

Sleights Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School

Ingham Close
Sleights
Whitby
North Yorkshire
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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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Headteacher: Scott Grason

25th January 2019

Dear families,

What a cold week! Standing on the gate this week has been certainly very chilly. Given the unpredictable weather, I just wanted to again remind families about procedures for school closure.

In the event of a school closure, we will always aim to inform families the night before (if possible) by text or early morning on the day of closure. We will always text and have the closure announced on Yorkshire Coast Radio. With this in mind, please do let us know if you have a new mobile number.

In the classrooms this week

It was a great joy to walk around the school with Governors this week and showcase the work of our exciting classrooms.

When we visited the Explorers, they had decided to paint the feet of toy animals to show what patterns they made. The pages were full of bright shapes and beautiful designs. However (rather surprisingly!) what seemed to interest the children more was then taking the animals to the water tray and washing the paint off. They cleaned the toys so carefully and with real attention. Such caring learners!

Pioneers have been tackling some tricky numbers this week. The children have become really interested in making larger numbers, using different pieces of equipment to help them on their way. When Mrs Roe and I visited on Tuesday morning, the children showed off some impressive speed in relation to making and recognising different numbers too. The standard of the number work our Reception class is quite remarkable. Well done to them all!

It was lovely to visit Adventurers this week and see how their chocolate cake story is developing. All children confidently were able to share their ideas and were making some really impressive language choices in their writing too. The children are rightly proud of their work and it has been lovely to see so many of them rush to show me their achievements. It is great to see their confidence in writing flourishing.

Discoverers continued the fractions work this week and have been working hard to identify different fractions of amounts. When I visited earlier in the week, the children were tasked with a huge collection of objects that required lots of working out to find certain fractions. What was most impressive was the collaboration between the children and how they were discussing and sharing ideas. Such great examples of working together!

The Leaders have also been grappling with tricky maths problems this week. When I visited, it was wonderful to see the children applying their knowledge and understanding of maths concepts to a range of different problems. Seeing the children work through different ideas and explore possible solutions was impressive and certainly demonstrated the school's 'perseverance' Christian value. Great work.

Appointments / Leaving school early

We understand that sometimes, it is unavoidable to have to leave school early. We do not encourage making appointments during the school day, but know that this does happen. Given this, can we urge that all families inform us in advance, so that if a child is to be collected, Mrs Stubbs can make arrangements in the school office. Thank you for your support with this.

Some dates for your diary

The term dates have been issued this week. We hope they are useful for families to plan ahead. I have also added this document to the school website (under the Calendar tab)

We know that families enjoy coming into school (and we enjoy being able to welcome you!) With this in mind, I wanted to share the details of two dates that are coming soon. Families are invited to attend both. We hope to see lots of families there.

Monday 4th February from 2.45pm

On this day, the children are asked to come to school wearing forest school clothes. The day will consist of children completing a variety of chocolate tasks, including learning about how chocolate is made and making their own chocolate lolly.

At the end of the day, families are invited to join us in the hall for a chocolate reading cafe. Chocolate refreshments will be on offer (made by the children during the day). These can be enjoyed whilst sharing a book with children.

Monday 11th February from 2.00pm

To celebrate Chinese New Year (slightly later than the calendar), we will be holding Chinese New Year activities across school. We will be opening the doors from 2.00pm, so that families can join in these activities too!

Volunteer readers in school

We are always on the look-out for family members who could spare an hour or two a week to listen to children read. We will offer training for anybody interested. If this is you, please do let me know.

Attendance update

The attendance figures below are for the last week. Due to a holiday, our unauthorised absence was **0.0%**. This is excellent, well done!

Whole school attendance so far this year:	95.6%	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 ★
96.9%	92.2%	98.5%	96.2%	98.8%

Once again, it is great to see so many stars on these figures. Well done everyone!

Have a great weekend with your families,

Scott Grason
Headteacher