



Tockwith

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY ACADEMY

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic start of the year we have had. It has been fantastic to see children settle into their new classes so well. It has been lovely to walk around the school and see children 'living life in all it's fullness'

This term, we have welcomed 25 new children into our setting to start their journey through our school. It has been lovely to welcome new families in this year group and to meet them at various transition events and school events through the term, especially the buddy service with their new year 6 buddies. Thank you to Reverend Martin, Karen Flood and Mrs Perry for giving the opportunity to the children and families to be welcomed into the church. From first impressions this is a super cohort of children who exhibit amazing learning behaviours and have a true love for life.

We have also welcomed Miss Taylor, Mrs Schippers and Mrs Gould into our school and it already feels like they have been here for ages as they have settled in so well. We have also said 'see you soon' to Mrs Medley who is due to have a baby very soon. We will welcome Miss Cunningham back while Mrs Medley enjoys being a mummy, It has been fantastic to see the team work together to ensure the children still receive an excellent education during the transition to Miss Cunningham. Also, a thank you to the parents and carers for your understanding.

We now currently have 233 children in our setting and 8 classes within the school. This is likely to change as we move forward and has meant the introduction of mixed age classes in Key Stage 1. These will move into lower key stage 2 as the larger year groups move through the school. We are working closely with the local authority who are in charge of our admissions whilst strategically planning for the future with our governors and Ebor Trust.

Last year, we released our performance data for last year. I shared how pleased I was with the attainment of the children. We have just been shared how this compares nationally with other schools

	2024 cohort	Performance in 2024
RWM KS2 expected standard %	28	Sig above national and 98th percentile
Reading KS2 expected standard %	28	Sig above national and 97th percentile
Writing KS2 expected standard %	28	Sig above national and 97th percentile

For those of you who like statistics you will appreciate this. Simply translated this means that the school performed 98% better than other schools in achieving their Reading, writing and Maths expected levels in all 3 subjects or we could say we are in the top 2% of schools. Wow! However, this is just a snapshot of children's education and does not tell you what an amazing bunch of children they were. What makes me feel super proud was talking to the head teachers at King James and Tadcaster about how our children from last year are flourishing in their new settings this year. We talk about 'preparing for the future' in our aims statement and hearing positive things really reinforces the fact that we are doing this well.

Speaking of preparing for the future, we know that the vast majority of our children have to get the bus to their secondary school so time keeping is essential otherwise the bus goes with out them. We are noticing an increase in the number of lates coming into school recently. Just a reminder that school starts at 8.50am.

I wish you all a lovely autumnal half term holiday and I look forward to seeing you in November.

Justin Reeve
Headteacher

Governor Corner

The Governors have hit the ground running this year and to make the most of our Team links many of us attended the Meet the Teacher sessions to introduce ourselves and talk about our intention to help support both Teams, and you the parents and carers. Hopefully we will be much more accessible to you as the year progresses. As well as our usual meetings we have also made a start on our monitoring of all curriculum areas and statutory matters and also some of us have been on trips and attended the coffee session. We have also welcomed two new Governors: Harriet Gwinn and Zoe Jenkins who are settling in well and already involving themselves fully in the many duties we perform around school.

Sue Corbett—Chair of Governors

Our new governor

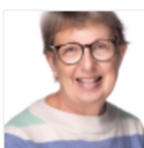
I've loved my first half term as a parent Governor. I've been busy learning the role, speaking to staff, attending meetings and observing the children being their wonderful selves. A highlight was seeing the children working together in their house groups for Friendship day. The way the older children worked with and encouraged the younger children was so lovely to see. There were some excellent discussions about what it means to be a friend. I'm looking forward to what the second half term will bring! Harriet Gwinn

Our Foundation Governors

On Friday 27th September, Mrs McBride, Mrs Kennett, Mrs Corbett and Mrs Marriner had an inspiring walk around school and enjoyed listening to the young people talk about their views on the Christian values held by school.

We heard how many of them enjoyed Collective Worship with Bible stories acted out by the Team Perry pupils. They also came away with ideas on how to live better in the light of these stories.

They also talked about prayer, and how they like to have quiet moments in their life to think and pray. They all remembered about going into church on special events, alongside Rev Martin and Mrs Flood, and how this was important to them. Janet Marriner

 Zoe Jenkins Appointed by Staff Date of Appointment: 26-09-24 Term of Office Ends: 26-09-26	 Harriet Gwinn Elected by Parents Date of Appointment: 03-09-24 Term of Office Ends: 03-09-26	 Laura Stubbs Elected by Parents Date of Appointment: 20/05/23 Term of Office Ends: 21/05/27	 Dawn Kennett Appointed by York Diocese Date of Appointment: 23/11/22 Term of Office Ends: 21/11/26
 Nick Goodacre Appointed by Staff Date of Appointment: 25/04/22 Term of Office Ends: 24/04/26	 Heidi Robinson Elected by Parents Date of Appointment: 01/08/21 Term of Office Ends: 31/08/25	 Sarah McBride Appointed by York Diocese Date of Appointment: 01/08/21	 Sue Corbett Appointed by Governing Body (Chair) Date of Appointment: 01/11/17 Term of Office Ends: 30/09/25
 Lis Wainwright Appointed by Governing Body Date of Appointment: 01/11/17 Term of Office Ends: 31/08/25	 Justin Reeve Headteacher Date of Appointment: 01/08/13	 Janet Marriner Appointed by York Diocese Date of Appointment: 01/11/17 Term of Office Ends: 30/09/25	 Val Hackforth Appointed by Governing Body Date of Appointment: 01/11/17 Term of Office Ends: 30/07/25

Reading in school

It was a pleasure to welcome so many parents and carers to join us for our reading morning. In Key Stage One, the children and staff gave lively and energetic demonstrations of their phonics learning and the progression and development through the key stage. In Key Stage Two, there was a great range of texts being shared from stories about friendship, chocolate and even some Shakespeare! A big thank you to the school council who helped to start the morning by introducing our friendship theme using the book, 'Try,' by Rob Burrow and Kevin Sinfield.

Following on from questions raised during our meet the teacher meetings, we have compiled a set of reading expectations for each year group. These outline the provision which teachers deliver in class and the reading expectations for children both in class and when they are at home.

These can be found on class pages for each year group. Mrs Perry

<https://tockwith.ebor.academy/classes/>



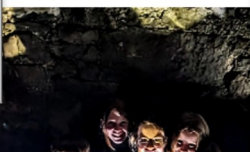
Humphrey Head

When we were at Humphrey Head it was very exciting and even though it was raining, it was a very exciting adventure and the rain made it feel more real.

We all went up a hill to get there and it was really funny to watch people going up with massive suitcases. When we went inside it was really warm and the staff were super welcoming. We were very excited and when we were introduced to our dorms we were all very happy with who we were put with.

We had incredible food from the chef called Dave and then at night we went on a night walk and walked to a small castle where we all played "Minions tonight we steal the moon." The next day we went on a nature walk and after that we went scrambling; it was super fun and we all enjoyed it. We all had a good night's sleep and when we woke up we did bush craft and soon after it was canoeing.

For the fourth day, we went raft-building on Lake Windermere and then abseiling. The last day we went fossil hunting and put war paint on using haematite. It was time to wave goodbye and we all went home thinking about how we won't have Dave's food again and how much fun we had. We truly lived life in all its fullness.
Sienna, Year 6



Harvest Festival

Reception had a fantastic time celebrating their performance at the Harvest Festival! We sang two wonderful songs, including one with sign language that we practised really hard. We also shared an autumn poem. Mr. Reeve even got the parents involved, and Reception loved having everyone join in! Thank you for making it a special day!
Mrs Grainger

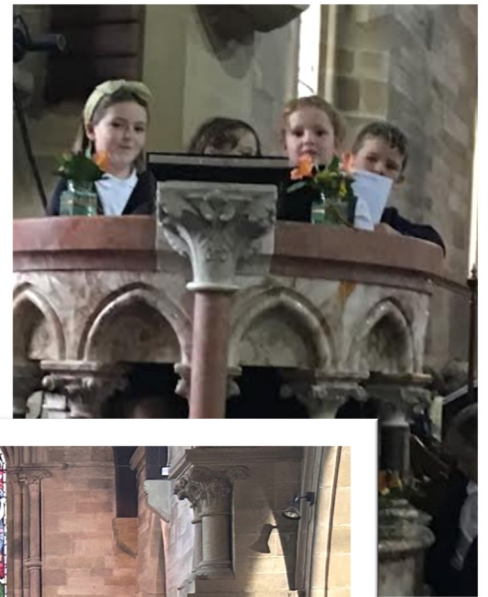
It was a cheery harvest festival to welcome in Autumn with all the boys and girls in KS1. They chose catchy tunes to show off our wonderful singing skills which filled the church beautifully! We then enjoyed listening to our parents and grandparents joining in with the Big Red Combine Harvester tune, with a little sway and jig! Year 1 nicely used the tune of the wheels on the bus to recite a harvest song, with the Year 2s sharing a harvest story.

Afterwards we trotted back to school, avoiding the torrential downpour to enjoy a lovely harvest lunch.

Well done children
Mrs Williamson

This year in Key Stage Two, we linked our harvest themes to our current learning. Year 3 shared the story of The Little Red Hen and explored our Christian values of friendship, service and forgiveness. Year 4 treated us to some mouthwatering information about how chocolate is harvested, while Year 5 made links between foods harvested in the Roman times and finally Year 6 reflected on the impact of climate change on harvests around the world. Thank you to everyone who came to the service; it was a pleasure to see the church so full and the children enjoyed sharing their presentations and beautiful singing to such an appreciative congregation.

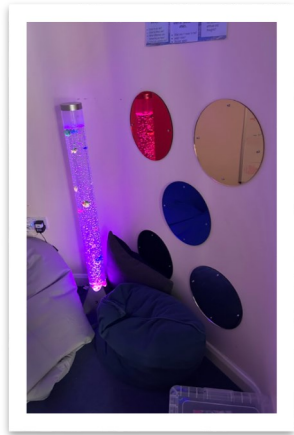
Mrs Perry



Spirituality Pod

This half term we have introduced a spirituality pod. It's a place where children can go to have a quiet, reflective moment during break and lunchtime to look through some of the reflective and spiritual books we have, do some mindful colouring and leave a positive message for other children to read. From Year 2 upwards children can book a slot in the pod on their year group day.

Mila from Y2, 'I enjoy going in at breaktime and doing some mindful colouring because it helps to calm me down and is a nice quiet place to be'.



GS CREW

This year I am looking forward to working closely with our GS Crew. The children had to nominate themselves and tell me why they would be a good GS Crew member. I was very impressed with the number of children that wanted to be part of this and to help the school and represent the voice of the children in the school.

The members are:

Year 2 - Sophie and Aurora

Year 3 - Reeva

Year 4 - Gabriel

Year 5 - Albert

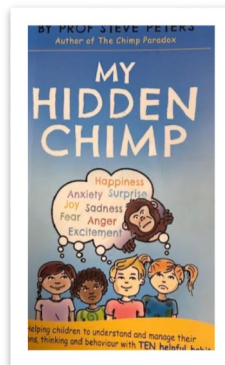
Year 6 - Nathan



Our new GS (Good Samaritan) Crew will start their hard work after half term.

Pastoral Support

We continue to guide our children towards understanding the importance of looking after their mental health. This half term in Year 4 we have had a refresh of our chimp management.

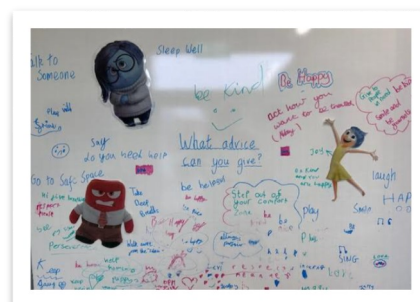


The children have also been giving their advice on how to manage big emotions with the help of inside out characters

Have a lovely half term

Sarah Slack

pastoral@tp.ebor.academy



Dance Teacher

Children in Team Stanton, Williamson, Davidson and Medley took part in a 4 week block of dance lessons delivered by Jade, an external dance teacher.

Each team had their own focus based on our core school values. Week on week, the children developed their skills and implemented them into their dance routine. Just some of the skills learnt was trusting their partner in a free fall and performing movements in counts of 4.

Jade also ran an extra curricular club which was really well attended and it was a pleasure to see so many parents attend the end of the unit show! They were amazing. Miss Stanton

Dance class has been absolutely amazing! I really enjoyed learning the dance and have had LOTS of fun doing it! It is definitely a class that anyone can do and at the same time learn a new hobby. Shout out to Jade, our dance teacher. She is spectacular and she made the class really fun! I loved every single dance session! I can't wait to perform the routine in the final show to all of our friends and family!

Ruby- Year 5

Football Events

We've already had two football events this term! A group of Y6 children went to Wetherby High School to take part in a football tournament with other local schools. For the second year running, the Y6 team came away with the trophy! Well done team, and thanks to Mr Goodacre for managing the event!

We also had some children in Y4 attend a football tournament at Stockton on Forest Primary. The children did a fantastic job (especially given that some of the team had never played before) and they came in second place, an awesome result! Thanks to Miss Stanton for arranging the event and to Miss Taylor for accompanying the children.



Buddy Service at Church

Recently, the receptions and Y6s went to church to welcome the new generation of Tockwith Primary to the school. Reverend Martin and Karen welcomed the parents and the children in and the Y6s lit the year 6 candle and read out messages to the receptions. The messages were all about core values and [living life in all its fullness](#) and showing them how to have a good time while they are at primary school. It was amazing watching the buddies go up to the front being brave and holding the cross symbol while Y6s held the candles. The receptions have settled in now and they know what to do and we have had so much fun guiding them and playing with them and we know they will have a good future at this school.

Holly, Year 6



Community coffee morning

This half term, we invited parents to join us for a community coffee morning. A big thank you to everyone who attended and shared their thoughts on how we can better support families in our community! We received many exciting suggestions that we'll be discussing as a team. Your feedback has also been shared with the governors, and we look forward to presenting some of these ideas to you this year

School council

We had a great start to the new school year with class elections followed by interviews. We were so impressed with the children and how they faced the challenge. It was lovely to hear how the children felt about our school and the passion they have for it.

Our school council has been working hard in their first half term, supporting assemblies, planning playgrounds and coming up with fundraising ideas both for the school and the local community. We are ready for another busy year ahead and are looking forward to running the disco on the 14th November and hope to see as many of you there as possible. Mrs Poole and Mrs Dutton

Friendship Day

What a lovely day! The day was launched by Mrs Perry and the school council and they shared Try by Rob Burrows and Kevin Sinfield which is a lovely book about friendship. In the afternoon the children worked in mixed age groups with different teachers rotating around 4 activities:

- You've got a friend in me
- Story - you are special.
- What is friendship?
- The Farmer and the Clown

The children were amazing, helping and supporting each other, it was so lovely to see them working together and live out one of our core values. The afternoon was finished with myself and Year 6 telling the bible story of the man through the roof.

Friendship

Friendship is about being kind, accepting others, and seeing the special qualities in everyone.

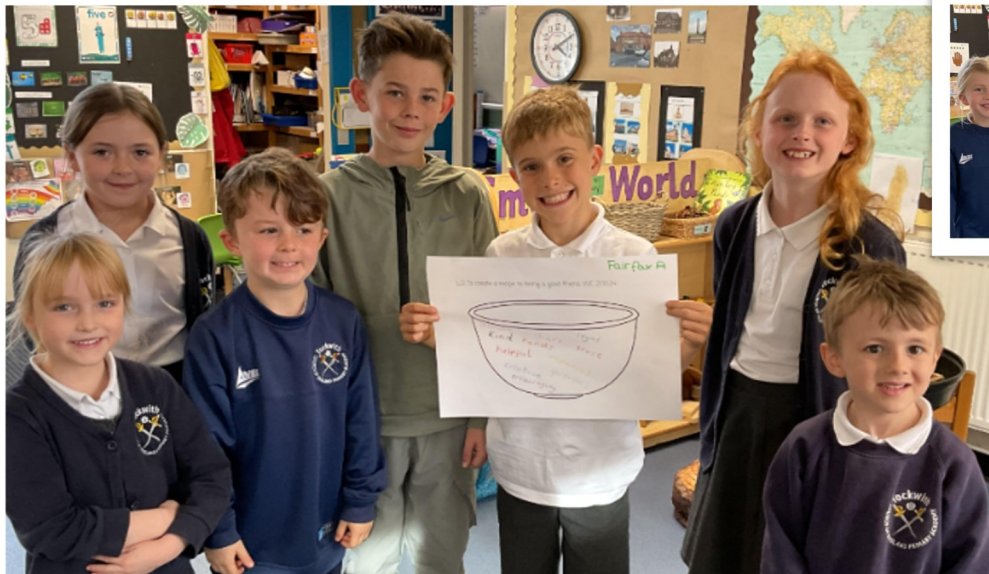
Everyone is different and unique in their own way. We are going to think about what makes our team members special and unique.



What has this song got to do with friendship?

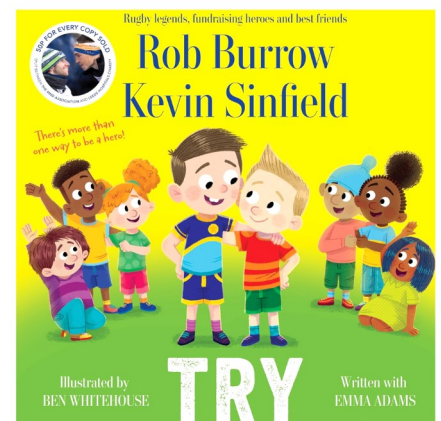
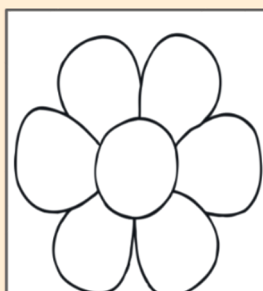


What message does this song share?



Everyone is special and unique in their own way

Write a positive, kind thing about a friend on a paper star. Draw the person on the other side and decorate it.



Tockwith Trekkers

Over the past four weeks Year 2 have had the opportunity to join Tockwith Trekkers. We seem to have had every kind of weather but this hasn't dampened our fun. The children have enjoyed working together to dig and find lots of wiggly worms, using magnifying glasses to get closer looks. I think we can aware of Ruby the expert worm hunter, finding some of the longest and fattest worms! We have also enjoyed making some clay faces with some usual creations using all natural materials from the forest. The shelters have been great fun and helped us to hibernate from the rain when needed. It ended in a campfire, enjoying tasty s'mores and hot chocolate with marshmallows. Mr Reeve and Neville jumped at the opportunity to join in the fun, with Neville showing us how to dig! Well done children its been a pleasure to enjoy Tockwith Trekkers with you!



Mrs Starr's Art Club

Wowzers! We have packed a lot of fantastic art into the past 7 weeks. This time it was the opportunity for the fabulous Year 4's and they have not disappointed! Three finished pieces of brilliant art. From Paul Klee cats, egg box animals in frames, to colourful woven wheels. We loved every second and the chance to come up with new and exciting ideas. Please feel free to follow me on X, as this is the platform I use to share all of the artwork produced in school. My X handle is @MrsstarrStarr Happy half term and a reminder that Art Club starts after the holidays for the Year 3's. Mrs Starr



Trip to the LNER stadium

Children across Key Stage 2 today travelled to the LNER Community Stadium in York to watch the Samoan Rugby team train. On arrival the children could take part in outside activities such as stuck in the mud and dodgeball. They were then booked in for a tour of the stadium followed by more outside and inside activities. There was colouring activities, a town crier and many other activities to keep the children entertained. After this, the children watched a Samoan Rugby training session which was great fun, although a little cold! The children had a fantastic time and loved watching the training session, as well as taking part in the activities.

