

DECEMBER

Friday 22nd

Last day of term

JANUARY

Monday 8th

Training day

Tuesday 9th

First day of term

Wednesday 10th

Beechwood care home visit
(Reception & Nursery-on a rota)

Oak Trees musical instrument
tuition starts again (weekly)

Thursday 18th

Pop-Up Library Visit (afternoon)

Monday 24th

FOLS Meeting 2pm - all welcome!

FEBRUARY

Friday 2nd

Bake sale to raise money for the
Young Voices participation

Monday 5th-Thursday 8th

Inspire/Aspire Week

Tuesday 6th

Swimming Gala (Oak Trees)

Thursday 8th

Pop-Up Library Visit (afternoon)

Friday 9th

Young Voices Trip

Last day of term

Monday 12th-Friday 16th

Half term break

Monday 19th

Start of term

PARENTPAY

**THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE
SETTLED OVERDUE PAYMENTS**

**PLEASE CHECK YOUR ACCOUNT
AND CLEAR ANY OUTSTANDING
BALANCES ASAP. THANK YOU.**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY ISSUES OR
QUERIES REGARDING PAYMENTS,
PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE.**

Hello Everyone

The Christmas holidays are upon us and on behalf of the staff team we would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas. This term has seen the introduction of our new teaching team across Conkers and Oak Trees and we are delighted with how well Mrs Bennett, Mr Mortimer and Miss Templeman have settled into life at Leavening and the impact they are making. We have not been short on exciting opportunities for our children this term with our visits and experiences and rich curriculum opportunities.

Topped off with our Ofsted inspection back in late November, it really has been a term of plenty! I am very proud of our pupils and staff and the effective team we make.

Our Ofsted report should be published a few weeks into the new term and we will share this with you as soon as it is available to do so.

Merry Christmas everyone and we will see you all in 2024.

My best wishes

Sian Mitchell

Message from our Chair of Governors, James Robinson:

"Merry Xmas to everybody. The Governors are really positive about our school and we have high hopes for 2024.

Watch this space if 5 days a week nursery provision including 2 year olds might help.

This is a great school because of our staff.

We are grateful for the positive contributions made by all.

See you all in 2024"

School Attendance

11 December 2023 - 15 December 2023

Our school weekly attendance was: 97.4%

This was above the **primary national average of: 93.1%**

Attendance **this week** so far: **92.67%**

Attendance **this term** so far: **93.07%**

Prickly Hay Christmas Production



All the children did amazingly well in the two performances of our show 'Prickly Hay' last Friday. Well done everyone! We are very proud of all the hard work to make the show such a success.

School Christmas Raffle

Due to time restraints, the raffle could not be drawn on the afternoon of the School Productions as planned. Thank you to Aila & Olivia who pulled the names out of the box for us on Monday instead.

The winners are...

Charlotte Russell & Mavis Westwood

Thank you to everyone who supported the raffle and to those who donated/organised the prizes for us. Money raised from our FOLS Christmas events will be announced soon...

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

POPPY APPEAL

Thank you to all who supported.
We raised a fantastic: £72.90!

FOOTBALL CAMP

New Year / 3rd, 4th, 5th January

LOVE THE GAME

with



www.hawkeshealth.org/school-holiday-football-camps

The Conkers have enjoyed a busy, fun filled few days in this last week of term! Excitement for the festive season is at fever pitch; we have busied ourselves by writing letters to Santa and creating beautiful Christmas cards and calendars for your delectation!

We have also enjoyed a farewell party for our good friend Kylo - we wish him all the best and will miss him a great deal!

To all of our Conkers extended family, please have a wonderful Christmas and new year!

We look forward to seeing you in 2024!



Raise FREE donations for

Friends of Leavening School (FOLS)

every time you shop online

Find us on [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/leaveningschool

or download the App



Shop at over **4,000** online stores



Malton Library

malton.library@northyorks.gov.uk 01609 534565

Mon 9.30-5 Tues 9.30-7 Weds 9.30-5 Thurs CLOSED Fri 9.30-5 Sat 9.30-12.30

What's on in January

**WELCOME BACK! WE REOPEN OPEN AT 9:30AM
ON TUESDAY 2ND OF JANUARY 2024**

SPECIAL EVENTS - ALL FREE!

- **Bauble book bingo**, continuing until Saturday 6 Jan. Prizes are still available to our junior visitors when they complete our festive bingo activity sheet! Come down and join in!
- **Fostering drop-in**, Tuesday 9th Jan 12-2pm, FREE drop-in session to find out more about fostering in North Yorkshire
- **Youth Rap Workshop**, Tuesday 9th Jan 5:15-7pm Come and create with James Koppert. Recommended age 7+ , FREE, no booking required
- **Police Property Marking Event**, Saturday 13th Jan 10am-12pm FREE

REGULAR SESSIONS

- **Children's Stay and Play Session**, Mondays 10.30-11.30am
- **Children's Storytime and Crafts**, Tuesdays 10.30am
- **Pins & Needles Craft Club**, Tuesdays 5-7pm
- **Malton Tuesday Readers Group**, First Tuesday of the month 7pm**
- **Carers Plus Drop In**, Second Wednesday of the month starting Wednesday 10th, 10:30-12:30
- **IT Help Appointments**, Mondays 12-1pm, Wednesdays 1-3pm, Fridays 12pm-2pm*
- **Lego Club**, Wednesday 1-3pm and Saturday 10am-12 noon
- **Board Games Club**, Fridays 2-4pm

**Booking essential, please email or phone the library*

***Please email or phone the library for more information*

12 Top Tips for Children and Young People to Enjoy a TECH-FREE CHRISTMAS

The Christmas holidays are tailor made for families to enjoy relaxed quality time in each other's company – but with distractions like pinging phone notifications, the lure of games consoles and online Boxing Day sales, that can be more difficult than it sounds. Staying off our phones, laptops and tablets, however, can really help us to appreciate the things that genuinely matter at this special time of year. Follow our 12 top tips for a tech-free festive season ... Yule be glad you did! Merry Christmas!

CHRISTMAS CRAFTING

Get out the paper, glue and scissors and have a go at hand-making cards or gift tags. You could also create your own decorations to add a uniquely personal touch to the Christmas tree.

NATURE QUEST

Try a scavenger hunt in the garden or your local park. Challenge yourself and your family to find natural treasures that are symbolic of this time of year – like holly or pinecones, say.

CAROL KARAOKE

Sing your hearts out with a Christmas carol karaoke night. Pick out your favourite tunes and enjoy a musical celebration with family and friends.

WANDER DOWN MEMORY LANE

How about making a scrapbook filled with your favourite memories from Christmases gone by? Unleash your creativity while you enjoy reliving those magical holiday moments.

TRY REFLECTIVE JOURNALLING

Jot down your thoughts, feelings and reflections on the holiday in a notebook or diary – you could also list some of your main goals for the new year.

WRAP IT UP

Take time to get inventive with some luxurious gift wrapping. Break out the wrapping paper, ribbons and bows to make parcelling up those presents into a creative adventure.

WALK IN A WINTER WONDERLAND

Delight in the great outdoors with some gentle walks over the holiday. The family can all wrap up warm as you add to your step count and savour the crisp winter air together.

BE A SEASONAL CHEF

Get the whole family working together in the kitchen for some Christmas cooking. Choose a recipe and whip up a festive feast that all of you can enjoy.

ENJOY A CHRISTMAS STORY

Christmas is a perfect time for sparking stories. Get cosy and lose yourself in a brilliant book, from Dickens to Dr Seuss or a more modern favourite by Chris van Allsburg or Tom Fletcher.

SNOWY SCULPTURES

If we're fortunate enough to get a white Christmas this year, make the most of the opportunity by having a family snowman-building competition!

GAMES NIGHT GALA

Dive into some old-school fun with a tech-free games night. Classic board games and card games have stood the test of time for a reason!

GOODWILL TO ALL

You and your family could spend a day volunteering – perhaps at a food bank or helping a local charity. After all, kindness and thinking of others are part of what Christmas is all about.

Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

Top Tips for SETTING UP PARENTAL CONTROLS ON NEW DEVICES

In children's eagerness to start enjoying new digital gadgets immediately, it can be easy to overlook setting up the type of parental controls that can help to protect them online. If you don't sort those out from the very start, it can be an uphill battle – technologically and psychologically – to impose such controls later. Here's our rundown of what to look for when setting up the various internet-enabled devices that might be lurking under the tree at this time of year.

IPHONE

If your child's lucky enough to be getting their own iPhone, parental controls can help avoid issues like screen addiction and unsuitable content. Go into the settings and scroll down to 'Screen Time'. From here you can customise important settings including time limits on using the device, communication restrictions and content blockers. You can also lock your changes behind a passcode.

ANDROID

With Android devices, Google's Family Link app is your friend. You'll need a Google account – and a separate one for your child, which you should use when first setting up the device. Then, in Family Link on your own device, select 'Add Child' and enter their account details. This lets you specify limits on daily usage, restrict certain apps, block particular content and more.

PLAYSTATION

You can prep for a PlayStation before it's even unwrapped. At my.account.sony.com, create an account, then go to Account Management > Family Management > Add Family Member to set up your child's account, which you'll use to sign in on the console. You can restrict the age ratings of the games they can play and who they can talk to. On the PS5, you can make exceptions for any games you think are acceptable despite their high age rating.

IPAD

iPad parental controls are identical to those on iPhones. However, if you've got a shared family iPad and want to ensure your children aren't seeing anything age-inappropriate after you hand them the device, there's a feature called Guided Access (under Settings > Accessibility > Guided Access). With this switched on, young ones can only use the app that's currently open.

XBOX

The Xbox Family Settings app helps you manage which games your child can play (and when). You'll need to set up the console with your own account and then add a child profile. Make sure your account's password protected, so your child can't alter your choices later. You'll be walked through the functions at setup, but you can also reach them manually via Settings > Account > Family Settings.

NINTENDO SWITCH

Download the Nintendo Switch Parental Controls app on your phone, and you'll be shown how to link it to the console. Once that's done, you can limit how long your child can play each day, decide what age ratings are permitted and more. You'll also get weekly updates on how often they've used the device. These controls are accessible through the console itself, but the app is usually easier.

WINDOWS 11 PCs

On Windows 11, account management is key. Set up the device with your own account as the admin. Then go to Settings > Accounts > Family and Other Users and create your child's account (if you've already done this on a previous PC, just log in with those details). Microsoft Family Safety (either the app or the site) then lets you control screen time, what content children can view and more.

CHROMEBOOKS

Chromebooks' parental controls are managed via the Family Link app. Unlike an Android device, however, you need set up the Chromebook with your own account first, then add your child's. Go to Settings > People > Add Person and input your child's Google account details (or create a new account). Your child can then log in, and you can monitor what they're up to via Family Link.

MACS

Like iPhones, parental controls for Macs are managed via the Screen Time settings. Again, the crux here is to set yourself up as the administrator before adding any child accounts. In the settings, look for Users & Groups to create your child's account, then – while on their profile – use the screen time options to place any boundaries around apps, usage and who your child can communicate with (and vice versa).

SMART TVs

Smart TVs typically have their own individual parental controls. One of the most popular brands is Samsung – and on their TVs, you can control the content available to your child. In the Settings menu, under 'Broadcasting', you can lock channels and restrict content by its age rating. Even this isn't foolproof, however: some apps (like YouTube) might still let children access unsuitable material.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins is a technology journalist and editor with more than 20 years' experience of working for titles such as the Sunday Times, Which?, PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly as a tech pundit on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the ITV News at Ten. He has two children and writes regularly on the subject of internet safety.



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