

# Sleights Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School

Ingham Close,  
Sleights  
Whitby  
North Yorkshire  
YO22 5DN



*Working together to be happy; to flourish; to succeed through our Christian Values of perseverance, respect and trust.*

**Website:** [www.sleights.n-yorks.sch.uk](http://www.sleights.n-yorks.sch.uk)

**Telephone:** 01947 810395

**Headteacher:** Scott Grason

12<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Dear families,

The sunshine this week has been a total surprise for everyone! It was wonderful on Wednesday to get outside and enjoy some scorching sunshine! However, as I write this on a rather gloomy and wet Thursday, it appears this was somewhat short lived!

Taking full advantage of the beautiful weather, our Explorers have been visiting the forest again. When I visited them earlier in the week, it was great to see some of the great outdoors being used in the classroom, as children had been given dough and lavender to cut, roll and play with. As well as looking like lots of fun, it made the room smell beautiful! There was also lots of excitement when the children came in on Thursday morning, as some of their resources had been moved around. The huge smiles on their faces showed they were loving exploring their classroom!

Our Pioneers have been working so hard this week. The children have also been really excited about the arrival of some rather large pumpkins in the classroom. On Wednesday, the children prepared and made a pumpkin soup, with each child helping, all before 9.15am. Amazing. The children have also been experimenting with colours and mixing them together. On Wednesday afternoon, a mini art gallery was established in the outdoor area of these masterpieces. The beautiful colours matched the beautiful sunset sky that has been looking over Sleights each morning this week.

Adventurers have been very busy this week, as they have been learning the story of the Gingerbread man. On Thursday afternoon, the classroom was very bustling, with lots of baking of gingerbread being done. When I visited after school, the smell of gingerbread was still in the air and Mrs Roe and Miss Barker were tucking into the biscuits left behind. They looked delicious! Great work, Adventurers!

As Mrs Burton has been poorly this week, I have been teaching some of her days in Discoverers. The children were an absolute pleasure and worked incredibly hard to produce some super writing. Together, we created story maps of a 'Minpin' adventure. The children were all so very enthusiastic and worked with such intense focus. We explored grammar, vocabulary, sentence constructions, planning and even had time to sketch some pictures. So much progress! Great work, Discoverers!

It has been rather quiet in Leaders this week, as the children have been taking part in 'Bikeability'. This involves learning how to stay safe when using a bike. You may have spotted our children on the roads around, navigating the different routes and safety rules. The Bikeability instructors came to me at the end of their three days in school to say that our children had been absolutely brilliant. They shared their delight in the children's attitudes, focus and fun. We know our children are wonderful, but it is always so great to hear visitors say this too. A huge well done to our Leaders!


Brilliant work, Team Sleights!



## **Start of the day**

This is a polite reminder that children are encouraged to be in school at 8.50am each morning. The gate is locked at 9.00am prompt and any children arriving after this will be marked as late. This counts as an unauthorised absence. Whilst many children are arriving at 8.50am, an increasing number are not and a small amount are not arriving until after 9.00am. Please could I urge that all families make a focused effort to be in school and ready to learn for 8.50am every day. Thank you.

### Attendance update

Our unauthorised absence this week, including holidays totalled 2.5%. This was due to family holiday.

Whole school attendance so far this year:	96.5% 	Target for whole school attendance this year:	96%
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Whole school attendance this week	Pioneers attendance this week	Adventurers attendance this week	Discoverers attendance this week	Leaders attendance this week
95.5%	94.1%	96.0% 	95.4%	96.2% 

Well done to Adventurers (again!) and Leaders who were in school for at least 96% last week!

### Harvest

A massive thank you to the many families and friends who joined us in Church for our Harvest Festival last week. The Church was full! We ran out of pew space **and** order of services. Both Mrs Vicar and I commented that we had never seen St. John's so full! Thank you so much for this support. Well done to the children and staff for their hard work and efforts. Thank you too for the many donations that we received. These are being sent to the Whitby Food Bank on Monday, after their Chairman has led Collective Worship for the children.

### Wear it Pink – NEXT FRIDAY

All children are encouraged to wear pink as non-uniform next week, to support Breast Cancer Awareness. Donations of £1 for wearing non-uniform will be collected in the classrooms and we will send this to the Charity. Many thanks for your support with this.

### Our Girls' Football Team

Well done to our fabulous footballers for their efforts on Wednesday. Our girls' team competed in the inter school competition and came first! This is a great example of school vision being lived out, as our footballers are flourishing and being incredibly successful!

Just like in our vision, our children also worked together. Not only with their own team mates, but to support other schools. I received contact from another local primary school, thanking our team for their work. The other school, much smaller than others, did not have enough players. Our girls supported this, by temporarily joining the school's squad to compete against other schools and, in one match, even against Sleights! This is a superb example of our great children working together to be happy; to flourish; to succeed. Great work, Team!

### Contacting Breakfast Club and Kids Club

It is great to see so many children using Breakfast and Kids Club, but may I take this opportunity to remind all families that bookings and cancellations **must** be done in school. This can be by speaking to the school office, or Wendy and Reanna in person when they are at work. It is not appropriate to contact members of staff directly out of school hours on personal numbers, or social media.

Please may I also remind all families that staffing for these clubs are based on bookings. Therefore, if a cancellation needs to be made, please give us plenty of notice. If this does not happen, we may still charge you for the place.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a great weekend!

Scott Grason  
Headteacher