

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Thursday 22nd May 2025

Summer 1 Term

Dear Families

What a lovely couple of weeks it's been at Leavening—full of teamwork, community spirit and lots of smiling faces!

A big thank you to everyone who came along to our first Stay and Play session—it was such a joyful morning and a great reminder of how special our school community really is. The little ones had a wonderful time, and it was lovely to chat with parents old and new. Huge thanks to Emma Isaacs for organising it all so beautifully. Please do spread the word—we'd love to welcome even more families next time!

A huge well done to our fantastic Year 6 pupils who approached their SATs last week with such brilliant attitudes. We're incredibly proud of how calm, focused and hardworking they were throughout. You really showed what "Aiming High" looks like in action!

Our younger children have been busy too—KS1 had a great time at the Malton sports tournament and showed super sportsmanship throughout. Thank you to Mrs Jacques and the parents who helped make the trip possible.

Behind the scenes, we've got lots of hard work going on too. A special thank you to Mrs Reppold, who's been supporting our Year 1s as they prepare for their Phonics Screening Check. Her fun games and cheerful energy are really helping build confidence and keep learning exciting.

We're also lucky to have wonderful volunteers in school. A big thank you to Mrs Schofield, one of our governors, who now helps out in Conkers Class every Tuesday morning; as well as Mrs Fordham- Riley's Grandma- who also helps with children's reading. We really value all our volunteers and would love to welcome more. If you or someone you know would like to help, do get in touch. It's a great way to be part of our "Together We Can" ethos.

Finally, don't forget our free Early Adopter Breakfast Club is open every morning from 8.05am. It's proving popular—but as a pilot school, it's important we make the most of this opportunity. The more families that use it, the more likely we are to keep it going long term!

Wishing you all a happy, safe and restful half term. See you back in school on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June.

Warmest wishes,



Sian Mitchell

## School Attendance

**12 May 2025 - 16 May 2025**

**Our school weekly attendance was: 92.2%**

This was below the primary national average of **95.6%**

Attendance **this week** so far: **95.3%** | Attendance **this term** so far: **94.3%**

## DIARY DATES

### MAY

**W/C 26/5/25** Half term week

### JUNE

**2/6/25** Training day for staff

**3/6/25** Summer 2 term begins for pupils

**W/C 2/6/25** Extra-Curricular clubs run for 6wks to w/c 7/7/25

**W/C 9/6/25**

Yr1 Phonics Screening

**12/6/25** Sports Day.

Round-robin events (am). Parents/carers are invited to the field at 1pm for afternoon races to begin at 1.15pm

**W/C 16/6/25** Readathon

**18/6/25** Yr3/4 Basketball Tournament at Malton Sports Centre.

Leave school 12.30,

**19/6/25** Reserve Sports Day

**20/6** Class & Yr6 group photos

Oak Trees children to wear uniform—bring PE kit in a bag please.

**20/6/25** Scarecrow Festival opens

**24/6/25** Seeing is Believing

(Conkers & Oak Trees) plus

Stay & Play(EYFS). Parents/Carers welcome. Further details to follow

### JULY

**3/7/25** Reports out

**4/7/25** Summer show 9.30 & 2pm

**5/7/25 and 6/7/25**

Leavening BBQ & Summer Fete

**W/C 7/7/25** Transition week.

Children move classes in preparation for Sept 2025.

**8/7/25** New Reception starters(Sept) parent info session 3.30pm

**10/7/25** Yr 6 Treat Day:

Allerthorpe Lake-Aqua park

**11/7/25** Second-hand uniform stall

**15/7/25** Bikeability (Yr 6 pupils)

**16/7/25** Yr 1/2 Summer Sports

Tournament: Malton Sports Centre.

1pm start. Leaving school 12.30pm. Also:

KS2 summer sports event at Malton.

1-3pm. Whole class to go

**18/7/25** End of year celebration assembly followed by rounders & parents lunch for Yr6 pupils

**18/7/25** Last day of term

### SEPTEMBER

**1/9/25** Training day

**2/9/25** Term starts

**8-10/9/25** Peat Rigg Residential

## Our Safeguarding Team at Leavening CP School:

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is: **Mrs Mitchell**

Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is: **Mrs Bennett** | Our Safeguarding Governor is: **Mrs Isaacs**

### ATTENDANCE



## Be an Attendance Hero...



## Here Every day Ready On time

Good attendance means our children will...

- Achieve well and be successful
- Know the value of hard work and efforts
- Be kind
- Dream Big!

**Work hard. Be kind. Dream big**



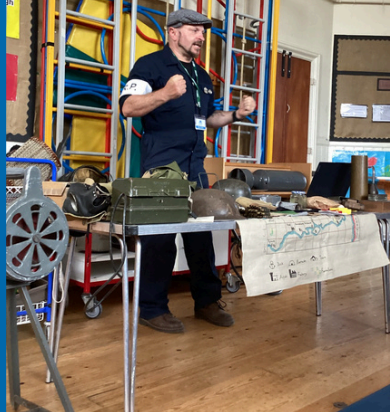
# EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!

MINUTES LATE TO SCHOOL	IMPACT ON YOUR ATTENDANCE IN 1 YEAR
5 MINUTES PER DAY =	3.4 DAYS MISSED 98.4% ATTENDANCE
10 MINUTES PER DAY =	6.9 DAYS MISSED 97.6% ATTENDANCE
15 MINUTES PER DAY =	10.3 DAYS MISSED 94.6% ATTENDANCE
20 MINUTES PER DAY =	13.8 DAYS MISSED 92.9% ATTENDANCE
30 MINUTES PER DAY =	20.7 DAYS MISSED 89.2% ATTENDANCE



## WW2 Immersive Experience School Visit

On Monday, Simon from Murton Park came into school to immerse Conkers children in a morning of wartime history! The children have loved our whole school topic of 'Fallen Fields' and really embraced the morning of hands-on learning. Simon brought in items for the children to handle that included gas masks, ration books, air raid sirens, and even bullets! Our topic was thoroughly brought to life and the Conkers children were thrilled with their experience. A huge thank you to Simon! -Mrs Bennett



We had a fantastic visit from the Murton Park team, where we were captivated by stories, artefacts and facts about WW2. This was a wonderful link to our topic "Fallen Fields" and our history topic of WW2. The children loved handling real and replica items. They asked great questions and had a lovely time! - Miss Templeman

"I learnt that there were bombs that shot out fire!

They had to put sandbags and a bin lid on top!" - Sophia, Year 4

"There were special stations on every corner with a post that changed colour if gas was leaked."

- Everlie, Year 5

## VILLAGE COMMUNITY NOTICES

### Leavening Scarecrow Festival - 20/06/25

It's back this year with the theme of characters from children's literature.

There will be a trail and prizes to be won – details to be announced at the Village Fete.

### Leavening Community Summer BBQ and Fete - 05/07/25 & 06/07/25

Leavening Parish Council and Events team are organising this over the weekend of 5th July.

There will be a community BBQ with music on the Saturday evening and the full village fete with games, performances and stalls on the Sunday.

We are in talks with the committee for Leavening School choir to participate. Confirmed times and details TBC. We will also be selling ice lollies and running a 'hook a duck' stall raising funds for FOLS.

**If you can help with this for a short time (we can create a rota), please get in touch with the office.**

Your support would be very much appreciated.

## SCHOOL NOTICES

We would be very grateful for any **donations** of **outdoor sand/water toys and pots and pans** for our EYFS areas. Thank you in advance if you can help.

Please can we ask that you **check your child/ren's ParentPay account.**

We have a lot of outstanding balances for past events, trips and lunches etc. If you have any queries or issues regarding payment, please contact school.

### **Reminder on warmer days-**

Please ensure your child brings a **sun cream and a hat** (that are both named)

Children should also have a named water bottle with them daily.

### **Lost property**

We have a lot of items in our lost property box. Please do come and check to reclaim any items.

Anything remaining at the end of term will go to charity.

### **Second Hand Uniform Stall: Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July**

Please can we ask for any donated items of uniform to be brought to the school office after half term. All proceeds to go towards Friends of Leavening School.

Thanks in advance for your support!

The logo for Parentkind, featuring the word "Parentkind" in white lowercase letters on a purple rectangular background.

Parentkind is a charity that champions parents so that they can participate in their child's education and school life to the full.

They have curated a series of **FREE webinars** for parents, run by a team of parenting experts and professionals. These can be found on their website here:

<https://www.parentkind.org.uk/your-pta-expert/parent-webinars>



# STAY AND PLAY AT LEAVENING SCHOOL

"I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has come to our new stay and play sessions. It has been lovely to have a chat with you all and it has been nice to meet some new parents and their children.

I have had some lovely feedback with parents telling me that their little ones had lots of fun exploring the new surroundings and having an opportunity to play with others, and of course the grown-ups have enjoyed a cuppa and a chat in a relaxed environment.

I hope to see you all after the break, our next stay and play will be on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June.

Don't forget to spread the word!" -Emma Isaacs







# Stay & Play

Leavening Community Primary School

Come and join us every Monday  
9.30am - 11am for a cuppa and a chat.

FREE for all parents and carers with  
children age 0 - 4 years

Back Lane, Leavening, YO17 9SW



Starts Monday 12th May

Any questions please contact Emma

[Eisaacs@leavening.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:Eisaacs@leavening.n-yorks.sch.uk)





# Girls Football Sessions

Ages 4 - 10

Saturday mornings  
9 - 10 am

Stamford Bridge Sports Club

YO41 1DZ

7th June - 12th July

£3 p/session  
Register your interest here



Or contact Andy for more info-  
andrewjennings1804@hotmail.com





# HAWKES HOLIDAY CAMP



**MAY HALF TERM**



[HTTPS://HAWKES-CLUB.CLASSFORKIDS.IO/CAMPS](https://hawkes-club.classforkids.io/camps)





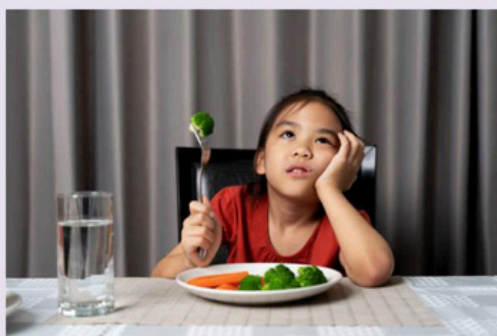
## Children's Therapy Team

# Supporting Children who are picky eaters or avoidant/restrictive

How do I know  
who is picky and  
who is restrictive?

How is a diagnosis of  
ARFID made and what are  
the challenges?

What will help  
at mealtimes?



What is  
ARFID?

Where can I go for  
further support?

What strategies will  
help with sensory  
sensitivities?

This online training session discusses the difference between picky eating and avoidant/restrictive eating, how to identify children with these difficulties and provides ideas of strategies that will help.

This **\*FREE\*** training session is suitable for parents and professionals who live or work in the following areas –

**York, Selby, Scarborough, Whitby, Ryedale**

Date and time: Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2025 1:00-2:30pm, Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025 3:15-4:45pm, Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2025 1:00-2:30pm

For more information or to book a place please email us at

[yhs-tr.childrenstherapytraining@nhs.net](mailto:yhs-tr.childrenstherapytraining@nhs.net)

# Early Adopter FREE breakfast club offer

This new scheme will offer FREE daily breakfast club provision to ALL children in **Reception to Year 6** from **8.05am-8.35am**. After this time, they will be supervised until the start of school at 8.45am.

Children can enjoy a healthy breakfast **at no cost**.

This includes a choice of **cereal, toast with preserves, fruit, yoghurt, fresh juice and water** along with themed breakfasts on special occasions.

Food allergies are catered for.

Breakfast club takes place in the Learning Zone.

Engaging activities are planned each morning and led by our existing school staff; Miss Woodcock, Mrs Isaacs, Mrs Taylor and Ms Kemp.

Breakfast club will still continue to run as usual from **7.30am** for those needing provision at an earlier time.

For the duration of this scheme for the summer term-

Any child (Reception-Year 6) that arrives **before the free 8.05am** session- will be charged at a **reduced** rate of **£3.50/child** (usual rate: £4/child).

**To book your child into Breakfast club** and take advantage of this scheme, please email the office- **admin@leavening.n-yorks.sch.uk** giving at least 24hrs notice before the date of the booking. Remember, you may book in for the **occasional morning or just for a couple of mornings a week**; it does not have to be a regular commitment.



***"Out of 10, I would  
give Breakfast Club  
an 11"***

(Jenny, a regular pupil  
at Breakfast Club)





# BIG ADVENTURES FOR LITTLE SENSES

SPARK YOUR CHILD'S  
CURIOSITY WITH US!



## *Explore using your senses*

With our trays you can use all your senses to explore the world, using natural objects and accessories you find in the world around you!



## *Spend time with your little dot*

On our trays we will include ideas and talking points for you to engage with your little ones and build their learning through play!



## *Let their imagination run wild*

Encourage your little ones to create new ways to explore using their hands, feet to feel, What can they smell? What can they see? What can they hear? What can they taste?

**BOOK NOW**



Be Amazing Studios, YO17 6DU



07960828884 - Ashley

07852905880 - Katie

[Info@littleickledots.co.uk](mailto:Info@littleickledots.co.uk)

[littleickledots.co.uk](http://littleickledots.co.uk)





# Summer Singing School

Come and rehearse and perform a semi staged concert  
version of this musical!

For singers  
aged 6 - 18



Malton  
Venues

£75 per child  
Sibling discount  
available

3 days of fun in August 2025!

Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th - 10 - 4pm

Friday 29th - 2-7pm with a performance at 6pm

[singingwithmissnicky.mymusicstaff.com](https://singingwithmissnicky.mymusicstaff.com)

Workshop run  
by Miss Nicky  
from

 SINGING WITH  
MISS NICKY  
Building confidence through song

 YOUNG  
CRESCENDOS  
SING - HAVE FUN - BUILD CONFIDENCE



# Malton Library

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 June

### LIBRARY EVENTS AND PROMOTIONS

ALL FREE!

- **National Crime Reading Month**

**Crime Writing Workshop\*, Wednesday 11th, 3-4pm**

*If you love cosy crime why not come along to a crime writing session and have a go at creating your own crime villain. An interactive session run by local author Dawn Treacher.*

- **Great Big Green Week - 7-15 June**

**Craft Swap, Saturday 14th, 10am-12noon (Donations accepted 2-11 June)**

*Join us for a craft swap, where you can donate old materials, learn about other crafts and meet other crafters.*

- **Under 5s Week - 16-21 June**

**Creative Hands: Baby Book Bag Making\*, Wednesday 18th, 10.30am-12noon**

*Book in to design a bag with your child using stamps, pens and even hand prints! It might get messy so wear old clothes to make your personalised keepsake.*

**Big Bear Eye Test, Saturday 21st, 10am-12noon**

*Bring along your favourite teddy for an eye test by the Malton Specsavers team, choose specs for teddy and seek out amazing eye facts on our trail around the library.*

- **Pride Month**

**Embroidery Drop-in, Tuesday 17th, 5-7pm**

*A chance to try a new hobby, learn a bit about Queer history and meet new people. This Pride themed workshop is about 'being unapologetically you'! All skill levels welcome.*

**Pride Storytime, Tuesday 24th, 10.30am**

*Avast, me hearties! All hands on deck for our special Pride Storytime. Join us for a reading of 'The Pirate Mums', 'Pirates on the bus', and a chance to make your own pirate hat.*

### REGULAR SESSIONS

- **Children's Stay and Play Session**, Mondays during term time, 10.30am-11.30am
- **Children's Storytime and Crafts**, Tuesdays during term time, 10.30am
- **Sight Support Drop In**, Last Tuesday of the month 10am-12noon
- **Pins & Needles Craft Club**, Tuesdays 5pm-7pm
- **IT Help Appointments\***, Wednesdays 1pm-3pm, Fridays 12pm-2pm
- **Lego Club**, Wednesdays 1pm-3pm and Saturdays 10am-12noon
- **Dungeons and Dragon Club\***, Saturday 28th, 10.30am-12.15pm, 11-18yrs

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



Find us on Facebook



01609 534565



malton.library@northyorks.gov.uk



NORTH  
YORKSHIRE  
COUNCIL



Malton Library  
St Michael Street

Malton  
YO17 7LJ



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT



## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Still the best-selling game of all time, Minecraft is a bastion of creativity and community, with hundreds of millions of players building and crafting in its almost endless world. The popularity of Minecraft among gamers of all ages means it's important to remain informed about the game, including how to play it safely and whether it's suitable for the children in your care. That's why we've created this guide explaining the risks associated with Minecraft and how to ensure a purely enjoyable gaming experience.

## SCARY ELEMENTS

While Minecraft can be seen as a kind of 'digital LEGO', certain game modes include creatures accompanied by eerie sound effects. These can be a bit too frightening for some younger players, potentially leading to distressing in-game combat and other encounters – although the combat is quite basic and free from any real depiction of violence.

## GRIEFING

Some players in Minecraft take pleasure in deliberately damaging or destroying another person's creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying – it intentionally ruins someone else's experience by erasing hours of their work and forcing them to start over. Many public servers regard griefing as a serious offence and often ban those who engage in it.

## ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's focus on creativity means that, as with any creative endeavour, it can be easy to get carried away. If your child is finding it difficult to manage their time because they're drawn in by Minecraft's gameplay loop of resource gathering and building elaborate projects, it could have a knock-on effect on their social interactions and schoolwork.

## PUBLIC SERVERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

With public servers being so easily accessible in Minecraft, it's highly likely that children will end up chatting with strangers through the in-game text chat. Some servers even place an emphasis on social interaction, actively encouraging communication between players. While there's nothing inherently wrong with this, it does carry certain risks. In addition to the concerns around speaking with strangers online, players who host their own servers may have their IP addresses exposed, posing a further security concern.

## ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

Minecraft is available as a free trial on a variety of devices; however, the full game requires a one-off purchase, which is typically around £15. After that, players have the option to buy additional cosmetic upgrades or subscribe to Minecraft Realms. Realms is an entirely optional subscription service that allows users to run their own private server to play with friends. Without proper supervision, younger players may end up making unintended or excessive purchases.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting Creative or Peaceful mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is far lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of enemies and creatures attacking you or damaging your building.

### HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for children to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given its address and password. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – ban anyone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft. Hosting a private server, however, will cost a monthly fee.

### TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone will make contact with a stranger online. Talking to children about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan for dealing with any hostile or difficult people. It's important that a child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

### RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

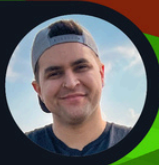
Much of Minecraft's early stages can be an exercise in frustration for players who don't know where to start. Thankfully, there's a wealth of material online and in video format to help you learn the basics. Just be mindful that some of this content may not be appropriate for children, so you should consider watching it yourself first.

### PLAY MINECRAFT WITH YOUR CHILD

As a creative building tool, Minecraft makes it great fun for children to team up and construct vast buildings accompanied by imaginative landscapes, much like working with LEGO or model kits. Playing in a game mode that includes enemies can encourage critical thinking and teamwork; however, you should consider which game mode is appropriate for the child in your care.

## Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Gaming Editor at the Daily Star, and has worked in games media for more than 6 years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety for children of all ages.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about VIOLENT CONTENT ONLINE

Around 70% of teenagers say they've seen real-life violence on social media in the past year – often from as young as primary school age. Just 6% actively seek it out; most encounter it through group chats or social media algorithms. From fights and pranks to hate speech and graphic media, exposure to violent content online is more widespread – and more harmful – than many adults realise.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### MENTAL HEALTH AND TRAUMA

Children and young people report feelings of anxiety, guilt, shame or fear after seeing violent content. For some, these effects may be short term, but for those with existing vulnerabilities or past trauma, the impact can be more severe. Many also feel pressured to 'laugh off' violent content to fit in with friends, even when they find it distressing.

### BEHAVIOUR CHANGES

Exposure to online violence can lead to fear and avoidance behaviours – such as skipping school or staying indoors. When children see weapons used in videos, it can heighten their perception that the world is unsafe and, in rare cases, increase the likelihood they'll consider carrying a weapon themselves, such as a knife for protection.

### ESCALATION AND PARTICIPATION

Violent videos often go viral quickly. What begins as an online argument can spill into real-world fights – which are sometimes filmed and shared to gain views or status. Some children even admit to sharing or creating violent content themselves to gain attention or boost their reputation.

### DESENSITISATION

Older teens may become numb to violent content after years of exposure, admitting they're unlikely to report it. Younger children also tend not to report it – usually because they don't believe anything will be done or because they're afraid of being labelled a 'snitch' by their peers.

### HARMFUL IDEOLOGIES

Violent content online may overlap with racist, misogynistic or otherwise extremist ideas. These messages can dehumanise others or glorify violence as a way to gain power, popularity or notoriety. Over time, this can normalise dangerous behaviours and attitudes among impressionable viewers.

### DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT

Not all children are affected equally. Those who are excluded from school, marginalised, disabled or neurodivergent are often more vulnerable to the effects of online violence. It's essential to consider wider context – including home life and access to safe spaces – when thinking about potential harm.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### CREATE SUPPORTIVE SPACES

Many children feel adults are too busy or won't understand their experiences online. Take time to build trust through non-judgemental conversations about what they're seeing. If they don't want to speak to you directly, gently signpost towards trusted services they can turn to for support.

### KNOW WHAT'S ILLEGAL

Some violent content is simply upsetting, while other examples may be criminal or a safeguarding matter that needs reporting. Help children understand the difference by staying informed about online laws and social media reporting procedures. A useful resource is [reportharmfulcontent.com](https://reportharmfulcontent.com).

### AVOID HARSH RESTRICTIONS

Fear of punishment is a major reason young people stay silent about violent content. Try not to overreact or threaten to take away devices. Instead, reassure children that they can speak openly and that asking for help won't get them into trouble.

### UNDERSTAND TECH AND TRAUMA

Older children may already know how to block accounts or avoid triggering content. Help younger or more vulnerable children learn these tools and encourage habits that reduce exposure. Just as importantly, teach techniques that help them process distress – building resilience and emotional literacy for both online and offline life.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr. Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading UK expert in digital safety, media law, and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal, and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit [onlinemedialawuk.com](https://onlinemedialawuk.com) for more.



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