Foston Primary School

Weekly bulletin
16 October



Head of School Update

A Special Farewell to Heather and Nigel Cox

This week, the children attended a special farewell tea for Heather and Nigel Cox, who will shortly be leaving the village. It was a lovely opportunity for us all to come together and thank them for their incredible support and dedication to our school community over the years.

The children sang *My Lighthouse* beautifully and presented Heather and Nigel with a card and gift as a small token of our appreciation.
Heather and Nigel have played such an important role in school life, both through their previous roles as school governors and their continued involvement with the children. From listening to readers in school to leading Messy Church and organising wonderful sessions at the Methodist Chapel, they have given so generously of their time and made a lasting difference to our school community.
We are incredibly grateful for their kindness, commitment and encouragement over the years. They will be greatly missed by everyone at school, and we wish them both every happiness as they begin their next chapter.

Tuck shop

PAFFS will be holding a tuck shop on Thursday at the end of the school day. They have asked if Year 5 and 6 students can please kindly bring in donations for this should they feel able to do so.

Half-Term Reminder

A reminder that **Thursday 22nd October will be our last day in school** before the half-term break, as **Friday 23rd October is a staff training day** and school will be closed to pupils.

Autumn 2 Clubs:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Club	Y6 SATS Club KS1 Julia Donaldson activities	Sports Club - KS1 & KS2 KS1 Musical theatre	Crochet – All ages	Choir – All ages	Construction Club – All ages
Leading Adults	Mr Yip Mrs Caulder	Total Sports Mrs Read	Mrs Read	Mrs Read	Mrs Peel

Have a great weekend,

Katie Stringer
Head of School
Foston and Langton Schools

Wow Class work

EYFS/ KS1

It has been another exciting week in Class One! We have been exploring the playground, looking for signs of autumn in nature, and sorting leaves by their shape, size and colour.
We have also been learning about London and exploring some of its famous landmarks. The children enjoyed recreating these using Lego and building blocks. In RE this half term, we are exploring how different religions show a sense of belonging and community. This week, we learnt about Shabbat, which the children really enjoyed discovering.
It was also lovely to see some of our older children spending time reading to our youngest children.





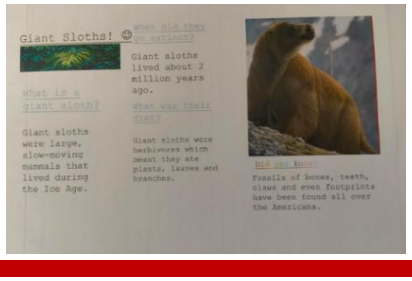

Y3 & 4

This week, the children enjoyed a special visit from a guest who shared information about an exciting beaver project, helping us learn more about these fascinating animals and their important role in nature. We also welcomed a guitarist, who entertained the children with live music. It was a wonderful opportunity to learn something new and experience music together!




Y5 & 6

Class 3 have been learning about the Stone Age in History, such as looking at extinct animals. We learnt about the giant sloths, woolly mammoths and sabretooth tigers.



Parent News

Parents with children starting school in September 2027

An application can now be made for a primary school place for your child to start school in Reception in September 2027 and the deadline to apply is 15 January 2027. You must make an application even if they attend the nursery of the school, you want them to attend. Please see the attached guidance from North Yorkshire County Council on how to apply.

SATs Club with Mr Yip

From next term, Mr Yip will be running a **SATs Club every Monday after school, from 3:30pm to 4:15pm**.
The club will give pupils an extra opportunity to practise their SATs skills, build their confidence and ask questions in a supportive environment as they prepare for their upcoming assessments in May.
Please ensure your child is booked onto this club via Arbor and then collected promptly at **4:15pm**.
Thank you for your continued support!

Jewellery

A polite reminder that jewellery is not permitted to be worn in PE lessons. All jewellery should be removed before the start of lesson, including earrings.

Knowing the Risks Involved with Children Playing Online

Children and young people inevitably spend more time online exploring, connecting, and playing, but as screen time goes up, so does the risk of exposure to online predators, North Yorkshire Police are seeing this more and more.

Understanding the Risks

Online predators are increasingly skilled at exploiting:

- Gaming platforms with chat functions – Discord is popular at present.
- Social media direct messaging
- Live streaming apps and anonymous platforms
- Disguised identities and manipulation tactics

They often pose as friends, use flattery, fake profiles, or shared interests to build trust. The goal? To isolate, exploit and manipulate, sometimes without a child even realising they're being groomed.

"Stranger Danger" Isn't Enough Anymore

Children may know not to speak to strangers on the street, but many don't realise that digital strangers pose equal, if not greater risks.
Tip: Make "online stranger danger" a standing topic. Talk openly, without shame or fear, about how anyone online can pretend to be something they're not.

Practical Safeguarding Steps for Parents & Carers

Empowerment starts with informed action:

Action	Why It Matters
Set up parental controls and privacy settings	Limits exposure and restricts unsolicited contact
Review game platforms and chat features	Many apps include hidden messaging functions
Spot-check devices with your child	Builds trust while keeping tabs on emerging risk
Discuss digital consent and boundaries	Children should know they can say no, block, report
Keep conversations open and regular	**The goal is not surveillance but shared understanding**

Digital freedom comes with digital responsibility and safeguarding isn't about spying, it's about **standing beside** our children, equipping them to thrive safely.
You are not alone in this. If you ever need support, clarification, or safeguarding signposting, please email our school office.
Let's make the online world as safe as the one we're raising them in.





School wish list: If you have any of the following items we would welcome you bringing them in to enhance the children's learning!

- Crochet hooks

What should I do if I am worried about a child?

If you believe that a child is immediate danger from significant harm, dial 999 to report it to the Police.

How do I make a referral?

Referrals can be made via the universal referral form or following an Early Help Assessment. Both can be located on North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership website: https://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/forms-and-tools/

Urgent referrals can be made via telephone to the Customer Resolution Centre on 0300 131 2 131
or alternatively call the NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000 or email: help@NSPCC.org.uk

Dates for the Diary

Celebration assembly	Wednesday 21 October	9.15am- Village Hall
Last Day of Autumn Term 1	Thursday 22 October	School is CLOSED Friday 23 October
First Day of Autumn Term 2	Monday 2 November	
Parents' evening	Tuesday 10 November	3.40-6.30pm appointments
Parents' evening	Thursday 12 November	3.30-5.30pm appointments

Previous bulletins can be accessed via:

https://www.fstfederation.org.uk/