

Sleights Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School
Ingham Close
Sleights
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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

8th February 2019

Dear families,

After the disruption caused by the snowy weather last week, I am pleased that this week has been much calmer. Around the school, the children have been working incredibly hard. Over the last few weeks, the children have been writing their "Chocolate Cake" stories and we were delighted to be able to share these with you on Monday.

Chocolate Day

This week began with a launch day to our new writing topic, investigating "How is chocolate made?" The whole school worked in mixed groups during the day to complete a range of activities based on making chocolate. We want our children to be able to write with real purpose and using experiences, so what better way to learn about making chocolate than by doing it!

Mrs Hann worked outside with the children on Monday, down in the forest. The groups worked hard to create their own mud chocolate creations, adding different textures and objects to give some added crunch to their recipes! The children hunted around the forest for interesting and unusual objects to add in. It was excellent to see all children of all ages supporting each other in this task.

To help our day be a success, we kindly received a donation of chocolate and materials for making our own lollies from Alex at Crofts Chocolates in Scarborough. With Mrs Roe, the children had the very exciting task of using this donation to make their own chocolate lollies. When I visited, each lolly was heaped with sweets and marshmallows, which made them look really delicious!

Mrs Walker and Mrs Exelby led the baking efforts on Monday. During the day, each child had the opportunity to create their own chocolate creations. Working together to carefully add the ingredients, mix them together and prepare them for baking was something that everyone enjoyed. If you were able to join us for the café in the hall during the afternoon, I am sure you will agree that they looked delicious!

Finally, with Miss Stubbs, the children created their own packaging for their chocolate lollies. After looking carefully at the designs of well-known chocolate brands, the children then came up with their own designs. It was fun to see how the children were using these brands to influence their own, with many adapting well-known chocolate names and designs.

At the end of the day, it was great to be able to invite so many families into school to see the children's efforts from the day and read their stories in our chocolate café. The event was incredibly well attended, with it being said that the cake sale was "like a fair day!" This overwhelming support is amazing. Thank you to everyone!

Communication with school

I am sure you will agree from the summary above, there was a huge amount to celebrate after Monday's chocolate day. However, a number of families did not send their children to school with forest school kit, as requested. This request was put on the newsletter twice and texts messages were sent home.

We always do our best to make sure families have as much notice as possible for events to help them prepare, so on Monday, we were a bit disappointed, as a number of staff then spent time ringing families to sort this. Please could I urge all families to make sure that we have their most up to date mobile number on our text messaging service and that information on the newsletter is shared. If you have any further ideas about how key messages could be shared, I would be happy to hear them.

Chinese New Year – This Monday! (11th February from 2.00pm)

To celebrate diversity and explore different cultural traditions, we will be holding Chinese New Year activities across school on Monday 11th February (this is slightly later than the 'actual' Chinese New Year. We will be opening the doors from 2.00pm, so that families can join in these activities too!

Library update – a plea for some donations, please

You may have now seen that the library (formally the iShed / the room next door to Reception class) has now had a revamp! It is almost complete, but we want to celebrate and share some of our children's favourite books on the wall. To help us do this, we are asking for any donations of old picture frames (of any size) that you may no longer want at home, please. We would also like to be able to add some decoration, by adding some house plants. Again, if you have any that you would like to donate to school, we would be really grateful. Thank you so much in advance!

Attendance update – week commencing 28th January 2019




Whole school attendance so far this year:	95.5%	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
92.9%	93.3%	91.2%	93.10%	94.0%

Unfortunately, this is our lowest attendance figure for the whole year so far.

Attendance update – week commencing 21st January 2019 (missed from last week's newsletter)

Whole school attendance so far this year:	95.6%	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
96.0% 	98.9% 	93.1%	95.9 %	97.0% 

Have a great weekend with your families,

Scott Grason
Headteacher