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Headteacher: Mrs E Orland

### **Newsletter Friday 27th March 2026**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow, another busy term that flew by, but what a lot we have managed to pack into it from visiting a stately home to firing rockets into the sky and of course lots of Eastery activities this week including a lovely Easter Collective Worship with Sally this morning. We hope everyone has a wonderful Easter time over the next few weeks.

#### **Parent Consultations - booking form**

Parent consultation evenings will be held after Easter on the following dates:

**Monday 20th April 3.40pm - 6.30pm**

**Wednesday 22nd April 3.40pm - 5.00pm**

Please use the [google form here](#) to request an appointment on your chosen date and time no later than **Monday 13th April**. Appointments will be allocated on a first come, first served basis and confirmation of your appointment time will be emailed to you on Tuesday 14th April. Thank you.

#### **After School Summer Fun Clubs**

We will be starting this year's after school Fun Club on the first Wednesday back [15th April]. The clubs will run from 3.30pm until 4.30pm. There will be a selection of clubs running each week - some examples may be sports, gardening, art & crafts, construction and cooking/science. We will be allowing the children to choose which club they would like to take part in from those on offer each week rather than assigning them to one club for the term. We would like parents to complete the google form found [here](#) to let us know if your child/children will be staying. We ask that this is completed by 3pm on Tuesday 15th April. Thank you.

#### **Castle Howard Visit**

We all had a lovely educational visit to Castle Howard on Tuesday learning about the history of the Castle and the Howard family that live there. During the day the children had a tour of the house learning about each room and locating certain interesting artefacts. They then talked to the expert Castle staff about these.

They also enjoyed looking around the beautiful grounds and completing a treasure hunt. They also did some lovely sketches of the house. We were very lucky with the weather and even managed to have our picnic outside!

## **FODs Events**

Thank you to everyone who came to the FODs craft event on Wednesday after school. It was great fun and the children seemed to really enjoy the crafts and Easter Egg Hunt.

Thanks also to everyone who took part in the 'Guess the name of the Easter Bunny' competition, almost all the names were sold which is fantastic! I am delighted to announce that the winner was Elizabeth and the bunny's name was Bumble. Elizabeth was presented with the huge Easter Bunny and Easter Egg today at school. Well done!

**Date for your Diaries:** After School Bingo - Thursday 23rd April 2026 - Details to follow!

## **Mobile Library Van**

On Thursday morning, the junior children walked down to Danby Village Hall to visit the Mobile Library. They all had a lovely time and were able to choose a book to borrow with their new library card. If any children have yet to register, we will be going again in 4 weeks time so you have time. Here is the link to the form.

[https://forms.northyorks.gov.uk/service/register\\_a\\_child\\_with\\_the\\_library](https://forms.northyorks.gov.uk/service/register_a_child_with_the_library)

## **Holiday Activities - message from FEAST [Food. Entertainment. Arts. Sport. Together.]**

*This week, we have issued vouchers to all families whose children receive benefits-related free school meals. These vouchers entitle your child to free places on FEAST activities this Easter holiday, where they'll also receive a free healthy meal. You should have received your voucher via email or text, from a platform called HolidayActivities.*

*If you haven't yet redeemed your voucher, please do so as soon as possible to book your child's place on the great activities happening locally.*

*If you believe your child is eligible and you have not yet received your voucher, or you have misplaced it, please contact the school office before the end of term.*

*To learn more about FEAST, including activities, eligibility and how to manage your bookings, please visit the [FEAST](#) website.*

Please note, these activities are available to all children, but free to those with vouchers as described above.

## **Swimming after Easter**

The whole school will be swimming at Whitby Leisure Centre on the afternoon of the first Thursday back after the Easter break (16th April).

## **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.

## **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.

### 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
Forest School Infants	May 7th
Forest School Juniors	Apr 23rd, May 21st
Easter Holidays	Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April
Teacher Training Day	Monday 13th April - school closed to pupils
Parent Consultations	Monday 20th April 3.40pm - 6.30pm Wednesday 22nd April 3.40pm - 5.00pm
FODs Bingo Night	Thursday 23rd April 2026
Peat Rigg Residential Y3/4	Monday 27th April - Wednesday 29th April
Bank Holiday Monday	Monday 4th May

After Easter, staff will be training at Egton School on Monday, I will be with Egton on Wednesday and Thursday, I will be with Danby on Tuesday and Friday.

Have a wonderful Easter break and hopefully some rest and relaxation!

Best Wishes,



Liz Orland  
Headteacher

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**The information below has not changed but is still relevant.**

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### 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](#)