

Sleights Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School
Ingham Close
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Working together to be happy; to flourish; to succeed through our Christian Values of perseverance, respect and trust.

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26th October 2018

Dear families,

So we have reached the end of our first half term! What a great half term of hard work, success, commitment and fun. Our children and staff are a real credit to the whole school community. A huge well done and thank you to everyone for making Sleights so special.

This week, Explorers have been making pumpkin soup. I know that the children had a great time making it and getting involved. The children have also been busy exploring play using salt, which has been used as a setting for their animal toys. Earlier in the week, the children also braved the elements and walked down Ingham Close to look at the signs of autumn on a nearby tree. Explorers then enjoyed bringing back leaves and twigs to play with back in school. Excellent, Explorers!

A new visitor has been regularly joining Pioneers class this week. Geraldine (the giraffe!) has been visiting our Reception children to help them with their phonics. It is really amazing to see our children recognising and reading letters, with the help of Geraldine the Giraffe. The children have loved singing 'Five Current Buns'. Jorgie's grandma has kindly painted some amazing current bun pebbles, which have been enjoyed almost every moment of each day by the children. Fantastic work by all!


I was blown away on Thursday when I walked through the hall to hear our Year 1 children from Adventurers counting. When I arrived, they were rapidly approaching 100! Rightly so, the children were really proud of their achievements. From their writing about Little Red Riding Hood last week, the children have also been enjoying designing traps to capture a wolf. Some of the designs are quite spectacular! Amazing, Adventurers!

Discoverers have been an absolute delight to teach again this week! We have now completed our book reviews and our wonderful children are now proud, published authors. Please visit the class blog to see these for yourself! In maths, the children have also been tackling perpendicular and parallel lines. To apply what they have been learning, Discoverers investigated different flags, identifying and grouping shapes, parallel and perpendicular lines along the way. Well done, Discoverers!

This week in Leaders, the children have been describing settings. From the children's work, I have been pleased to see a range of devices being used, such as parenthesis. In our staff meeting this week, we had a great discussion about how we could support our school families with vocabulary such as this and how children could be best supported at home. Look out for some more information in the new half term.

Attendance update

Our unauthorised absence this week was **0.6%**.

Whole school attendance so far this year:	96.5%	Target for whole school attendance this year:	96%	
Whole school attendance this week	Pioneers attendance this week	Adventurers attendance this week	Discoverers attendance this week	Leaders attendance this week
95%	90%	96.8% 	95.5%	95.9%

Well done to Adventurers for meeting the 96% target.

If your child is absent from school, it is vital that this is passed on to the school office. Therefore, we are urging that all families ring by **9.30am** at the very latest to let the school office know. If we have not heard from you, this will be classed as unauthorised absence.

Bonfire Lunch – Monday 5th November

To celebrate Bonfire Night and our first day back at school after half term, all children are invited to join us for a special lunch. This will include: Pork Sausage in a homemade roll with chips, beans and tomato sauce followed by sticky toffee pudding and custard.

Packed Lunches and Snacks

All food in school should form part of a wider, healthy balanced diet. With this in mind, packed lunches sent into school should not contain sweets, chocolate etc. Biscuits at playtime are also not appropriate snacks.

On the subject of packed lunches, it is essential that the children bring their lunches with them when they arrive at school on a morning. A rising number of families are bringing these throughout the morning, causing children to become worried and disruption in school. Please make sure that lunches come to school with children at 8.50am.

Christmas Cards - reminder

Cards and details for buying these have been sent home this week. The deadline set by the company is quite short for this and during half term (1st November 2018)

Year 6 applications for secondary - reminder

The deadline for Year 6 applications for secondary schools needs to be submitted online by 31st October 2018.

Children in Need

We will be fundraising for Children in Need on Friday 16th November. The children are asked to wear spots!

As our Kids' Club staffing is based on numbers, we may have to charge if places are not cancelled, or taken up.

As ever, thank you for your wonderful, continued support this half term. Have a great break with your families.

Scott Grason
Headteacher