee:** FREE
- **Dates:** The school year typically runs from September to May with breaks from December to January, and March to April.

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- **Further information:** www.yorks.ac.uk/working-with-the-community/communities-centre/community-language-school/
- **Referral:** www.yorks.ac.uk/working-with-the-community/communities-centre/community-language-school/enrol-your-child/
- **Volunteering:** www.yorks.ac.uk/working-with-the-community/communities-centre/community-language-school/apply-to-volunteer/

Creative Literacies Hub

- **About:** A free service which welcomes parents, carers, and their children, who would like to learn effective ways of approaching reading and creative writing. We have 2 programmes you can attend: Supporting Reading at Home, and Creative Writing Together.
- **Duration:** Doors open from 3.30pm but sessions will start nearer to 4.00pm to allow for the school run. Sessions end at 5.00pm, and both programmes last for 6 weeks.
- **Location:** York St John Communities Centre
- **Fee:** FREE
- **Dates:** Creative Writing Together - Tuesdays on 7th October, 14th October, 21st October, 4th November, 11th November, and 18th November.
- **Further information:** www.yorks.ac.uk/working-with-the-community/communities-centre/children-and-young-people/#Creative-Literacies-Hub
- **Referral:** <https://yorks.solvefit.co.uk/csr/>