

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

4th October 2019

Dear families,

Now that October is here, there has certainly been a change in the weather and the temperatures have dropped. With this in mind, please make sure that the children do bring a coat to school with them – it is rather chilly!

Harvest Festival

Thank you to everyone who supported our Harvest Festival on Monday. It was great to see so many families in Church and generously donate so many items to the Whitby Food Bank. Your donations will certainly be used by a great cause. Donations will be collected on Monday, so please feel free to drop in any last bits you may have. Thank you again!

Mrs Stubbs

Unfortunately, due to illness, Mrs Stubbs will not be in the office over the next couple of weeks. We wish her a speedy recovery. With this in mind, you may see a number of different faces in the office, or hear different voices on the end of the phone. We are hoping for 'business as usual', but would be really grateful for everyone's understanding and patience if we can't answer your question, or find the information you need straight away – we will certainly do our best, though!

If you have any questions or queries, I am always available on email: headteacher@sleights.n-yorks.sch.uk

This week's reading update

It has been lovely to see the library in full use this week. Mrs Brown and the Learners caused quite the stir by hiding bookmarks for others to find – it was like watching children hunting for a Golden Ticket! The library space is open and available all day for children and their families. It was so lovely seeing a number of families having fun on Thursday after school. If you would like to visit before or after school with your children, you are most welcome to share or lend a book – please do pop in!

Mrs Hann (our English Subject Leader) and I have also really enjoyed taking part in guided reading sessions across the school. This year, we have changed our approach, so that all children in a year group read the same high quality and challenging text. This means that all children are challenged and enjoy books that are set at their age level, even if they are a bit tricky initially. The sessions we have seen have really shown that our children can articulate their ideas about books and stories really confidently! If you have any questions about whole class guided reading, please do ask.

A visit from the Falconry

As part of our commitment to providing children with an exciting and hands on curriculum, on Monday, each class will have a session with the Whitby Falconry group. Our current school science topic is animals, including humans and we know that the children will be given a practical opportunity to view the birds, ask questions and apply what they have learnt in lessons to a real life situation.

We are hoping that the children will be given the opportunity to hold the birds. If you **do not** want your children to do this, please let me know.

continued

Book Fairs – coming soon!

As you know we are really keen to promote reading at Sleights. Over this year, we hope to be able to host a number of book events, including book fairs for the whole family to enjoy. The first book fair will take place between 14th October and 16th October. The book fair will open after school and will offer a range of exciting texts to choose from. More details to follow. We will also be hosting a second book fair on Parents' Evenings in November.

Reverend Virginia Ramsey

I was delighted to show the interim Methodist minister around our school this week. Until a replacement is found for Reverend Jane Carter (who left in July), Virginia Ramsey will lead services at Briggswath Methodist Church. Reverend Virginia will also lead Collective Worship in school and is looking forward to working with the whole Sleights family.

MacMillan Coffee Afternoon

A huge thank you to all families who supported the coffee afternoon last Friday. It was excellent to see the hall full of families and cake. A huge thank you too to Mrs Exelby and Mrs Creek for organising the event. In total, we raised over £200 – well done Team Sleights!

Special Lunch Menus

In a change to the previously advertised date, for National Curry Week, on 9th October, children can enjoy Chicken Korma, rice, sweetcorn, green beans and naan bread, followed by arctic roll and peaches.

All children are welcome to join us. If children are in Reception (Pioneers), Year 1 (Learners) or Year 2, this meal will be free. Children in Year 3 – 6 should bring £2.40 in a named, sealed envelope to the school office.

Sleights 'Boddlers' Group

We have been asked to share details of the Sleights 'Boddlers' Group, which takes place every Monday in term time between 1.30pm and 3.00pm at Church House on Coach Road (just opposite St. John's Church). Sessions include craft, painting, baking, singing and dancing for babies, toddlers and their families. Each session costs £2 per child (0-5 years old) and includes snack and drink for the children, as well as tea and coffee for families. More information can be found on Facebook by searching @SleightsBoddlers.

Octoberfest running event

The Rotary's fun run event will take place on Sunday 13th October at Caedmon College. Entry forms are available from the school office. Each entry fee is £2.50.

Attendance Update

We continue to strive towards our 96% attendance target. During September, the attendance in each year group was:

Whole School	Pioneers	Learners	Adventurers	Discoverers	Leaders
96% 	95.1%	97.6% 	96.4% 	96.4% 	94.5%

Have a great weekend with your families.

Scott Grason
Headteacher