

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.

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Headteacher: Scott Grason

15th February 2019

Dear families,

It was great to be able to welcome so many families into school this week for our Chinese New Year activities. It was excellent to see a range of family members and friends working alongside staff and children to complete some really fun activities. I particularly enjoyed making my own origami Pig and finding out my Chinese New Year animal! Thank you to everyone for making it such a success.

Midday Supervisors – Can you spare an hour each day to support lunchtimes at our school?

We are on the hunt for midday supervisors who can work between 12pm and 1pm each day in school. The role of a midday supervisor is a really important one, as a calm and peaceful lunchtime really impacts upon the rest of the school day. We are really keen to hear from you if you are interested in this post. Please speak to me on the gate, or to Mrs Stubbs in the office. Thank you!

Church School Questionnaire

As you know, we are an incredibly proud Church school. Over the last year or so, we have worked really hard to review our vision and values. Our vision is the key goal we are working towards and the values are how, as a school, we aim to make the vision a reality. You will see them at the top of this (and every other) newsletter. We have spent a huge amount of time in school exploring these with children and you will, of course, seen the beautiful artwork that has been created to showcase this.

We have also worked hard to improve Collective Worship in school (our daily gathering to explore key values and Bible stories). Over the last few weeks, we have been gathering some feedback from children about the importance of worship and belonging to a Church school. Their responses are articulate, confident and very positive!

We would now like to gather feedback from families about being a Church school and have attached a short questionnaire to this newsletter.

As we are expecting a Church School inspection by the end of the year, your feedback would be really useful to us. Thank you in advance.

World Book Day – 7th March 2019

We look forward to holding World Book Day Celebrations on the 7th March (the first week back after the holidays) To give families plenty of notice, we are sharing the details now. All children are invited to come to school wearing a costume related to their favourite book characters. During the day, lots of book related activities will be held to celebrate the enjoyment of reading. Children will also receive a one pound book token to spend.

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!

Dental Checks for Reception / Year 1

A number of children have been selected by the NHS for dental checks. Consent forms have already been sent home for this. The checks will take place in school on Thursday 21st February.

Parents' Evenings – 11th and 12th March

We look forward to holding our parents evening meetings after the half term break. Once again, families will be invited into school to see their children's work and speak to the class teacher. Tea, coffee and refreshments will be served by school governors in the hall. Letters to book appointments will be handed out shortly – please look out for them.

Eskdale Festival

As I am sure you will be aware, we are quickly approaching the annual Eskdale Festival competition. This is a huge event across Whitby and involves children reciting poetry, singing and playing instruments. It is excellent to have such a great number of Sleights children involved in the Festival again this year.

Mrs Stubbs has been working hard behind the scenes to make sure that all families know when their children are to be at the Spa in Whitby and that arrangements are in place for transport etc. Thank you to her for this. Please could families support the festival by practising with children at home. Thank you.

Attendance update - 1.9% unauthorised absences due to three family holidays

Whole school attendance so far this year:	95.4%	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
92.8%	97.8%	85.7%	92.8%	95.8%

I am concerned that the attendance figures for this week are particularly low again. Whilst I appreciate illnesses and bugs do make their way around schools, please consider carefully when deciding whether or not to send a child to school. If we think a child is unwell, we will always contact home.

Have a great weekend with your families,

Scott Grason
Headteacher