



# Weekly Newsletter

6<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## **"A total credit to the school"**

This week has seen the start of the annual 'Eskdale Festival' – a competition celebrating spoken word and music. Children from Leaders, Discoverers and Adventurers took to the huge stage at the Whitby Spa Pavilion to perform a poem to an adjudicator. Before standing up, of course, there is a huge amount of practise and rehearsal that goes in. It was so lovely to see some children bring back medals and certificates. This is a massive achievement for them.

I do also want to congratulate and say, on behalf of the whole school, how proud we are of the entire group of children from Sleights who went out and represented themselves so well. To have the confidence to go up on stage and perform is incredible and we are all so immensely proud of them. It was lovely chatting to a group of parents earlier in the week and hearing how well the children did, with one saying they were "a total credit to the school". Thank you to our amazing children.

Scott Grason,  
Headteacher

## **In the classrooms this week**

- We have seen ice both outside and inside this week! The Explorers have really enjoyed exploring and playing with ice. Linked back to their book, 'The Journey Home', the children have been discussing how they can save the Earth so that the ice does not melt. Their language and discussions have been amazing.
- Story telling has been the focus again in Pioneers. I was impressed to see a huge array of activities going on when I visited on Tuesday with Mrs Williams and Mrs Jones, two of our school governors. The children were totally engrossed in producing story maps, role playing with toys and costumes. It looked such fun and there was a great learning buzz!
- The children in Learners have been placing the finishing touches to the book they have created to 'change the world'. Last half term, the children decided they wanted to change the world by creating a book of their work that could be donated to children and families in hospital to 'cheer them up'. What a brilliant idea. We look forward to donating copies to James Cook and Scarborough hospital.
- I was fascinated to see lots of treasure in the Adventurers' classroom this week! The children are using a video to help them write their own stories involving a rubbish tip and an old lady, who makes treasure from the trash of others. The classroom was full of very precious items which had clearly sparked the excitement and motivation of everyone in the room!
- As well as taking part in the Eskdale Festival, a small team of children from Discoverers travelled to a hockey tournament this week, too. Mrs Taylor spoke with such pride about the efforts of our children, who secured third place! Well done to everyone involved.
- The Leaders have taken the next step in planning their fundraising event this week. They have asked me to invite the whole school to their Easter Bingo Event on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Just a reminder that the Leaders have also asked that all children come to school on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March wearing non-uniform in return for a chocolate based prize, please.

## **A visit from the Member of Parliament**

We have been visited by our local MP today, Robert Goodwill. You may remember we wrote to Mr Goodwill last term, inviting him to talk to the children about their ideas for tackling climate change. I am looking forward to letting you know how the visit went in next week's newsletter.

## **Parking**

We have been approached by a member of the public this week, who has shared their concerns about parking, particularly on the corner of Coach Road and Ingham Close. I know parking is tight around the school, but can I please remind families that by parking in a dangerous place puts our children and families at risk. I have, once again, contacted the police to support us in keeping our children safe here, but would urge that all families play a part in this too before a serious incident takes place. In anticipation, thank you for your support.

### A new face

We take children's emotional health and wellbeing very seriously at Sleights. With this in mind, we have started working with Mel Randell, an expert in supporting children's wellbeing in the classroom. With SATs coming up, we want to make sure our children are calm and not worried, so will be working with Mel over the coming weeks to introduce some strategies and ideas for promoting positive wellbeing. We will be sharing these strategies with families too, but if you have any questions in the meantime, please do let me know.

### Come and See - Bishop Visits

Next week marks a special mission by members of the Diocese. The 'Come and See' project will involve various events, including a walk on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> March. The walk will begin at 10.30am at the village hall in Aislaby, before moving to Church House in Sleights at 12.15pm, then onto Ugglebarnby at 2.00pm before finally arriving at Sneaton Village Hall at 3pm. Children are also invited to a workshop at Sneaton Village Hall on 14<sup>th</sup> at 1.30pm - 3.00pm to celebrate 'walking with Jesus'.

### World Day of Prayer

Today marks 'World Day of Prayer'. To support the celebrations in the village, the choir will be singing this afternoon in the English Martyrs Church, with Mrs Rowland.

### World Book Day

Thank you to all families for their huge efforts with World Book Day. Unfortunately, I was on a course on World Book Day, so missed seeing the children's costumes, but was so impressed to hear stories and see photographs when I returned to school on Friday. Well done, everyone!

### Parents Evening and Attendance

Just a reminder that parents evening takes place on Monday and Tuesday next week. By now, you should have received your appointment slot, but please talk to your child's class teacher if not. Please come to hall to have a look at your children's work and enjoy some tea and cake.

Each week, as you know, I update school families on the attendance of each class. During parents evening, we will also be sharing the individual attendance figures of your own children, with some guidance about what this means. We hope that these conversations are useful and that, if any support is needed to improve attendance, we can offer it.

### Clubs next week

As parents evening will be taking place on Monday and Tuesday, there will be no clubs on these evenings. Kids Club will take place as usual.

### Special Lunch Menu



All children are invited to join us for the following special lunch:




- **19<sup>th</sup> March 2020:** Big Brunch Day - *Sausages, Bacon, Beans, Mushrooms, Hash Brown, Tomato, Bagel and Tomato Ketchup, followed by Orange Shortcake*

Meals cost £2.40 and the money should be paid to the office in advance, please.

### Attendance for week commencing 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Our whole school target is **96%** attendance. Last week, **3.3%** of sessions were missed due to holidays. As you will see from the figures below, when added to the percentage of children who were ill last week, holiday absence makes a huge impact on the overall figures.

Class	Attendance	Late Marks
Pioneers	98% 	1 (1 child)
Learners	97% 	3 (1 child)
Adventurers	92%	2 (1 child)

Class	Attendance	Late Marks
Discoverers	91%	0 
Leaders	90%	0 
<b>Whole School</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>6 (3 children)</b> 

### Next week's lunch menu – Week 3

<b>Monday</b>	Mac 'n' cheese, broccoli, sweetcorn and garlic bread, followed by jam roly poly and custard
<b>Tuesday</b>	Beef stew and dumplings, mashed potatoes, carrots, cabbage and 50/50 bread, followed by raspberry yoghurt
<b>Wednesday</b>	Pork steaks, roast potatoes, green beans, cauliflower, gravy and herbie bread, followed by peach crisp and custard
<b>Thursday</b>	Chicken Tikka Masala, rice, sweetcorn, broccoli and naan bread, followed by cheese, crackers and apple
<b>Friday</b>	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

<b>Monday</b> 9 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10.35am: Choir out at the Eskdale Festival</li> <li>• Parents Evening</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday</b> 10 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.05pm – Recorders out at the Eskdale Festival</li> <li>• Dance in school for Learners and Pioneers</li> <li>• Parents Evening</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday</b> 11 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.15pm – 4.15pm: Football Club (Whole School)</li> <li>• 3.00pm – Straws Football Cup at the Sixth Form Site (letters sent home to those in the team)</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday</b> 12 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.15pm – 4.15pm: Craft Club (Key Stage Two)</li> </ul>
<b>Friday</b> 13 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sports Relief – Children to wear red and bring a donation, please</li> <li>• Swimming for Pioneers, Discoverers and Leaders</li> <li>• 1.30pm – Bishops from the Diocese visiting as part of the Come and See Mission</li> </ul>

### 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.**