



Welburn Hall Weekly

Friday 17 October 2025

Hello and welcome to our weekly Newsletter.....



School dinner arrears

ParentPay should now be working for everyone. Please settle any outstanding debt.

Thank you for your understanding

Food Tech Contributions

A half-termly contribution option of £8 will be on ParentPay. Not every class does Food Tech each half term – but it will be on ParentPay when it is your child/young person's turn. Please look out for this – thank you for your support.



ParentPay

Can we please ask Parents/Carers of our new learners to log in and activate their ParentPay account. Even if your child has free school meals, we still need parents to have their own ParentPay account. Your help is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Lunch Wk 2	Main option 1	Vegetarian option 2	Options 3 or 4	Pudding
Mon	Pepperoni pizza 	Cheese & tomato pizza V 	Option 3 Jacket potato & beans VG	Chocolate Crunch V 
Tues	Pasta Bolognese 	Shepherdess pie VG 	Meatball sub with wedges Or Cheese sandwich V	Iced summer shortcake V 
Weds	Chicken & tomato bake 	Potato topped summer veg V 	Cheesy bean jacket potato V Or Tuna sandwich	Apple sponge & custard V 
Thurs	All day breakfast 	Veg all day breakfast V 	Cheese jacket potato V Or Ham sandwich	Jelly & ice-cream V 
Fri	Battered fish & chips 	Sausage roll VG 	Option 3 Jacket potato & beans VG	Custard cookie VG 

We are a nut aware school

V – Vegetarian VG – Vegan. Jan 2025



RESPECT



PERSEVERANCE



EXCELLENCE

Bingo – 27 Oct

Our HSA would like to remind parents and carers about their next fundraising event on **Monday 27 October**.

HSA needs donations!!
They still need raffle prize donations please.

They're looking to create some fantastic hampers for:

Cleaning, Bathing, Pamper, Breakfast, Dinner, Hot drinks and Biscuits, Baking, Children's Activities and a Halloween themed one. Anything from bubble bath, teabags, biscuits, tinned food etc. to help would be greatly appreciated.

Please send anything you have into school.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support and we hope to see you all at the Bingo Night.



BINGO NIGHT

27th October 2025
Doors open 6.30pm Bingo starts 7.30pm

Ryedale Indoor Bowling Club, Norton, YO17 8EG

Help us support Welburn Hall Special School

Join us for an exciting Bingo Night, play together, have fun, win great bingo prizes, enjoy a sweet treat from the cake stall and enter the raffle for an extra chance to win.

RYEDALE INDOOR BOWLING CLUB
WELBURN HALL SPECIAL SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Daisy/Sarah's class made a 'be kind to your mind' board for World Mental Health Day. The learners chose positive affirmations for the board to display in their classroom.



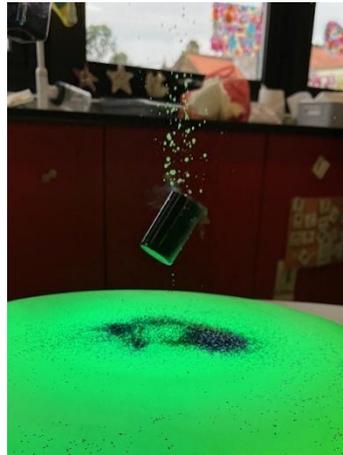
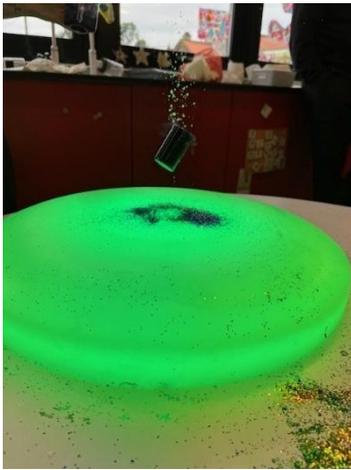
RESPECT



PERSEVERANCE



EXCELLENCE



It's been explosive fun in Pre-Formal, with their Halloween theme.

Demi the witch mixed a potion that popped, wizzed and banged. Such fun!



Learners in Sarah/Daisy's class enjoying new social games and sensory items.



RESPECT

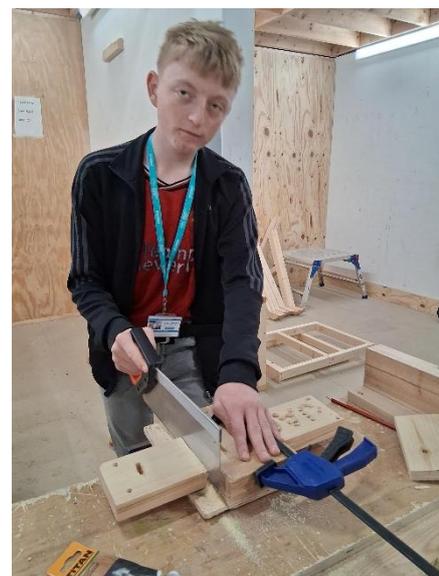


PERSEVERANCE



EXCELLENCE

Construction skills continue at York College, here are some of our learners making their own name plates. The task involved them learning how to use a drill and a saw!



RESPECT



PERSEVERANCE



EXCELLENCE

Staying safe this Halloween

Looking out for fire risks

Fancy dress costumes are not manufactured to the same safety standards as normal clothing; are easily ignited and burn very fast. Keep children in Halloween costumes well away from naked flames and other heat sources at all times.



Try to buy costumes from a reputable shop or website

It may mean spending a bit more but buying from a reputable store or website will be safer. Cheap costumes may not meet UK safety standards.

Check costume labels for a UKCA or CE mark

These labels don't mean a costume won't catch fire, but has been tested for fire safety and should burn more slowly. The British Retail Consortium has introduced stricter fire safety tests for children's dressing-up costumes. Look for a label that says: "This garment has undergone additional safety testing for flammability".

Encourage children to layer up

A layer of clothes under dressing-up costumes can help to protect your child's skin if their costume does catch fire.

Teach children to Stop, Drop and Roll



Make sure your child knows what to do if their clothes catch fire. The natural instinct is to run, but encourage them to practice stopping, dropping to the ground, covering their face with their hands, and rolling over a few times to put out the flames.

Keep candles well out of the path of trick or treaters

Candles and lit pumpkins create a fantastic spooky atmosphere, but can be dangerous. Keep them well out of the path of trick or treaters and away from any Halloween decorations that might catch light. Don't put candles on a flammable surface and in all the excitement, don't forget to blow them out!



Consider switching to battery-powered candles

LED / flameless battery-powered candles reduce fire risks, but make sure the battery compartment is secure. Many LED lights, and the

remote controls for them, contain button batteries, which can badly hurt or kill a small child if they swallow one and it gets stuck.

Be visible

Visibility is important all year round. However, as the clocks go back, it's dark when children are out trick or treating, so additions such as reflective tape or fluorescent glow sticks/jewellery can make good costume accessories and help children be more visible to drivers. If you're going out earlier with little ones, then bright or fluorescent clothing is better for daytime visibility.



Road safety

Masks can make it harder for children to see or hear traffic. So, save the special masks for indoors and use face paint for trick or treating. Encourage children to put mobile phones away when they are out trick or treating and crossing roads. Instead of using the phone as a light, carry a torch. Children under 12 are best accompanied by an adult. Agreeing a pre-planned route for children over 12 and having a way of contacting a trusted adult if they need to offers freedom with less risk.

Carve carefully

Everyone likes to have their Halloween pumpkin, but if your child isn't old enough to handle a sharp knife safely, there are plenty of really creative 'no-carve pumpkin' ideas all over the internet.



Be vigilant against choking hazards

Lollipops, hard sweets, flumps and mini eggs in particular can pose a serious choking risk. It's best to avoid eating while walking or running, so you might want to enjoy the treats back at home.



Be wary of button batteries

Light-up decorations such as pumpkins, cauldrons, torches and wands are fantastic for creating a spooktacular atmosphere. But many of these items are powered by button batteries which can badly hurt or kill a child if swallowed. For button battery-powered Halloween novelties check the battery compartment is safely secured.





Welburn Hall School

Wellbeing & Safeguarding



North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (NYSCP) aims to ensure all children in North Yorkshire are safe, happy, healthy and achieving.



If you are worried about a child – this is the duty number: 0300 131 2 131 Or see their website here:

<https://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/about-us/worried-about-a-child/>

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MEMES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (79%, YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

SPREADING MISINFORMATION



While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT



Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.

MASKED MESSAGES



Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.

HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY

When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.

PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misunderstood, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control - digital actions can follow them into their future, shaping how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS



Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world - discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.

TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY



Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable - developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how memes can sometimes exaggerate or misrepresent facts for laughs, and encourage them to check credible sources when memes claim to present truth.

MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES



Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late-night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risks of overuse. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.

FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE



Remind children and young people that memes should never come at someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.