



NEWSLETTER

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Website www.yorkleyschool.co.uk

Dear Parent/Carers,

Congratulations to all the children who received a 'Green Slip' and a Headteacher's sticker for reciting off by heart our **Yorkley School Poem**. Children as young as four achieved this which is impressive and wonderful to see. If your child hasn't managed it yet there is still time, thank you to all the parents who practised with their child at home.

Parent Involvement:

Thank you to our parents who attended our Reception / Year 1 parent Phonics Session, and attended Calipso's family poster session. Reception children are now taking a reading book home to practise their reading with you, they have been so excited to share their learning with you.

Thank you also to parents/carers who logged in to the online Cyber Crime Parents talk run by Simon Williams; a police constable specialising in cyber intelligence. He shared expert advice on how to keep your child safe online from scams and social media risks to gaming and digital footprints.

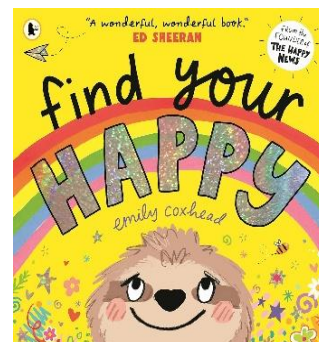
National Mental Health Day Hello Yellow 10th October:



Today we were proud to wear yellow raising awareness for Young Minds Matter and within our PSHE lesson, children were read the book 'Find your happy' by Emily Coxhead, completing activities that linked.

This year's theme is 'access to services'. If your child is struggling and you would like further support click the link

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/>



Personal Development - Diversity and Inclusion. October is Black History Month



This month we are focusing on diversity and inclusion. Discussions in assemblies and PSHE will be linked to Black History month, Resilience, Partnership & Community.



What is Black History Month?



Black History Month is celebrated in the UK every October. It began in the 1980s, to recognise the history, achievements, and contributions of Black people in Britain. Each year has a theme, and the 2025 focus is 'Standing Firm in Power and Pride', which celebrates strength, resilience and progress. The month aims to help everyone learn more about Black history, challenge racism, and celebrate diversity in our communities.

Standing Firm in Power and Pride

© Black History Month 2025

Linked to Design Technology, **Oberon** made delicious Vegetable Puff Pastry Tarts. They had a fantastic day practising how to cut, peel, chop and grate a wide variety of vegetables and herbs. They now look forward to evaluating their finished products.



This term, in **Skylab**, their Art unit has been an 'Artists Study'. They have focused on a selection of artists who use different styles and inspiration to create remarkable, unique art work. One of the artists they have focused on is John Singer Sargent. His art work was inspired by WW1 and the children recreated his painting 'Gassed' (1919) in a tableau - this incorporates elements of drama to explore feelings within the painting and freeze frames. This allowed the children to explore how artwork can spark a variety of conversations as well as a range of emotions.



House Points

Week ending 26th September: Green 261, Red 243, Yellow 241 and Blue 204

Week ending 3rd October: Red 490, Blue 366, Green 357 and Yellow 341.

Star of the Week: Congratulations to all our children below:

Week ending 26th September



Alfie, Eadie, Toby, Evelyn, Lacey, Dante & Alice

Week ending 3rd October



Maisie, Ezra, Oliver, Connie, Amara-Rae, Emily & Hughie

Attendance Matters:

Whole School Attendance: 96.31%

Class:	Attendance week ending 26 th September	Attendance week ending 3 rd October
Calipso	91.74%	94.78%
Apollo	97.69%	97.31%
Phoenix	94.62%	97.31%
Oberon	95.52%	95.93%
Mercury	99.13%	99.57%
Mariner	90.00%	94.80%
Skylab	98.26%	95.65%

School to School Competitions:

Linked to National Fitness Day, Yorkley and Parkend went head-to-head for a mini sports competition. Scores are now in, checked and verified:

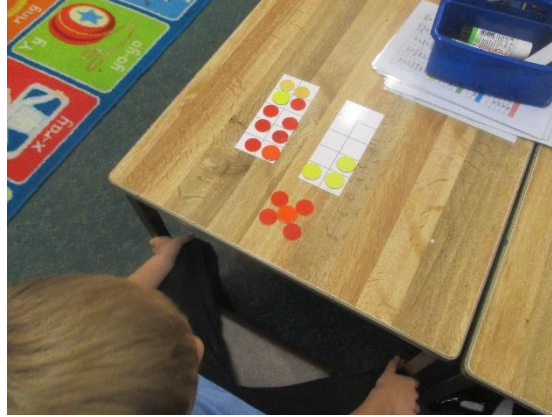
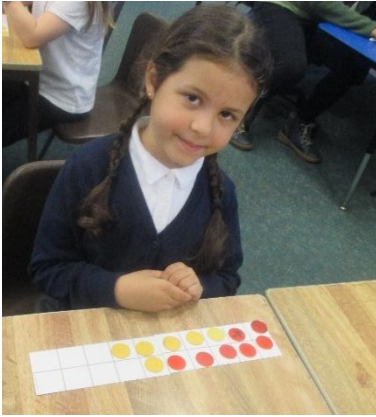
Yorkley total = 3200 (divided by number of pupils = 18.5

Parkend - 1043 (divided by number of pupils = 15.8

Congratulations to Yorkley for the overall win this time.



Phoenix have been enjoying their math work whereby they were bridging ten. They used red / yellow counters to make the two different amounts, which they could then use to fill the tens frame to add the numbers together.



Within our STEM Club children enjoyed making their egg protection boxes - the eggperiment will be undertaken next week. The club has demonstrated great partnership skills, listening carefully to each other's design ideas and they have carefully considered the materials. Some have said that the material will be too heavy to float down when they test them out.



PlayPod

This term children are back enjoying our PlayPod. A recent survey and pupil voice stated it increases creative play, facilitates



an inclusive play environment, improves partnership, sharing, communication, self-confidence and helps children's risk management and problem solving.



Sports: Competitions:

A mixed team of Year 3 / 4 children took part in a Prostars football competition on the new 3G pitch at Cinderford Rugby Pitch. There were several teams from around the forest taking part. The team played well together for the first time, taking it in turns to switch positions.



Celebrations out of school:



Max Baldwin completed the 22-mile Wild Boar bike race in 1 hour 49 minutes on a hard tail bike. Max said it was great fun even though it was a bit cold and wet.

Tabitha was proud to show off her recent dance certificate. On the back was a beautiful write up about how well she had performed. She confidently showed her dance routine to the class - this was wonderful to see! Well done Tabitha.



Congratulations to Olivia who has passed and moved up a level in swimming.

We are all very proud of Theo as he has been desperate to get out and litter pick since doing it at Forest School this term. He even made his parents go to the area in the woods he goes with his class to improve the environment further. He was very proud of himself today, as are we!



Congratulations to Logan as he was man of the match for his excellent tackling.

IMPORTANT DATES: - New dates in Red

DATE	EVENTS
Mon 13 th October	Whole School Flu Immunisation- reminder to consent/decline
Weds 15 th & Thurs 16 rd October	Parents' Evening (letters have gone out)
Thu 16 th October	Book Fair arriving for 1 week
Mon 20 th - Weds 22 nd October	Year 6 Bikeability
Thu 23 rd October	Last day term 1
Fri 24th October	INSET - School closed to pupils
Mon 27th - Fri 31st October	Half term week
Fri 31 st October	Secondary School Application Deadline
Mon 3 rd November	Start of term 2
Mon 3rd November	Christmas Shoe Boxes being collected
Weds 12 th November	Open Morning for prospective parents Reception 2026 at Yorkley - 9.15-10.45am Open Afternoon for prospective parents Reception 2026 at Parkend -1.15-2.45pm
Fri 14th November	Children in Need - Non-Uniform, £1 Donation
Tues 18 th November	Open Morning for prospective parents Reception 2026 at Parkend - 9.15-10.45am Open Afternoon for prospective parents Reception 2026 at Yorkley -1.15-2.45pm
Weds 3 rd December	Open Morning for prospective parents Reception 2026 at Yorkley - 9.15-10.45am Open Afternoon for prospective parents Reception 2026 at Parkend -1.15-2.45pm
Tues 16th December	Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumpers!
Fri 19 th December	Last day term 2
Mon 22nd - Fri 2nd January	Christmas Holidays
Mon 5 th January	Start of term 3

Community Links

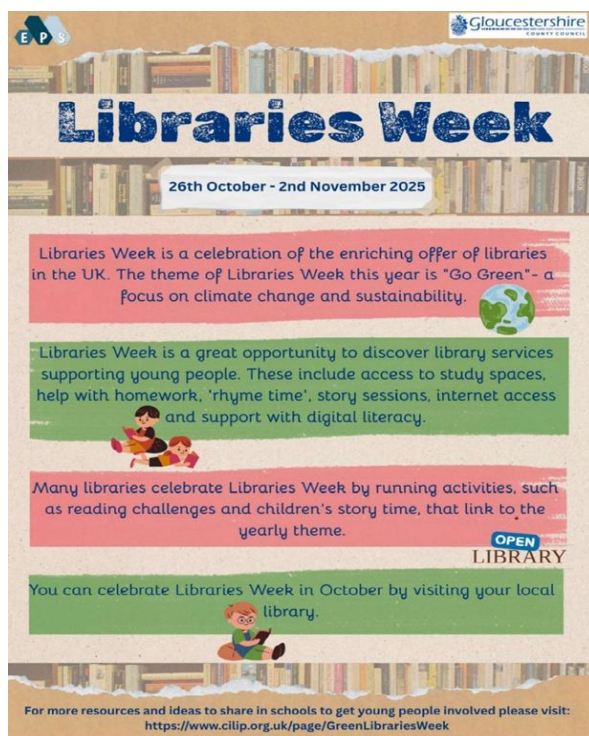
There is a children's **Pumpkin Carving Competition** on **Saturday 25th October at 4:00pm**, which will be taking place on the grass bank next to **The Bailey Inn** in Yorkley.

The event is part of a local Halloween celebration, and children from the community are encouraged to enter their carved pumpkins for a chance to win a cash prize in each of the following age categories:

- 4-8 years £10
- 8-12 years £10
- 12-16 years £10

Shoe Box Appeal – leaflet has gone out

We are collecting Christmas shoe boxes in aid of Operation Christmas child. Please bring these in by **Monday 3rd November**



Wellbeing Wednesdays for everyone **from Oct 15th**
Parkend Memorial Hall

Wiggly Wednesday Club
for primary school Kids

Explore movement, creative dance and Theatre Games - we play with Rhythm, Sound, flow, shapes & end with a short relaxation.

Laugh, let your hair down, shake off worries & express yourself with confidence!

4.30 - 5.30pm - £5 only

Nidra Relaxation
Adults Empowerment Hour

A 40 minute Yoga Nidra where you will be guided into a deeply RELAXED state - either seated or lying, eyes closed.

In this meditative state any residual tension in your Physical body, mind and emotions can dissolve away, leaving your nerves restored and your mind calm.

In each session I will give you new hand Mudras & simple practices to rebuild your life energy. We'll end with a brief sharing circle

6pm-7pm - £10 workers. £5 (OAP's, unemployed and GP Referral)

Led by Yoga Teacher & Human Movement Specialist **Suleela Barclay (B.Ed.)**
Join us weekly – no booking required! FFI call Suleela on 07834 669297

Creativity Building Me Belonging Communication Active Adventure
Valuing Learning, Learning to Value

YORKLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN DAYS

FOR CHILDREN STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2026

12th November 9.15am - 10.45am (Wednesday)

18th November 1.15pm - 2.45pm (Tuesday)

3rd December 9.15am - 10.45am (Wednesday)



"Pupils are very proud of their school. It is easy to see why. It is a caring, cohesive community where everyone has pupils' best interests at heart. Everyone strives to make every day the best it can be for each pupil."

Outstanding in Behaviour and Attitudes, Personal Development and Leadership & Management. Good for overall effectiveness

Yorkley Primary School / Forest Of Dean Community Schools Partnership / Parkend Primary School

Knowing Me Creative Me Articulate Me Future Me Stronger Me

Pride in ourselves, Achieve the best we can, Curious thinkers, Everyone together
The small school with BIG ideas

PARKEND PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN DAYS

FOR CHILDREN STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2026

12th November 1.15pm - 2.45pm (Wednesday)

18th November 9.15am - 10.45am (Tuesday)

3rd December 1.15pm - 2.45pm (Wednesday)



"Pupils at Parkend Primary thoroughly enjoy their 'small school with big ideas'. There is a tangible sense of community and of working together in partnership. Pupils are incredibly proud to be part of the school, and this shines through in all they do."

Good overall effectiveness – February 2024

Outstanding in Behaviour and Attitudes and Leadership & Management

Parkend Primary School / Forest Of Dean Community Schools Partnership / Yorkley School