



Weekly Newsletter

17th January 2020

"Your school is fantastic and it was a pleasure to visit it"

This week, we have had many visitors to Sleights, ranging from Headteachers from other schools to new parents. I have shown each visitor around our school and, on **every** occasion, have been impressed to see such happy, focused children working on exciting tasks. The comments from all our visitors have been incredibly positive about the school and the enthusiasm of the children and commitment of our staff. One visiting Headteacher later sent me an email to pass on their thanks and said visiting Sleights was a pleasure. A huge thank you to everyone in Team Sleights for making our school such a special place to be. Have a great weekend.

Scott Grason,
Headteacher

In the classrooms this week

- The Explorers have been exploring the world this week! Following on from the introduction of a solar system in the shed last week, this week they have created their own world pictures, with one child telling me "That's planet Earth!"
- I have been blown away by the writing in Pioneers this week. All of the children have been creating their own sentences about how they can change the world. On Tuesday, there was nearly a paper shortage due to the amount of words and sentences the children were inspired to write!
- Learners are busy preparing for a visit from Mrs Gilpin, one of our school parents and governors, who will be visiting the children to talk to them about life as a nurse. The children have decided to change the world by saying thank you to hospital workers and drawing pictures for people who are not well. What a great idea!
- The children in Adventurers have been researching Australian animals and considering how the recent bush fires have impacted on their lives. The children will be writing reports the animals and think about how to protect them.
- After identifying their own rights of a child last week, the Discoverers this week have started to think about some exciting plans for changing the world. I know they are excited to host a number of their own charity events (more details later in the newsletter)
- I was pleased to see the Leaders persevering with grammar this week. As part of a game, the children were tasked with improving and changing sentences based on an instruction given to them. It was great to hear their discussions and sharing of ideas and opinions, as they battled to improve their work.

Reading – We need your help!

There is a huge amount of research that very clearly identifies that the more children read, the better reader they come. As a school, we have a target for each child to read twenty five times every half term, but this is simply not possible without your help.

Can I strongly encourage all families to listen to their children read each night **and record this in the children's reading records**. This can be a page or two, full chapters or books. It is entirely up to you and your child. Reading little and often is better than not reading. A comment and/or signature, with the date is all that is needed. Thank you in advance for your support.

Early Years Places Available

We are so proud of our excellent Early Years provision and know how much children enjoy learning in Explorers and Pioneers. The provision was praised by OfSTED and we know that our children get off to a flying start! Attached to the newsletter this week is a poster to advertise our Early Years provision, as spaces are currently available. **Please could we ask families to screenshot the poster and share with friends, possibly on social media platforms?** Your help with this would be hugely appreciated.

I am always happy to show any prospective (and current!) families around to showcase what we have to offer and hope that by sharing the great work of our school, many more new children and families will also join Team Sleights.

Congratulations, Mrs Kellerman!

A huge well done to our wonderful Chair of Governors, Gemma Kellerman, who, this week, was nominated for a 'Salt of the Earth' award. This has been presented in recognition for the outstanding commitment she makes to our school as the Chair. This role is highly demanding and entirely voluntary, so thoroughly deserved! Look out for a feature in the Gazette!



Collection from clubs


It has been excellent to see so many children at after school clubs this week! Making sure children are collected safely at the end of the club is essential for us. With this in mind, could I ask families to familiarise themselves with the following arrangements:

- **Collecting from FOOTBALL CLUB:** Please wait on the playground (just like normal collection at 3.15pm), so that Mr Gokool can release the children to their families. They should not be collected from the hall, or without Mr Gokool releasing the children first.
- **Collecting from ALL OTHER CLUBS:** Please wait outside the classroom where the club is being run. The children will be released to a family member at the end of the club. Craft Club will now take place in Adventurers classroom.

Attendance for week commencing 6th January 2020

Our whole school target is **96%** attendance. This week, we had **2%** unauthorised attendance due to holidays.

Class	Attendance	Late Marks
Pioneers	97% 	0
Learners	99% 	4
Adventurers	94%	0

Class	Attendance	Late Marks
Discoverers	100% 	0
Leaders	91%	1
Whole School	95%	5

Making our money grow

As part of our topic, "Together we can change the world", I have given each class £10 and a challenge. Over the coming term, the children will be planning enterprising activities in a bid to increase their £10 as much as possible. Classes are planning events, hoping to sell things and raise as much money as possible. At the end of the term, each class will then choose a charity to donate their money to. We hope to share details of planned events as soon as the children have decided them.

Next week's lunch menu – Week 3

Monday	• Mac 'n' cheese, broccoli, sweetcorn and garlic bread, followed by jam roly poly and custard
Tuesday	• Beef stew and dumplings, mashed potatoes, carrots, cabbage and 50/50 bread, followed by raspberry yoghurt
Wednesday	• Pork steaks, roast potatoes, green beans, cauliflower, gravy and herbie bread, followed by peach crisp and custard
Thursday *Pizza Day!*	• Cheese and tomato pizza, diced potatoes, peas and sweetcorn, followed by chocolate ice cream and banana sundae
Friday	• Crispy battered fish, chips, peas, beans and white bread, followed by crackers, cheese and apple

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.

In the diary next week

Monday 20th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.30pm – School staff leading Toddler Group at Church House • 3.15pm – SATs meeting for Y2 parents • 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 21st	<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 22nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special lunch day – Pizza • 3.15pm – 4.15pm: Football Club (Whole School)
Thursday 23rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9.30pm – School staff leading Toddler Group at Church House • Tennis in school for Adventurers • 3.15pm – 4.15pm: Craft Club (Key Stage Two)
Friday 24th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming for Learners and Adventurers • Judo sessions in school

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.