

Applegarth Primary School Newsletter



Friday 10th January 2025

Welcome back! I hope that everyone had an enjoyable break over the holidays. We are looking forward to a brilliant Spring term ahead!



Mrs Rutherford was completely overwhelmed and grateful for all of the kind words and gifts she received at the end of term. She would like to send you a poem by way of thanks:

*“Thank you all for kindness shown,
For every gift, each word I’ve known.
The love and warmth have filled my heart,
A beautiful way to end my part.*

*Though I’m retiring, I’ll hold dear
There memories, year after year.
I wish you health, joy and light,
And hope your days are always bright.*

*I’ll miss you all, more than you know,
As I let this chapter gently go.
Thank you once more, from deep inside -
With gratitude and care, I say goodbye.”*

Artist of the term



Hi I'm Stacey!

Welcome to my corner of the world.

My goal is to offer you an escape to the tranquil Yorkshire Dales through my artwork. With dedication to my craft and a deep commitment to authenticity, I strive to create timeless pieces that not only adorn your walls but also bring the serene beauty of nature into your everyday life.

My studio door is always open, so come in and take a look around.

[Explore Collection](#)

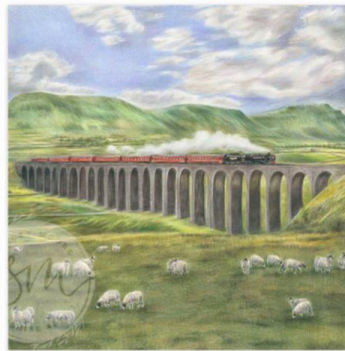
Mrs Burrell would like to introduce you all to the artist of the term: Stacey Moore.

She would like you to explore some of her artwork and perhaps have a go yourself with your families at creating your own artwork using pencils.

There is space on the Art display board in school to create an exhibition of your amazing artwork. Stacey is very excited to see what you produce and is sending us some lovely prizes for those families who get involved.



Winter Majesty
STACEY MOORE LTD



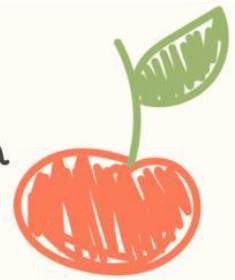
Ribblehead Viaduct
STACEY MOORE LTD



On The Right Path
STACEY MOORE LTD



Friends of Applegarth



JOIN OUR PTA

Get involved,
Voice your opinion,
make your ideas count
and make a change!

Everyone Welcome!
Teachers, staff,
parents, grandparents
and community members

Help out as much or
as little as you can
at our events.
No requirement
to come to meetings



All money raised
goes back to
the children

Please message Gemma on
07907012122 if you would like to
join our PTA WhatsApp group



As always we appreciate your
support in improving the lives
of all of the children of
Applegarth Primary School



We are proud to be a myHappymind school!

This programme is a whole school approach grounded in science and dedicated to building positive mental wellbeing. myHappymind helps children understand how their brains work and creates a culture that helps to build children's resilience, confidence, and self-esteem.



We are very excited to launch Happy Mind next week.

SAFEGUARDING NOTICES

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

We are trying to promote 'Choose Respect' with the children in school this term. Part of our safeguarding agenda is to promote safe ways of dealing with conflict on the playground without resorting to getting physical (e.g. pushing and shoving).

We are asking all parents to explore the idea of 'Choose Respect' with their own children, particularly about how they can use their words to politely disagree and when it is necessary to find an adult to help them to manage a disagreement before it gets physical. Our team is going to start wearing hi-vis on the playground at breaktimes and lunchtimes so that the children can easily identify where the adults are in the area.

All staff at Applegarth know that safeguarding is EVERYONE'S responsibility. Find out more on our [Safeguarding Page](#).

For information about **Online Safety**, visit our dedicated [webpage](#).

You can also report any concerns you have to our [welfare email](#):
dsl@applegarth.n-yorks.sch.uk

IMPORTANT – We are a 'NO NUTS'
school due to several children having severe allergies. Please check ingredients carefully and do not send in snacks/lunchbox items that contain nuts.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

FORTNITE

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
12

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Fortnite was launched back in 2017, but it remains massively popular – with more than 850 million active players. That's partially due to the competitive nature of its player-vs-player combat, its pop culture crossovers and its constantly shifting map. Significant updates are rolled out with each new version of the game – known as 'chapters' – and within these sit shorter 'seasons'.

ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player offline mode in Fortnite: it can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about (both in terms of connectivity and using up data), so you may find that dedicated young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – cosmetic 'skins', music tracks and LEGO items – which don't really impact on gameplay but can cost a significant amount. These items are bought with in-game currency, V-Bucks – earned through completing the Battle Pass (which also costs V-Bucks) and can also be purchased from the game's store for real money.

POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from movies and TV shows like Family Guy and Avatar: The Last Airbender to comic book characters including Batman to other games such as Street Fighter. This means you could have children asking questions about the monster from Alien or Geralt from The Witcher a little sooner than you otherwise might have.

CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. 'Crossplay' lets friends play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC – while the 'party chat' feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can, however, put youngsters at risk of hearing inappropriate language from older players in the heat of virtual combat.

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

At its core, there's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as fishing mini-games and dancing emotes. Machine guns, shotguns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, however, so discretion is advised.

FREQUENT UPDATES

The game's developers release content in 'seasons' that usually run for around ten weeks. Each fresh update sees items added to the in-game store, changes to the environment's map and a different over-arching theme (such as 'medieval', 'pirates' or 'party'). These regular renewals help to hold players' interest – but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MATCH GAMING TIMES

Younger players tend to play Fortnite with their friends. With that in mind, it could be worth speaking to the parents and carers of a child's social group and coordinating their gaming around certain times of day. Safety in numbers is obviously a factor here, but it will also help children feel that they're getting adequate opportunities to socialise with their friends online.

SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authorisation. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

USE UPDATES AS REWARDS

Fortnite's seasonal updates are free, but each also brings the option of a 'battle pass', unlocking exclusive rewards for playing the game and completing set challenges. The passes cost around £8 and are also available as part of larger bundles. The purchase of passes can be an effective reward to young Fortnite fans for good behaviour or academic performance, or as an incentive for completing chores like tidying their room.

BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game: make sure any young player knows this.

ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents and carers to do something fun with their child, while also making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A long-time gamer, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Sweet Tubs

Northallerton Leisure Centre are collecting empty plastic sweet tubs in aid of Macmillan.

Make sure your tubs don't go to waste and bring your clean, empty plastic confectionery and cracker tubs to Northallerton Leisure Centre to be recycled.

Simply leave your tubs with a reception staff member. All tubs will be collected and taken to a plastic reprocessing centre where they're shredded, before being sold onto plastic manufacturers to use in place of virgin plastics. All money raised from the sale of Tub2Pub plastics will be given directly to Macmillan Cancer Support.



MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

Do you know that our school has a Nursery for 3 year old children?

If you know anyone who would like to attend Applegarth Nursery, please scan the QR code which will navigate you to the website page where you can apply for a Nursery place.

You can apply at anytime but children will start the term after they turn 3.

Speak to one of the Nursery Team (Mrs Burrell, Miss Melville and Mrs Evans) if you have any questions.



OPAL

We need your help!

Despite the weather getting colder and wetter, we need to keep our school field open for OPAL at lunchtimes. To support us with this, please can your child have **wellies, or spare shoes** and a **waterproof coat with a hood** in school everyday. Their wellies/spare shoes should be in a plastic bag with their name on them



Digging Area



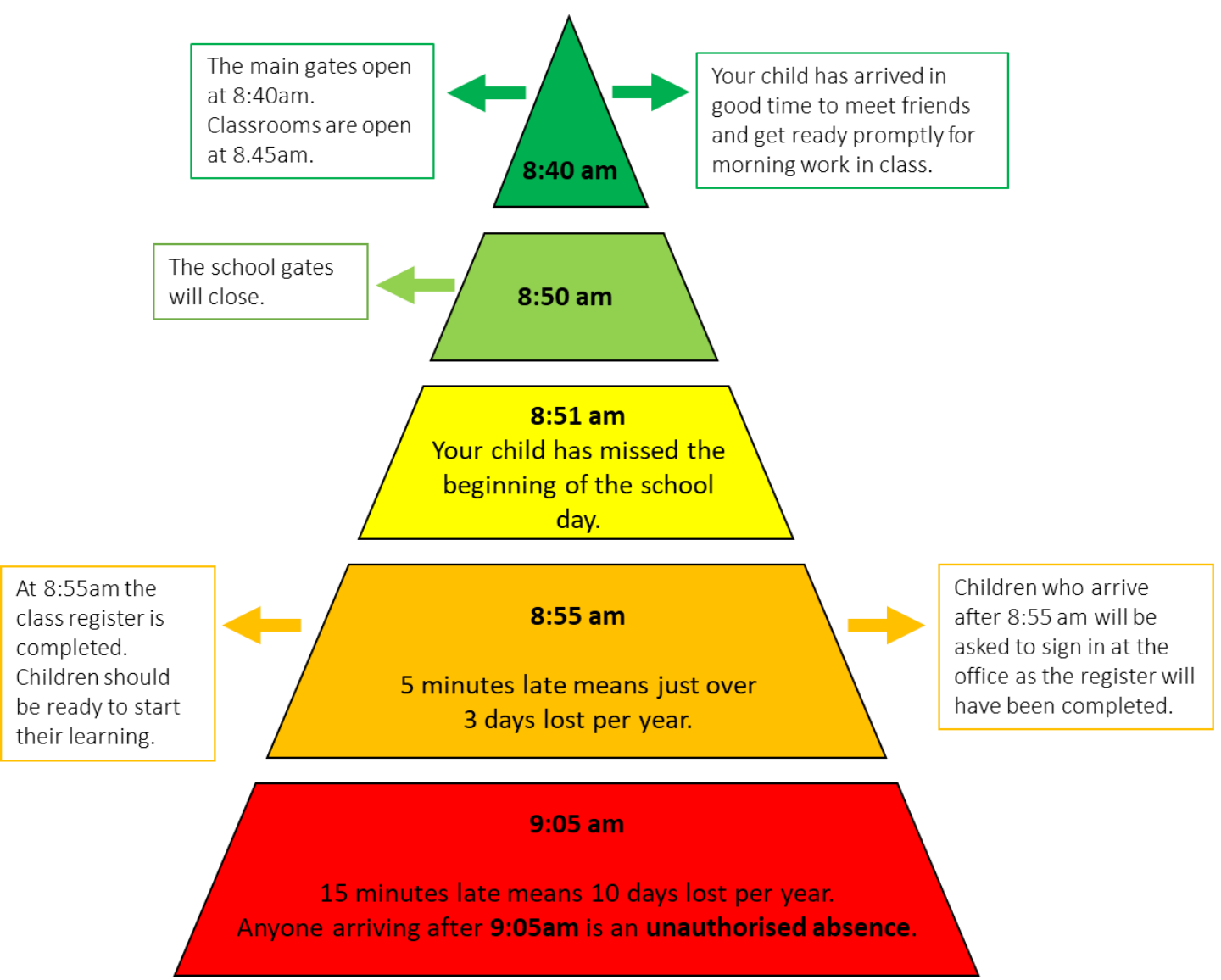
We would love to introduce a 'digging area' onto the field. We are asking for donations of **buckets, trowels, spades, forks etc.** These can be brought into school and given to Miss Mutch/Miss Coatsworth or left in our OPAL donation bin outside the front of the reception. Thank you for your continued support!

Bikes

We are really short of bikes that are suitable for our **KS2 children**. If your child is growing out of their bike and it is in good working order, we would happily accept your donation.

We also have EYFS/KS1 bikes in need of minor repairs – if there is anyone in our school community who knows their way around a bike and is happy to help, then please let us know at the School Office.

Attendance



School Calendar

2024/2025 Academic Year

Event	Class/ Phase	Location	Date and Time
School Re-opens	Whole School	Applegarth Primary School	Tuesday 7 th January 2025
No After School Club	Whole School	Applegarth Primary School	Tuesday 21 st January
NSPCC Number Day- come dressed in numbers	Whole School	Applegarth Primary School	Friday 7 th February 2025
Science Week	Whole School	Applegarth Primary School	7 th – 16 th March 2025



**DAISY
CHAIN**
Autism & Neurodiversity



**Autism
Central**
For parents and carers



Autism Central and Home-Start Drop-In

Do you have an autistic child (with or without diagnosis) and need support?

Autism Central and Home-Start coffee mornings are an opportunity for families and carers of autistic people to connect with each other and get advice and support from Autism Central and Home-Start staff.

This group is suitable for you if you have a family member who is diagnosed/going through the diagnostic process/has been identified as having a need relating to autism, ADHD, sensory processing difficulties, anxiety and social communication differences.

Autism Central offers high-quality and easily accessible support, education and training alongside a dedicated website.

Tuesday 10th September | 10am-12pm

Tuesday 8th October | 10am-12pm

Tuesday 12th November | 10am-12pm

Tuesday 10th December | 10am-12pm

Tuesday 14th January | 10am-12pm

**Coverdale Suite, IPS Innovate, Colburn Business Park, Chartermark
Way, Catterick Garrison,
DL9 4QJ**

**For more information, please contact the Autism Central team on
support@daisychainproject.co.uk / visit daisychainproject.co.uk**



Animal Club

A weekly club for nature loving students, looking in depth at a wide range of animals

Activities Include

- Hands on animal handling experience
- Exploring animal biology and habitats
- Each week a new set of amazing animals

Weekly Guide

- Week 1- All about snakes
- Week 2- Learning with lizards
- Week 3- Marvellous Mammals
- Week 4- Creepy Crawlies
- Week 5- Bird Bonanza
- Week 6- Mixed bag Surprise!

Contact Aquatic Finatic
01609 780475 for more
information



WINTER TIMETABLE

Talks are delivered online via zoom 7pm to 9pm £24 each

If you can't make the date ask for the link to the recording, available for 48 hours afterwards

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

go to the PARENT page

FREE - Decreasing Depression FREE - Anxiety Explained	25 NOV 20 JAN
What is ACT?	26 NOV, 21 JAN
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	28 NOV
Supporting a Child with ADHD	5 DEC, 2 JAN
Understanding Anger	16 DEC, 13 JAN
Facing Defiance	17 DEC, 14 JAN
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	19 DEC, 16 JAN
Anxiety-Based School Avoidance	7 JAN
AUTISM: Improving Communication	9 JAN
Raising Self-Esteem	27 JAN
Supporting Healthy Sleep	28 JAN
Improving Family Communication	4 FEB
Introduction to OCD	18 FEB



Fun & athletics
for all Primary
School children*

*aged 4-11, ideally not for kids currently
in a running club

Athletics Course



Starts **Sat 11th Jan**
for **8 weeks**

Knayton Sports Hall
11am-12 noon

Only **£50** per child

Glen Hilton, athletics coach and former England international athlete, will teach our youngsters the fundamentals of athletics and endurance running.

For more details contact Glen Hilton:
hiltonglen444@gmail.com



Location address: Hillside Rural Activities Park, Knayton, Thirsk YO7 4AX