



Danby Church of England School
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Headteacher: Mrs E Orland

Newsletter Friday 13th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Breakfast Reading Cafe

Yesterday we had a lovely morning at our Reading Cafe, enjoying a fireside read with pancakes, yogurt and fruit for breakfast. It was great to see some parents joining us in school. There was a real buzz around the room as everyone read together and talked about their favourite books, writing book reviews and choosing a "Blind Date with a Book". Thank you as well to those who contributed to our donation station. Thank you to all the families who came along and helped make the event so special. It was a wonderful way to celebrate reading together during this National Year of Reading.

Year 3 4 Hockey Coaching

Earlier in the week Year 3 and 4 spent an afternoon improving and learning new skills at hockey coaching. Mixing and interacting with other schools as well as each other! Fantastic effort from everyone involved. A lovely afternoon for Year 3 and 4 at Whitby School.

Next Friday, 20th March they will have the opportunity to put all the new skills they learnt at the coaching session on Monday as they will be playing in a Quick Sticks tournament at Whitby School. Children will leave school after an early lunch and return in time for the end of the school day. If children have shin pads and gum shields, please bring them into school. Thank you.

Student teacher Introduction

This week we have welcomed a student teacher from York St John University. Miss Neve Munroe will be working with us until May in our Infant class. We wish her well with her placement.

Eskdale Festival

A number of our very talented musicians took part in the Eskdale Music Festival at Whitby Pavilion at the beginning of March. Well done to everyone who performed, we heard that they were all amazing! Thank you to Mrs Lillie for all her hard work delivering music lessons to these children.

Comic Relief

Next week on Friday we will be holding a wear something funny (or red) day for Comic Relief. There will also be the traditional cake bake sale so if anyone would like to donate any cakes please bring them into school on Friday morning. Thank you! Y6 will be leading a range of activities on the day. Donations may be made in cash, cheque or by bank transfer into the school bank account. Please contact Sarah in the school office if you would like the bank details.

Federation Science Day - Thursday 19th March

Next week, we will be hosting our annual Science Day with Egton School joining us for a host of activities during the day. Watch out for a rocket launch (or two) from the school playground!

School cooks Danni and Natascha will be serving a special menu Mooncheese Pizza Subs, Intergalactic Chips, Galaxy Cup Cakes and Rocket Biscuits. If your child normally has a packed lunch but would like a school dinner on the day please let us know. Thank you.

Please note that children will not be swimming this day.

Parentpay Balances

As we are nearing the end of the financial year (31st March), please can all children's Parentpay accounts be settled before the end of the month so that we can begin the next financial year with zero balances? Thank you very much.

Y3/4 Peat Rigg Residential Parent Meeting

We will be holding a short meeting for parents and children in Year 3 and 4 on Thursday 19th March at 3.30pm. Information for the trip will be shared and a kit list made available. This will also be shared via email.

Parent Drop In Sessions - SEND

If you would like to learn more about how we support children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities in our Federation or would like to have the chance to chat with other parents, we are holding a couple of informal parent drop-in sessions detailed below. Come and have a cuppa and a chat and share your thoughts with us about our SEND provision at whichever session or school is convenient for you.

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------------|
| Danby | Thurs 5th March 9-10am | and/or | Wed 11th March 3.30pm-4.30pm |
| Egton | Thurs 26th February 9-10am | and/or | Wed 18th March 3.30pm-4.30pm |

School Dinner Menu - Spring/Summer Term

[Please click here for the menu.](#) Please note that week 3 Pizza Tuesdays will be a pizza sub with a choice of toppings that the children can choose that morning.

If you would like a paper copy of the menu, please ask Sarah in the school office.

Junior milk

A reminder that milk is now being offered to children in the juniors at lunchtime. This will be charged at 15p per day as taken onto your child's Parentpay account. If you do not wish for your child to be offered milk, please let Sarah know in writing via email. Please note that milk is only chargeable for Junior children not infant children.

Spring Stay and Play Sessions for Prospective Parents and Children

Do you know any youngsters who are going to be school ready in the next year or so?

Our last stay and play date for this term is:

Monday 16th March 2.15pm - 3.15pm

Stay and Play days are for children who are not yet at school age but would like to experience an hour in our school setting with our children and staff and for children who will be joining us in the future. All children must be accompanied by an adult for each session. If you would like any further information or

to book a place at one or both of the sessions, please contact the school on 01287 660345 or email admin@danby.n-yorks.sch.uk .

Future Diary Dates

Please [click here](#) for the holiday dates for this academic year. Specific dates for school activities will be kept updated on the table below. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Swimming | April 16th, 30th, May 14th |
| Federation Day at Danby Village Hall | Thursday 19th March |
| Forest School Infants | Mar 26th, May 7th |
| Forest School Juniors | Apr 23rd, May 21st |
| Stay & Play session two | Monday 16th March 2.15pm - 3.15pm |
| Comic Relief Day | Friday 20th March |
| Educational Visit to Castle Howard | Tuesday 24th March |
| Easter Holidays | Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April |
| Teacher Training Day | Monday 13th April - school closed to pupils |
| Bank Holiday Monday | Monday 4th May |

Next week, I will be at Egton on Monday and Wednesday and Danby on Thursday and Friday. On Tuesday I will be taking Y5's from both schools on a Yorkshire Coast Education Partnership Trip with other local schools.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best Wishes,



Liz Orland
Headteacher

The information below has not changed but is still relevant.

Safeguarding Children Telephone Number

If you have a safeguarding concern about a child, please note that from the 1st April 2023, the main customer service line for the new North Yorkshire Council will be changing. The new number will be **0300 131 2 131** and will replace the old 01609 780780 number. This will mean that all contacts for

referrals for children within North Yorkshire need to go through the 0300 131 2 131 number. **This includes any contacts out of hours for the Emergency Duty Team.**

The contact number for the professionals line will remain the same 01609 535070.

The updated details regarding making a referral for a child in North Yorkshire have been updated on our website (www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/about-us/worried-about-a-child).

Adverse weather conditions

Just a reminder that this week we sent out a reminder of our school policy in the event of adverse weather conditions. We are also asking that everyone completes a 'Safe place' form so that we have an alternative place logged for your child to go to should the school need to close during the school day. Please complete this form and return to the school office as soon as possible.

[Link to safe alternative place for your child](#)

[Link to the school policy in the event of adverse weather conditions](#)

Information from NHS - Emotional Health and Wellbeing

We have been asked to share the following link with you from the North Yorkshire Children and Families Service:

[Emotional health and wellbeing for parents](#)

Mobile Phones, Smart Watches and Devices

Mobile phone and smart watch technology has advanced significantly over the last few years and continues to evolve. Many phones and smart watches now offer internet and e-mail access, alongside standard functions of messaging, tracking, camera, video and sound recording. We are also seeing an increase in Smartwatch 'look-alikes' which have games and activities on which are proving a distraction to learning and are time consuming for teaching staff to monitor.

Smartwatches and Smart-Watch lookalikes are therefore **not permitted** to be worn to school in line with the recent change in Government guidelines.

However, in line with our passion for helping children to tell the time, a standard analogue or digital wrist watch may be worn. If you are unsure whether your child's watch is appropriate, you are welcome to check in with a member of staff.

Smart Watches and devices that are brought to school for any reason will be kept safely until the end of the school day.

For a reminder of our school uniform please see our website page [here](#)

My Happy Mind

Just a reminder that you are able to access the [Parent App](#).

The children's engagement in our My Happy Mind project has been a huge success in school so far. Accessing the Parent App would help to reinforce the strategies taught in school at home and strengthen the positive habits that we are trying to encourage in our children.

 **Your unique authentication code is: 121486 for Danby CofE VA School**

County Hall Music - Future Talent Programme

We have been asked to share with you an opportunity to apply for a Future Talent programme for young musicians from low income families. Please see the information below and contact us if you would like any further information.

Young musicians from low-income backgrounds can apply from today for programmes beginning in September 2026.

*This year we're also introducing an **important update**: our awards will now run over a **two-year cycle**, giving each young musician more time, stability and support to grow. For those who are 17 on 1st September 2026, the award will run for one year in line with our age criteria. Future Talent programmes offer a wide range of opportunities, including **funding** towards musical development, **masterclasses** with leading artists, **workshops** to explore new skills, **mentoring** from industry professionals and **performance** experiences designed to build confidence.*

Applications close on **Friday 24th April**, and all details - including eligibility and how to apply - are available via the link below.

[Programmes | Future Talent](#)

Lealhom Methodist Chapel Sponsored Walk

We have been asked to let you know about a sponsored walk that is being organised by Lealhom Methodist Chapel. Details as follows:

Saturday 11th April - leaving chapel between 9.30am - 10.00am and returning for refreshments.

Includes 2 lengths of walks and a treasure hunt around the village for the younger ones.

All proceeds to Chapel funds and all are welcome.

No time for a walk, just come for the food and chat.

Fostering North Yorkshire - recruitment campaign

*Fostering North Yorkshire is proud to be part of a national campaign to recruit more foster carers, marked by the release of **'The Run'**, a powerful short film about Tom, an 11-year-old boy whose life begins to change with the care of a foster family.*

Right now, we urgently need more foster carers across North Yorkshire, and we hope this film will be the spark that encourages someone to take that first step. Watch the short film and learn how you can make a difference.

Contact: Email fostering@northyorks.gov.uk

Follow us on Facebook

Tel: 01609 534 654

DfE Guidance on reducing the spread of illnesses this winter

The DfE have asked that the following link is shared with parents as new guidance has been issued:

Please see the NHS Guidance ['Is my child too ill for school?'](#) Pupils shouldn't miss school on a precautionary basis and can normally attend with a mild cough or cold, unless they have a fever or diarrhoea or vomiting.

Growing Healthy Information from HDFT

Please find information about an app designed both for professionals and families, by Harrogate District Foundation Trust [HDFT] who deliver the Healthy Child programme. This covers the whole county and has a map of services/groups etc for families to access in their area, including contact details and opening hours etc, as well as child development info for parents, referral forms for wellbeing advice for older CYP etc

[Download Our App | HDFT Children's Health Service](#)

Free Inclusion courses for parents

We have been asked to share with you the following link to courses designed to support parents and carers of children with Autism, SEMH, and ADHD. Link [HERE](#).

- These courses are an opportunity to find out more and gain practical tools and strategies to help support your child or young person.
- Parents will also meet others facing similar experiences or with a shared interest in the topic.
- For multi-day courses parents must attend all days and will receive a copy of the content covered following the course.

Spaces fill-up fast so please share with your parents and carer networks and encourage early booking to avoid missing out!

Attendance

Just a little reminder that if your child is ill and will be absent from school, we ask that you contact school to let us know on each day that they will be absent, by 9.30am. This can be by telephone on **01287 660345** or by email to admin@danby.n-yorks.sch.uk . If we do not hear anything from you we will give you a call to check everything is okay as part of our safeguarding procedures. Thank you

Tax Free Childcare

Danby School has registered to enable you to have access to Tax Free Childcare for wraparound care at school. Our wraparound service covers both breakfast club and sunshine club sessions as they are chargeable. Please on the link below for more information on how it works.

<https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

Free School Meal Eligibility

We are sharing this information with you again as it has recently been updated. Please contact the school office if you would like any help.

Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals. Your child is eligible for free school meals if you're in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, before benefits are taken into account.
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than
- £16,190

Even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and currently receives universal free school meals, please check your entitlement. Being eligible will mean that the school receives additional funding for your child which will go towards their learning and any additional support they may need.

If you think you may be entitled to free school meals for your child, please use the application form which can be found on the NYC website -[Free school meals | North Yorkshire Council](#).

Easy fundraising

We are registered with easyfundraising.org.uk which gives the Friends of Danby School donations if you shop online and sign up to support Danby Primary School. You can also use easyfundraising when booking your holidays and raise big donations for us FOR FREE! Plus book with TUI in January for a chance to win back the value of your holiday!

Please visit our easyfundraising page at:

[Danby School Easyfundraising](#) and click 'join us'. Thank you.

Jewellery in School

Please could we remind everyone of the policy regarding jewellery in school.

'Jewellery is not allowed to be worn for Health and Safety reasons following a directive from North Yorkshire Council. However a watch and small stud earrings may be worn on a daily basis but must be removed for PE.'

If you wish your child to have their ears pierced, we recommend that you have this done over the Summer holiday period to allow them to heal before a return to school. **All earrings must now be removed for PE and Swimming lessons, we are not allowed to tape over them as in previous times.**

Updated Guidance from the DfE regarding unauthorised leave of absence

Please be advised that there have been some legal changes to the guidance that schools must follow with regards to unauthorised leave of absences during term time. The penalty amounts have been increased and also the introduction of possible legal intervention. Please see below the information from the DfE.

For unauthorised Leave of absence taken within a three-year rolling period, Penalty Notices will be issued as follows:

- *The first Penalty Notice issued to a parent in respect of a particular child will be charged at £160 if paid within 28 days, this will be reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.*
- *A second Penalty Notice issued to the same parent in respect of the same child will be charged a flat rate of £160 if paid within 28 days.*

PLEASE NOTE:

- ***A third Penalty Notice cannot be issued to the same parent in respect of the same child within 3 years of the date of issue of the first Penalty Notice.***
- ***In a case where the national threshold is met for the third time (or subsequent times) alternative action will be taken. This will include considering prosecution but may include other tools such as one of the other Legal Interventions to address poor attendance.***

As always, any leave of absence other than illness, must be requested in advance by completing a form to the headteacher. These forms are available from the school office.

Messages from Whitby Music Centre

We already offer ensembles for string, brass and woodwind players on Saturday mornings, these include ensembles for beginners and are open to players of all ages. If you know of instrumentalists who do not

yet come along to Whitby Music Centre please mention us to them. All Music Centre rehearsals take place at the lower school site of Whitby School on Airy Hill.

WAVE: Welcoming All Valuing Everyone

The churches of Middle Esk Moor Benefice would like to invite you to a new initiative called WAVE: Welcoming All Valuing Everyone. The first event will be WAVE: Breakfast with God. This will take place on every Terrific Third Saturday of the month, in the morning with breakfast for everyone - waffles, toast, cereal, fruit juice, yoghurts, tea and proper coffee! This will be followed by an interactive Bible story with props, songs, craft activities and prayers. Fun for all the family (even little babies), a relaxed way to spend a few hours and a good time for adults to catch up over breakfast too. We'd love to see you there and make you very welcome. And if you can't join us at Glaisdale, you're more than welcome to come to Hawsker instead. There's no need to book – just turn up! It's free of charge but donations are welcome - but only if you want to and are able to. Looking forward to meeting you and welcoming you - Revd Anthony Bennett and Revd Sam Mawer!

Gas Safe Charity Funding

We have been asked to share the following information with you:

Choices4Energy at the North Yorkshire Council has funding available until September to help homeowners with low income and/or disability to pay for measures that address potential gas safety, gas leaks or CO poisoning (<£36,000 household income, other criteria may apply). This includes measures such as repairs and servicing of gas boilers, fires and cookers. Badly fitted or poorly serviced gas appliances can put you and your family at risk. There is a maximum grant of £500 per household, and we are encouraging homeowners to check gas appliances now to ensure they are safe to use, ready for winter. Contact us now on 0300 131 2 131 and ask for Choices4Energy, or visit [Choices4Energy | North Yorkshire Council](#) for more information.

See attached copy of our [Gas Safety leaflet](#) which provides info about the funding available.

'Pharmacy First' availability for minor illness / ailments in children

Parents and carers in Humber and North Yorkshire are being reminded to use their local community pharmacy this summer, if their child needs help with minor illnesses or ailments.

The NHS 'Pharmacy First' service allows children to access treatment for five common conditions from their local pharmacy, without needing a GP appointment.

Children can receive NHS treatment, including antibiotics where appropriate, for five common conditions including:

- impetigo (aged one year and over)
- infected insect bites (aged one year and over)
- earache (aged one to 17 years)
- sore throat (aged five years and over)
- sinusitis (aged 12 years and over).
- The aim of Pharmacy First is to make it easier for people to get the help they need and free up millions of GP slots.

Parents can simply walk into a participating pharmacy and request a consultation for their child. If further treatment is needed, pharmacy teams will signpost families to the most appropriate local health service.

Hayley Patterson, NHS Humber and North Yorkshire ICB's Pharmacy Lead, said: "As the school holidays approach, we are encouraging parents and carers to think 'Pharmacy First' if their child is unwell, allowing them to be seen quickly and conveniently at their local pharmacy.

“The scheme enables community pharmacists, who are trained health professionals, to supply prescription-only medicines, where clinically appropriate, to treat five health conditions for children which would previously have required a GP appointment.”

The Pharmacy First scheme is also available for adults and covers the following seven common conditions:

- sinusitis (adults and children aged 12 years and over)
- sore throat (adults and children aged five years and over)
- earache (children and young adults aged one to 17 years)
- infected insect bite (adults and children aged one year and over)
- impetigo (adults and children aged one year and over)
- shingles (adults aged 18 years and over)
- uncomplicated urinary tract infection (women aged 16 to 64 years).

To find a local pharmacy to you visit the [NHS website](#)

There's further information about what pharmacies can do at [Let's Get Better](#)