



Weekly Bulletin 20th January 2023

25 th Jan	Maths Evening for parents 5.30pm
1 st	Learning together afternoon – Maths & books
Week beg. 6 th Feb	Skelton Parent consultations
7 th & 9 th Feb	Sharow Parent consultations
10 th Feb	School closes for half term at 3.15pm
20 th Feb	School reopens after half term

Flourish Awards

Children who have been recognised as flourishing this week:

Aria	Over and above when tidying up – using her initiative and keeping going till it is all done
George S	Over and above to support others to make the right choices by guiding and explaining why we do what we do

Maths Evening

Federation parents are invited to come along to Sharow School on Wednesday 25th January at 5.30pm to learn more about how you can support your child with their maths learning.

Parent Consultations

Parent consultations will be taking place as below. Please email Mrs Bellwood admin@sharow.n-yorks.sch.uk to book your appointments..

Class	Tuesday 7 th February	Thursday 9 th February
Byrd	3.30-6.30	2.30-4.00
Bach	3.30-6.30	3.30-5.00
Beethoven	3.30-6.30	Not available
Berlioz	3.30-6.30	3.30-5.00
Britten	3.30-6.30	3.30-5.00
Brahms	At a time convenient for you – please speak to Mrs Hornby	

Music Lessons

Christine Gower-Smith kindly came into school on Wednesday to play music to Years 1-6. If anyone would be interested in piano, flute or singing lessons during the school day, please contact her directly on 07739 517694 or christine.gowersmith@gmail.com.

Wraparound Care

Reminder bookings are now open for February please click [here](#) complete the form and return by 25th to secure the cheaper rate.

Strike Action

You may be aware from media coverage that teaching union have declared strike action. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay.

We will keep you informed as much as possible about our arrangements.

Cost of Living Crisis

There are a wide variety of support schemes and organisations in North Yorkshire which may be able to help or advise if you are struggling to pay for essentials.

The North Yorkshire Local Assistance Fund (NYLAF). This provides emergency financial support to those unable to meet essential living costs, such as energy bills or food. NYLAF can also make awards in kind, such as supplying basic necessities or household goods such as a fridge.

Warm and Well North Yorkshire. People can also apply for hardship funding, or help with minor repairs to make their homes warmer under this scheme. Contact Warm and Well on 01609 767555 or email wnw@northyorksca.org.uk

Council tax reduction and support scheme. If you're on a low income or claim benefits you can apply for a reduction in the council tax you pay. Find information about the council tax reduction and support scheme and a postcode checker that will take you to your local borough or district council. There is also a range of national available on the Help for Households section of the government website and the cost of living support section of the government's website.

FOOD

The Trussell Trust runs foodbanks in a number of towns in North Yorkshire. You will generally need a voucher from a local referral agency to access their help. Find out if there is a foodbank near you and how you can get help on the Trussell Trust website.

You can find foodbanks run by some other organisations on The Independent Food Aid Network website. Increasing numbers of communities have set up community fridges to give people access to food which might otherwise go to waste. These are generally open to anyone to use without any need for a referral. The Hubbub Foundation website lists some community fridges and your local Community Support Organisation may have information about other local free fridges or pantries in the area.

In an article called every mouthful matters in our residents newsletter, NY Now, we have provided some tips on avoiding food waste that could also save you money.

ENERGY SAVING

The North Yorkshire Home Efficiency Fund is offering a range of fully-funded energy-saving home improvements to eligible homeowners in the Scarborough, Ryedale and Hambleton districts. Properties could receive improvements including insulation, solar panels, air source heat pumps and high heat retention electric storage heaters, depending on property suitability. To qualify, residents must have a household income of £30,000 or less, or receive means-tested benefits. Find out how to apply on our home efficiency fund page.

If you are a resident living in Selby, Craven or Harrogate and would like to know more about energy saving schemes in your area, the City of York Council is managing the North Yorkshire Local Authority Areas' energy improvement schemes on behalf of Craven, Selby and Harrogate and may have funding available for certain improvements. For more information contact the City of York Council on 01904 552300 or email betterhomes@york.gov.uk Further information is available from Better Homes Yorkshire

Please check if you are eligible for a Warm Homes Discount of £150 over the winter period. Details are available on the warm homes discount scheme on the government website.

Yorkshire Energy Doctor work with households to try and reduce energy costs and to try and ensure that people can afford to live in a warm home. For more information see the Yorkshire Energy Doctor website. There is helpful information on our winter health for older people page including tips for staying warm, more cost efficient and safe ways to heat your home, and details on how to claim winter fuel allowance.

Advice on Money & Debt or benefit entitlement

Citizen's Advice North Yorkshire provide free, confidential and impartial advice to help people find a way forward with whatever problems they face, including money and benefits. You can get advice in person, over the phone, on a web chat or by email by contacting Citizen's Advice North Yorkshire direct.

Libraries are another source of support with books and resources on personal finances, budgeting and debt. If you are of state pension age, you could be entitled to a pension top up. Many people are missing out on unclaimed pension credits and you may be able to access support, even if you have savings, own your own home or have a private pension. You can find out more on the government's web page about claiming pension credit.

Safeguarding

Understanding the Playground - Fortnite

Since its release 2017, the battle-royale simulator – Fortnite, has become ubiquitous in classrooms and playgrounds throughout the world. The game, which features cartoonish renderings of characters, bright colours and non-visceral consequence free violence, has had a mass appeal to children. There is not a school pupil in the country who hasn't owned it, begged their parents for it or played it round a friend's house. As a result more children than ever are exposed to multi-player chatting with strangers, and financial exploitation via the game's spend-to-gain-advantage operating style. Allowing children to use real world money to gain perks and costumes. From criminal blackmailing, to the coercion of nude exchanges by online 'friends' posing as children, the danger this game presents from a safeguarding perspective is clear. As an added complication, the verbiage surrounding the game used by pupils is near-incomprehensible, frustrating adepts to secure their safety. Fortunately, Internetmatters.org has published a guide to understanding the game and its terms. You can find the link below:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/guidance/fortnite-battle-royal-parents-guide-keep-kids-safe-gaming>

Fundraising



Jack from Britten Class has raised £625.00 for the Air Ambulance. He has raised the money all by himself, though selling raffle tickets at his local village pub the George County Inn at Wath. Well Done Jack!