



DUNNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pear Tree Lane

Dunnington

York YO19 5QG

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dunningtonprimary.school@york.gov.uk

www.dunningtonprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Clare Thompson

head.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk

Friday 18th September 2026

Dear parent/carer,

Thank you to those of you who were able to attend the KS1 and KS2 class welcome meetings this week – it was lovely to have you in school to share exciting plans for the year ahead. The slides shared during the meetings will be sent out with this newsletter and relevant information will be added to the school website over the next couple of weeks.

If you do have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher in the first instance via the school office (email address listed above).

We are looking forward to the Earhart Class meeting which is on Monday 28th September at 5:00pm. Mrs Elliott will particularly focus on our approach to teaching phonics during this meeting.

Snacks and toys in school

In EYFS and KS1 all children are provided with a snack each morning. There is no need for you to send a snack in for your child.

In KS2 children are welcome to bring in snacks, but they should be healthy and fruit based. Please can you remind children not to share snacks with others and please ensure no products with nuts are sent into school: we have a number of children with allergies and have to be really careful that they do not accidentally consume something they are allergic to.

We also ask that no toys are brought into school, including fidgets, homemade squashies and Beyblades. We have lots of brilliant OPAL toys and sports equipment for the children to play with outside and we have toys and equipment available in every classroom for all children to access.

If your child needs to bring a toy in from home to help support anxiety around separation, please do talk to us about this.

Bee Awards

We are making a change to the way we do our "Bee Awards" this year. Each week, a child will be picked at random. The children in the class will then have the opportunity to discuss where this child has exemplified our school rules – being ready, respectful and safe – and how they have been kind to those around them.

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It has been so wonderful to hear what the children shared as we celebrated these superstars in assembly.

- Erin in Earhart Class has been kind to her friends and has been safe walking around the classroom
- Thea in Goodall Class has demonstrated wonderful sharing and made sure everyone feels included
- Odie in Hockney Class always listens really carefully and makes everyone in the class happy because he is funny
- Eleanor in Rashford Class never puts herself first and is so caring and considerate to those around her
- Grace in Parks Class brightens up every room and perseveres even at the hardest of times
- Isaac R in Johnson Class always listens in maths – and it pays off – and never runs in the corridor.

Countless other reasons were shared. We are so proud of you all – thank you for always being kind, ready, respectful and safe.

IMPOTANT REMINDER: Year 6 Bikeability Consent required by Monday

A reminder that all children **must have consent** given through the Bikeability digital system-please provide this via the link below by Monday 21st September (the cut-off date is set by the company providing the training for safety and resource preparation purposes). There is also an option to request a cycle and/or helmet, if required.

<https://consent.bikeability.org.uk/lib-bird-media>

School Development Plan 2026-2027

Over the last year, we have made strong progress against our school improvement priorities. We further strengthened our inclusive culture, ensuring that all children feel they belong and matter. Our SIAMS inspection recognised this strength, describing Dunnington as an *“inclusive and caring community where everyone is valued.”* Our curriculum was reviewed and refined across a range of subjects, helping to make learning even more engaging and meaningful for pupils. A particular highlight was the first year of our OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) journey. New play opportunities, resources and outdoor developments have transformed playtimes, creating happier, more active and more inclusive experiences for children. We have also enhanced our Early Years outdoor provision, giving our youngest learners even greater opportunities to explore, play and learn. Alongside this, attendance has remained above national averages, behaviour continues to be excellent, and strong outcomes have been sustained across the school. Thank you to our pupils, staff, governors and families for their ongoing support in helping us make Dunnington such a positive and thriving school community.

This year we will be focusing on:

- **Helping children stay safe online** through a whole-school Online Safety Week and regular learning about using technology safely and responsibly.
- **Improving how we assess and celebrate progress** for pupils working below age-related expectations, ensuring every child’s achievements are recognised and supported.
- **Embedding our curriculum** so that all children build knowledge and skills confidently, remember key learning and achieve their best across all subjects.

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- **Supporting every child to succeed**, particularly by narrowing gender attainment gaps and increasing opportunities for all pupils to achieve highly.
- **Strengthening reading and maths outcomes** for children who need additional support, helping them make strong progress from their individual starting points.
- **Improving attendance**, especially for vulnerable pupils and those with SEND, so that every child can benefit fully from school life and learning.
- **Building on the success of OPAL play** by providing rich, inclusive and engaging play opportunities that support wellbeing, friendships and personal development.
- **Enhancing learning in Early Years** through high-quality interactions that develop children's language, confidence, thinking and independence.
- **Further improving phonics and early reading** so that more children develop strong reading skills and achieve expected standards by the end of Reception and in Year 1.
- **Strengthening governance** so that governors continue to support and challenge school leaders effectively, helping drive ongoing school improvement.

These priorities reflect our vision of **growing and learning together to be the best that we can be**, while living out our RESPECT values every day.

Things to celebrate ...

Well done Elliot

A huge well done to Elliot in year 6 who climbed Ben Nevis for the Selby Hands of Hope Charity during the summer holiday. He was the only child in the group and he was fantastic, keeping all the adults going with his energy, enthusiasm and humour. What an amazing achievement Elliot – well done!

Well done Nancy and Summer

Nancy and Summer in year 6 were both put forward for trials for the York District School Girls football team. Only 12 girls were selected across the whole of York and they were both successful in getting into the squad. They will represent York by playing lots of matches against other districts. Go girls!

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

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	EYFS and KS1 @ 10am KS2 @ 11am

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Any help walking to and from church would be appreciated – please let your child's class teacher know via the school office.	
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 2025 2025	
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 ^h December 2026

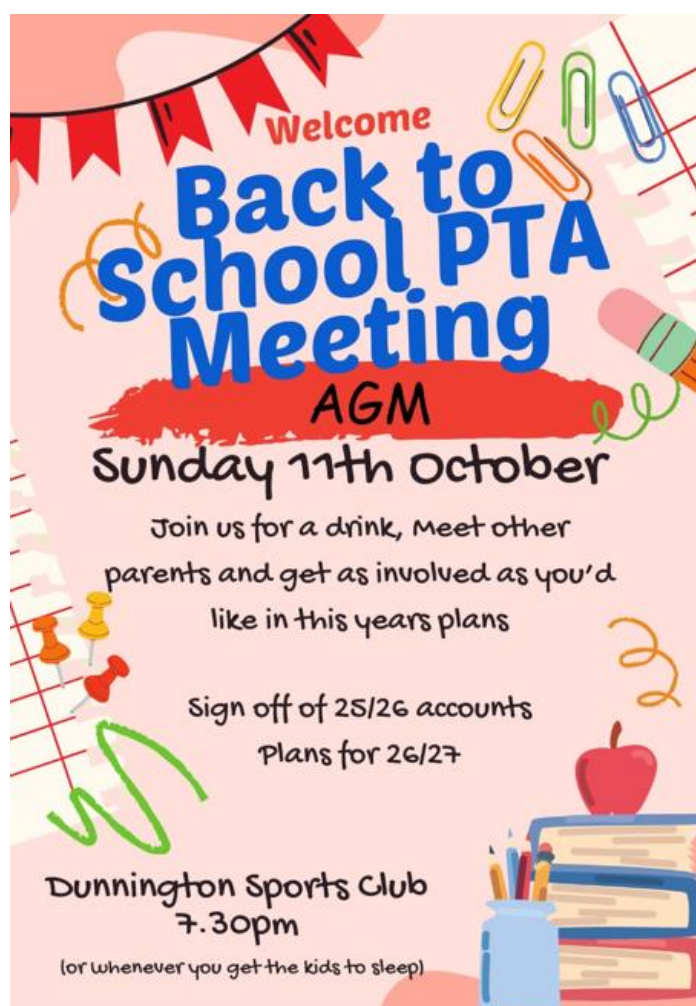
Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

With very best wishes,

Clare Thompson

Attachments:

- KS1 Welcome Meeting Slides
- KS2 Welcome Meeting Slides
- Attendance leaflet for parents
- Parent Carer Forum Newsletter
- What parents and carers need to know about toxic gaming



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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, games, storytelling & drama!**

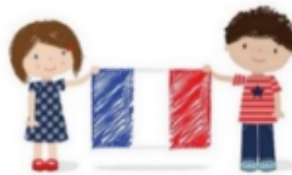
CLUB DETAILS:

- ✓ 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/kidslingo/helenw

- ✓ 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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CHILDREN'S WELLNESS IS BA... more



CHILDREN'S WELLNESS SESSION

RELAX • CREATE • CONNECT • GROW



MONDAY 26TH OCT

AGE 5 TO 8
10AM UNTIL 12PM

AGE 9 TO 11
12.30PM TO 2.30PM

 **WILBERFOSS
COMMUNITY CENTRE**

MESSAGE OR CONTACT

 simplybeewellness@hotmail.com

 07715693656

**FUN, MINDFUL &
SUPPORTIVE ACTIVITIES**



SIMPLYBEE
with
PranaFlow



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BOOTHAM SCHOOL Open Day



Families are invited to join us on Saturday 26th September 2026 for our interactive Senior School Open Day (for Years 7-11), packed with opportunities to explore, learn and connect.

- Hear from our Head, Deneal Smith, and other key members of our Senior School.
- Take a guided tour of our Senior School facilities and enjoy interactive activities in each department.
- Learn more about our Senior curriculum, Enrichment opportunities and Scholarship Programme.



*Click or scan to
book your place*



SENIOR OPEN DAY - SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER

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