



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 25th September 2026

Dear parent/carer,

What a week it has been! I would like to say thank you to you all for being so kind and supportive towards the team during our Ofsted Inspection. You will not be surprised to hear that your children did us proud, like they always do. We look forward to sharing the report with you when it is published in a few weeks.

Parents Consultations

We have scheduled parent consultations for the 13th, 14th and 15th October. These consultations will provide you with the opportunity to discuss how your child has settled into their new year group, how they are progressing, both academically and socially, and how you are able to support them at home. The appointments will be in person, taking place in the school hall. The appointments will last for 10 minutes.

The teachers will be available on the following nights:

Earhart (Mrs Elliott)	Weds (14 th) and Thurs (15 th)
Goodall (Miss Dickenson)	Weds (14 th) and Thurs (15 th)
Hockney (Mrs Priest)	Tues (13 th) and Thurs (15 th)
Rashford (Mrs Todd and Mrs Jones)	Tues (13 th) and Thurs (15 th)
Parks (Mr Gargiulo)	Tues (13 th) and Thurs (15 th)
Johnson (Mrs Pilkington)	Weds (14 th) and Thurs (15 th)

Further booking information will be sent out at the start of October.

Staffing

It is with a heavy heart that I let you know that the wonderful Mrs Lockwood – a Dunnington legend – will be leaving us at October half term. Mrs Lockwood does so much for our school: she teaches all the children, fascinating them in her RE and PSHE lessons, she provides emotional support to those who need it most in her role as our school ELSA, she is always the first on the scene when first aid is needed and nothing is ever too much to ask. She has decided that it is time for her to enjoy life outside of school and we wish her every happiness. We are not willing to let her go completely and she has promised us that she will provide occasional supply cover and she hopes to continue to join residential trips. Mrs Lockwood – you have been amazing and will be so very missed.

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Whilst we will all agree that Mrs Lockwood is irreplaceable, we do hope to recruit a new HLTA before half term.

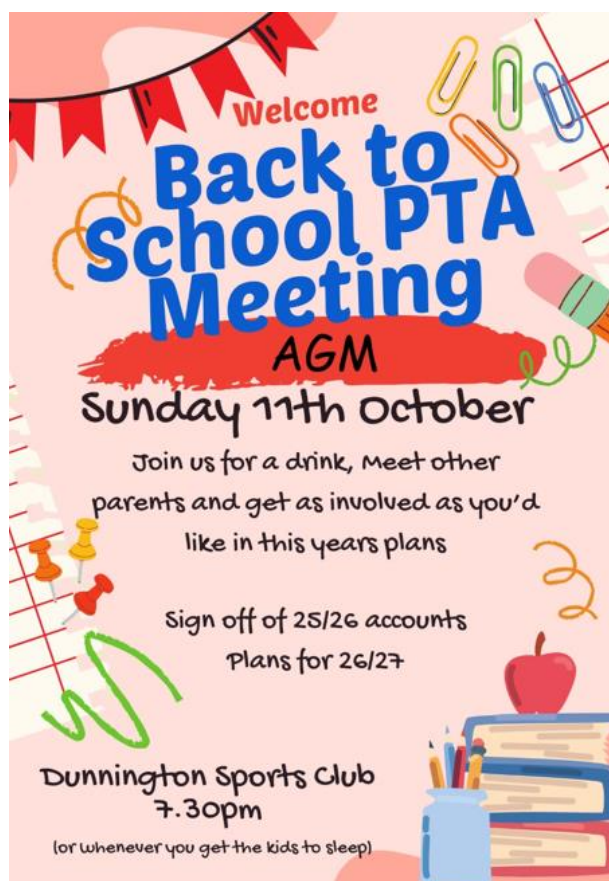
Census Day Menu

It is school census day on Thursday 1st October. There will be a special Superhero menu available.

As you may know, the school receives funding to allow any EYFS, year 1 or year 2 child to have free school meals. This funding is calculated from the number of pupils who order a school lunch on the three census days throughout the year so it is really important for our budget that as many children choose a school dinner on these days as possible.

If your child is unsure about trying a school lunch, they are welcome to bring in a packed lunch as well that they can have if they do not enjoy the school lunch.

Thank you for your support.



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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
Parent Consultations	Tuesday 13th October Wednesday 14th October Thursday 15th October
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.	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
Open Evening for New Starters 2026	Monday 9th November 2026 4pm – 5pm
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
Open Classroom	Thursday 17th December 3:30pm – 4:30pm
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

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Have your say on proposed changes to North Yorkshire Council's Home to School Travel Policy.

Following a Post Implementation Review of the updated Home to School Travel policy introduced in 2024, North Yorkshire Council is inviting views on a number of recommended changes. The consultation is open now and runs until 4 November 2026.

The review found that the policy is largely working as intended, helping to create a fairer and more consistent approach to transport eligibility while remaining in line with national guidance and on track to deliver planned savings. It also identified areas where improvements could be made.

Executive member for education, learning and skills, Cllr Annabel Wilkinson, said: "We know that school travel arrangements are incredibly important to families and that the changes introduced in 2024 have affected some households more than others.

"When the policy changed, we promised to review how it was working in practice and to listen to the experiences of families. We have carefully considered feedback from parents and carers, schools and other stakeholders, alongside appeals, complaints and operational data. We would encourage people to take part as this is your opportunity to have your say and help us to shape the future of our home to school travel policy in North Yorkshire."

If any recommendations are approved, they would not take effect before September 2027 and will apply to children starting in Reception and Year 7 in September 2028. Families should continue to make school preference decisions based on the existing arrangements while this process is completed.

Eligibility for free travel would continue to be based on a child's nearest suitable school with available places.

The review does not propose a return to catchment-based transport eligibility.

Find out more about the review and take part in the consultation at

www.northyorks.gov.uk/PIRsurve