



# BECKWITHSHAW PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2024

### FEDERATION ATTENDANCE - YTD

	WHOLE SCHOOL	CLASS 1	CLASS 2	CLASS 3	CLASS 4
RIPLEY	96%	96%	96%	97%	N/A
BECKWITHSHAW	96%	95%	95%	96%	98%
KETTLESING	97%	98%	97%	97%	N/A

A reminder that all absences must be reported to the school office before 9am on each day of absence. Medical appointments should be booked outside of school hours, but when unavoidable a letter, text or email confirming the appointment must be given to the school for your child's attendance records. If we do not receive this documentation, children's attendance will be marked as unauthorised leave.

### HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Dear Parent and Carers,

As we commence this half term we look forward to another packed few weeks of learning with further exciting opportunities for our children.

Thank you to those who met with teachers at our mid-year Parent/Carer Consultation Evenings - these meetings are a vital way of ensuring your children are supported by school and home in order to make progress throughout the year. It is always a delight to see so many of you attend and so if you were unable to meet, your child's teacher will be in touch to arrange a day/time. We would be most grateful if you would kindly complete the Spring Term Parent/Carer Questionnaire to evidence the progress made from the Autumn data. As ever we hugely value your voice and thank you to all of you who have taken the time to email in over the term to express thanks and share positivity. This really does have an impact! I am continually blown-away with your kindness, support and how much you are invested and care about the education of your children - we are very lucky with the parent/carers federation body.

The form will be open until Friday 8th March. Please use the link in the email attached to this Newsletter titled:

[Spring Term Parent Carer Questionnaire](#)

Once again, we all very much look forward to this exciting half term and thank you for your continued support

Warmest Regards

Miss Kirkman

Executive Headteacher

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

DATE	EVENT
7th March	World Book Day
8 <sup>th</sup> March	Celebration Assembly
WC 11th March	Science Enrichment Week
13th March	Movie Night—Whole School (FOBS)
15th March	Comic Relief
21st March	World Poetry Day
21st March	Easter Hat Competition (FOBS Event)
21st March	Easter Raffle—Win a Hamper (FOBS)
22nd March	Last day of Spring 2
9th April	School re-opens to all pupils
April	Beckwithshaw Sponsored Challenge
12 <sup>th</sup> April	SMSC - Flag Day (more info to follow)
18th April	Cake Sale—C3 & 4 (FOBS Event)
26th April	Royal Hall Charity Concert

### Harrogate District School of Sanctuary



We are delighted that last half term we raised an amazing £855.055 across the Federation, a truly amazing amount in just 5 weeks.

The pupil leadership committees are already talking about what we can do this half term, and going forward to hit our goal of five thousand pounds this academic year.

So far as a school Beckwithshaw has raised the following:

Sponsored Skip - £102.60

Bake Sale - £21.00

**Total - £123.60**



## REMINDERS, UPDATES AND INFORMATION

**Personal items in school** - A reminder that children are not permitted to bring any personal items into school from home. This includes, but is not exclusive to, toys, cuddly toys, fidget toys (unless agreed), electronics (including smart watches, mobiles, ipads), games, swapping cards etc. Jewellery is limited to a wrist watch and stud earrings, which need to be removed or covered on PE days.

**Snacks KS2** - a reminder that children in KS2 are welcome to bring in a snack from home for break time. This should be a healthy snack such as fruit, crackers, cheese, cereal bars. Chocolate sweet bars, sweets, fizzy drinks and fruit juices are not allowed in school.

**PARENTMAIL +PAY ACCOUNTS** - A reminder that all school dinners, and wraparound care sessions should be paid for in advance of them being taken. Please ensure all accounts are in credit when charges are applied each week.

### WORLD BOOK DAY - 7th MARCH 2024

This year, instead of dressing up as a book character, we are having A VOCABULARY PARADE!

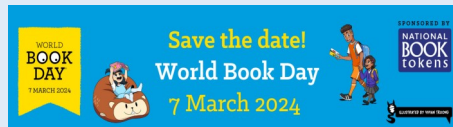
We would like the children to fully enter into the spirit of being "Word Collectors" so we are going to have a 'Dress-Up' Day with a difference on World Book Day.

Instead of coming to school dressed as a book character, we would like the children to come to school dressed up as a word that is new or interesting to them.

For example, this could be a word that they have found in their reading book that they didn't know the meaning of; a word they have recently heard that they didn't know the meaning of; or their favourite word!

The more interesting the word, the better!

Please ensure that your child's word is visible somewhere on the costume. Due to other events in school, we politely request that football kits are not worn on this occasion.



### Y6 RESIDENTIAL

Parents Information Evening - We look forward to welcoming the team from Beverley Park to a parent/carer information meeting to provide further details of the residential visit and answer any questions you may have. This will take place on **Wednesday 13th March at 5pm** in Ripley School.

If not already completed, please return the consent form and pay the deposit via ParentMail +pay to secure your child's place.



### COMIC RELIEF - 15th MARCH 2024

For a suggested donation of £1.00 children can wear red accessories, alongside normal school uniform. Payment is now available on ParentMail +Pay.



## FULL GOVERNING BODY UPDATE

**STAFF GOVERNOR** - We are delighted to announce that Miss Hannah Lear, Class 3 Teacher Ripley/Federation English lead/DDSL, has been appointed Staff Governor on the new Full Governing Body.

**PARENT/CARER GOVERNOR** - Individual voting codes were sent to all parents via email last week. Please take the time to read all three bios and vote for the two you would like to see appointed. If you are not on our mailing and require a voting code, please contact Mrs Randall by emailing [Ripleyadmin@rbk.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:Ripleyadmin@rbk.n-yorks.sch.uk)

## SUMMER TERM

We are delighted that every child in school will have a chance to attend Forest School for the Summer Term. The children will learn about how to stay safe in the forest, will enjoy a campfire. Further details to follow.

# NORTH YORKSHIRE CATERING

## Inclusive Catering Offer

- ✓ Allergen Matrix completed for every recipe and meal
- ✓ Knowledgeable team continuously review legislation to keep our service up to date
- ✓ The development team create special diet menus which are as similar as possible to the core menu, to promote inclusivity and a shared lunchtime experience
- ✓ Our processes are robust, and we continuously review our accessibility to meals and our ingredient suppliers
- ✓ We care about food safety and providing a nutritious meal to as many pupils as we are able to

**NYES** | Catering

## SUMMER MENU

Summer Menu's will be sent out to all parents over the next week. You will receive the full colour menu, that includes allergens, via email and a printed menu to completed and returned to the school office by **Monday 11th March 2024**.

Please remember that even if your child is on packed lunches, you either need to return the menu and cross through all options, or email your school admin.

If your child has allergies, please contact the Federation Admin Team, who will help you complete the required forms, and arrange a meeting with your school cook.



Our new menus incorporate the 14 major allergen icons, to help with decision making for pupils and parents.

**NYES** | Catering

### You're Invited!

## World Book Day 2024 Menu

BFG Beefburger in a Bun  
 ✓ Danny's Champion Cheese Pasty  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 Witches Wedges  
 Mrs Bucket's Baked Beans & Sweetcorn  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 Charlie's Chocolate & Vanilla Swirl Muffin

Thursday 7th March

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL**

**75% of our food is produced daily in our school kitchen**

The fruit and vegetables we use are from local suppliers to promote local businesses, and reduce our carbon footprint

Our menu is nutritionally analysed; it is balanced and healthy

We use sustainably caught fish, free-range eggs, and Red Tractor meat

Information and menu guidance available on any specific dietary requirements your child may have

Our menu changes regularly to reflect the seasons

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL**

**Don't miss out** 1.74 million\* pupils are currently eligible for free school meals – make sure you don't miss out.  
\*Based on Census Data

### Did you know

- You could be missing out on £450 of free school meals
- All children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 are entitled to free school meals
- If you are eligible for certain income support and allowances, support under the Immigration and Asylum Act, child tax credit\*, working tax credit\*, or universal credit\*, you may also be able to obtain free school meals.

Children learn best on a full tummy and you could save time and money.

Speak to your school office to find out if your child is eligible for free school meals or visit our website for more information and to apply:  
[www.northyorks.gov.uk/free-school-meals](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/free-school-meals)

\*Conditions apply. Please check our website for full details.

## MARVELLOUS WORLD BOOK DAY LUNCH - THURSDAY 7th MARCH 2024

There is still time to request a marvellous meal for world book day. If your child already has school dinners on that day, they will automatically receive the alternative menu (as per their dietary requirements) on the 7th March.

## HOUSE POINT TALLY



1739

1833

2593

2407

## WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING THIS MONTH

### Class 1:

What a busy, yet fantastic start back for Class One this half term!

Our English takes us exploring the Kahali desert with Sunny the meerkat, engaging in our exciting setting description writing activities linked to Meerkat Mail. We will be comparing this setting to Beckwithshaw and carefully observing the differences.

We have been working hard in our maths, covering Addition and Subtraction using number lines and progressing to Place Value (within 50) looking at some much bigger numbers! Reception having been 'Growing 6, 7 and 8' using maths resources to support our learning and learning how to combine groups to introduce part-part whole structures.

Miss Miller has also been so impressed with our discussions on how animals can be categorised in our Science lessons and what makes animals similar and different.

In Music, we are using our bodies to explore the rhythm and pulse for different pieces of music, Toy Story was a huge hit!

In R.E we have started to think about what means to belong and we have been looking at symbols of belonging for the Christian religion.



We are working super hard on our handwriting and letter formation, and we continue to thrive and enjoy phonics each day.

We have a classroom full of enthusiasm and smiles!



## WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING THIS MONTH

### Class 2:

This half term Class 2 have started exploring their topic of the rainforest. We have been exploring biomes and identifying the environment of rainforests across the world.

Class 2 really enjoyed their trip to the Leeds Art Gallery linked to their art topic. We had the chance to sketch what we saw and think about detail and experiment using the correct art vocabulary. We saw lots of different sculptures, paintings, photographs and abstract pieces that made us think.

We have had a visit from Dogs Trust, which all children really enjoyed. We learnt about other people's animals or pets and how to respect these animals like we would respect other human beings.

Year 3 thoroughly enjoyed last half term being able to take part in the KS2 Dance Festival and coming away with two awards certificates overall. Year 2 are excited for their chance to do just as well this half term.



## WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING THIS MONTH

**Class 3** have started the new half term at full throttle! We had an amazing trip to Leeds City Museum where we learnt all about Nesyamun the 3,000 year-old mummy. We even turned our hand to complete a mummification...beware!



Our topic this half term is a geography unit – ‘Why are Rainforests important to us.’ We can’t wait to get started.

In science we are looking at living things with a focus on life cycles. We have taken delivery of our eggs and incubator and are eggstremely eggcited for the hatching to begin!

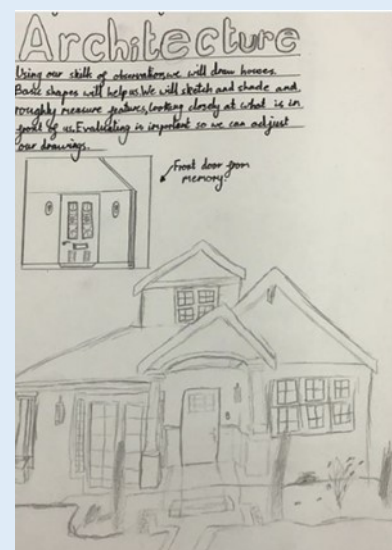
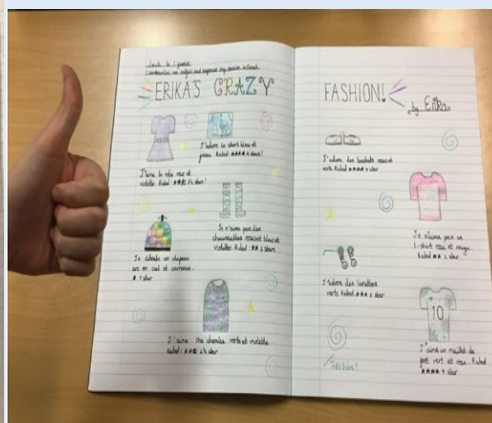
# WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING THIS MONTH

## Class 4:



It has been a very busy time for Class 4 but so lovely to see the children coming into school with a smile on their faces and ready to learn. Mrs Lyne is so proud! Maths work has involved mastering decimals and working hard with reasoning and problem solving, rising to new challenges set. The children were extremely proud of their newspaper reports which were written, not only in English lessons, but also in history and science just to be sure they were confident with this tricky skill. We shared them together at the end of half term which was wonderful.

Class 4 handwriting continues to impress and the children were proud to show some of our work to younger members of our school, hopefully inspiring them. In French, clothes magazines were designed and opinions written about the outfits. Music lesson involved the whole class team working as an ensemble to play the glockenspiels. Below are some of the class 4 pieces of work that we are proud of including our RE work about Easter and our architecture art. Numbers day, the dance competition and the school trip were brilliant too.



# Safeguarding - Children and Dogs

Across the Federation this month, we have welcomed Mrs Hill from the Dogs Trust, who has talked to our children about dog safety and the '5 happy dog rules'. See how many of the rules your children remember from their workshops last week.

1. If a dog is resting, we leave them alone.
2. If a dog is eating, we leave them alone.
3. Remember to be quiet around dogs
4. Dogs don't like hugs, they like gentle strokes.
5. If a dog takes your toy, you tell a grown up.

You can find out more about dog safety, as well as some fun and interesting activities for children and dogs, by visiting:

<https://www.dogstrust.org.uk/dog-advice/life-with-your-dog/at-home/dog-and-child-safety>



**Hey kids!**  
Let's learn how to be safe around dogs.

When you are at home or at a friend's or relative's house...

<p><b>Be calm</b> No loud noises, running or chasing games, which can worry a dog.</p> 	<p><b>Give a dog space</b> Dogs don't like hugs and kisses, try cuddling a teddy bear instead.</p> 	<p><b>Play fairly</b> Never ever tease a dog with toys, games or food.</p> 
<p><b>Leave a dog alone</b> Don't disturb a dog when resting or eating. Being disturbed can worry them.</p> 	<p><b>Keep your hands away</b> Don't put your hands near a dog's eyes, mouth or ears. No pulling or poking - it can hurt them.</p> 	<p><b>Remember...</b> Dogs have feelings and needs and it's important that we respect them and behave kindly and safely around them.</p> 




**Be Dog Smart**  
**How to say hello to a dog...**

It's important to remember that not all dogs will want to be stroked.

- 1 Approach slowly, calmly and quietly from the side of the dog.**  
Stay further than arm's reach away from the dog.
- 2 Ask the owner if it is okay to stroke their dog. Wait for the owner to respond.**  
**If the owner says 'no':** Move away calmly and quietly.  
**If the owner says 'yes':** Stand at the side of the dog calmly and quietly. Keep your arms by your sides. Say 'hello' quietly. Wait for the dog to approach you.
- 3 If the dog does not approach you:** Move away calmly and quietly.  
**If the dog approaches you (and remains there):** Stay at the dog's side. Stroke them along their side or shoulder. Stroke slowly and gently in the direction of their fur.
- 4 If the dog moves away at any point:** Move away calmly and quietly.




**DogsTrust**  
**Are your children dog smart?**  
Use these top tips from Dogs Trust to teach your children how to be safe around dogs.

- 1 Never leave your child alone with a dog.**
- 2 Don't approach a dog without an owner around.**
- 3 Only stroke a dog when the owner says "Yes you can."**
- 4 Get the dog to sniff your hand first, then stroke gently.**
- 5 Strangers dog approaches? Stand still, look away, cross your arms.**

Share with #bedogsmart

For more information to help your child learn to 'Be Dog Smart', visit [www.bedogsmart.org.uk](http://www.bedogsmart.org.uk)



## Book our free 'Living safely together' masterclass

To help parents and caregivers put these steps in place, Dogs Trust is offering a free virtual masterclass.

In our masterclass you'll learn:

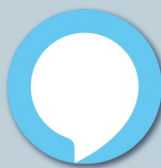
- How to read and understand your dog's body language.
- How children can behave safely around dogs, and the unsafe behaviours to look out for.
- How to create routines and habits that keep dogs and children safe and happy together.

To book your free masterclass or learn more about Dogs Trust, visit: <https://www.dogstrust.org.uk/dog-advice/life-with-your-dog/at-home/dog-and-child-safety>



# Safeguarding ... Continued

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



## What parents & carers need to know about...

# AMAZON ALEXA

Alexa is an artificial intelligence (AI) software assistant created by Amazon in 2014 through which smartphone, tablet and smart device users can issue voice commands and ask questions in a range of languages by issuing the 'wake' or activation word Alexa. It can be accessed in several ways and is integrated into a growing number of 'smart' products including speakers, phones and clocks. Once viewed as expensive gimmicks, Alexa is now one of the most used voice assistants in the world.

### Privacy concerns

By their nature, AI voice assistants involve the collection of large amounts of data. How this is stored and the uses to which it is put has aroused growing concern. Experts also worry about who has access to voice recordings, which in 2019 the company admitted sometimes included employees of Amazon and its commercial partners. There is also the more general anxiety that internet voice assistants might record private conversations and not only commands or questions.

### Age-inappropriate content

Using Alexa as a speaker to play your favourite songs is one of the most popular uses for the device. However, without any parental controls in place, Alexa won't filter the lyrics so it's possible that children could hear something they shouldn't. Similarly, Alexa isn't always able to identify who or what age the person is who is issuing a voice command so if children ask a question which might not be age-appropriate, the chances are they're likely to get an age-inappropriate answer.



### Insecure devices

The devices and their background services are another worry, which can have software vulnerabilities that make them insecure in complex ways. In 2020, for instance, researchers discovered that the services to which Echo products connect were insecure, potentially allowing hackers to access personal information such as voice conversations. In 2017, researchers were able to directly hack an Amazon Echo to send audio to attackers. Amazon has a good record of fixing security problems when they are discovered but it's never possible to find every problem.

### Changing Tech Relationships

In a 2019 report published by the Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation, concerns were raised on the disruptive effect that voice assistants and smart speakers, such as Alexa, were having on the way that children interact with technology. From building sentiment and forming relationships which could encourage them to overshare personal details, to a fear of consuming content driven by commercial algorithms and an inability to assess reliability, how Alexa operates could considerably change children's relationship with technology in both the short and long term.



## Safety Tips

### Check privacy settings

It's possible to delete Alexa's recordings either entirely, or for a given period, with the instruction "Alexa, delete everything I said." Alternatively, set up the Alexa account privacy settings for that account to delete recordings every three or 18 months. Existing recordings made using the Alexa app can be deleted via Settings > Alexa Privacy > Review Voice History. A final tweak is to turn off the setting that allows Amazon to 'use voice recordings to improve Amazon services'.

### Control voice input

If privacy is paramount, one idea is to locate Echo devices in only one room rather than having several throughout the home. In addition, Alexa can be activated only when it is needed by manually turning off the microphone on Echo devices between use. Users can tell when Alexa is in listening mode as an indicator light should appear or an audible tone should sound.

### Set pin code

Amazon account users can order items from the company using a voice command, for example "Alexa, buy some toilet paper." To counter accidental use or misuse and avoid racking up big bills, this can either be disabled or protected with a PIN code (it should be noted that this is an audible PIN however, so is not as secure as a typed code).

### Look out for 'Skills' apps

A big appeal of Alexa is that thousands of companies have created apps, which Amazon calls 'skills', that add useful capabilities, often integrations with other products or services. These are installed by asking Alexa to 'open/play/start' the skill. For example, a travel skill might be installed to check and automate checking train times and hotel bookings. However, it's important to remember that each of these might have a different privacy policy. A cautious approach is to install as few as possible, de-installing ones no longer in use.

### Talk about technology

As more and more homes install voice assistants and smart speakers such as Alexa, it's a good idea to talk to children about safe use of technology. Talk to them about what Alexa can be used for, how useful it can be and how to use it properly. Use it together to begin with and discuss any concerns they might have. Always make sure that children know to never share any personal or sensitive information and that if they need to talk about anything, they should always speak to a trusted adult.

### Meet our expert

John E. Dunn has edited and written for numerous computer and technology magazines since the early 1990s, most recently Which Computing, The Register, Forbes.com, Techworld, Computerworld and Naked Security. He is a specialist in online cybersecurity and cybercrime and their growing effect on education, young people and the public.



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 30.09.2020

If you are concerned about a child's welfare please contact:

Miss Victoria Kirkman - Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Mrs Elouise Foster / Mrs Katy Lyne / Miss Emma Povey - Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Beckwithshaw 01423 504642, Ripley 01423 770160, or Kettlesing 01423 770576