



Danby Church of England School
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North Yorkshire
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Headteacher: Mrs E Orland

Newsletter Friday 10th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Smart Watches, Apple AirTag and other such devices - information

We have been asked by North Yorkshire Council to let parents/carers know that children are not permitted to wear or have in pockets/bags etc, Smart Watches, Apple AirTag and such devices under any circumstances either in school or on school trips. This is inline with safeguarding policy. Thank you for your understanding.

Harvest Festival

It was lovely to see so many people join us for our Harvest Festival this morning. A huge well done to all of the children for their part in the service, some super reading by the juniors and brilliant singing from the infants. We all enjoyed the apple flapjack made by Y5/6 and have a lovely corn dolly memento to take home from the infants. Thank you to Rev. Sally for leading the service for us. A huge thank you for the generous donations to Whitby Food Bank, these are very much appreciated by the local food bank team.

Parents Evening Bookings

This term's parents evenings are scheduled to take place on Monday 20th October between 3.40pm and 6.00pm and Wednesday 22nd October between 3.40pm and 5.00pm.

To make an appointment with your child's teacher, [please click here for the link to the booking form](#). Please note that once this has been completed, appointments will be allocated on a first come, first served basis and will be confirmed by email. Thank you.

The Children's Book Project

Our school has signed up with national charity the Children's Book Project to receive donations of good quality, gently used books from local families. These will be used across the school. Books can be dropped at reception. Spread the word and look for us on their map! [Give Books - Children's Book Project](#)



Year 3 4 Jubilee Cup

On Tuesday, children in Years 3 and 4 travelled to Mulgrave Cricket Club to take part in the first ever "Jubilee Cup" which was organised by YCEP Schools (Yorkshire Coast Education

Partnership). Throughout the event, the children took part in a number of different events such as running races, sack race, relay, beanbag on head, foot rounders and throwing/jumping. Everyone had a great time and thoroughly enjoyed themselves! Thank you to the YCEP team for organising and we look forward to next time!

Free Violin Lessons - Whitby Music Centre

Please see below a message from Richard Wood at Whitby Music Centre which he would like to share with you:

I am very pleased to tell you about an exciting opportunity Whitby Music Centre are offering to the children in year 4, 5 and 6 to your school. We are giving free violin lessons, which includes free instrument hire on Saturday mornings at Whitby School. Lessons will start after half-term in groups of up to 8 children, and children should be in school year 4 or above.

The cognitive, well-being and social benefits of learning an instrument are well-documented and these will be enjoyed by each child as well as the wider school community as they contribute to your events. Playing the violin was important to Albert Einstein and I hope your children will derive the same pleasure from learning this beautiful instrument.

Please contact me on Richard.Wood@northyorks.gov.uk if you would like more information or want to snap up one of the places.

Swimming

The children will be swimming on Thursday afternoon at Whitby Leisure Centre. Please can everyone remember their kits that morning. Thank you.

Whitby "Lit-Fest"'s first Writing Competition

The local organisation Whitby Lit-fest has opened a writing competition for the first time ahead of their festival which takes place 6-9th November. The competition is free to enter and limited to local children only. There will be an awards ceremony, great prizes and a judging panel will decide on the short-list and winners over the week of Half Term and leading up to the festival.

The closing date for the competitions is 24th October at 9pm, so there is a month for children to get writing. Submission is [via their website](#), and T&Cs apply [attached to this email].

FODS AGM and Pudding Evening

You are all invited to the FODS AGM and social pudding night on Wednesday evening (15th) at 7.00pm at school. Please come along if you are able to and bring a pudding with you to share and enjoy with a cup of tea or coffee. After many years, Kieran Horner (Chair) and Anna Newham (Secretary) are passing over the baton to some new parents who would very much appreciate your support. As this is an evening event, it would be preferable to leave your little ones at home if you are able to so that everyone can enjoy an hour of adult socialising together. If this means that you can't come however, we can find a quiet corner for children to sit during the meeting.

Bag2School Fundraiser ([click here for more information](#))

REMINDER: There will be a Bag2School collection to raise money for FODS funds on Thursday 16th October. Please can all bags be dropped off in the playground entrance by 9.00am. Please make sure that you have checked what items are allowed and that bags are securely tied so avoid the contents getting wet. Thank you for your support.

Autumn Stay and Play Sessions for Prospective Parents and Children

Our first Stay and Play session will take place next Monday 13th October between 2.15pm and 3.15pm. If you know anyone who may like to come that hasn't already booked, please ask them to get in touch. Thank you.

The date of the second Stay and Play session is scheduled for Wednesday 12th November 10.30am-11.30am

Stay and Play days are for children who are not yet at school age but would like to experience an hour in our school setting with our children and staff. All children must be accompanied by an adult for each session. If you would like any further information or to book a place at one or both of the sessions, please contact the school on 01287 660345 or email admin@danby.n-yorks.sch.uk.

Rotary Young Musician

We have been asked to share some details with you about a Rotary Young Musician competition. [Please click here for further information.](#)

Future Diary Dates

Please [click here](#) for the holiday dates for this academic year. Specific dates for school activities will be kept updated on the table below. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff.

Swimming - whole school	16th Oct 6th, 20th Nov 4th, 18th Dec
Forest School Infants	13th Nov, 11th Dec
Forest School Juniors	23rd Oct, 27th Nov
Stay & Play session for prospective new starters	Monday 13th October 2.15pm - 3.15pm
Parents evening 1	Monday 20th October 3.40pm - 6.00pm
Parents evening 2	Wednesday 22nd October 3.40pm - 5.00pm
Half term	Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October
Stay and Play session for prospective new starters	Wednesday 12th November 10.30am - 11.30am
Children in Need	Friday 14th November

St Hilda's Day Service at Egton 10.00am - 11.30am	Monday 17th November
Danby Village Festive Fair at Danby Village Hall	Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd November
School photos - individual/sibling	Tuesday 2nd December
Christmas theatre trip to Stephen Joseph Theatre to see Sleeping Beauty	Monday 8th December
Christmas Carol Service and Nativity at St Hilda's Church, Danby Dale	6.00pm Thursday 18th December
Christmas Holidays	Monday 22nd December - Friday 2nd January
Teacher Training Day	Monday 5th January 2026
Children return to school	Tuesday 6th January 2026

Next week, I will be at Danby on Monday and Thursday and Egton on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

Have a lovely weekend!

Best Wishes,



Liz Orland
Headteacher

The information below has not changed but is still relevant.

Safeguarding Children Telephone Number

If you have a safeguarding concern about a child, please note that from the 1st April 2023, the main customer service line for the new North Yorkshire Council will be changing. The new number will be **0300 131 2 131** and will replace the old 01609 780780 number. This will mean that all contacts for referrals for children within North Yorkshire need to go through the 0300 131 2 131 number. **This includes any contacts out of hours for the Emergency Duty Team.**

The contact number for the professionals line will remain the same 01609 535070.

The updated details regarding making a referral for a child in North Yorkshire have been updated on our website (www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/about-us/worried-about-a-child).

Information from NHS - Emotional Health and Wellbeing

We have been asked to share the following link with you from the North Yorkshire Children and Families Service:

[Emotional health and wellbeing for parents](#)

Attendance

Just a little reminder that if your child is ill and will be absent from school, we ask that you contact school to let us know on each day that they will be absent, by 9.30am. This can be by telephone on **01287 660345** or by email to admin@danby.n-yorks.sch.uk . If we do not hear anything from you we will give you a call to check everything is okay as part of our safeguarding procedures. Thank you

Tax Free Childcare

Danby School has registered to enable you to have access to Tax Free Childcare for wraparound care at school. Our wraparound service covers both breakfast club and sunshine club sessions as they are chargeable. Please on the link below for more information on how it works.

<https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

Free School Meal Eligibility

We are sharing this information with you again as it has recently been updated. Please contact the school office if you would like any help.

Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals. Your child is eligible for free school meals if you're in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, before benefits are taken into account.
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than
- £16,190

Even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and currently receives universal free school meals, please check your entitlement. Being eligible will mean that the school receives additional funding for your child which will go towards their learning and any additional support they may need.

If you think you may be entitled to free school meals for your child, please use the application form which can be found on the NYC website - [Free school meals | North Yorkshire Council](#).

My NameTags - FODS fundraiser

We have signed up to a company called 'My Name Tags' who produce personalised name stickers/iron on stickers to label clothing, shoes etc. It's very easy to use and saves a lot of time writing names in everything! All you have to do is click on the link below to enter the website, create the stickers and then put the unique school ID in the box under the 'Shipping Details' during checkout. For every order placed, we will receive 24% commission for the FODS account. If you have any questions, please speak to Sarah in the school office.

<https://www.mynametags.com/>

School ID is 22782.

Easy fundraising

We are registered with easyfundraising.org.uk which gives the Friends of Danby School donations if you shop online and sign up to support Danby Primary School. You can also use easyfundraising when booking your holidays and raise big donations for us FOR FREE! Plus book with TUI in January for a chance to win back the value of your holiday!

Please visit our easyfundraising page at:

[Danby School Easyfundraising](#) and click 'join us'. Thank you.

Jewellery in School

Please could we remind everyone of the policy regarding jewellery in school.

'Jewellery is not allowed to be worn for Health and Safety reasons following a directive from North Yorkshire Council. However a watch and small stud earrings may be worn on a daily basis but must be removed for PE.'

If you wish your child to have their ears pierced, we recommend that you have this done over the Summer holiday period to allow them to heal before a return to school. **All earrings must now be removed for PE and Swimming lessons, we are not allowed to tape over them as in previous times.**

Updated Guidance from the DfE regarding unauthorised leave of absence

Please be advised that there have been some legal changes to the guidance that schools must follow with regards to unauthorised leave of absences during term time. The penalty amounts have been increased and also the introduction of possible legal intervention. Please see below the information from the DfE.

For unauthorised Leave of absence taken within a three-year rolling period, Penalty Notices will be issued as follows:

- The first Penalty Notice issued to a parent in respect of a particular child will be charged at £160 if paid within 28 days, this will be reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.*

· A second Penalty Notice issued to the same parent in respect of the same child will be charged a flat rate of £160 if paid within 28 days.

PLEASE NOTE:

· A third Penalty Notice cannot be issued to the same parent in respect of the same child within 3 years of the date of issue of the first Penalty Notice.

· In a case where the national threshold is met for the third time (or subsequent times) alternative action will be taken. This will include considering prosecution but may include other tools such as one of the other Legal Interventions to address poor attendance.

As always, any leave of absence other than illness, must be requested in advance by completing a form to the headteacher. These forms are available from the school office.

Messages from Whitby Music Centre

We already offer ensembles for string, brass and woodwind players on Saturday mornings, these include ensembles for beginners and are open to players of all ages. If you know of instrumentalists who do not yet come along to Whitby Music Centre please mention us to them. All Music Centre rehearsals take place at the lower school site of Whitby School on Airy Hill.

WAVE: Welcoming All Valuing Everyone

The churches of Middle Esk Moor Benefice would like to invite you to a new initiative called WAVE: Welcoming All Valuing Everyone. The first event will be WAVE: Breakfast with God. This will take place on every Terrific Third Saturday of the month, in the morning with breakfast for everyone - waffles, toast, cereal, fruit juice, yoghurts, tea and proper coffee! This will be followed by an interactive Bible story with props, songs, craft activities and prayers. Fun for all the family (even little babies), a relaxed way to spend a few hours and a good time for adults to catch up over breakfast too. We'd love to see you there and make you very welcome. And if you can't join us at Glaisdale, you're more than welcome to come to Hawsker instead. There's no need to book – just turn up! It's free of charge but donations are welcome - but only if you want to and are able to. Looking forward to meeting you and welcoming you - Revd Anthony Bennett and Revd Sam Mawer!

Gas Safe Charity Funding

We have been asked to share the following information with you:

Choices4Energy at the North Yorkshire Council has funding available until September to help homeowners with low income and/or disability to pay for measures that address potential gas safety, gas leaks or CO poisoning (<£36,000 household income, other criteria may apply). This includes measures such as repairs and servicing of gas boilers, fires and cookers. Badly fitted or poorly serviced gas appliances can put you and your family at risk. There is a maximum grant of £500 per household, and we are encouraging homeowners to check gas appliances now to ensure they are safe to use, ready for winter. Contact us now on 0300 131 2 131 and ask for Choices4Energy, or visit [Choices4Energy | North Yorkshire Council](#) for more information.

See attached copy of our [Gas Safety leaflet](#) which provides info about the funding available.

'Pharmacy First' availability for minor illness / ailments in children

Parents and carers in Humber and North Yorkshire are being reminded to use their local community pharmacy this summer, if their child needs help with minor illnesses or ailments.

The NHS 'Pharmacy First' service allows children to access treatment for five common conditions from their local pharmacy, without needing a GP appointment.

Children can receive NHS treatment, including antibiotics where appropriate, for five common conditions including:

- impetigo (aged one year and over)
- infected insect bites (aged one year and over)
- earache (aged one to 17 years)
- sore throat (aged five years and over)
- sinusitis (aged 12 years and over).
- The aim of Pharmacy First is to make it easier for people to get the help they need and free up millions of GP slots.

Parents can simply walk into a participating pharmacy and request a consultation for their child. If further treatment is needed, pharmacy teams will signpost families to the most appropriate local health service.

Hayley Patterson, NHS Humber and North Yorkshire ICB's Pharmacy Lead, said: "As the school holidays approach, we are encouraging parents and carers to think 'Pharmacy First' if their child is unwell, allowing them to be seen quickly and conveniently at their local pharmacy.

"The scheme enables community pharmacists, who are trained health professionals, to supply prescription-only medicines, where clinically appropriate, to treat five health conditions for children which would previously have required a GP appointment."

The Pharmacy First scheme is also available for adults and covers the following seven common conditions:

- sinusitis (adults and children aged 12 years and over)
- sore throat (adults and children aged five years and over)
- earache (children and young adults aged one to 17 years)
- infected insect bite (adults and children aged one year and over)
- impetigo (adults and children aged one year and over)
- shingles (adults aged 18 years and over)
- uncomplicated urinary tract infection (women aged 16 to 64 years).

To find a local pharmacy to you visit the [NHS website](#)

There's further information about what pharmacies can do at [Let's Get Better](#)