SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Thursday 22nd October 2026

Autumn 1 Term

Headteacher's Monthly Update

Celebrating Achievements | Listening to Pupils | Looking Ahead

Strategic Update: Moving Forward Together

It has been another busy and positive month at Leavening School. I have thoroughly enjoyed observing teaching across classrooms—seeing our children stretched, curious, and rising to high expectations. In Nursery, our youngest learners are thriving, building essential social skills, and learning to cooperate and problem-solve together.

School Achievements: A Wonderful Harvest Celebration

Thank you to Mrs Stockill, our staff, and the children for leading a superb Harvest Assembly. The pupils spoke with confidence and pride, and we have received wonderful feedback from our community. Thank you to everyone who supported this event.

Parent Headline: Pupil Voice & Safeguarding

Listening to our children is central to keeping them safe. This month, we reviewed pupil safeguarding surveys across Reception, KS1, and KS2.

The Highlights:

- Positive School Culture: Pupils across all key stages reported feeling safe, happy, welcome, and cared for.
- Key Stage 1: 100% of surveyed children feel safe in class, understand school rules, know how to use the Worry Box, and show a strong understanding of boundaries and online safety.
- Key Stage 2: Pupils clearly identified trusted adults, understood how to address unkind behavior, and knew how to handle concerns about online content.

Areas for Action (What the children told us):

- Playground & Equipment: Some younger pupils raised concerns about sharing resources and playing near specific equipment (e.g., ropes). We are reviewing playground safety, supervision, and play organization.
- Safeguarding Roles: While KS2 pupils know who to talk to, many were unfamiliar with the formal terms Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy DSL. We will clarify these roles through assemblies, displays, and classroom discussions.
- Site Maintenance: We are addressing minor practical site concerns raised by the children.

Thank you for partnering with us—if your child ever shares a worry at home, please encourage them to speak to a staff member so we can help.

Looking Ahead: Monthly Focus

1. Teaching & Learning: Maintaining high standards to stretch, challenge, and build independent learners.
2. Safeguarding & Wellbeing: Implementing actions directly from our pupil survey feedback.
3. Early Years Development: Nurturing communication, cooperation, and foundational skills in Nursery.

A Final Word

Thank you to our staff, children, and families. Our school's progress is built on our strong partnership and shared commitment to helping every child thrive.

Warm regards, Sian Mitchell

DIARY DATES

OCTOBER

Fri 23rd Training day

W/C 26th Half term

NOVEMBER

Week beginning Monday 2nd Nov

Autumn 2 term starts.

Launch of topic ' We are Yorkshire'.

Extra curricular clubs start.

Week beginning 9th Nov

Parents evenings

Fri 13th Nov

Children in Need Day

Week beginning 16th Nov

Anti-bullying Week.

Wear odd socks day Monday 16th

DECEMBER

Friday 4th Dec

Christmas dress up day in exchange for a tombola prize.

Christmas Fair after school.

Friday 11th Dec

Christmas production 9.30am & 2pm

Monday 14th Dec

Parent and carer

Christmas Craft Afternoon.

Tuesday 15th Dec

Pantomime Visit all day

Friday 20th Dec

Carol singing in the community.

End of term

JANUARY

Monday 6th Jan

Training day

Tuesday 7th Jan

Term begins

Wednesday 6th

Launch of 'Once upon a time' topic

Week beginning Monday 25th Jan

Aspire Week

Sports Dates: ALL children in the specified year groups are to take part

Weds 4th Nov:

Year **3 & 4:** Football & Benchball

Parent/Carer volunteer drivers needed Please contact the office if you can help - THANK YOU!

Pop-Up Library Dates:

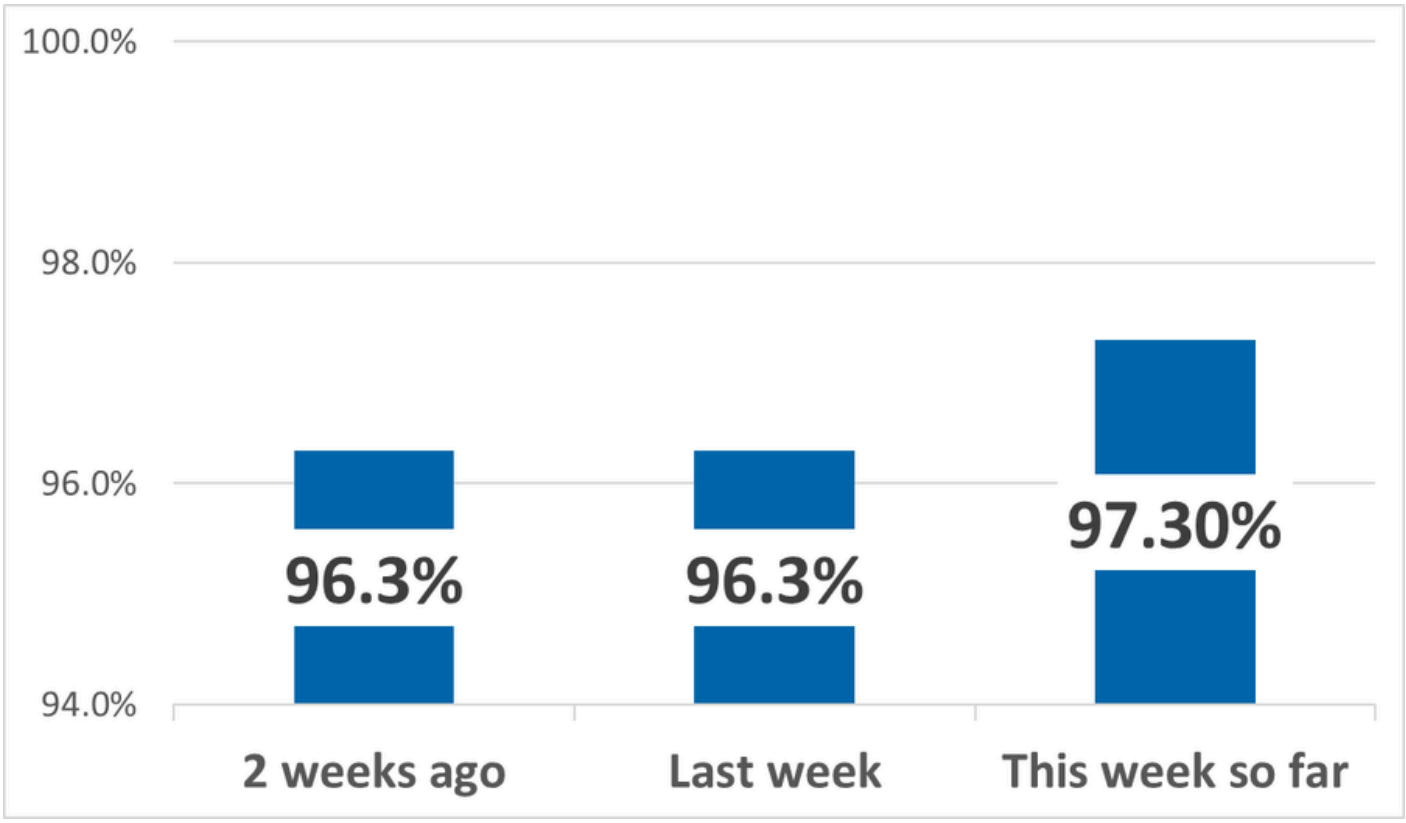
12/11, 5/12 (collection)

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**

School Attendance



Supporting your child's health and school attendance



RECENT SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS: ACORNS NURSERY

🌟 Welcome Back & A Wonderful Start!

What an incredible start to the school year! We cannot quite believe how quickly this half term has flown by. It has been wonderful welcoming back our returning children alongside our new starters, all of whom have settled in beautifully thanks to the immense kindness shown by everyone. It has been truly delightful to see the foundations of strong new friendships already forming.

🥕 Outdoor Adventures & Allotment Harvests

The children have been wonderfully busy exploring their environment, mastering daily routines, and understanding classroom boundaries. We have also been working hard up at the allotment harvesting our vegetables—and my goodness, the size of the carrots and potatoes this year absolutely blew us away! Heading outdoors has been a real highlight, with the children spotting the early signs of autumn and collecting plenty of conkers, which they have loved using for rolling and painting.

🧱 Maths in Action: Building & Counting

Maths has been full of colour and construction this half term! Across the room, we have been embedding our colour knowledge by building fantastic towers and long lines, which has given everyone a great opportunity to compare sizes and quantities. Alongside this, our older children have been focusing closely on the numbers 1, 2, and 3—practising counting their objects accurately and identifying the matching numerals.

📚 Storytime, Baking & Role-Play

Alongside our outdoor adventures, a true love of reading is starting to emerge. We have seen fantastic engagement with our focus books this term:

Owl Babies

The Little Red Hen

The Best Diwali Ever

These stories led to wonderful discussions and role-play, and even inspired some of our baking! We made chocolate nests for the birds and, thinking of ways to use flour just like the Little Red Hen, the children baked their own delicious bread and cakes.

✨ Looking Ahead: Exciting Celebrations & Phonics

We have so many exciting celebrations to look forward to next half term, including Halloween, Bonfire Night, Diwali, and Christmas! Alongside these celebrations, the children will be exploring a wonderful selection of seasonal stories, such as Leaf Man, The Gingerbread Man, Stick Man, and The Elves and the Shoemaker.

Next half term, our preschool children will be starting their Little Wandle Foundations for Phonics sessions. In these fun and interactive sessions, they will begin to:

- Recognise the initial sounds of words
- Practice using our special "robot voice" to blend sounds
-Start tuning into all the wonderful sounds around them

📖 Learning Journals

Learning journals will be coming home with your child this week so you can see all the exciting things they have been up to this half term. You are more than welcome to add your own photographs and comments to the journals, or email them over for us to print. We absolutely love seeing what your children get up to at home! Please remember to send the learning journals back to school after the half-term break so we can continue adding more wonderful memories.

💬 Keeping in Touch

Please don’t hesitate to contact us about your child—whether that is through an email, a phone call, catching us on the playground, or coming into school to see us. We are always happy to talk to you and truly value our relationship with your child and family.

Have a wonderful half term holiday!






THIS
KID























RECENT SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS: CONKERS CLASS

We have thoroughly enjoyed our autumnal start to the school year!

The children have loved exploring the signs of autumn through seasonal walks and conker picking. In Art, we have studied the beautiful colours, shapes and patterns of autumn leaves and experimented with the wax-resist technique to create our own leaf drawings.

We have also been fascinated by our half-termly topic of Evolution, particularly learning about the incredible life of palaeontologist Mary Anning and her remarkable fossil discoveries. The children have enjoyed finding out how her discoveries have helped us to understand more about life on Earth millions of years ago and of course, learning all about her dinosaur discoveries!







RECENT SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS: OAK TREES CLASS

Historical outdoor learning

In History, this term we have been learning all about the changes between the Stone Age and the Iron Age! During one of our super lessons we got outside to recreate our version of stone henge and to make some predictions about how the giant stones were transported in the Stone Age times without cranes or bigger automated machinery!

We also linked our Stone Age learning to our forest school activities, where we researched and then built structures based on the Stone Age tipi tents.

In PSHE children worked together in teams to create scenarios and act them out, thinking about responsibilities, rewards, consequences and a class charter. The Year 3 and 4 pupils worked hard at listening and communicating to one another to put together a brilliant performance!

In our harvest production, our year 6 pupils read out their poems titled "Thank you farmers". Each pupil wrote a poem based on the seasons and the different jobs that farmers do to support our food growth in the country. We also researched where our favourite food comes from and how each ingredient is part of a wider cycle of growing and harvesting. Our favourite food fact was that broccoli grows seasonally in the UK and when it is out of season it comes from Spain!

The children have worked incredibly hard in art, exploring the art of charcoal - a tricky substance to work with! The children really enjoyed exploring the different uses of charcoal, from rolling to spreading. They produced some wonderful pictures of Halloween inspired trees! Great job Oak Trees!

In English, we have been writing stories inspired by the story "Stone Age boy". The children were fabulous at getting into the mind of a character who had been lost in the Stone Age!
Look out for their stories - coming home with them this week!










Issue No. 2 October 2026

Wrap Around Care: Highlights

Hello Parents & Carers

Welcome to our **Wrap Around Care** newsletter! Each term, we will share our highlights from **breakfast and afterschool club** activities. We hope you enjoy finding out a little more about our wrap around care provision.

Meet our wrap around care staff.



Miss H Cooke



Miss H Woodcock



Mrs E Isaacs



Mrs K Taylor







Next term, we'll be diving into big imagination and brilliant building as we use our new **Lego sets** to create fantastic animals, exciting types of transportation and all sorts of **inventive creations!** We can't wait to show you all of our designs.

After school club have enjoyed some time outside while the weather has been nice. They had a fun time making a **mud kitchen** and got creative with all our conkers by setting up a **conker café!**

Congratulations to our Stars of the term: **Jake Forrester and Henry Isaacs.**

They have shown **kindness** to their friends, **helped staff** clear away and helped to look out for our younger breakfast clubbers. **Well done!**

We would like to introduce you all to our new breakfast club ambassadors

Alfie Forrester
Jessica Midgley
Charlotte Allen
April Robinson

They will be in breakfast club to help welcome their friends and share fun ideas for activities alongside helping staff with light organisation.

Breakfast Club Times

7.30 - 8.45 - £3.50 per breakfast club for reception to year 6 pupils
Nursery - £4
8.05 - 8.45 - FREE for reception to year 6 pupils **(40 minutes FREE CHILDCARE)**

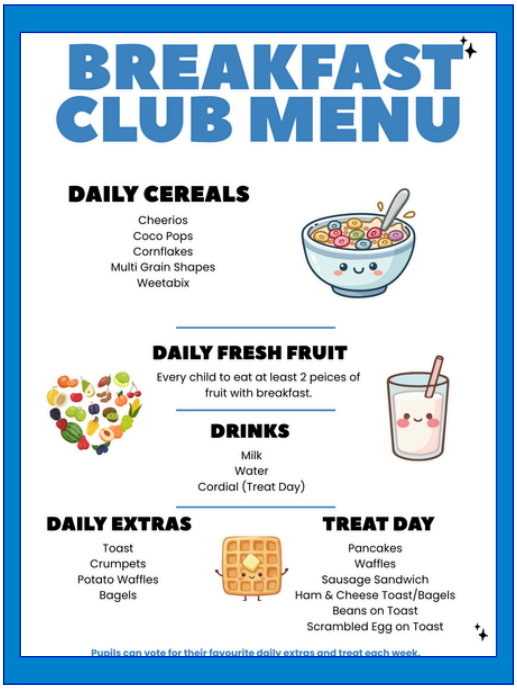
After School Club Times

3-15pm - 4-15pm - Mon-Fri £3.50
3-15 - 5.00 - Mon-Fri £5.50
3-15 - 5.45 - Mon-Thurs £7.00

PLEASE NOTE LATEST COLLECTION ON A FRIDAY IS 5PM

Please contact the admin team to book your child into wrap around care. We kindly ask for a minimum of 24 hours' notice to ensure appropriate staffing.
Please note nursery age children are not eligible for the free breakfast club.

All children will be offered breakfast/snack from the menus and all dietary requirements will be met



Leavening Community Primary School

Breakfast *Club*

FREE from 8.05am for reception to Y6

FUN & GAMES



TIME TO HANG OUT WITH YOUR FRIENDS







ARTS & CRAFTS



RISE & SHINE
ITS BREAKFAST CLUB TIME





COMPETITIONS

OBSTACLE COURSE

Early breakfast club from 7.30 - £3.50 per child from reception to Y6
Nursery children £4

To book contact admin@leavening.n-yorks.sch.uk

LEAVENING COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

CUPPA AND CONNECT

Chat & Refreshments: Parents and Carers Get-Together.

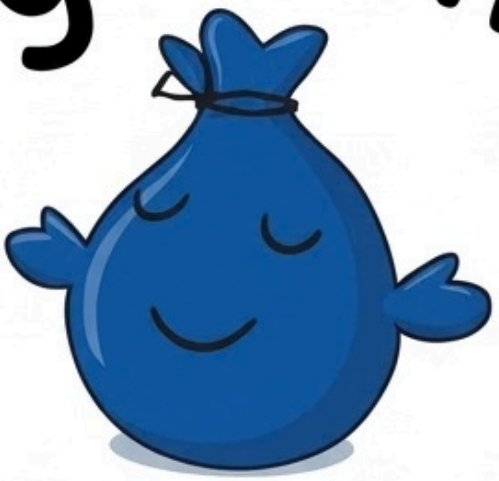
Unwind with a cuppa, chat and friendly natter.

We appreciate there is nowhere local for parents to go to connect over a cuppa after drop off. We offer this opportunity to support relationships, belonging and community.

Tea, coffee and biscuits provided.
Cake donations welcomed!

Date: Monday 9th November
Time: 9am to 10.30am
Location: The Learning Zone

Bag2School™



CLOTHES COLLECTION

Leavening Community Primary School

Collection Details

Collection Date:
Thursday 5th November by 9am

Drop-off Location: Outside main reception (on the playground)

What to bring:
Good-quality adult and children's clothing, paired shoes, bags, belts, hats, soft toys, and curtains. (Please no duvets, pillows, or damaged items).

All donations and support greatly appreciated

LEAVENING COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

LEAVENING COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

LET'S GO ZERO 2030

Schools working together to be zero carbon

Leavening Community Primary is proud to be part of the Let's Go Zero campaign, working with a dedicated Climate Action Advisor to create a tailored Climate Action Plan and embed sustainability into every aspect of school life. To join us visit Letsgozero.org/join

Leavening Community Primary is proud to announce we have joined the national Let's Go Zero campaign to become a zero carbon school by 2030. With the support of a dedicated Climate Action Advisor, the school is developing a climate action plan to cut emissions, engage students, and support local sustainability goals.

Let's Go Zero is a campaign brought to you by Ashden, uniting one in five schools in the UK to take climate action. Backed by 22 leading organisations, it supports schools with tools, funding guidance, and expertise.

Becoming a zero carbon school isn't just about our environmental impact. It's about preparing our students for a sustainable future, creating healthier learning environments, and showing leadership in our community."

Head of Let's Go Zero, Alex Green, has said: "It's fantastic to welcome Leavening Primary to the Let's Go Zero campaign. Every school that joins brings us one step closer to a zero carbon future. Students, staff, and communities are showing what's possible when we work together for climate action. By signing up, Leavening Primary is sending a powerful message of hope and leadership—showing that schools can be a force for change, for our planet and future generations."

YOUNG LEADERSHIP TEAM UPDATE

YLT Climate Action: The "Switch Off & Unplug" Campaign!

Our Young Leadership Team (YLT) is officially launching Leavening Primary's brand-new **Climate Action Plan!**

This half term, our pupils are taking the lead on reducing our carbon footprint through our **"Switch Off & Unplug"** Campaign. The YLT has appointed classroom Eco-Captains to audit energy use every single day. They are checking that lights are turned off when classrooms are empty, interactive whiteboards are powered down, and digital devices are unplugged when fully charged. Every Friday afternoon, the YLT will conduct a surprise "Friday Flash Sweep" to see which classes successfully pass the weekend shutdown!

How you can help at home:
Our goal is to foster a whole-school culture of sustainability that extends beyond the classroom gates. Please chat with your children about their energy-saving missions this week, and see if they can help run a mini "Friday Flash Sweep" at home to unplug unused chargers or turn off standby lights!

Thank you for supporting our young leaders as they work to protect our planet.



GOVERNORS UPDATE

A word from the Chair of Governors...

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been lovely to see everyone settling so well into the autumn term. Staff and pupils are all doing well, and we hope that you can see the progress and positive start that the school has made already.

We have been very fortunate with the weather so far and have been making the most of being outside whenever we can. It is lovely to see the children enjoying the space around them and making the most of the opportunities that being outdoors provides.
As always, if you have any questions, comments or ideas, please do get in touch with either myself or Susie Kemp. We are always happy to hear from you.
There continues to be a wonderful community feel within our school, and we are very grateful for the support and involvement of our families. If you would like to get involved with FOLS (Friends of the Local School) or help out in any way, please just ask — everyone is very welcome!

There is plenty to look forward to over the coming weeks. The Halloween disco promises to be great fun, and we are particularly looking forward to hearing the children's much-anticipated trick-or-treating stories.
Although one question remains… just how did 1kg of Haribo get collected?!
Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It really does make such a difference to our school community.

Best wishes
James

Welcoming Our New Parent Governor



Welcome to Charlotte Russell, who joins our Governing Body as Parent Governor this November! We look forward to her support in helping our school continue to thrive.

"As a former pupil of Leavening School, and with both of my children now attending, I have a strong personal connection to the school. I live in Thixendale and work from home as General Manager of Go Racing In Yorkshire. I am delighted to be joining the governing body as a Parent Governor and look forward to representing parents' views and contributing to the continued success of the school."

MEET OUR GOVERNING BODY

Leavening Community Primary School

	**James Robinson** Chair Parent Governor		**Sian Mitchell** **Headteacher**		**David Griffin** Co-opted Governor
	**Jan Lomas** Co-opted Governor		**Elaine Phillips** Vice Chair Co-opted Governor		**Hannah Cooke** Staff Governor
	**Emma Isaacs** Associate Governor		**Jane Price** Co-opted Governor		**Susan Schofield** Co-opted Governor

CLEANER AND CARETAKER VACANCY

Salary: £13.28- £13.92 per hour
Contract: Permanent
Hours: Up to 20 hours per week

Are you looking for a cleaning role that is a little different?

We have an opportunity for you to join North Yorkshire Council working here at Leavening CP School!

You will be a valued member of our team who will be reliable, dependable and have a strong work ethic. Working for NYC as a Cleaner, you will be responsible for the cleaning duties on site including dusting, vacuuming and the cleaning of sanitary fittings.

Full training will be provided, and the hours are between, **3.30 – 6.30 pm** with some flexibility on start and finish time and totalling to 15 hours per week.
For this you will be paid **£13.28** per hour.

In addition to this, we can offer the additional **Caretaker responsibilities** of locking after the cleaning is completed, setting the alarm, and ensuring the site is fully secure.
For this, we will pay you an additional £13.48 per hour based on 5 hours per week, some flexibility on start and finish times.

What can we offer you? You could find working for North Yorkshire Council more rewarding than you first thought.

- Competitive rate of pay.
- Excellent Local Government Pension Scheme
- Generous holiday entitlement starting at 28 days per year plus Bank Holidays
- Access to range of benefits and discounts including green car scheme, childcare vouchers and home technology scheme.

For more information, please contract Sandra Drydale on
Sandra.Drydale@northyorks.gov.uk

Closing date: 30th October 2026
Interview date: 10th November 2026


FREE POP UP SHOP FOR KIDS
Pick up baby and children's items, clothes, toys & books all completely free
10TH- 14TH NOVEMBER
9.30-4.30 TUES-FRI
9.30-1 SAT 14TH
Please drop off donations:
Sat 7th Nov 10-12
Mon 9th Nov 9.30-3
Tues 10th Nov 9.30-4.30
11-13 NEWBIGGIN, MALTON
(THE OLD HOSPITAL CHARITY SHOP)
With huge thanks to the Fitzwilliam Estates for their loan of the shop premises

Shepherd Concert Brass Presents:

FESTIVE-AL

SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

HUNTINGTON WORKING MEN'S CLUB
1 NORTH MOOR ROAD, HUNTINGTON
YORK. YO32 9QS

Featuring brass band covers of top festive artists including...

ELTON JOHN | CHRIS REA
THE WOMBLES | GREG LAKE
SHAKIN STEVENS | SLADE
JOHN LENNON | WHAM
MARIAH CAREY | BRENDA LEE
JOSE FELICIANO | LEONA LEWIS
THE POGUES | WIZZARD

and much more to come!

7:00PM

Tickets £10
Under 16s free (with an adult)
Available on Eventbrite or from the club

Bar available | Come in your festive outfits

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

HALF TERM AT MALTON LIBRARY

MON 26TH

Makaton Halloween Story time - 10:30am

Join in the spooky fun!
Makaton signed songs, games and a Halloween story

TUES 27TH

Halloween Story Time 10:30am

Join local author Dawn Treacher reading her new book 'Mabel & the Pumpkin Festival'

WED 28TH

Halloween eco crafts

Celebrate 'Green week' - 10:00am

Get creative with North Yorkshire Recycling officers by making eco bookmarks and decorating halloween themed seed planters



FRI 30TH

Adult Learning Free Family Halloween Crafts
Booking Required
10am-12pm

SAT 31ST

Lego Club 10am - 12pm

ALL WEEK

HALLOWEEN HUNT
&
Draw your own monster or colour your own mansion activity sheets



BOO!

Malton.Library@northyorks.go.uk
01609 534565

GO ALL IN.

National Numeracy
NUMBER CONFIDENCE WEEK

×

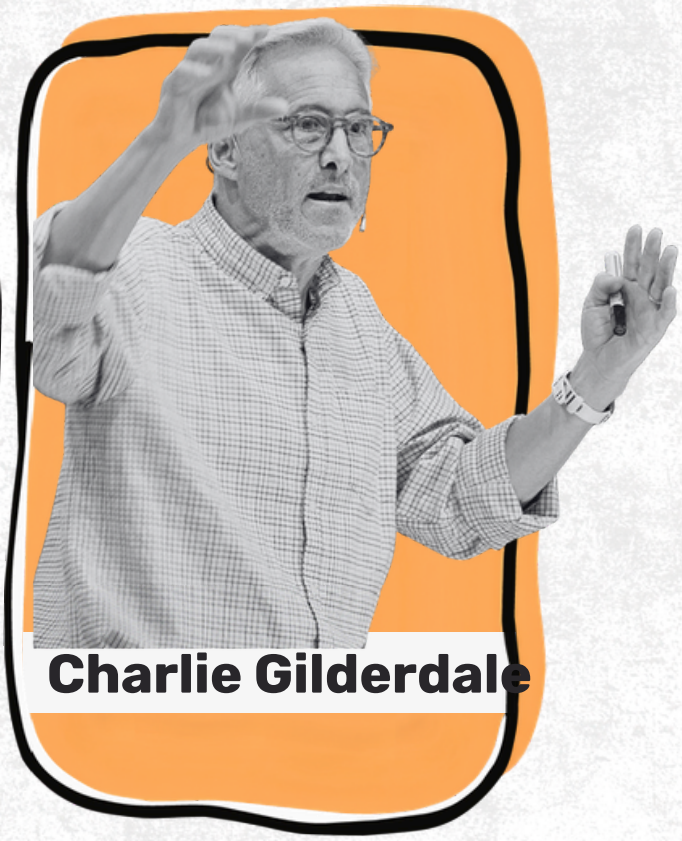
nrich

MATHS AT HOME

3 November 2026
7pm
7pm



Liz Woodham



Charlie Gilderdale

Register Now!

Online webinar for parents, carers and teachers.

Sign up here by scanning the QR code →

helmsley arts centre

27TH AND 28TH OCTOBER

Half Term ART Workshops

SPELLBOUND STUDIOS

With local Artist Nicola Hutchinson

27TH OCTOBER 10AM-3PM (AGES 8-11)

28TH OCTOBER 10.30AM-11.30AM(AGES 5-7)

28TH OCTOBER 1PM-4PM (AGES 11-16)



BOOKING ESSENTIAL: BOX OFFICE 01439 771700

www.helmsleyarts.co.uk

Fuel Support

NYC Support

CrisisResilience Fund

The threeyear Government scheme replaced the Household Support Fund as of April 2026. Whilst the NYC site says “we are currently designing the full Crisis and Resilience Fund programme for North Yorkshire to give the most effective support to our residents” it does point people towards immediate support.

North Yorkshire’s Warm & Well Service

Thisis a partnership project (NYC is a partner)aimed at“reducing the number of cold homes, cold people and cold deaths within North Yorkshire”. Whilst the primary function is to provide advice on how to reduce bills they can also provide access to emergency funding for those in urgent needs.

Warm Homes Local Grant

This schemeis to supportenergy efficiency upgrades such as insulation, low-carbon heating systems, solar panels etc. The scheme is primarily open to properties Council Tax band A-D which are of standard construction.

Switching Together

NYC is in partnershipwithSwitching Together, a group with which people can register. Once registered energy auctions are held in which energy companies basically bid for peoples custom. In essence this is a switching service which helps people to get a better energy deal which they can fix.

Direction/ Advice

The NYC website has a dedicated space for information about other organisations who offer energy support or funding. Whilst these are not specific schemes being funded by NYC we are at least actively directing residents towards support.

We also have the Choices4Energy service which ‘provides free energy advice’. This includes advice on fuel switching, the Ryedale & Scarborough oil buying groups, smart meters etc.

Government Action

Heat Networks

Since taking office, the Labour government(s) have placed emphasis on using district heating networks to provide “clean, cheaper heating” for residents. To date, the government have invested £90million to build new and repair existing networks.

Warm Home Discount

The Warm Home Discount Scheme provides a £150 discount on electricity bills for eligible low-income households and some pensioners. Most eligible households are identified automatically through benefits data and participating energy suppliers.

The scheme is intended to support households in, or at risk of, fuel poverty. The following benefits are the qualifying means-tested benefits for meeting the eligibility criteria:

- Pension Credit (both the Guaranteed element and Savings Credit)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Housing Benefit
- Universal Credit

Winter Fuel Payment

Eligible pensioners can receive a Winter Fuel Payment to help with heating costs during winter. Following recent reforms, eligibility is linked to receipt of certain means-tested benefits such as Pension Credit. Payments typically range between £200 and £300, depending on age and household circumstances.

Energy Efficiency Grants

The Government also supports long-term bill reduction through schemes such as the Energy Company Obligation. This requires major energy suppliers to fund improvements including:

Loft and cavity wall insulation.
- Heat pumps.
- Heating system upgrades.
- Other energy efficiency measures.

These schemes are aimed primarily at low-income and vulnerable households.