

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

Telephone: 01947 810395

Headteacher: Scott Grason

11th January 2019

Dear families,

Happy New Year! I hope that everyone was able to have some festive fun over the Christmas break. It has been great to see everyone again in 2019 and look forward to an exciting term ahead! The children have settled back in to school life really well and have enjoyed sharing their Christmas stories.

In the classrooms this week, the children have been working hard to begin exploring our new whole school topic of chocolate. As I have walked around the school, there has been an aroma of chocolate cake almost every day, which, I have to say has been absolutely brilliant. We are really excited for our new topic and have many ideas and plans, but would love to hear any suggestions you may have, or how you could support us. If you think you can, please do let us know!

Congratulations to the Teasdales!

I am absolutely delighted to be able to announce that Mrs Teasdale (a former member of the Sleights staff) and her family welcomed a beautiful baby girl into their family over the Christmas break. It was really lovely to be able to meet baby Harriet on Tuesday morning as she had her first visit to school. Her big sister looked really proud and is doing a great job at helping. On behalf of the whole Sleights family, I would like to send a huge congratulations to Reanna, Stephen and Leila for their new bundle of joy.

Courage

This term, our Christian Value is "courage". In Collective Worship on Tuesday, the whole school explored a reading from the Bible. The book of Joshua tells us "*Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go*" (Joshua, 1:9)

Our worship helped us unpick this a little bit more. I think the quote and the message is perfectly placed for the start of the New Year. The children spoke about how new learning or activities could make them scared, or worried. We talked about how courage and belief helped us to be strong. We will be exploring these ideas further during the coming half term and look forward to seeing our children's courageous behaviour in action.

Attendance update

Our overall attendance for the second half of the autumn term was 94.5%. Whilst this remains below national standards, it does show an improvement on previous years. Overall, our autumn term attendance matches this picture, with a figure of 95.4%. Again, this is lower than national, but shows an improvement.

The attendance figures below are for the last week of the autumn term. For the second week in a row, our unauthorised absence was **0.0%**. This is excellent news!

Whole school attendance so far this year:	95.4%	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 ★
97.2%	96.7%	95.8%	96.2%
			Leaders attendance this week ★
			99.4%

It is great to see so many stars on these figures. Well done everyone!

Kids' Club phone

After listening to the ideas of some of our school families, we have purchased a mobile phone for Kids' Club. This will be a point of contact for Mrs Smith, who runs breakfast and afterschool club. As I write this, the phone has not yet arrived, but please look out for a text from school next week, which will contain this telephone number. We are asking families to save it in their phonebooks and use it to contact Mrs Smith, during the hours of breakfast or afterschool club, if there is a need to.

Families of Year 6 and Reception children – NHS Height and Weight

The NHS nurse will be in school on Wednesday 16th January to complete the height and weight checks for children in Year 6 and Reception. All children will take part from these year groups, unless parents have previously contacted the NHS to withdraw from the programme.

Clubs for this term

Our afterschool club offering is listed below. Please could I ask that reply slips are returned to the office as soon as possible.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Monday after school | - Homework club in Miss Stubbs' classroom |
| Tuesday after school | - KS2 dance in the hall (letter already sent home) |
| | - KS1 art in Mrs Roe's classroom |
| | - Gardening club (spaces are limited) |
| Wednesday after school | - Football in the hall |
| Thursday after school | - Sports Club in the hall |

We hope there is something for everyone. If you would like your child to attend, the reply slip is below.

Events this term

We are finalising the details and dates for the spring term and will share these with families next week. We received some great feedback about this letter last term, so hopefully it will be just as useful this term.

Thank you for your support already this term. Here is to a brilliant 2019!

Scott Grason
Headteacher

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB REPLY SLIPS

My child/ren _____ will be attending:

Homework club

Gardening club

Art club (KS1 only)

Dance club (KS2 only)

Football club

Sports club (KS2 only)

Emergency contact details _____

Signed _____