

17TH OCTOBER
2025



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear Families,

As we move through another busy and exciting term, I want to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful achievements across our school community. It's been a joy to see our students engaging with enthusiasm, showing resilience, and supporting one another in their learning and personal growth. I am incredibly proud of the dedication shown by both staff and pupils, and I thank parents and carers for your continued support. Together, we are building a strong and vibrant learning environment where every child can thrive. It truly is a privilege to be the headteacher of Team Dring!

Best wishes,
Mrs Scott-South

DATES FOR THE HALF TERM

17th October – FODS bake sale

20th October – Harvest festival service at St Edward's church (9am)

20th October – KS1 Parent event (2.30pm–3pm)

22nd October – Book Fair (all day)

22nd October – Open day for new starters (6.30pm)

23rd October – KS1 Victorian workshop (all day)

24th October – KS1 The Great Fire of London workshop (all day)

24th October – Winning house extra play

24th October – End of half term

SPOT LIGHT ON ... EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE – THANK YOU

We're delighted to share that our school has recently been rated green by the Local Authority for our excellent attendance. This recognition reflects our overall attendance for the 2024/25 school year, which was above 95%! This is a fantastic achievement and shows the commitment of our pupils, families, and staff to making every day count. Thank you to everyone for your continued support in promoting good attendance — it really does make a difference to children's learning and wellbeing.



HARVEST FESTIVAL

We're looking forward to celebrating our Harvest Festival on Monday 20th October. As part of this special occasion, we will be collecting donations for York Food Bank to help support families in need within our community. If you are able to contribute, items such as tins, packets, and other non-perishable goods would be greatly appreciated. More details of the items that are needed can be found on <https://york.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/> Thank you, as always, for your kindness and generosity.



PHASE NEWS: LKS2

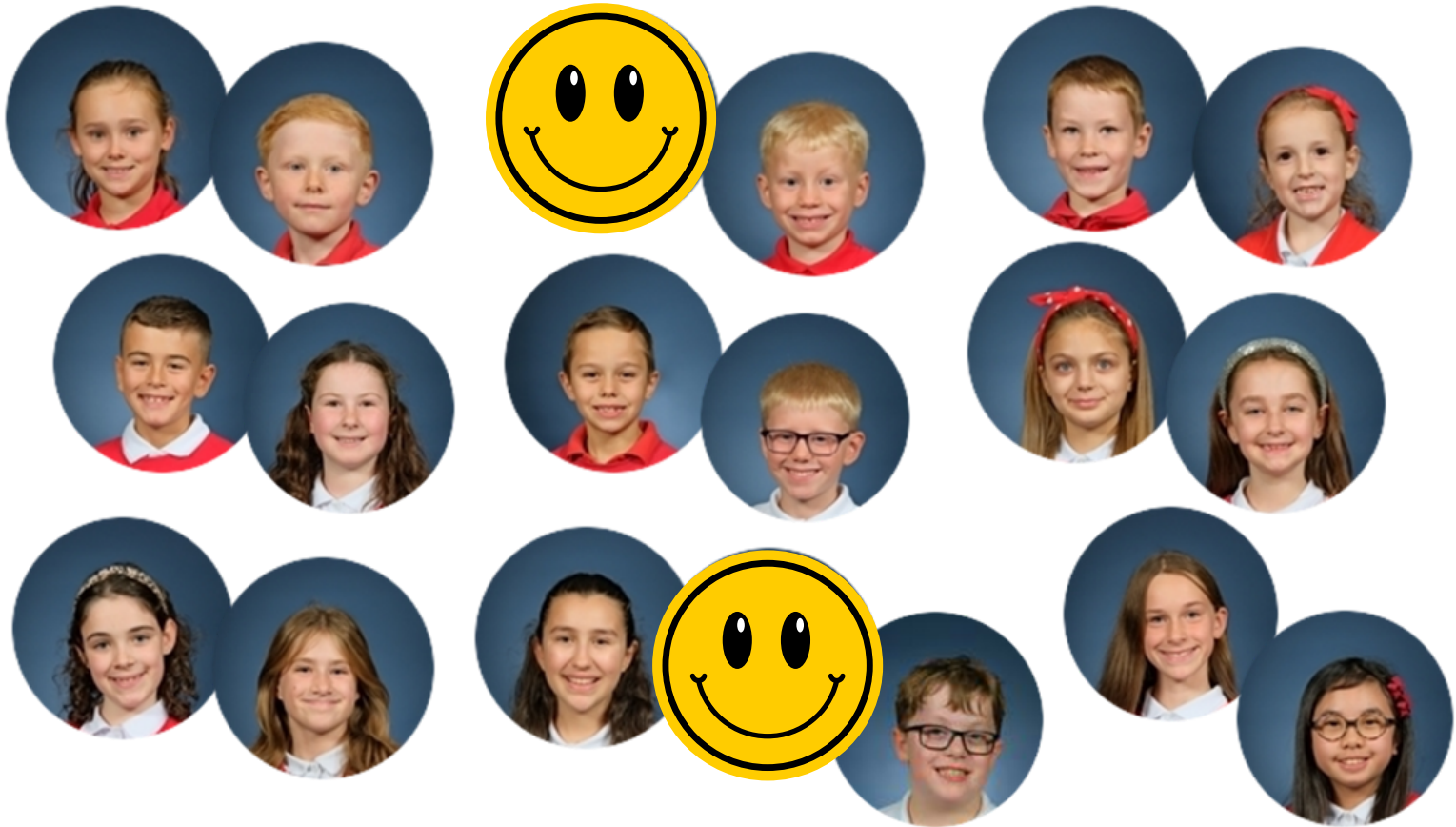
This half term has been full of engaging learning across our subjects. In History, we've explored the world of Ancient Egypt, learning why the River Nile was so important to the people who lived there and how it helped their civilisation to grow. The children have also studied the process of mummification and the beliefs behind it. In Maths, we've focused on column addition, including carrying, and pupils have been developing their confidence and accuracy. In English, our most recent writing task has been a persuasive letter to our friends at FODS, asking for new blinds for the school hall — we hope our letters do the job!

To bring our History topic to life, the children visited the Royal Armouries and the Leeds Discovery Centre. During the trip, they had the chance to see and even handle real Ancient Egyptian artefacts, which gave them a deeper understanding of what they've been learning in class. It has been a busy and productive half term and the children should be very proud of all they have achieved.



SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

We are proud to announce that our recent School Council elections were a great success! Pupils from across the school demonstrated excellent leadership, confidence, and communication skills as they put themselves forward as candidates. Each nominee delivered thoughtful speeches outlining their ideas and commitment to representing their peers. The voting process gave all students a chance to have their voices heard, reinforcing the importance of democracy and active citizenship. Congratulations to our newly elected council members—we look forward to seeing the positive impact you will make this year!



BOOK FAIR



Just a reminder that Derek and the Book Fair will be in school on Wednesday, 22nd October! Children will visit the Book Fair during the day with their class, where they'll have the opportunity to browse and buy from a fantastic selection of books. The fair will also be open after school for families to visit together. The more that is spent at the Book Fair, the more commission the school earns to buy brand-new books. If you're able to support in any way, we really appreciate it — as do all the children.

ONLINE SAFETY



The Monkey App is a video chat and social networking app that randomly matches strangers for a 15 second face to face video call. Once the video chat begins users have 15 seconds to decide what to do next. They can request more time to chat or end the chat and match with another person.

Sexually explicit content on the app is common place. It has been assessed as not safe for children due to lax age verification policies, privacy concerns and persistent issues with harmful and sexual content.

The UK based Safer Schools Safeguarding App released an alert calling “Monkey” extremely dangerous.

There is no age verification process in place which means adults can manipulate their profiles to make themselves appear much younger.

It is an app centred around the sharing of personal information and the lowering of privacy barriers. Users cannot use the app without allowing access to their camera or microphone.



We want to make you aware of a recent issue affecting some popular children’s books by Andrew Cope, including the *Spy Dogs*, *Spy Cats*, and *Spy Pups* series.

Some editions of these books include a printed web address at the back. This link used to go to the author’s website, but the domain is no longer under his control. It has since been taken over by another party and now leads to inappropriate adult content.

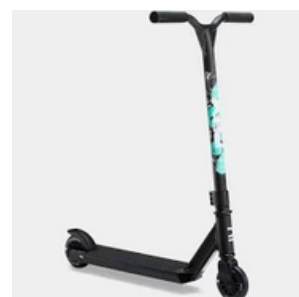
The publisher, Puffin, has paused sales and distribution of the books and is working with schools, libraries, and retailers to remove copies from circulation. They have stressed that the website has no connection to the author or publisher.

What this means for you:

- If your child has any *Spy Dog*, *Spy Cat* or *Spy Pups* books at home, please check the back for website links and make sure they do not try to visit the site.
- It is safe for children to read the stories themselves — the concern is only with the outdated link.
- We recommend talking with your child about the importance of not following web addresses in books without checking with an adult first.

SCOOTER APPEAL

We’re currently looking to expand our lunchtime scooter provision, as it’s proven to be a hugely popular activity with the children! To help more pupils enjoy this active and fun option during their break times, we’re appealing for any donations of scooters in good condition. If you have a scooter at home that’s no longer being used, we’d be very grateful to receive it. Thank you in advance for your support—it really helps to make playtimes even more enjoyable for our pupils!



NEURODIVERSITY AND WELL BEING DROP INS

Please see all the dates for the Neurodiversity and Well Being drop ins for this academic year.

Wednesday 3rd December 2pm – Christmas themed crafts with the children

Tuesday 10th February 8.35am – Parent and child well being

Thursday 12th March 2pm – Easter craft

Friday 8th May 8.30am – to be arranged

Wednesday 8th July 2pm – transitions and planning for next year.

The next meeting will involve your children, so please let me know if you intend to come along so I know numbers and can arrange resources and refreshments.

Best Wishes

Sarah Murray

DRINGHOUSES ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Please visit our social media channels for more pictures and information about what we've been up to

Instagram

@dringhousesks1

@dringhouseslks2

@dringhousesprimaryuks2

Facebook

@dringhouses Primary School



DRINGY'S MINI MUSIC



The poster is purple with a pink and blue central area. It features illustrations of musical instruments like maracas, xylophone, and a trumpet. The text is in white and blue, announcing the school's music group.

Dringhouses Primary School presents:

DRINGY'S MINI MUSIC!

Dringy's Mini Music is a fun, friendly, and creative music group for **ages 0-4**, led by our very own **Mrs Clarke!**

Support early musical and developmental growth while nurturing a love of group singing and shared music-making!

EVERY WEDNESDAY IN TERM TIME
10-10:40AM (DOORS OPEN AT 9:50AM) IN THE SCHOOL HALL
£5 per child (adults are free!)

CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE!

We've already enjoyed two wonderful sessions of **Dringy's Mini Music with Mrs Clarke!** There's been instrument playing, beautiful singing, and magical movement for children and adults alike.

Dringy's Mini Music takes place on Wednesdays and is designed for children aged 0-4. This group supports early musical and developmental growth. Each session runs from **10:00 to 10:40am** and costs **£5 per child**, with accompanying adults attending for free.

The sessions are open to **everyone in our community** — you do not need to have a child at Dringhouses School to join in.

So spread the word — we hope to see lots of you there!

HOLIDAY CLUB AT ST EDWARDS CHURCH



The poster features a yellow sun-like background with a blue shield containing a cross. Two cartoon children, a girl and a boy, are running. The text is in blue and black.

Mini Ed's

HOLIDAY CLUB

St Edward's Church

St Edward's Church
Invites you to
Mini Holiday Club
On
Monday 27th October 2025
10 am - 12:30
Crafts - Games - Fun - Music and Stories
FREE Introductory session with snack
Contact
Sally Gatus - Children & Youth worker
07436 405 586
children@stedsdringhouses.org

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

The after-school club has moved into the school hall and have expanded their capacity. If you need any form of wrap-a-round care based at the school please register with them via their website at <https://www.dringhousesosc.co.uk/>

Breakfast sessions run from 07:30 each morning and cost £5.75. These sessions run until the start of school and children can choose from a range of healthy breakfast options; yoghurt, fruit, cereals, pancakes etc with the children free to choose from milk, water and a range of fruit juices.

After School Club sessions cost £12.75 and run until 18:00. The children are offered a healthy snack and there's a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities; craft, board games, modelling, books etc for those that choose to play inside, while for those that prefer the outside there's football, tennis and access to the schools 'trim trail' plus tyres, pallets and crates.

Contact the out of school club via their website, or email on dringhouses@dringhousesoosc.co.uk, or on 07704 069078.

FAMILY MATTERS YORK

Family Matters York are back with us this Autumn term with a new course- Handling anger in the family.

There is 5 FREE sessions to find out more about anger and its impact on our family relationships.

Monday 10th November- Monday 8th December 2025, 7-9pm at Dringhouses School.

Please use the Google form to sign up:
<https://forms.gle/kw8vFTi2PRzBeNRg7>



FAMILY MATTERS YORK

Dringhouses
Primary School | York

Handling Anger in the Family



Tackling subjects like:
anger triggers, stress and anger,
anger responses, warning signs,
calming strategies, better
communication.

ALL families experience anger and conflict.

It's normal!

But how often do we talk about it?

Join our **FREE 5 session course** to find out more about anger and its impact on our family relationships.
Learn simple strategies to manage strong emotions and communicate better.

Take 'Time Out' to help your family thrive and grow.
Know that you are not alone!

Join us to learn more about the emotion of anger.
Course starts Monday 10th November 7-9pm

TRANSPENINE TRAIN

Hello from the Trans Pennine Trail (TPT) National Office. We'd like to share a free resource for schools that encourages children to get active outdoors and discover the natural world around them.

Our Children's Activity Pack is full of fun, nature-based activities suitable for Key Stage 1 and 2, designed to inspire outdoor exploration along the Trail or in your local green spaces.

👉 Download the free pack by visiting:
<https://www.transpenninetrail.org.uk/welcome-to-our-childrens-page/>

It's a great way to support learning in geography, science, and PE while promoting health, wellbeing, and environmental awareness.

