



## DUNNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dunnington

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Headteacher: Clare Thompson

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Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Dear parent/ carer,

As we come to the end of a long and busy term, I would like to say on behalf of everyone here at Dunnington Primary School that we hope you a wonderful Christmas and that you are able to enjoy a relaxing time with family and friends over the festive period.

It has been a fun, festive week in school, filled with activities and crafts. Thank you to Ros and the team for a delicious Christmas lunch on Tuesday – it was enjoyed by all the children and staff.



Thank you to those who were able to join us in church this morning – it was such a beautiful service. Thank you, in particular, to Mrs Bradley for organising the service and for your beautiful piano playing. You will be very much missed during your maternity leave by all of the children, staff and school community; we wish you all the luck in the world and hope that you are able to really enjoy the precious times ahead. We are all very excited about meeting baby Bradley when the time is right for you!

It has been wonderful to have Mrs Pilkington in school over the last few days and we are looking forward to officially welcoming her to the team in January.

I would also like to extend a huge thank you to Mrs Lawrence, who has done an incredible job covering Mrs Elliott over the last few weeks. Mrs Elliott hopes to return to school from January and is really looking forward to teaching her class again.

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



We are hoping for a calm and relaxing day tomorrow before the holidays begin. I am sure you are all very ready for them. We hope you have a very, very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year!

We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 5th January 2026.

### **Staffing News**

We are sorry to let you know that the wonderful Mrs Perks will be leaving us in the New Year to start an exciting new career. Her final day will be Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January. Mrs Perks is simply wonderful at her job always providing the most incredible care for the children in the school. She has provided transformative support for some of our most vulnerable children and endless love and support to all of her colleagues.

We will be so sad to see Mrs Perks go, but know she is moving on to an exciting new opportunity where she will be perfect! Thank you so much for everything Mrs Perks - we wish you all the luck in the world.

We will update you on Mrs Perk's replacement as soon as we are able.

### **Visit from the Lord Mayor**



We had a fantastic visit from York's Lord Mayor and his driver on Wednesday. The Lord Mayor has committed to visiting every school in York during his year in office, and we were school number 39. He was given a tour by some of our year 6s, and then he spoke to all of the children in assembly. The children asked brilliant questions quizzing him about the role, but also his age, whether he was a cat or dog person and what he enjoys most about the role: we learned that he is the first citizen in York, that he has security to protect his chains, that he has 700 engagements a year, that he is a dog person and that he gets embarrassed when he forgets people's names.

Lots of children rather liked the idea of being the Lord Mayor themselves one day!

We also loved seeing him drive off in his very big car!

## House Points

Well done to Tuke House (Red) who have collected the most house points this term. As you know, children get house points for going above and beyond, so it is amazing each house managed to accumulate so many house points over the term. It was closely contested, with only 4 house points between the top two houses.

We will select a treat for Tuke house to enjoy in the new term.

## Cycling to School and morning arrivals

A concerned resident contacted us to let us know he had seen a number of children cycling to and from school without lights on their bikes. Please do fit lights if your child is cycling – it is rather dark at this time of year.

We have also noticed that a few children are arriving at school more than 30 minutes before the doors open at 8:40. This means they are standing unsupervised in a car park which has cars driving in and out. Whilst we love the eagerness, we would rather children do not arrive more than 5 minutes before the doors open, as they will not be supervised during this time.

## Thank you from Dunnington Library

Dunnington Library would like to say a huge thank you to the children in Reception and Year 1 for their beautiful artwork. Their snowmen and candy canes are looking wonderful alongside our Stick Man display created by children at Over The Rainbow. We are looking forward to seeing what the children will create next term for our future displays!



## Dates for your Diary

New dates will be added in bold each week

<b>December 2025</b>	
Mrs Bradley's last day before starting her maternity leave	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
Last day of the Autumn Term	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
<b>January 2026</b>	
First day of the Spring Term – Children return to school	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Whole school DT week	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Census Day – Please order a school lunch if you can!	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Deadline to apply for primary school places	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Ambulance service in school	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
SATS evening for year 6 parents	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2026 @ 5pm
<b>February 2026</b>	
Imam visit	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
Last Day of Spring 1	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
Half term	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2026 – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
First day of Spring 2 – Children return to school	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2026
<b>March 2026</b>	
Yoyo Easter visit	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March
Last day of the Spring term for pupils	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March
Inset Day – School closed for pupils	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March

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

Merry Christmas!

With very best wishes,

Clare Thompson

### Attachments:

- <https://www.raiseyork.co.uk/> - The Raise York website is designed to support parents, carers, children, young people and anyone who works with children, young people and families.
- <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>
- Picture News for Parents