



Weekly Newsletter

7th February 2020

A very busy week

This week has been a really busy one, with school trips, new parent tours, governor visits and a planned fundraising event on Friday afternoon. A huge thank you to everyone in Team Sleights for making the school be so successful. Working together is something that is so important to us as a school and it is great to see this in action. Whether this is by reading every night with your children, making sure they arrive at school on time, coming along to school events or even just saying "Hello" on a morning, we really appreciate the efforts taken by our families to make Sleights so special. Thank you to everyone. Have a great weekend with your families.

Scott Grason,
Headteacher

In the classrooms this week

- Inspired by the picture book 'Aliens Love Underpants', the children in Explorers have really enjoyed playing spaceship role play. They have particularly enjoyed playing in the huge space tent – thank you Flynn and Mai for letting us borrow it!
- Following on from their 'disgusting sandwiches' last week, the Pioneers have been learning about handwashing and germs this week. I was really impressed to see some great colour mixing and art work to represent germs and the children were totally engaged in learning all about them.
- I enjoyed teaching the Learners on Tuesday afternoon and hearing them all confidently sing the months of the year song. Everyone had such enthusiasm and the children really encouraged each other to order the months correctly. The children also impressed me with their decoding skills in our phonics session. Great work all round!
- It has been a busy week of preparation for the Adventurers who, on Friday afternoon, will host their event to raise funds for the Australian Bushfire charities. A huge thank you to everyone who has supported the event by donating items of clothing and gifts to the children. We hope to see lots of families there supporting us this afternoon too.
- It is always great to hear the children share their ideas and recommendations for reading. Over the last couple of weeks, Mrs Taylor has been leading discussions with Discoverers and children (and staff) from other classes to discover new books to enjoy. It was lovely to hear Mrs Taylor speak about the quality of the children's reading talk.
- Hearing discussions about reading in the Leaders' classroom this week was also a real joy. I was really pleased to hear the children articulate their thoughts about the text they were reading (Michael Morpurgo's 'Outlaw') with confidence. It was also great to hear the children's discussions about new vocabulary and the meaning of words.

Important Notice – Skip on school site

As we are having a 'spring clean', a skip has arrived on our school car park. It will be removed again before the holidays. Please could I ask that all families are particularly careful when coming to and from school next week.

Reading open morning - Tuesday

All families are invited into school for our reading open morning event on Tuesday. You may remember that before Christmas, we held a similar event and each child was gifted with a book. Tuesday's event will see the children gifted a second book. All families are welcome to join us in the classrooms between drop off time and 10.00am.

Our own Reading Champion

Staying on the reading theme, I wanted to share an article with families written by the National Literacy Trust. It details an interview with one of our school volunteers and reading champion, Mrs Harrison. We are grateful to all reading volunteers and it is great to hear Mrs Harrison's enthusiasm about reading at Sleights.

Have a read of the article by Googling "Literacy Champion Q&A: Kate Harrison"

Sleights Shed – All welcome on Friday evenings

For children in the village aged 8 and over, each Friday night at the Village Hall, a youth club takes place, with fun games and activities for everyone. The cost for each session is £3.50. It sounds great fun, but needs the support of the community to run each week. Please go along, or ask if you would like more details.

Meeting for families – reviewing our Relationship and Sex Education policy

A review meeting will take place on **Wednesday 26th February at 3.15pm** to discuss this policy and share your thoughts and ideas. This is a really important meeting, as the outcome will shape the lessons taught to our children in the coming years. Thank you to those families who have let us know whether they can attend or not. If you would like to share your view about the policy, but are unable to attend, please feel free to have a chat with staff about this.

Making our money grow - update

You may remember that at the start of this term, each class was gifted £10 with the mission to 'make the money grow'. The children have been thinking about events they can host to raise money, with all funds going to a charity chosen by the children.

- The Learners and Pioneers are combining their money to host a joint venture. Details of the venture have been kept a secret so far, so we are really excited to hear what is in store.
- The Adventurers have worked hard to plan their 'bring and buy' clothes and gift swap, which takes place this afternoon. After researching and finding out more about the impact of the Australian bush fires, all monies raised will be donated to charities supporting this work.
- The Discoverers wrote to families this week inviting children to their pizza and movie night. The money raised by Discoverers will all be donated to Dementia UK.
- Finally, Leaders will be hosting an Easter Bingo event next half term – more details to follow!

Attendance for week commencing 27th January 2020

Our whole school target is **96%** attendance. I am pleased that, once again, we had **no** unauthorised absences last week!

Class	Attendance	Late Marks
Pioneers	99% ★	1 (1 child)
Learners	100% ★	6 (3 children)
Adventurers	99% ★	0 ★

Class	Attendance	Late Marks
Discoverers	98% ★	1 (1 child)
Leaders	92% ★	0 ★
Whole School	97% ★	8 (4 children) ↓

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	• Chicken Tikka Masala, rice, sweetcorn, broccoli and naan bread, followed by cheese, crackers and apple
Friday	• Crispy battered fish, chips, peas, beans and white bread, followed by lemon muffin

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

In the diary next week

Monday 10th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dental survey for children in Explorers • 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) • 6.00pm – Full Governing Body Meeting
Tuesday 11th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading event in school (from drop off until 10.00am) • Dance in school for Learners and Pioneers • 3.15pm – 4.15pm: Dance Club (Whole School) • 3.15pm – 4.15pm: Art Club (Adventurers only)
Wednesday 12th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming gala for children in Leaders (selected children) • 3.15pm – 4.15pm: Football Club (Whole School)
Thursday 13th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.15pm – 4.15pm: Craft Club (Key Stage Two)
Friday 14th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming for Learners and Adventurers • School closes for half term

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.

Sleights is a nut free and peanut free school.