

9TH  
FEBRUARY  
2024



# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

It may have been the last week before half term but there was no slowing down at Dringhouses! On Tuesday this week it was Safer Internet Day and although this is something that we focus on whenever we do computing, Miss Swiers did an extra special assembly about it on Tuesday to remind us all how to stay safe when online and the importance of kindness and respect even on digital platforms. The online world changes so quickly and it can be hard to keep up with it all. The NSPCC have guides for parents and carers to help you navigate how best to keep children safe when on devices, the internet, gaming platforms and social media. These can be found on <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/#guides> and there is a free, online 40 minute workshop for parents that can be accessed via YouTube on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MY5NDhvK4>.

After half term Early Years will be starting their new learning project, "Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?" and Key Stage 1 will be starting "Art Attack!", Lower Key Stage 2 will continue their fantastic "York Glorious York" project whilst Upper Key Stage 2 will stay immersed in their learning about World War II.

Thank you for all of your continued support and positivity. The children, staff and community at Dringhouses Primary School are truly special and I feel very lucky to be a part of it. Have a lovely half term, whatever you are up to!

Best wishes,

Mrs Scott-South

## DATES FOR THE NEXT HALF TERM

**Monday 19th February** - Back to school

**Wednesday 21st February** - UKS2 History workshop and LKS2 river workshops

**Thursday 22nd February** - LKS2 river workshops and EY and KS1 Disco after school organised by FODS

**Tuesday 27th February** - UKS2 History workshops

**Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th March** - LKS2 visits to York Chocolate Story (separate letter to follow)

**Thursday 7th March** - World Book Day

**w/c Monday 11th March** - Science week

**Monday 11th March** - KS1 Art workshops all day

**Monday 11th - Wednesday 13th March** - Year 5 Residential to PGL

**Tuesday 12th March** - Derek and the Book Fair

**Tuesday 19th March** - Easter service at church

**Tuesday 19th and Thursday 21st March** - Parents Evenings (more details to follow)

**Thursday 21st March** - FODS Easter Bake sale

**Friday 22nd March** - Break up for Easter



Don't forget to access Parent Pay and order your **child's school lunches** for the first week back after half term by **Thursday 16th February**. Whilst you are there you can order lunches for the whole half term and save yourself a job later on!



## EYFS



A fitting end to the topic 'What's in the Sky?' Early Years children enjoyed learning about birds of prey on Monday when York Bird of Prey Centre came to visit. We learnt about what birds of prey eat and how they catch their prey using either their talons or their beak. We also discovered that they see through a squared system which helps them spot prey and that their ears are not at the same height on either side of their heads. We were able to hold a transformer owl – it can place its feathers in a fan shape to give the impression it is bigger than it is, and a barn owl. And finally we were given a demonstration of how they fly.



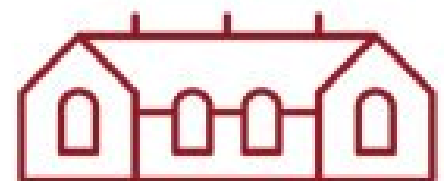
## LKS2 RIVER WALK

LKS2 had a great river walk on Monday to embed all that they have been learning this half term. It was fantastic to show the children many of the geographical features in action such the confluence, the flood barrier and the flood defences. We also managed to visit the four bridges in York, which our school houses are named after. This was great inspiration for our community collages which many of our families helped us to create- thank you!



## UNIFORM REMINDER

Please can I remind you that children should not be wearing jewellery at school unless it is a watch or stud/small hooped earrings. Some children, mainly the older ones, are trying to sneak necklaces and chains under their school top/shirt. We have this rule to keep the children safe at playtimes and lunchtimes. and we appreciate your support in this matter.





## EVENTS IN HALF TERM

There are some events during half term in our local community that might be of interest to you.



### Tadcaster Hockey Club

Junior training at Tadcaster Hockey Club will start on Wednesday 20th February 2024 at Tadcaster Grammar School from 6 until 7pm, which covers players from ages 5 up to 16, split by ages for training purposes. We shall be running this session in two split blocks, 5 weeks prior to Easter, 2 weeks off for Easter, and then the final 5 week block after Easter. This session is once more charged at £30 per child for the 10 weeks. There is a £5 discount for siblings down to a minimum payment of £20, e.g. first child pays £30, second child pays £25, and any child thereafter pays £20. A further email has been sent out regarding this including details on how to sign up.

### Dringhouses Library

#### Monday 12 February, 3-5pm

The Friends of Dringhouses Library are holding a half-term craft session celebrating love and Valentines Day! Come along and make some love bugs and friendship cards. Suitable for children 4-11 years.

#### All week

Book sale.



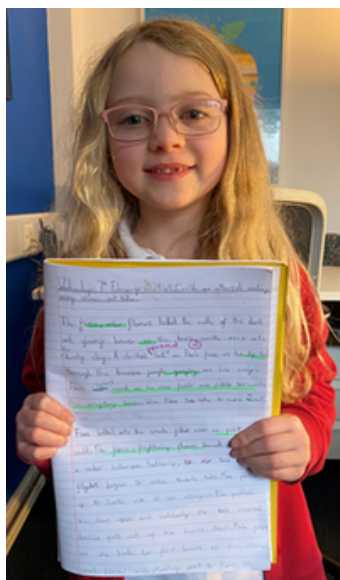
#### Saturday 17 February, 10 – 11 am

Come along and try a Chatterbooks session – a reading group for children. Talk about books you've read and make a Viking dragon or longboat! Suitable for ages 6-11 years

## WOW WORK!

Norah from Class 8 has written an absolutely alternative ending this week linked to their story of "Journey to the River Sea". Below is an extract from her super writing:

Finn bolted into the smoke filled ruin as fast as he could. The fierce, frightening flames danced around like an amber ballerina. Suddenly 2 shadowy figures began to come towards him. Mia picked up Mr Carter with all of strength. Finn pushed the door open and suddenly the ash covered bodies fell out of the burnt door. Mia gasped as she took her first breath of the cool, clear forest air. Standing next to Finn, she finally felt safe.

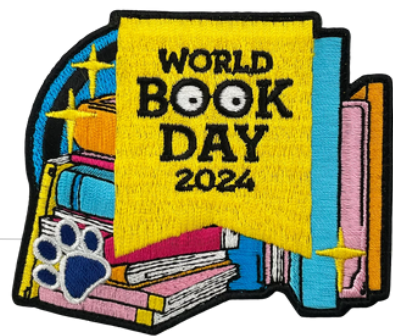


## HEALTHY SNACKS

Please remember if children are bringing a snack in for morning playtime then it must be a nut-free, healthy snack. Thank you.



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## WORLD BOOK DAY!

We are extremely excited as we build up to World Book Day 2024 which is happening on **Thursday 7th March**. We have lots of activities planned and this year we will be **dressing up!** The theme is "goodies and baddies" so we would love to see children dressed up, if they would like to, as either a hero or villain (**dressing up is optional** as we appreciate that not all children enjoy it). On the day we will be doing a range of activities across the phases as well as shared reading in our house teams.

As part of the World Book Day celebrations, we will be running a "**decorate a paper plate**" competition where children can decorate it in the theme of a book or book character. The deadline for entries is **Friday 1st March** and winners will be announced on World Book Day with prizes up for grabs! Please ensure that your child writes their name and class on the back of the paper plates.

Then on **Tuesday 12th March**, Derek and the book fair will be in school! Children will get their £1 book voucher which they can spend at the book fair or at any local book shop or supermarket.



## FODS

EYFS and KSI Party, 22nd February

Grab your dancing shoes and join your friends at the annual EYFS and KSI party! There will be a magic show, disco and party tea. Sign up on ParentPay – for more details see the letter sent out by school. Any help to set up the party would be amazing (even if only for 15 minutes before school pick-up time) – please contact Rachel ([rachelstevens985@live.co.uk](mailto:rachelstevens985@live.co.uk)) or Laura ([lkunningham@outlook.com](mailto:lkunningham@outlook.com)) if you can help. Thank you!

There is an Easter Bake Sale on Thursday 21st March and the Easter Egg competition will return! More details will be sent out next half term.

DRINGHOUSES SCHOOL PTA PRESENTS...

# EARLY YEARS & KSI PARTY

FEBRUARY 22ND

GUEST STARRING  
**MAGIC MIKE**

MAGIC ★ DANCING ★ FOOD

FROM 4:30 - 6:00PM

Admission £4 payable on ParentPay  
Please arrange to collect your child