

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Thursday 10th July 2025

Summer 2 Term

## HELLO FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Families,

As we approach the end of another remarkable school year, I wanted to take this opportunity to share some of the wonderful activities and achievements that have filled our recent weeks at Leavening Community Primary.

Our summer performance of 'Pantastic' was a tremendous success, showcasing the incredible talent and dedication of our pupils. The children worked exceptionally hard to deliver a memorable performance that delighted audiences and demonstrated their growing confidence and creativity.

Transition week has been particularly valuable for our school community. Our existing pupils have had the opportunity to visit their new classes and spend time with the new children who will be joining them. This careful preparation ensures that everyone feels welcomed and ready for the year ahead, fostering the supportive environment that makes our school so special.

Despite the challenging weather conditions, our choir performed beautifully at the Village Fete. Their resilience and commitment were evident as they continued to sing with enthusiasm, supported by their ever-loyal fan base who braved the rain to show their appreciation. We were also pleased to receive the prize for the most creative scarecrow with our contribution of the Hungry caterpillar- again a special Thanks to Mrs Raines who constructed this creative beauty with the help of our pupils.

We were delighted to welcome Malton School to our premises for their summer performance of 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'. These collaborative opportunities enrich our pupils' cultural experiences and strengthen our connections within the wider educational community.

Our Year 6 pupils thoroughly enjoyed their well-deserved treat day at Allerthorpe Lake. This special occasion provided them with wonderful memories as they prepare for their transition to secondary education, celebrating their achievements and the friendships they have built during their time with us.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all parents and carers for your outstanding support throughout this school year. Your commitment and partnership have been instrumental in our collective success, and together we have achieved so much.

Looking ahead to our final events, please join us from 5pm until 6.30pm today, Thursday 10th July, for our new fundraising event featuring a sausage sizzle followed by a family quiz. Payment can be made on the door, and we look forward to seeing you there.

I would like to remind families of our summer term 'Rock Steady' concert at 9.30am on Monday 14th July, which is specifically for families of children who participate in Rock Steady.

Finally, please join us for our end of year celebration on Friday 18th July at 9.30am. This event is for families of all children at school, not just Year 6, as we celebrate all of our wonderful pupils. The more the merrier.



Sian Mitchell  
Headteacher

## School Attendance

**30 June 2025 - 04 July 2025**

**Our school weekly attendance was: 97.5%**

This was above the primary national average of **94.4%**

Attendance **this week** so far: **95.4%** | Attendance **this term** so far: **94.3%**

## DIARY DATES

**JULY**

**11/7/25**

Second-hand  
uniform stall See Page 4!

**14/7/25**

RockSteady Concert  
9.15am

**15/7/25**

Bikeability (Yr 6 pupils)  
**16/7/25** Yr5 Taster Day:  
Norton College.

Remember packed  
lunches!

**16/7/25** Yr 1/2 Summer  
Sports Tournament: Malton  
Sports Centre. 1pm start.  
Leave school at 12.30pm.

**18/7/25** End of year  
celebration assembly  
9.30am All welcome!  
This is followed by Yr6 Kids  
vs Parents Rounders and  
then Yr6 Parents lunch  
with their child

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

**SEPTEMBER**

**1/9/25** Training day

**2/9/25** Term starts

**5/9/25** First Aid

Workshops for Conkers &  
Oak Trees pupils

**8-10/9/25** Peat Rigg  
Residential (Oak Trees)

## 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**

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM ACROSS SCHOOL

A huge thanks to everyone for their generosity in purchasing raffle tickets.

We raised a magnificent **£490 in aid of Friends of Leavening School**, which will be a fantastic help. Thank you to Mrs Stockill for organising this.

We hope the lucky winners are enjoying their prizes! Well done all.

*Congratulations to Merry in Oak Trees Class for achieving a Distinction in her Grade 1 Violin exam!*



## Transition Week

*"We have had a lovely transition week with the new year 3s joining Oak Tree Class. The current year 2 girls have settled in to our team beautifully and had a blast! On Wednesday, we built and flew parachutes in a fair test experiment comparing one of three things - materials, shapes or sizes. The class worked as teams to plan, design and record their data efficiently and neatly. Great job team! Oak Trees staff are looking forward to September!"*

**-Miss Templeman (Oak Trees)**





## Pantastic Show

*The production was phenomenal! Well done to all the cast, crew, parents and staff team for all the hard work. The props, costumes, line learning, song singing, behaviour and acting was all super impressive. Well done especially to our Year sixes who had lots of lines to learn and led the class in the play brilliantly. Great job to all!*





# **SCHOOL NOTICES AND REMINDERS**

## **IMPORTANT - Sports Tournaments**

**These events take place in school time and are curriculum-related.**

It is expected that ALL children will attend. They are not optional (unless parents/carers have directly outlined their reason for *not* giving consent). Reminder about the **Year 1 and 2 Summer sports fixture on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July. Children should come to school wearing their PE kit and ensure they have their booster seat and water bottle.**

It is a non competitive event and is a celebration of summer sports!

**Please ensure you check your child/ren's ParentPay account/s.**

We have a lot of outstanding balances. If you have any queries/issues, please contact school.

## **FOLS Second Hand Uniform Stall: 11/07/25: 3.15pm**

Please can we ask for any donated items of good quality used uniform, PE kit, Forest School items, socks, jackets and other related school clothing etc to be brought to the school office in advance of this event. Thank you.

## **Rocksteady Concert: 14/07/25 9.15am**

The concert is a great way for children at school to proudly showcase all their musical skills on stage in front of a supportive audience! Please do let us know in advance if you will be attending, to ensure we have adequate seating.

## **Bikeability: 15/07/25 (Year 6 only)**

For your child to take part, you will need to ensure that your child has:

- ☉ **A roadworthy bike.** The attached checklist may be of use to you to show what we will be checking prior to the course starting. A child will not be allowed to take part if a bike is considered unsafe. If you are unsure, please visit your local bike shop for professional advice. **Note that electric bikes are not permitted to be used.**
- ☉ By law the bicycle must have an audible warning, e.g. **a bell.**
- ☉ **An approved, well fitting cycle helmet** conforming to standards:-EN 1078 or SNELL B 95. Damaged helmets, full face motorbike style helmets and helmets used for other sporting activities are not acceptable for the course.
- ☉ **The ability to ride a bike!** This course is not intended as a basic training course. It is a starting point for life long development of good practise as a cyclist on the road. Children need to be able to cycle and balance properly especially when giving hand signals to take part. If your child cannot do so, it would be very helpful to them (and us) if you would give them some opportunities to practice their basic cycling and balance skills before the course starts.
- ☉ **Suitable outdoor clothing** (PE kits) , sensible footwear, waterproofs, sun cream, water bottle

## **End of year celebration assembly: 18/07/25 9.30am**

All welcome! This is followed by Yr6 Kids vs Parents Rounders and then Yr6 Parents lunch with their child.

## **Conkers and Acorns are in search of kitchen resources to enhance the outdoor and home kitchen provision.**

**Things we are on the look out for include (but are not limited to) the following:**

Utensils | Cutlery | Scales | Jugs | Pots and pans | Any metal containers, jugs or bowls etc

If anyone has any that they could donate it would be hugely appreciated. Thank you for your continued support.

**Ice lollies and ice creams will be on sale at the Sausage Sizzle tonight and then Friday after school.** Ice cream from Harbour Bar, Scarborough- **50p** per tub of ice cream or ice-lolly.



## ‘Early Adopters Scheme’ FREE breakfast club offer

The scheme, which has been positively received by parents/carers since April 2025, offers FREE daily breakfast club provision to all children in **Reception to Year 6** from **8.05am-8.35am**.

After this time, they are 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.

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

The regular breakfast club runs as usual from **7.30am**, for those needing provision at an earlier time.

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)*





**Northallerton | Saturday, July 26, 2025**

**WEAR BRIGHT  
COLOURS!**

# **SEND PRIDE 2025**

 **PARADE AT 12 : 00 PM**

**MEET AT NORTHALLERTON TOWN HALL**



We are thrilled to announce that on July 26, 2025, Flying High will host a landmark SEND Pride event in Northallerton.

This celebration will showcase the vibrant spirit and resilience of disabled individuals in our county, featuring a colourful parade followed by engaging activities at Northallerton Town Hall.

- Fun workshops
- Creative activities
- Inspiring talks
- Information stalls
- Real stories from disabled individuals



**Contact**

**[nyvoice@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:nyvoice@northyorks.gov.uk) for further info**





# SUMMER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

at

**York Sport**  
Inspiring people

## KICKSTART YOUR CHILD'S ACTIVE SUMMER AT YORK SPORT!

Keep the kids happy, healthy, and moving with York Sport's fun-filled summer activities. From **Swimming Courses** to **Junior Triathlon Training**, it's fitness and fun all Summer long!

**FIND OUT MORE AND BOOK**  
**YORK-SPORT.COM**





**MOVEFIT**

*Mama*

**YORK**

*Pop-Up Class*

**THE 90'S MIXTAPE**

**Dance fitness classes designed specifically for mums**

**THURSDAY 17 JULY, 6PM**  
**THE MOUNT SCHOOL YORK**

Build strength in your legs, core, & pelvic floor – one strut at a time!

**NO DANCE EXPERIENCE NEEDED!**

**[WWW.MOVEFITCLUB.CO.UK](http://WWW.MOVEFITCLUB.CO.UK)**



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about APPLE IPADS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Tablets remain a staple of children's digital lives – and Apple's iPad is by far the most popular model. According to Ofcom, over half of younger children regularly use a tablet to play games, watch online content or access apps. With their broad functionality, iPads can be helpful tools, but without supervision, they may expose children to risks ranging from inappropriate content to screen overuse.

### COSTLY TO REPAIR

Unlike some child-friendly tablets, the iPad is not built for rough handling. Its slim design and high cost mean that a drop or spill can result in a costly repair. If a child is using the device regularly, a sturdy case and screen protector are strongly recommended to help prevent accidental damage.

### DATA PRIVACY

While Apple is known for strong privacy protections, a recent study found that many iOS apps aimed at children still share personal data. Over 40% of the tested apps sent at least one piece of user information to third parties, raising concerns about advertising and analytics being targeted at underage users.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The App Store and Safari browser provide almost unrestricted access to online material. Children may stumble upon age-inappropriate content, whether through apps, advertisements or online searches. Even recommended content algorithms can surface unsuitable material.

### BYPASSING RESTRICTIONS

Siri – Apple's voice assistant – can potentially override restrictions, especially with the newer text-based commands introduced through Apple Intelligence. Without safeguards in place, children may inadvertently access inappropriate topics simply by asking a question, bypassing certain filters previously set by adults.

### SCREEN ADDICTION

iPads can be highly immersive, and excessive screen time may affect a child's emotional and behavioural development. Signs of overuse might include mood swings, irritability, and difficulty focusing on non-digital activities.

### REDUCED ATTENTION & COGNITIVE IMPACT

Prolonged use of tablets has been linked with reduced memory, slower processing speeds and difficulties in concentrating. Research shows that children who spend excessive time gaming or consuming media on tablets may struggle with language development and executive functioning over time.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Family Sharing allows you to create a dedicated Apple ID for your child and manage their activity. You can approve purchases, control what content they can access, and set time limits – all done remotely from your own device. It's a simple but powerful way to maintain oversight.

### FILTER APPS, WEBSITES & IN-APP PURCHASES

Parental controls in iOS let you block explicit content in Safari, restrict app downloads, and manage in-app purchase permissions. You can also filter websites automatically to prevent access to adult material and disable the installation of certain app types completely.

### USE SCREEN TIME FEATURES EFFECTIVELY

Tools like Downtime and App Limits can reduce device overuse. Downtime allows you to block access during key times – such as before bed or during homework – while App Limits sets daily time caps on specific games or apps. Alerts help children anticipate when their time is almost up.

### PREVENT UNAPPROVED SPENDING

Children can accidentally (or intentionally) make purchases within apps. Activating Ask to Buy under Family Sharing ensures you receive a notification to approve any app or in-app purchase. This stops surprise charges and allows you to discuss purchases together before they're made.

### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is a seasoned technology journalist with over a decade of experience. Formerly a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly now writes for publications including WIRED, Forbes, TechRadar, and Tes. With a deep understanding of online safety, she brings a valuable perspective to parenting in the digital age.



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# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI-ENABLED SCAMS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Artificial intelligence (AI) is quickly becoming a widely used tool, with lots of positive applications being discussed and developed. Sadly, however, as with most technology tools, there are those who will seek to use it for malicious and dishonest practices, with children and other vulnerable groups particularly at risk.

### PHISHING EMAILS: BETTER & QUICKER

Phishing scams – emails designed to trick people into handing over login details or money – are not new, and do not rely on AI; however, AI has made them far more dangerous. Criminals can now generate highly convincing emails at speed, mimicking an organisation's tone, branding and language with ease. This makes phishing attempts harder to spot, especially for young people who may not yet know what to look out for.

### ONLINE MARKETPLACE FRAUD

Online marketplaces are now a common way to buy and sell everything, from second-hand clothes to cars. Criminals are exploiting this by using AI to enhance or completely fake product photos and videos, and pressure buyers into paying deposits or full amounts upfront. These tactics are becoming more advanced, making it vital to pause, check, and verify the sale before parting with any money.

### VOICE IMPERSONATION

AI can now realistically impersonate a person's voice when given a small sample of someone's speech patterns. This is especially concerning where voice has been enabled as an alternative to password-based logins. One such example was the use of AI deepfake audio as part of a fake kidnapping scam: the criminals used an AI voice clone of a 15-year-old to convince her parents she had been kidnapped and elicit a ransom.

### EMPLOYMENT SCAMS

Using AI, criminals can create fake online profiles that seem completely real. These synthetic identities can chat with young people about fake job offers, asking for money to secure a visa or paperwork. In 2025, The Guardian reported a scam targeting young people with promises of quick cash, posing as TikTok staff.

### INFLUENCER & INVESTMENT SCAMS

AI tools now make it easy to manipulate video and audio, with technology available that can generate entirely fake content using the likeness of celebrities or influencers. Criminals are using this to create convincing videos of well-known figures promoting fake products or services, which young people can be particularly susceptible to. Cryptocurrency scams are a common tactic, luring people into investing in schemes that do not exist. Once payment is made, the criminal simply disappears with the money.

### ROMANCE SCAMS & SEXTORTION

AI chat bots can now mimic real conversations, often accompanied with realistic fake photos and videos, which makes it easier for criminals to build trust with young people – among other things, this can lead to fraud or sextortion. In 2024, the NCA's CEOP Safety Centre received 380 reports of sextortion. Alarmingly, in the first five months alone, police received an average of 117 monthly reports involving under-18s, showing how serious and targeted this threat has become.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### THINK CRITICALLY

The key to addressing the increasing growth of AI-enabled scams is to think critically and show caution. Inform children that if something is too good to be true, then it probably is. Encourage them to stop and carefully consider what they are seeing and reading before taking any action. For example, if a social media post expresses urgency, proceed with caution; if content seems unusual, even from a known person, it may be that their account has been hacked.

### SEEK TO VERIFY

Criminals may breach an influencer's account or spread misinformation and fake content; however, their approach will generally be limited to a single account, site or service. Where possible, show children how to verify information to check its legitimacy before proceeding. Small actions, such as phoning the person who is the subject of a suspicious email, or checking content via an individual or company website or social media sites can make the difference. The greater the risk, the more effort we should expend to confirm whether the information presented is true or false.

### USE TRUSTWORTHY SITES AND SERVICES

Online marketplaces are useful when buying and selling items; however, where possible, encourage children to use reputable companies and their online shopping sites. These companies are likely to have more sophisticated cyber-security safeguards in place, underpinned by consumer legislation, enabling them to control how products and services are displayed and traded on their sites.

### REPORT IT

As the sophistication of scams increases, the likelihood of being tricked by them also increases, especially when not paying attention or acting quickly. It is important that young people know how to report incidents as they happen. Show children how to report their concerns to the social media site, Action Fraud, banks, and other individuals or organisations linked or involved. If you are unsure of the most effective reporting channel, contact Action Fraud.

## Meet Our Expert

Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at Millfield, a large independent boarding school in Somerset, as well as a member of the Digital Futures Group, Vice Chair of the ISC Digital Advisory Group and an Association of Network Managers in Education (ANME) Ambassador.



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