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Headteacher: Mrs E Orland

Newsletter Friday 17th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an amazing, challenging but very rewarding year we've had this year. As we close out the 2025-26 academic year, we reflect on everything we have achieved and marvel at the resilience, dedication and development of our children and staff family. With two successful school inspections carried out by SIAMS and Ofsted this year, we are in a strong and encouraging position and are all looking forward to the next academic year.

I would like to say a huge thank you to our staff and volunteer team, our governors and to you as parents and supporters of our school. We couldn't do it without you all and we are so grateful for all of the support that we get to give our children the best of learning and personal experiences! Thank you!

One of the highlights of this half term has been the Fiver Challenge. The children (and therefore the parents!) embraced the challenge wholeheartedly and thanks to all their efforts, hard work and wonderful business ideas, they have made a profit of £800.80!! This is an astonishing amount of money and we are so proud of everyone. A huge well done indeed. This money is going to go into the savings pot for a large piece of play equipment the children have their eye on. There is a way to go yet until there is enough money so watch this space for some more enterprising fundraising ideas!

Year 6 leavers service

What a fabulous Year 6 leavers service we had this morning. We are very sorry to see our lovely Year 6 children go but are also excited for the new chapter in their school lives. We wish Charlotte and River the very best of luck for the future, they will go far we are sure!



Year 6 leavers trip to York Maze

We had the most a-maize-ing day out at York Maze on Monday for our Egton and Danby Schools Y6 Leaver's Trip. 🌽 There was a corn-ucopia of fun, games and activities to take part in, we were maize-merised! 🍔 There was ear-resistible food from the Fodder Barn and the whole day was un-corn-ditionally fun with pun after pun! 😊 Thanks to everyone who made it happen!



Crucial Crew

On Tuesday morning, children in Years 5 and 6 went to Scarborough Tec to take part in a Crucial Crew event. This is a highly successful and informative event that teaches children how to be safe and how to deal with real life emergency situations with regards to fire rescue, life saving and first aid. They all had a really fun time while learning some valuable life skills from our emergency services.

KS1 Infant Trip

Our infant children had a whale of a time on their beach adventure to Robin Hood's Bay alongside our friends from Egton.

The day was packed full of exciting seaside discoveries! We explored the fascinating rock pools, finding crabs, limpets, seaweed and so much more, before becoming young palaeontologists as we searched for fossils hidden amongst the rocks. The creativity continued with some beautiful beach art using the natural treasures we found along the shoreline.

A huge thank you to North York Moors National Park for leading such an engaging day and sharing their incredible knowledge and expertise with us. We learned so much about seashore habitats.

Another big thank you to Dollies Sweet Shop for the delicious ice creams and to FODS for kindly funding this special treat for every child.



Music Performance - Mrs Lillie

On Wednesday afternoon, we were all treated to a fabulous musical performance from the children who have music lessons with Mrs Lillie. We enjoyed listening to singers, recorders and keyboard players and were very impressed with them all. Well done everyone!

FODS

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported us with all our events this year, we couldn't do it without our brilliant committee and officers and without all of the generous donations and helper support. THANK YOU!

Summer Reading Challenge - Mobile Library

Join the free Summer Reading Challenge at the Mobile Library!

Dear Parents and Carers, We're excited to invite your child to take part in this year's Summer Reading Challenge – Read to the Beat! - completely free at the Mobile Library as part of your child's regular visit to us!

What is the Summer Reading Challenge?

The Summer Reading Challenge is a fun, free way for children aged 4–11 to stay motivated to read during the summer holidays. Children set their own reading goal and can read anything they enjoy – all books count!

[Click here for further information and for details of how to sign up.](#)

ParentPay Balances

Please could all ParentPay balances be settled by the end of term / over the summer holidays to ensure we begin the new academic year with a clean balance sheet. If you have any questions or concerns relating to payments, please contact Sarah Buckworth to discuss payment arrangements.

School Dinner Menu - Autumn Term

Please [see here](#) for a copy of the Autumn Term (up to start of Feb) school dinner menu for your information. I will send this out again in September but thought you might like a preview.

Dinners and Breakfast and After School Clubs - September price increase

As is inevitable, with the increased cost of foods, we are having to increase our meal and clubs prices. This will take effect in the Autumn term as detailed below. If you have any questions, please do get in touch.

- Dinners for Junior children - increase from £2.90 to £3.00 (Infant meals continue to be free of charge through a government scheme)
- Breakfast club: from £3.00 to £3.50 a day
- After School Club: remains at £2.50 3.30pm - 4.30pm - to include a drink and snack
From £3.00 to £3.50 4.30pm - 5.30pm - to include a drink and light tea, therefore both hours would be £6.00
- Milk prices are also increasing from 15p to 20p/ day.

Free School Meals Expansion Programme

As previously communicated, from September 2026 the Department for Education is extending entitlement to free school meals to include all children from households in receipt of Universal Credit. Although eligibility will be granted to all Universal Credit recipients, it is important to note that families do still need **to apply** to receive the meals. For further information and details of how to apply, [click here](#).

Tax Free Childcare - Reminder

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 After School Club as they are

chargeable. For more information on how this works, please use the link below. It would be helpful if you could let us know if you plan to pay for your childcare this way so we can keep an eye out for payments.

[Tax-Free Childcare](#)

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.

Summer holidays	Monday 20th July - Friday 4th September
Teacher Training Day	Monday 7th September
School opens for children - Academic Year 2026-27	Tuesday 8th September

The first week back in September I will be at Egton on Tuesday morning, Wednesday and Friday and Danby on Monday, Tuesday afternoon and Thursday.

On behalf of the staff and governors we hope you have a super summer holiday, with lots of family time and some rest and relaxation. See you in September!

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).

Adverse weather conditions

Just a reminder that this week we sent out a reminder of our school policy in the event of adverse weather conditions. We are also asking that everyone completes a 'Safe place' form so that we have an alternative place logged for your child to go to should the school need to close during the school day. Please complete this form and return to the school office as soon as possible.

[Link to safe alternative place for your child](#)

[Link to the school policy in the event of adverse weather conditions](#)

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](#)

Mobile Phones, Smart Watches and Devices

Mobile phone and smart watch technology has advanced significantly over the last few years and continues to evolve. Many phones and smart watches now offer internet and e-mail access, alongside standard functions of messaging, tracking, camera, video and sound recording. We are also seeing an increase in Smartwatch 'look-alikes' which have games and activities on which are proving a distraction to learning and are time consuming for teaching staff to monitor.

Smartwatches and Smart-Watch lookalikes are therefore **not permitted** to be worn to school in line with the recent change in Government guidelines.

However, in line with our passion for helping children to tell the time, a standard analogue or digital wrist watch may be worn. If you are unsure whether your child's watch is appropriate, you are welcome to check in with a member of staff.

Smart Watches and devices that are brought to school for any reason will be kept safely until the end of the school day.

For a reminder of our school uniform please see our website page [here](#)

My Happy Mind

Just a reminder that you are able to access the [Parent App](#).

The children's engagement in our My Happy Mind project has been a huge success in school so far. Accessing the Parent App would help to reinforce the strategies taught in school at home and strengthen the positive habits that we are trying to encourage in our children.



Your unique authentication code is: 121486 for Danby CofE VA School

Fostering North Yorkshire - recruitment campaign

Fostering North Yorkshire is proud to be part of a national campaign to recruit more foster carers, marked by the release of 'The Run', a powerful short film about Tom, an 11-year-old boy whose life begins to change with the care of a foster family.

Right now, we urgently need more foster carers across North Yorkshire, and we hope this film will be the spark that encourages someone to take that first step. Watch the short film and learn how you can make a difference.

Contact: Email fostering@northyorks.gov.uk

Follow us on Facebook

Tel: 01609 534 654

Growing Healthy Information from HDFT

Please find information about an app designed both for professionals and families, by Harrogate District Foundation Trust [HDFT] who deliver the Healthy Child programme. This covers the whole county and has a map of services/groups etc for families to access in their area, including contact details and opening hours etc, as well as child development info for parents, referral forms for wellbeing advice for older CYP etc

[Download Our App | HDFT Children's Health Service](#)

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>

Easy fundraising

We are registered with [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.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.

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.