

# 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](http://www.sleights.n-yorks.sch.uk)

**Telephone:** 01947 810395

**Headteacher:** Scott Grason

6<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear families,

Welcome back to the new school year. I hope that everyone was able to have a wonderful summer break with their families and make many happy memories together.

It was really lovely to welcome everyone back on Wednesday. I was impressed by how settled the children were instantly and how much more grown up they all looked! We have really enjoyed hearing tales of your summer adventures and are now excited about the next school year ahead.

## **In the classrooms this week**

It has been a very arty week at Sleights. To launch our new topic "This green and pleasant land", the children have spent the last two days developing different art skills, including colour mixing, brushing and sketching. The children have explored different artists and have worked together as a whole school to create one beautiful scene of the stunning view that we see from the field. A huge well done to them all.

Our brand new Pioneers have had a great first week and have fully settled into all aspects of school life. We are excited to watch their school journey with us.

## **Some new faces**

We are pleased to have Mrs Brown start officially with us this week. Mrs Brown is our new Year 1 teacher and has already settled in so well. We have decided that the new Year 1 class will be called Learners.

We also say hello to Mrs Laura Tokarski, who is on teaching practice. Mrs Tokarski will be based with Mrs Walker in Leaders.

As you may know, over the summer, Miss Stubbs got married! We wish the new Mr and Mrs Taylor many years of happiness together.

## **Sports sessions in school**

We are lucky to have many different sporting activities taking place in school at Sleights. The list for this term is shown below and will change in January.

- **Tuesday afternoon** – dance for Discoverers, then Leaders
- **Thursday afternoon** – tennis for Leaders
- **Friday morning** – swimming for Learners and Adventurers

## **Term dates**

We are busy compiling a list of all of the events that are taking place this term. We hope to confirm the final few events and release this early next week. In the meantime, I wanted to share some dates that are coming up soon.

- **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 2pm** – all families are invited into school for an open classroom event. They will be able to see the children's work to date and see them settled and enjoying their learning.
- **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 9.30am** – Leaving service for Rev. Carolan at St. John's Church (all welcome)
- **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October** – Individual and sibling school photographs

## Reading

We will be talking a lot about reading this year. Before the holidays, we added lots of new great books to our library collection that we hope the children will enjoy.

As you are aware, all children learn to read through colour banded books, before becoming a 'free reader'. However, with a change in expectations, all children will be again assigned to a colour banded book, even if, in the past, they have been made a 'free reader'. This is because there is still lots of learning to be done in the higher colour bands and we do not want our children to miss out on these key steps.

However, we also believe that every child should have the freedom to choose what they read. With this in mind, we have decided that all children, alongside their colour banded book, can choose a second book to read for pleasure and enjoyment. We will be reading with all children in the coming weeks to assign them a colour. Please do talk to staff about this if you have any questions.

## Uniform

Thank you for making such a big effort to make sure our children come to school wearing correct uniform. They all look so smart. I wanted to clarify some issues that have been raised this week.

- **Rucksacks** – Bringing a rucksack to school is discouraged. The cloakrooms are simply not big enough to fit these, in some cases, very large bags. A reading folder is preferred. However, particularly with older children, we recognise that there might be a need to bring a bag slightly larger than a reading packet. In these very few cases, a small rucksack should be brought. If staff feel the bag is unnecessarily large, however, we will ask families to not use them.
- **Pencil cases** – These are not permitted in any class at school. All equipment is provided by the school.
- **Hair dye and nail varnish** – At no point is this acceptable. Please use this weekend to remove any remnants that may still be lurking from the summer.
- **Earrings** – These must not be worn in school. Where a child has had their ears pierced over the summer and they are not yet ready to be removed, they will not be able to take part in PE for health and safety reasons.

I do know that this, for some, may prove to be an unpopular decision. However, I would ask families to consider all children in school. It is not always easy to be able to provide the newest fashionable pencil case or bag and we know from the media that growing up is tough enough, without adding any extra pressure to our lovely children in relation to what design is on their bag. Thank you for your support with this.

## Clubs for this term

Please find below the selection for clubs for this term. We would be grateful if the form could be returned to school as soon as possible. There is no charge for these clubs, except for Mr Gokool's Wednesday football, which is paid to him.

Have a great weekend with your families.

Scott Grason  
Headteacher

---

## SCHOOL CLUBS – AUTUMN 2019

Please tick the clubs that you would like your child to attend and return this slip to the main office.

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday	Thursday
Homework Y1 – Y6	Parents come and play (Pioneers and their parents only)	Dance Learners and Adventurers	Art Discoverers and Leaders	Football Y1 – Y6	Craft skills – do and make Discoverers and Leaders

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_