



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 20th March 2026

Dear parent/ carer,

What a glorious week it has been! It has been wonderful to see the children enjoying their playtimes and lunchtimes in the sunshine.

I cannot quite believe next week is the last week of term – as always, it has been a busy and fun one, filled with learning, enrichment and continued sporting success. Like they always do, the children have approached every opportunity with enthusiasm, determination and a real sense of fun. We are so proud of them all.

We are looking forward to seeing those of you who are able to join us in church on Tuesday for our Easter Service. If you are able to help us to walk to and from church, we would really appreciate it. The EYFS and Key Stage one service begins at 10am and the KS2 service is at 11am. We will leave school approximately 20 minutes before each service.

Remember we have an inset day next Friday so this will be the last newsletter of the term – I have put key dates for next term at the end of the newsletter – do let us know if you think we have missed anything.

We hope you all have a wonderful Easter break, filled with sunshine, happiness and perhaps a little bit of chocolate. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Monday 13th April 2026**.

Messages for staff

Members of staff in school aim to greet and check in with every single child at the start of the school day to build positive relationships, to make sure we notice the things that are important to the children and to ensure we become quickly aware if something is not quite right.

Some members of staff are finding this difficult to do because an increasing number of parents are chatting to them in the morning. We absolutely appreciate that messages need to be passed on and that sometimes these things are urgent; however, if a message isn't urgent, please send it in via email to the school office. This will free up the teacher to have these vital interactions with the children.

Thank you so much for your understanding.

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Parent Consultations

Remember to book your parent consultations if you have not yet done so. Following overwhelmingly positive feedback from the parent consultations held in November, the evenings will take the same format: teachers will be sitting around the side of the hall and benches will be situated in the middle of the hall where you will be able to wait for your appointment, where children will be able to sit if they need to accompany you and for you to look through your children's books after your appointment. Please enter school via the main entrance, which we will leave open, and make your way through to the school hall.

The appointments are ten minutes long – we do need to be tight on timings to avoid impacting on other people's appointments. If your child is on the Special Educational Needs register, you should have been contacted to book a longer or separate appointment to review their Individual Education Plan (IEP). Please do let us know if an appointment for this has not yet been scheduled so that we can facilitate it.

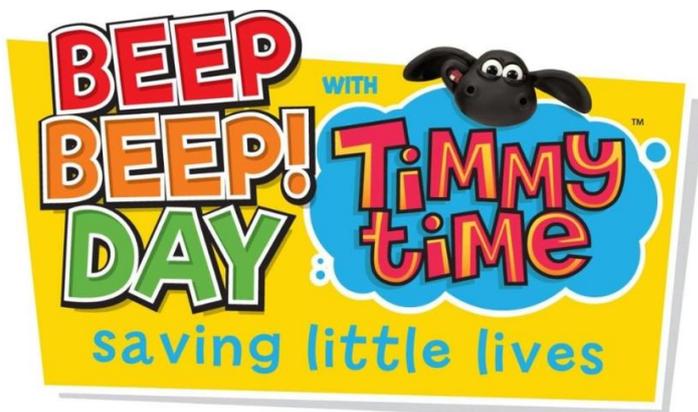
OPAL

If you have any unused slides, we would love to use them here in school. Thank you!

Parking

A resident was unable to access their driveway this week as parents were parked on the zig zag lines. Please do park respectfully and considerately in a way that ensures the children are safe. Whilst we have no legal jurisdiction over this, we have asked PCSOs to attend school one day to help advise people on how to ensure they are parking safely.

Reception - Beep Beep Day



The children in Reception had a great time celebrating Beep Beep! Day on Wednesday and learning all about how to keep themselves safe on or near roads.



We had 3 fun and interactive sessions which focussed on using a child seat when in the car, holding hands with a grown up near roads and finding safe places to cross the road.

In provision time, the children enjoyed going on pretend journeys where they made sure they were buckled up and they also used our road play mat to find safe places to cross.

We played games where we practised holding hands, stopping and waiting before crossing a road and we sang some songs to remind us of the rules.

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The children also made their own handprint pledge to hold a grown up's hand near the roads. We had lots of fun and learned lots of important things!



Wellbeing worker

We are sorry to any children who are normally supported by our wellbeing worker – she is currently off work. The service has provided a booklet attached to this newsletter to support children at home which you are welcome to use if you would like. Please do let us know if your child is particularly struggling without the service.

Plea

A plea for old and unwanted pairs of adult or children’s sunglasses.

These will be used for KS2 children to investigate how effective different sunglasses are in protecting our eyes from UV rays.

Dates for your Diary

New dates will be added in bold each week

March 2026	
Easter Service at St Nicholas Church	Tuesday 24 th March 2026 EYFS and KS1 – 10am KS2 – 11m Parents are welcome to come along to join the service. Any help walking to and from the church is much appreciated as always.
Yoyo Easter visit	Wednesday 25 th March
Parent consultations	Tuesday 24 th March 2026 Wednesday 25 th March 2026 (no netball) Thursday 26 th March 2026
Last day of the Spring term for pupils	Thursday 26 th March

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Inset Day – School closed for pupils	Friday 27 th March
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April 2026	
School re-opens for pupils	Monday 13 th April
Pedestrian Training for year 3 and 4	Monday 13 th April
Dodgeball Finals	Thursday 16 th April
Colour raffle non-uniform day and draw	Friday 17 th April – Items can be brought in from Monday
Betsy Bug Hotel Visit EYFS and KS1	Friday 24 th April
Hinduism Visit – year 3 and 4	Thursday 30 th April
May 2026	
Class Photographs	Tuesday 5 th May
SATS week	Monday 11 th May – Thursday 14 th May
Key Stage 2 Bake Sale – Raising money for Oscars	Thursday 21 st May
Last day of half term	Friday 22 nd May
Half Term Holiday	Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May
June 2026	
First Day back for children	Monday 1 st June
Year 5 Residential – Boggle Hole	Monday 8 th June – Wednesday 10 th June
Summer Beach Day celebrating International Day of Play – parents invited	Thursday 11 th June
Yoyo prayer spaces in church for years 2 and 3	Wednesday 17 th June
Yoyo prayer spaces in church for years 4 and 5	Thursday 18 th June
Film Night	Friday 19 th June
Year 6 residential – Low Mill	Monday 22 nd June – Wednesday 24 th June
July 2026	
Sports Day – KS2am, KS1pm	Wednesday 8 th July (reserve date Wednesday 15 th July)
EYFS and Key Stage 1 Bake Sale – Raising money for Oscars	Thursday 9 th July
Reports out to parents	Friday 10 th July
KS2 production dress rehearsal	Friday 10 th July
KS2 production	Monday 13 th July – 1:30pm Monday 13 th July – 6pm Tuesday 14 th July – 6pm
Year 6 Leavers Assembly and Tea	Thursday 16 th July – 1:30pm
School Disco	EYFS and KS1 – 5pm – 6pm KS2 5:15pm – 7:15pm
Leavers' Service in St Nicholas Church (no parents)	Friday 17 th July – 10am
Last day of the summer term	Friday 17 th July

Dates to be confirmed:

Phonics screener – year 1

Multiplication check – year 4

Colour run raising money for Candlelighters

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Best wishes,

Clare Thompson

Attachments:

- What's happening at SEND Central <https://www.yorksend.org/parents/send-central/4>
- What parent/ carers need to know about online trends encouraging violence.
- Parent Carer Forum Newsletter
- School Wellbeing Service Helpful Workbook Primary

FREE

DROP IN but helps if you can book at Dunnington Library's helpdesk or via @DunningtonGIG's Facebook event link so our volunteers can make sure we have enough materials for the activities.

Tues 7th April
2.30-4pm

Nature IMPs
#NatureInMyPatch

Sow Bee-Friendly Flowers & Get Crafty with Pollinators at Dunnington Reading Rooms

Please bring a 9cm plant pot or empty 300ml yoghurt/cream pot for each child if you can.

Very kindly sponsored by

FRIENDS OF DUNNINGTON LIBRARY

More info at <https://www.facebook.com/DunningtonGIG/>  DunningtonGIG@gmail.com



ARE YOU AGED BETWEEN 8 - 18 AND ENJOY SWIMMING AND RUNNING?

WHY NOT TRY THE 2026 LBT JUNIOR AQUATHLON

SUNDAY 31 MAY 26
THE EDGE - LEEDS UNIVERSITY

All abilities welcomed and encouraged - it's the perfect introduction to multi-sport events.
Only equipment required is swimwear and trainers!
Prizes for top three male & female in each category - all competitors receive a medal and goody bag!




Category	Age*	Distance
TriStar Start	8 years	50m Swim & 600m Run
TriStar 1	9-10 years	150m Swim & 1,200m Run
TriStar 2	11-12 years	250m Swim & 1,800m Run
TriStar 3	13-14 years	400m Swim & 3,000m Run
Youth	15-16 years	400m Swim & 3,000m Run
Junior B	17-18 years	400m Swim & 3,000m Run

* Based on age as at 31 December 2026




BOOK NOW: https://www.britishtriathlon.org/events/lbt-junior-aquathlon_17078
FOR MORE INFO EMAIL: lbtaquathlon@gmail.com

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Could you be a Parent Advocate?

Help Us To Support Parents When They Need It Most

Could you empower other parents to speak up and be heard when they are at their most vulnerable?

Do you have personal experience of Children's Social Care Services, either as a parent or a supportive family member?

Could you draw on your own experience to help others to navigate the Child Protection Process?

The City of York Council Volunteer Service is launching a new volunteer role for individuals with personal experience of Children's Social Care Services. Parent Advocates will provide practical and emotional support to parents navigating the child protection process to help them feel empowered and heard.

We need volunteers who can bring first-hand experience as someone who has engaged with Children's Services. They will need to be non-judgemental and empathetic with strong listening and communication skills.

Full training will be provided alongside regular support and supervision from an assigned Volunteer Officer. All costs will be reimbursed and volunteers will be part of a supportive community of fellow Parent Advocates. Volunteering will be flexible to ensure it fits around parents' busy lives. We will ask for an initial commitment of approx. 3-6 hours per month.

Get in touch with the Volunteer Team today by emailing volunteer@york.gov.uk or call us on 07542 510430





**Elmet Lions
Club CIO**

Great Selby Bike Ride



Sunday May 17th 2026

10:00am Start from and finish at Barlby High School

Choice of two rides - 45 miles or 25 miles

- Refreshments available
- Memento to all completing the course

Go to our website to enter
greatselbybikeride.lionsclub.co/how-to-enter



Entry prices

Solo rider - £16 on day
(£15 paid in advance)

Family group - £30

(2 Adults+2 children)

(£29 in advance)

(Children =
under 13)

New for 2026!

You can now fundraise for your own chosen charity.