



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 11th September 2026

Dear parent/carer,

It really has been wonderful to welcome the children and staff back to school. We have been unbelievably impressed with the way the children have settled into their new classes and we have no doubt that we are set for another great year ahead.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new children and their families who have joined Dunnington CE Primary School this year. We look forward to getting to know you and helping you to settle into our school community. The new reception cohort have taken everything in their stride and they should be so proud of themselves!

I would like to take the opportunity, on behalf of everyone who works in the school, to pass on a very big thank you to the children and families for all the cards, letters and gifts received at the end of last term. They were incredibly kind and very much appreciated.

Year 6 Johnson Class: First Week Update

We have had a wonderful return to school in Year 6, and the children have come back maturely, excitedly and, it seems, a little taller! It has been lovely to see them settling back into routines with such a positive attitude and a strong sense of readiness for the year ahead.

This week, we have dug into our new class novel, *Holes* by Louis Sachar, and the children have already shown great enthusiasm for our reading discussions. In History, we enjoyed stepping back in time and exploring the past with curiosity and thoughtful questions. We have also been working creatively in Art, sketching and making positive posters linked to perseverance and growth mindset.

A particular highlight has been our 'walking library' lesson, where the children were able to choose their own independent reading books. They were excited to explore the many new books on offer, and it was encouraging to see how carefully they selected texts to enjoy.

It has been a very positive start to the year, and I am looking forward to all that Year 6 Johnson Class will achieve together.

Mrs Pilkington

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Year 6 Bikeability Training

Year 6 will be taking part in Bikeability, our cycling safety training programme, on **Friday 25th September 2026** and **Friday 2nd October 2026**.

Information about what children will need on these days, together with the consent to participate link, has been emailed home. Please ensure that you have read this carefully and **completed the consent link for your child to take part**.

If you need any support with this, please let us know and we will be happy to help.



Roseberry Hike

An amazing well done to one of our superstars in year 2 who raised an amazing £190 to purchase tree swings for OPAL. She completed the hike up Roseberry on 28th August, racing up and leaving mum and dad struggling to catch up. We are all so proud of her! Thank you from everyone here at school.

Dancing Success

Congratulations to Riley in year 6 who became British Junior Acro Champion over the summer.

We love hearing about all the amazing achievements of our pupils here at Dunnington.

Welcome Meetings

Our welcome meetings will be held at 5:00pm on the following evenings:

Key Stage one Rashford, Parks and Johnson Class	Key Stage two Goodall and Hockney Class	EYFS Earhart Class
Tuesday 15 th September @ 5:00pm	Wednesday 16th September @ 5:00pm	Monday 28 th September @ 5:00pm <i>This meeting will have a phonics focus.</i>

Access to these meetings will be via the main entrance to the school. Information will also be sent out in a class newsletter and published on the school website for those unable to attend.

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Water Bottles

The children are encouraged to drink plenty of water throughout the school day so please ensure they have a named water bottle in school. Please encourage your child to bring their bottles home daily for a good wash!

Nut Aware

Please remember that we are a nut-aware school. This is because we have a number of children in school who have a severe nut allergy. We therefore ask that all parents avoid putting nuts or any product that contains nuts into packed lunches. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

Birthdays

Children are welcome to wear non-uniform on their birthdays or on the school day that is nearest their birthday if it falls during a weekend/ school holiday.

Occasionally children have brought treats and sweets in from holidays and birthdays to share with their friends. Whilst we appreciate this is a really kind gesture, some parents would rather their children didn't eat sweets and others have food intolerances/allergies. We therefore request that children don't bring treats into school to share.

Bringing Cycles and Scooters to School/ Playground equipment before/ after school

Many children bring their cycles and scooters to school, which is a brilliant, healthy form of transport. In order to keep everybody safe, we ask that children dismount their cycles and scooters before they enter the school gates and walk them to the scooter parks and cycle sheds sensibly. Please do not allow your child to scoot or cycle in the playgrounds before or after school.

Parking around School

It is really important that cars do not park/ drop-off on the double yellow lines or zig zags or block neighbouring driveways. Doing this makes it difficult for children to see and dangerous to cross near our school. Your help and consideration would be very much appreciated. For parents new to the school, please be aware that Hunter's Way is a private road - please refrain from parking down that street.

School Staff

Please find below updated information on our current staff roles:

	Mrs Thompson	Headteacher
EYFS	Mrs Elliot Mrs Rowntree Mrs Downing Mrs Midgley	Senior Leader and Reception Teacher (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday) Reception Teacher (Tuesday) Teaching Assistants
Year 1	Miss Dickenson Mrs Rowntree Miss Noble	Year 1 Teacher (Tuesday to Friday) Year 1 Teacher (Monday) Teaching Assistant
Year 2	Mrs Priest	Senior Leader and Year 2 (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)

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	Mrs Rowntree	Year 2 teacher (Wednesday)
Year 3 / 4	Mrs Todd Mrs Jones Mrs Collins Mrs Kukaswadia	Year 3 / 4 Teacher (Monday – Wednesday) Year 3 / 4 Teacher (Thursday - Friday) Teaching Assistants
Year 4 / 5	Mr Gargiulo Mrs Kukaswadia Miss Noble	Senior Leader and Year 4 / 5 Teacher Teaching Assistants
Year 6	Mrs Pilkington Mrs Bradley	Year 6 teacher Senior Leader and Year 6 Teacher (Maternity leave)
	Mrs Lockwood	HLTA – PPA cover, Year 3 maths and support in KS2 (Tuesday – Friday)
	Mrs Parkin	SENDSCO (Tuesdays)
	Mrs Pearce Miss Hutchison	School Business Manager School Administrator
	Mrs Boorman Mrs Camplejohn Mrs Collins Mrs Crossley Mrs Kukaswadia Mrs Lockwood Mrs Lewis Mrs Midgley Mrs Noble	Play Team

If you have a message for your child's teacher, please email or call the school office (dunningtonprimary.school@york.gov.uk/01904 552910). The office will pass on the message and someone will get back to you as soon as possible. We ask that you do not contact the teacher directly to protect their work-life balance.

School Choir-Calling all Y3s! (and anyone in KS2)

Would you like to join our KS2 choir? We meet on Monday mornings at 8am for lots of fun singing games and learning songs from all genres. We have regular performances and it's a wonderful, energising way to start the week.

The cost is around £20 per half term. Please email me at bek_19@hotmail.com to secure your child's place. Our first session this term is Monday 14th September.

Dates for your diaries – new dates will be added in bold each week.

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September 2026	
KS1 Welcome Meeting	Tuesday 15 th September 2026 @ 5pm
KS2 Welcome Meeting	Wednesday 16 th September 2026 @ 5pm
Year 3/4 Boys' Football Festival	Wednesday 23 rd September 2026
Y6 Bikeability	Friday 25 th September 2026
EYFS Phonics Meeting	Monday 28 th September 2026 @ 5pm
October 2026	
Y6 Bikeability	Friday 2 nd October 2026
Book Fair	Wednesday 7 th – Friday 9 th October 2026
Harvest Service in Church Parents Welcome Any help walking to and from church would be appreciated – please let your child's class teacher know via the school office.	Thursday 15 th October EYFS and KS1 @ 10am KS2 @ 11am
Disco 5pm – 6pm KS1 6:15 – 7:15 KS2	Thursday 22 nd October 2026
Last Day of Autumn 1 for children	Thursday 22 nd October 2026
Inset Day – no children in school Break up for half term	Friday 23 rd October 2026
November 2026	
Children return to school	Monday 2 nd November 2026
Individual school photos	Thursday 12 th November 2026
Flu vaccinations	Monday 30 th November 2026
December 2026	
Tree Decorating Assembly	Tuesday 1 st December 2026
EYFS and KS1 Nativity 2pm	Tuesday 8 th December 2026 Wednesday 9 th December 2026
Christmas Service in Church Parents Welcome	Thursday 17 th December 2026 EYFS and KS1 @ 10am KS2 @ 11am
Last day of the Autumn Term	Friday 18 th December 2026

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

With very best wishes,

Clare Thompson

Attachments:

- YIKS newsletter

Children's Commissioner Survey

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As children and young people return to school for the new academic year, the Children's Commissioner is writing to ask for your support in making sure more pupils have the opportunity to take part in my national survey, The Big Future.

The survey can be complete here:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture>



A poster for Bandy Music Lessons & Bandy School Bands. The top section features the Bandy logo (a musical note) and the text 'The Ultimate Primary School Band Experience by Mr. C's Music'. Below this is a photograph of a man playing a guitar on a stage. To the right of the photo, the text 'MUSIC LESSONS & BANDY PLACES AVAILABLE' is written in large, bold, blue and orange letters. Below this, it says 'Starting week commencing 14 September 2026'. The middle section shows five icons representing different instruments: Guitar, Drums, Bass, Keyboard, and Singing. Below these icons, it says 'Small-group music lessons for primary-school children'. The bottom section features the text 'BANDY SCHOOL BANDS' in large, bold, blue and orange letters, followed by 'Learn your part properly — then bring it together in a real band.' Below this, it lists the benefits: 'Confidence • Teamwork • Musicianship • Performances'. At the bottom, it says 'Fees can be paid monthly or termly. Places are limited and subject to availability.' and 'APPLY NOW' in a large, bold, orange box. Below the box, it provides the application form link: 'forms.gle/UmSHJY7Ykfq48QxPA' and the website 'mrcsmusic.co.uk'.

YGO Concert Tickets

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We continue to have 200 FREE tickets for children and young people to attend the YGO concert. Tickets are also available for teachers and parents to enable attendance at the concert. [Apply for FREE tickets here](#)



Kidslingo FUN French Clubs
at Dunnington CE Primary School
for Reception, Key Stage 1 & Key Stage 2



Booking is open for our autumn term!

Our multi-Award-Winning French clubs are an action-packed adventure of *FUN* music, game play, storytelling & drama!

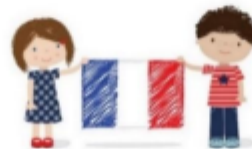
CLUB DETAILS:

- ✓ Our clubs run on Thursday (from 17th September):
- ✓ 12.00-12.30pm – Key Stage 2 (Year 3, 4, 5 & 6)
- ✓ 12.30-1.00pm – Reception & Key Stage 1 (Year 1 & 2)

*All club members receive a **FREE SUBSCRIPTION** to our **Kidslingo games website**.*

HOW TO BOOK – Go to the website - www.clubenrolment.com/kidslingohelenw

- ✓ Enter Club Location Dunnington CE Primary School, select the correct club & enrol.
- ✓ The club costs £5.00 per week. Payment is made termly by bank transfer and should be made when booking. Please get in touch if you would like to pay in two instalments.



Learning a new language at a young age helps children develop their cognitive skills, such as problem-solving, critical thinking, and attention to detail. These skills lead to better academic performance and have a positive impact on pupils' overall mental health and well-being.

'Most Loved Creative & Academic Activity'
WINNER - What's On 4 Kids Awards 2025



Helen Westerby Kidslingo French York, East & Humber
helenw@kidslingo.co.uk 07815 765989 www.kidslingo.co.uk
Our tutors are fully trained, insured and hold DBS certificates.



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Rugby and Hockey Taster Event

Join St Peter's experienced Rugby and Hockey coaches for a fun training session!

Tuesday 15 September
4-6pm

St Peter's School YORK

Register here!



SCHOOL SPORT
MAGAZINE

www.schoolsportmag.co.uk

- Free to attend
- For Years 5 and 6



LNER COMMUNITY STADIUM, YORK

ENG U23 VS NORWAY U23

BUY TICKETS NOW

MONDAY 12 OCTOBER | 7.30PM



Carnival of Science

Saturday 12 September
9.00-12.30

Register here!

Year 5 & 6 pupils are invited to join us for this year's Carnival of Science. Pupils will take part in a carousel of inspiring STEM activities with a space theme, in honour of the successful Artemis II launch this year

Register here!

St Peter's School YORK

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SEND CENTRAL's September 2026 offer.

From 9th September our Parent Carer Forum Navigators will be back on reception offering a drop in 5 days a week for advice and information 9.30-4pm.

We are hosting some courses for parents and carers:

Supporting Children with Special Educational Needs (SEND) from 23rd September 12.30-2.30pm bookable via York Learning

https://book.yorklearning.org.uk/Page/Prospectus_CourseOverview?uio_id=43366

This 5-week course explores SEND and offers practical ways to support your child at home if they are showing behaviours that may suggest additional needs. Held in a friendly, open environment, it gives you the chance to talk with other parents, share experiences and discover new approaches to help your child's development.

We will look at a range of additional needs, including those linked to neurodiversity—such as ADHD, Autism, Dyslexia, Dyscalculia and Dyspraxia—and explore how these differences can affect learning and behaviour. You'll gain a clearer understanding of what these needs might look like day-to-day and how small changes at home can make a big difference.

The course also introduces the support available to you through local services and the school system, helping you feel more confident navigating the next steps for your child.

Early Start – Play Speak and Learn Together starting from 1st October 10am- 12pm – bookable via York Learning

https://book.yorklearning.org.uk/Page/Prospectus_CourseOverview?uio_id=43313

This course is perfect for parents, grandparents, or carers of children aged 1 to 4 who wish to find out how they can support their child's learning and development at home.

**Handling Anger in the Family from 24th September 10am – 12pm-
bookable via Family Matters York**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/handling-anger-in-the-family-family-support-course-york-area-tickets-1991549086930?aff=oddtcreator>

A 5 week course helping you understand the emotion of anger and to learn positive strategies to support your child's emotions, reducing conflict and lowering the temperature in family life.

Our One offs this month are:

**Tuesday 15 September 1pm – 2pm Transitioning to Secondary
School with an Education Health and Care Plan**

An information session led by the SEND casework team around applying for Secondary Schools when your child or young person has an Educational Health and Care Plan- this session is ideally for parents and carers of children who are in Year 5&6.

**Friday 18 September 11am - 12pm A Multi Agency Preparation for
Adulthood Drop In**

SEND CENTRAL are hosting a multi agency drop in that consists of The City of York Specialist Learning & Employment Adviser (SLEA) Team who can advise around pathways that may be available for young people Post 16 in York, a Preparation for Adulthood Social work service manager, social worker and our NHS Transitions Nurse.

**Friday 25 September 10am -12pm Benefits Advice for parents and
carers of
children with additional needs**

To make sure you are getting all the support you are entitled to, please email SEND Central at SENDCENTRAL@york.gov.uk to arrange an appointment.

**Wednesday 30 September 1.30- 2.30 A guide to Annual Reviews
when you have an Educational Health and Care Plan**

An information session led by the Team Leader Plan Writer from SEND team around the process of annual reviews of your EHCP. This will be an overview of what to expect, understanding the process with the opportunity for questions and answers.

Think Together are running the following workshops:

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on Christian Values**



Wednesday 16 September 10am- 11.30am - Understanding low mood and introduction to CBT informed techniques to improve symptoms

A workshop to support understanding low mood, identify key features and maintaining factors of low mood. We will discuss CBT informed strategies and techniques to help manage and reduce experience of low mood.

Wednesday 23 September 10am - 11.30am What is self esteem

A workshop to support parents/carers to learn more about self-esteem, how low self-esteem can present in young people and how parents/carers can support a young person when they may be experiencing low self-esteem.

 This week at SEND CENTRAL 				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reception Closed	Reception Closed	Parent Carer Forum York Navigator 9.30am-4pm Advice and information drop-in No need to book just come along	Parent Carer Forum York Navigator 9.30am-4pm Advice and information drop-in No need to book just come along	Parent Carer Forum York Navigator 9.30am-4pm Advice and information drop-in No need to book just come along
Wellbeing in Mind- Elective Home Education Workshop 11am -12.30pm	YIKS Autism Hub 4.30pm-6.30pm Bookable Only via YIKS	Early Years SEND Playgroup- Portage 10am - 11.30am All welcome no booking required	YIKS Parent/carer SEND drop in 9.30am-11am All Welcome no booking required	Bookable Appointments around preparation for adulthood. If you contact our navigator at SENDCENTRAL@york.gov.uk with a brief summary we can book an appointment with an education, health or social care practitioner.
YIKS Autism Hub 4.30pm- 6.30pm Bookable Only via YIKS	YIKS Siblings Group 6.45pm- 8.00pm	Think Together Workshop 10-11.30 Understanding anxiety and introduction to CBT informed techniques to improve symptoms All welcome no booking required.	Healthy Child Team 9am - 12pm Drop in 2pm -3.30pm 4 month workshop- invite only.	YIKS Autism Hub 4.30pm- 6.30pm Bookable only via YIKS
		Specialist Autism Teaching Team 1.30pm-2.30pm Drop in All welcome no booking required	YIKS Post 16 Group 6.30pm -8pm	
		YIKS Autism Hub 4.30pm- 6.30pm Bookable Only via YIKS		



York SEND Youth Forum

Are you a young person aged 7 - 25 with a special educational need or disability (SEND)?

Have your say and make a difference!

The SEND Youth Forum meets fortnightly at SEND Central to:

- Take part in fun activities, discussions and events
- Meet other young people with SEND
- Help improve SEND services York
- Share their views and ideas



Autumn term 2026

16:30 - 17:30

09/09 07/10 04/11 02/12
23/09 21/10 18/11 16/12

We also have meetings online
24/09
22/10
26/11
18:00 - 19:00



Get involved by emailing
Jointpartnership@york.gov.uk
www.yorksend.org
[/get-involved/send-youth-forum](https://get-involved/send-youth-forum)