



8th July 2021

Dear Parents,

Wow – here we are – the end of the oddest, hardest, quietest school year that I am sure any of us have ever experienced! I cannot explain the relief and joy I felt at hearing the news of a return to normality over the summer and the scrapping of bubbles for the autumn. The opportunity to welcome you all into school in September, for Meet the Teacher, looks set to go ahead as normal and I know it will be the chance to set the tone for the next academic year.

This year hasn't been without its highlights to get us all through. School productions, sports days, fixtures, assemblies, trips, concerts, fundraising events and exciting lessons have all gone ahead in some form or another. The support from parents and staff has been immeasurable, and I don't think I will ever be able to express my thanks as fully as I would wish.

A particular highlight of the term has been our House Art competition. You can see all entries here <https://youtu.be/QPXi-IUSJ00>.

I was incredibly proud of our Year 6s today. Their performances at prizegiving were touching and humorous in equal measure, and their prizes highly deserved. Well done all to all our other prize winners – it was wonderful to be able to reward such hard work and dedication amongst our pupils. The link to the film will be shared with parents tomorrow, along with the accompanying PowerPoint and programme. I hope you enjoy watching it.

Tomorrow we say goodbye to our three outstanding apprentices Mrs Davis, Miss Hails and Miss Holdsworth. These three have been an integral part of the school, working incredibly hard and giving so much. I would like to wish them the very best with their future endeavours.

Anna Hughes, who has worked in the Prep School as a teacher for a number of years, is set to be based in the senior school from September. Her excellent teaching skills, sense of humour and well-ordered history resources will be greatly missed. We wish her the very best of luck with this new challenge.

Gemma Briggs, who has been an essential part of our Prep School office for more years than she probably cares to remember, has been rewarded for her outstanding work as the Prep Admissions Officer by being promoted to Admissions Officer for the whole Foundation. Whilst she will still work closely with us, she will not be based in the school office. Therefore, Mrs Briggs will no longer be answering phones or replying to emails related to the Prep School office. I am sure you will join me in wishing her the very best of luck for the future.

In the new academic year, we will have a 'reception area' outside our main office. This will be staffed by Katie Dewhirst, who joins our Prep administration team to support Naomi Milsom. Katie had previously been working in the Pre-School. Her Pre-School role will now be undertaken by Carolyn Draper, a highly experienced early years teacher who has been working with us as a supply teacher for some time now. Carolyn will be a wonderful addition to the Pre-School team.

I know that some of you may know that Mrs Kennedy has been unwell and therefore not in school. I have spoken to her regularly and she is definitely 'on the mend'. She is missing us all dreadfully and can't wait to be back in the new academic year.

Tomorrow, school will finish at 12.25 p.m. The teachers have some fun activities planned for the morning and your children will have a great end to this year! The updated bus times were sent to parents earlier this week.

I hope you have a wonderful summer break. I look forward to seeing you all in the Autumn.

With my very best wishes,

Suzy Ward

# WHAT ARE WE DOING IN PRE-PREP NEXT WEEK?

## Reception

I can hardly believe this is our final newsletter for this year! Reception have been incredible, their resilience and enthusiasm have astounded me at times, I will miss them all dearly. A huge thanks also goes to Mrs Davis for her unending love, support and enthusiasm throughout the year. When we asked the children about their most memorable moments, they replied swimming, Burnby Hall gardens visit, and our visit to Browns greengrocers! I have never seen a Reception class so confident and happy to go swimming, it has been a delight to watch them develop. Our visits were fabulous and we were very proud to take our class out into the local community. We wish all our families a lovely, restful and happy summer holiday.

Link to Pre-Prep Sports Day Photos: [Pre-Prep Sports Day | Flickr](#)

Mrs Afford and Mrs Davis

## Year 1

Wow, we made it! When I think about the last year, I cannot believe all that has happened! We have made it through a Pandemic, together, what an incredible achievement.

I adore my little class and it is the smallest class that I have ever had. My favourite moments of the year with Year 1 actually were in Lockdown. I loved our online lessons, perhaps the most awkward moment was when we agreed to an off-timetable Snow Day but not everyone had snow 😊 I really relished the baking lessons (honestly there was no pun intended there!) I learnt so much too from all the adult bakers and have used that knowledge since in my own kitchen adventures at home. Even though Lockdown was really tough, we bonded together, and I was so grateful for the adult Team Talks to help make the process easier for us all.

I've said it before, but it is absolutely true, I will never forget this time or my Year 1 class and families from 2020-2021.

Link to Pre-Prep Sports Day Photos: [Pre-Prep Sports Day | Flickr](#)

Mrs Steel

## Year 2

What a wonderful and memorable Year 2 we have had! Thank you all for your patience and support all year! Our best moments in Year 2 have been:

- \* Survival Day! Becoming real Bear Grylls' and learning new skills.
- \* Teddy Bear's Picnic activities
- \* Sports Day for taking part in races and our parents getting to see us.
- \* Recording our assembly using a green screen - singing I will survive and telling everyone about different environments whilst being dressed up as explorers!
- \* DT building day from recycled materials as well as our clay sculpture day.
- \* Zoom Stone Age Visit with Murton Park - seeing all the artefacts.
- \* Decorating the classroom for Christmas as a winter wonderland.
- \* Fun Swim
- \* Science Week
- \* Nativity

We hope you all have a lovely summer.

Link to Pre-Prep Sports Day Photos: [Pre-Prep Sports Day | Flickr](#)

Mrs Walton and Mrs Kay

## LEARNING IN PHOTOS!!



5X preparing for a debate on the question 'Is it ever ok to use violence to achieve your aims?' linked with our work on the suffragettes and the trial of Emmeline Pankhurst.



Year 4 enjoying some Indian style dancing with Miss Shepherd



Year 2 performing a dance for Miss Kendra yesterday lunchtime!



Year 3 hosted their own Ancient/Modern Olympic Games. They marched in their City States (Athens, Sparta, Corinth & Argos). Each City State took part in various competitive events to see who would win. Argos were crowned the champions!



## WHAT ARE WE DOING IN PREP NEXT WEEK?

### Year 3

3X have lots of favourite memories from Year 3. Some highlights have been learning to play different sports, especially cricket, as we get to play with the boys and the girls! We enjoyed our first House matches and being part of a team and playing on the field at break times with our friends. All of us agreed that our most favourite memories were our trip to York and the Lavender Farm.

3Y had so many great memories that we voted for the top 3!

'A favourite day in Year 3 was Christmas Jumper Day. We watched Jack and the Beanstalk and had ice-cream from Swirlz. It was spectacular!' (Nathan)

'I really enjoyed going to the Lavender farm, where we went on a tiny train and saw dragonflies hovering over the pond.' (Freddie)

'I loved doing house art. I was so excited to begin as whenever I draw it makes me feel calm.' (Isobel)

Link to Prep Sports Day Photos: <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmW8YHJU>

Mrs Snelling and Mrs Rogers

### Year 4

What a year! Mrs Kennedy and I have been blown away by the amazing year 4's all throughout the year. They have showed determination, truth, trust, courage, enthusiasm, kindness, lots of smiles, independence, and most of all resilience. They have not been phased by anything and we couldn't be prouder of the whole year group and we will both miss all the children greatly.

There has been some most amazing moments and really enjoyable experiences. Our Roman cookery where we made soup and bread was brilliant, the children displayed a great knowledge and put to test valuable life skills. They also all tried it which made us proud, (I think my room smelt for about a week)! Another great time was when we had two trips to the Beck in two weeks (we promise we were working) this was a great opportunity for the children to be creative and look at the nature in Pocklington. It was also great that the children led us in their learning. Our trip to the lavender farm was such a delight too as after the up and down of lockdown it was wonderful to enjoy a day out of fun and see what our local area has to offer. I am sure the children will have different highs of the year, but these are just a few of ours. I hope they will have memories to treasure and will enjoy looking back on them. We feel so lucky to have enjoyed a wonderful year with all your amazing children and we wish you the best summer of fun, enjoyment and hopefully relaxation.

Thank you for all your support throughout the year and all your kind words and gifts.

Link to Prep Sports Day Photos: <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmW8YHJU>

Thank you again, Miss Shepherd and Mrs Kennedy.

### Year 5

5X top three moments

- 1) Winning the Christmas classroom decorating competition! The children worked so hard and the classroom looked incredible.
- 2) Our trip to Magna - after so many restrictions it was amazing to be able to take the children to such a fantastic place and see their enjoyment and enthusiasm!
- 3) Growing and releasing butterflies - what an incredible way to observe a life cycle first hand. We loved releasing the butterflies.

Top three memories of the year for 5Y:

Evicting the butterflies from their net rather ungraciously as they didn't want to leave!

Beth's 'fascinating stories' and Harry Rook's volume! The portaloo!

Also the science trip to Magna.

5Z Top 3 Form Moments:

- 1) Trip to Magna
- 2) The Boys vs Girls hook lesson for the Curiosity Project
- 3) Elizabeth the goat joining us on our last lesson of online learning.

The Year 5 Team

Link to Prep Sports Day Photos: <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmW8YHJU>

### Year 6

6X have had some fantastic times this year, but here are our top three:

- 1: The day we turned our classroom into Santa's Workshop for the classroom decorating competition - it was a whole class effort, everyone had such great ideas. We were really pleased with the finished result!
- 2: Making sushi on Teams during home learning as a whole class - everyone's sushi was different!
- 3: Recreating the D-Day landings in France in 1944 out on the school field, using tennis balls as grenades and bullets and rounders bats as guns!

6Y's top three moments this year have been:

- 1: They have really enjoyed completing the daily jigsaw challenge on the interactive board.
- 2: The reading of Varjak Paw.
- 3: My personal favourite memory was seeing all of them at 0830 every morning at registration during lockdown, especially when they dressed up for 'Freestyle Friday'.

Mr Parker and Mrs Sweeting

Link to Prep Sports Day Photos: <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmW8YHJU>

# NOTICE BOARD



## **School Uniform Shop**

Please find [here](#) Summer 2021 opening hours. Please use the link to the booking system here. Parents can order online; a version of click and deliver will be made available. Website link: here then Search By School, enter Pocklington School and click Shop Now and use the password York, or please ring 01759 302245. Ms Amanda Smith, School Shop Manager



## **Amended Bus Times for End of Summer Term – Friday 9th July**

Please see [here](#) the amended bus schedule for Friday 9th July when term ends at 12.25pm.. If you have any queries please contact Mr Bartle. Mr R Bartle, Transport Manager



## **David Byas Sports Academy**

We are delighted to announce the following dates for our popular SUMMER 4 DAY RESIDENTIAL CAMPS. Non-Residential options are also available for all camps. Please note – we cannot offer part bookings, each booking is for the full 4 days.

CRICKET FULLY BOOKED

RUGBY Mon 16th – Thurs 19th August

HOCKEY Mon 9th – Thurs 12th August

NETBALL Mon 16th – Thurs 19th August

Residential option £425 / Non-residential option £300. All camps are based at Pocklington School and are for ages 7-17yrs old. All abilities welcome. For further information and to make a booking please visit the website [www.byasacademy.co.uk](http://www.byasacademy.co.uk) , email [claire@byasacademy.co.uk](mailto:claire@byasacademy.co.uk) or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram  
Mr D Byas, Director of Sport



## **Intense Hockey Summer Scorchers**

To anyone who loves hockey or hasn't tried it before, you can have fun and learn new skills with these hockey training sessions. Monday 2nd to Wednesday 4th August 10am to 3pm, Driffield Astro-turf £25 per day. Please see poster [here](#) for more details or contact Fiona Tuplin 07722 828243 email: [tonk-ertuplin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tonk-ertuplin@yahoo.co.uk) Fiona Tuplin



## **Pocklington Tennis Club – May Half Term**

We will be running seven weeks of Tennis and Multi Sports Camps in the summer holidays which will run on the following dates:

Week 1 – Tuesday 13th – Thursday 15th July  
Week 2 – Tuesday 20th – Thursday 22nd July  
Week 3 – Monday 26th – Friday 30th July  
Week 4 – Monday 2nd – Friday 6th August

Week 5 – Monday 16th – Friday 20th August  
Week 6 – Monday 23rd – Thursday 26th August  
Week 7 – Tuesday 31st Aug – Friday 3rd September

Please find more information on the website [here](#).

*Mr Sean Evans, Pocklington Tennis Club*



## **Debra's Little Fish**

Debra's Little Fish are running an intense swimming course for Pre-Prep children, up to Year 2 19th July—23rd July. The lessons will be groups of 6 and will be for 30 minutes from 9.30am and 10.00am. The cost will be £35.00 for the week and is only open to pupils of Pocklington School. Please contact Debra on 07917 204056 for further information.