



Weekly Newsletter

10th January, 2020

Welcome back!

Happy New Year to all our school families. It was lovely to welcome you all back to school on Tuesday and start 2020 together. Hopefully, you had some time to spend the Christmas break making lovely memories with your families and were able to have a rest, too! Our whole school community looks forward to working together again to make 2020 the most successful year at Sleights yet!

We also start 2020 by welcoming back Mrs Burton to the Sleights team after her maternity leave last year. Mrs Burton will teach Discoverers on a Wednesday afternoon, Adventurers on a Thursday and Leaders on a Friday.

Scott Grason,
Headteacher

New Look Newsletter

Our newsletter has been redesigned to (hopefully!) make sure all key messages are clearly shared each week. We hope that this is a useful change for all families. Please do let us know what you think.

Our topic this term

Over the next term, the children will explore the topic title **"Together, we can change the world"**. The staff have already been thinking about exciting activities and trips to enjoy and we look forward to seeing how the topic progresses.



Our Christian Value this half term

During this half term, the children will explore the value of **perseverance**.

"I can do all this through him who gives me strength" Philippians 4:13

In the classrooms this week

It has been a great first week of 2020, with every classroom bursting with excitement and great learning.

- Explorers have been fascinated by the arrival of a solar system in the shed. They have loved using torches to see the stars and planets.
- Pioneers have worked hard building their own number sentences and making changes to the environment as part of our new topic. They particularly enjoyed creating their own bird feeders.
- The Learners have begun studying seasonal changes and thought carefully about different clothes that they may need to wear in different seasons.
- Busy in Adventurers, children have been exploring their rights and, in our staff meeting on Wednesday, I was so impressed to hear the children's new right - the right to clean air. We have such thoughtful learners at Sleights.
- The Discoverers have been enjoying creating their own artwork to showcase their own rights for a child. It was great to see sketches reflecting the children's right to education.
- As part of their work on 'the Rights of a Child', the Leaders have created their own alphabet of rights they believe each child should have, with some very impressive ideas and results.

Applying for a primary school place – September 2020 – deadline approaching

Those families who have children due to start Reception in September 2020 need to apply for their place online before 15th January. Families will find out their children's school place on the 16th April 2021.

To apply, visit www.northyorks.gov.uk/admissions

Attendance

Over the term, we will continue to closely monitor children's attendance at school. Each school is expected to have an overall attendance target of 96%. I, once again, ask that no holidays are booked during term time and, where possible, can medical appointments be made outside of school hours, please.

Lateness

I am concerned that a number of children are arriving at school late. If children arrive after 9am, they will be marked as late. Ongoing lateness is unacceptable and we will work with families to reduce this as quickly as possible. To tackle this, we will also be showing the number of children recorded as late each week on our newsletter.

Kids' Club

This week, we sent home a summary of the changes we have needed to make for breakfast and after school club. As I mentioned before the holidays, we were experiencing a number of cases where high debts were being generated. To stop this, we will now ask that all monies are paid in advance, along with booking for sessions, unless this has been agreed in advance. Booking forms are available from Wendy or in the main office. We thank you in anticipation for your support with this.

Next week's lunch menu – Week 2

Monday	• Sausages, chips, beans, peas and white bread, followed by chocolate cornflake pudding
Tuesday	• Pasta bolognaise, green beans, cauliflower and cheesy flat bread, followed by cheese, cracker and apple
Wednesday	• Roast Chicken, stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes, cabbage, carrots, herbie bread, followed by flapjack
Thursday	• Cheese whirl, jacket potato wedges, peas, cucumber sticks, wholemeal bread, followed by chocolate banana sponge and chocolate sauce
Friday	• Breaded salmon, diced potatoes, broccoli, sweetcorn and 50/50 bread, followed by yoghurt

Unavoidable menu changes may occur due to ordering, or special promotion days.

Sleights is a nut free and peanut free school.

We ask that all families cooperate (in full) with this rule when choosing packed lunch and snack items.

Special Lunch Menu – Pizza Day (23rd January 2020)

All children, including those usually on packed lunch, are invited to join us for a special lunch on 23rd January. We ask that meals are booked by 17th January through the school office. The meal will cost £2.40, unless your child/ren are entitled to free school meals.

Cheese and tomato pizza, diced potatoes, peas and sweetcorn, followed by chocolate ice cream and banana sundae.

In the diary next week

Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3.15pm – 4.15pm: Homework Club (Whole School)• 3.15pm – 4.15pm: Stay and Play (Reception Class)• 3.15pm – 4.15pm: SATs booster (Year 6 only)
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dance in school for Learners and Pioneers• 3.15pm – 4.15pm: Dance Club (Whole School)• 3.15pm – 4.15pm: Art Club (Adventurers only)
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3.15pm – 4.15pm: Football Club (Whole School)
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tennis in school for Adventurers• 3.15pm – 4.15pm: Craft Club (Key Stage Two)
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Swimming for Learners and Adventurers

Spring Term Events

Before the holidays, a copy of the spring term events was sent home with the school newsletter. This list will hopefully allow for forward planning and is also displayed on the school website.

(This can be found under the "Home" / "Calendar" Tab)

Do we have your most up to date contact details?

If you have changed your telephone number or email address (and are on our email system for newsletters) please do let us know, so we can update our records in school. Thank you.

Reception Post Box

Thank you to all families who are supporting the smooth running of our busy office by using the school post box. Envelopes and booking forms for Kids' Club are also available here, to make things easier for all families. We encourage all families to use the post box for handing over money in a named envelope. Thank you for your support with this.

Can you help us?

Our beautiful school site needs ongoing and regular maintenance (gardening, painting fences, clearing spaces etc.) If you are interested in volunteering and helping out, we would love to hear from you, please!