

## BILTON GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

BILTON LANE  
HARROGATE  
HG1 3BA

Tel: 01423 502375

Email: [biltongrange@ycatschools.co.uk](mailto:biltongrange@ycatschools.co.uk)

Website:

[www.biltongrangeharrogate.co.uk](http://www.biltongrangeharrogate.co.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Sian James



Friday 9th September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the new academic year in the Lower Juniors. We have been extremely impressed with how well the children have settled into their new class and routines and it has been wonderful to see our classrooms full of smiling faces, ready to learn! We would love to welcome you in to see our classrooms and meet us face to face. We would like this to be as soon as possible so that we can put faces to names for our parents. So, we invite you to join us straight after school in Hazel class on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September. We know that some of you may not be able to attend then, however if you have any questions, please do get in touch and we hope to meet you soon.

The transition from Year 2 to Year 3 can be challenging for some children and we will do our best to support your children with their new routines and challenges. Year 3 and 4 requires children to take greater responsibility for their own learning. They have to begin to be more organised, resilient and independent. This can take time for some children who are new to Year 3 and your support in helping them prepare for the school day will be much appreciated

It is very important that we have good communication between school and home, so that the needs of your child are best met. If there is anything that you think may be affecting your child, then please contact school using the email [biltongrange@ycatschools.co.uk](mailto:biltongrange@ycatschools.co.uk) or phone the office on 01423 502375. Your child's teacher will respond as soon as they are available. The positive involvement of parents/carers in education is vital in order to give your child the best possible support throughout their time in school. You are the ones who know your child best and can help us bring out the best in them.

### Rewards

This year we will be focusing on three simplified school rules - Be Ready, Be Respectful and Be Safe. Children who follow these rules consistently will be awarded "Dojos". At the end of a week, dojo points will be collected and added to their individual record sheet. Once your child has collected 25 points they will be awarded a Gold Award Certificate in our assembly on a Friday. Should they receive 5 Gold Awards in the year, they will also be awarded a Headteacher's Award. Points collected will also be added to the class house point chart and the house with the most points across the school will be announced every Friday. Each term, the house with the most points will receive a prize.

### Reading

We ask that you continue to hear your child read at home on a regular basis, 3 times per week is the expectation. This only need be for 10 minutes per time. It is better to practise more regularly for a short time



Yorkshire Collaborative Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales with company number 9668526. Registered Office: Bilton Grange Primary School, Bilton Lane, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG1 3BA.

## BILTON GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

BILTON LANE  
HARROGATE  
HG1 3BA

Tel: 01423 502375

Email: [biltongrange@ycatschools.co.uk](mailto:biltongrange@ycatschools.co.uk)

Website:

[www.biltongrangeharrogate.co.uk](http://www.biltongrangeharrogate.co.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Sian James



than to read for longer and make reading feel like a chore. Children who read 3 times per week will receive a ticket on their hot air balloon display in class. The child(ren) who receive the most tickets by half term will receive a small prize and be entered into a draw for a larger prize.

Children who read three times a week will receive 1 dojo point towards their Gold awards and house points. More points will be awarded for reading more frequently up to a possible 3 points.

The demands of the junior curriculum mean that your child will be heard read by a teacher in school much less frequent than in KS1. Children will be heard read by an adult in school every fortnight, although some children will be heard more frequently. We place a great importance on reading and Year 4s will be focussing on reading skills and comprehension using the Reading Plus online package. Details of logins will be sent out once initial assessments have taken place. This programme can be accessed from home as well as at school. Year 3 children will also get some guided comprehension time during the school week. Children will be given the opportunity to read for pleasure choosing a book appropriate to their ability that will not be from a reading scheme.

If you are able to come in to school to offer any regular support to hear readers, please let your child's teacher know. Any volunteers are very welcome to help us hear children read as regularly as possible.

### Spelling and Times Tables

Once we have assessed your child, spellings will be sent home weekly at a level appropriate to their ability. These will be tested each week in class. Again a little practice each day is better than trying to 'cram' on the day of the test. We will also be teaching strategies of how to remember spellings in short sessions several times a week.

By the end of Y3/4, children should know their times tables up to 12 x 12. All children will spend 2 weeks practising the facts of one particular times table that they will be tested on. They will be expected to spend additional time learning these facts at home. After 2 weeks, the class will move on to another times table allowing children to have exposure to all times tables at least twice throughout the year. We will continue to use Times Tables Rockstars, an online programme to support the children with their learning. This will be individualised and will focus on children recalling facts at speed. The programme will assess the children's prior knowledge and then begin a training programme to include multiplication and division facts. The programme will focus on just a few facts at a time, to encourage speed and instant recall. It will then move the children on when they have achieved the required speed on those facts. Each class will have a timetabled slot to use this programme in school, but children will benefit from any additional practice at home as this will help them to move through the training quicker. All log in details will be stuck in your child's reading record when they have been introduced to the programme.



Yorkshire Collaborative Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales with company number 9668526. Registered Office: Bilton Grange Primary School, Bilton Lane, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG1 3BA.

## BILTON GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

BILTON LANE  
HARROGATE  
HG1 3BA

Tel: 01423 502375

Email: [biltongrange@ycatschools.co.uk](mailto:biltongrange@ycatschools.co.uk)

Website:

[www.biltongrangeharrogate.co.uk](http://www.biltongrangeharrogate.co.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Sian James



As well as times tables, it is important that children know other important recall facts such as number bonds and conversion facts such as how many cm in a m. These will be worked on in weekly maths skills sessions at school, but may also be included in homework tasks.

Test days for each class:

	<b>Times Tables</b>	<b>Spelling</b>
<b>Silver Birch</b>	Friday	Wednesday
<b>Sycamore</b>	Friday	Thursday
<b>Hazel</b>	Friday	Thursday

### Home work

We are changing the way that we organise homework this year. Your child will still bring home a homework book, but they will now have weekly tasks to complete. On top of your child's weekly reading, spelling and times tables they will also have either a maths or English task to complete. This will be set at an appropriate level for your child and will be linked to recent learning. These homework tasks should be completed and returned to school to be marked and new work set. These tasks should not take more than about 20 minutes. If you find that they are taking longer than this, please speak to your child's teacher about this.

### P.E. Kit

On PE days we are continuing to ask that children arrive in school in their PE kit in the Junior classes. All lower juniors will have PE on a Monday. Please refer to the website for the PE uniform. Children with long hair should have it tied up on PE days and earrings must be removed in line with North Yorkshire safety guidance.

### Swimming

Each class will be receiving one term of swimming lessons. This will start with Hazel in the autumn term who have already received their consent forms. If we have not received your forms back we have sent a copy home with your child today and would appreciate it being returned on Monday before swimming on Tuesday. Sycamore will swim in the spring term and Silver Birch in the summer term.

### Packed Lunches and Snacks

Packed lunch boxes should be placed on the trolleys in the KS2 playground under the shelter. In KS2 fruit snacks are not provided. If you wish to provide your child with a healthy snack, this should be fruit or vegetables. This



Yorkshire Collaborative Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales with company number 9668526. Registered Office: Bilton Grange Primary School, Bilton Lane, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG1 3BA.



## **BILTON GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

BILTON LANE

HARROGATE

HG1 3BA

Tel: 01423 502375

Email: [biltongrange@ycatschools.co.uk](mailto:biltongrange@ycatschools.co.uk)

Website:

[www.biltongrangeharrogate.co.uk](http://www.biltongrangeharrogate.co.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Sian James

should be separate from their packed lunch as they will not be able to access this at break time. Water bottles should also be provided, separate from the packed lunch, and should be brought into the classroom. In order to promote healthy habits, please only fill bottles with water. This also prevents mess if bottles leak or are tipped over.

### School Trips

We are very much looking forward to our visit to Danelaw in November. Thank you to those of you who have returned your forms and made payments. A reminder that the final payment for this trip is due on 14<sup>th</sup> October.

I know that this is a lot to take in. We hope to see many of you at our Meet the Teacher Evening next week, but if you can't make that please do feel free to contact any of the teaching team or myself with any questions or concerns.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Baldini

On behalf of The Lower Junior Team



Yorkshire Collaborative Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales with company number 9668526. Registered Office: Bilton Grange Primary School, Bilton Lane, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG1 3BA.