



# Weekly Newsletter

25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## Another great week!

I cannot believe that next week we will be welcoming October! At the end of our first week with new teachers, following our transition period, it has been excellent to see a school of happy children. After their period of transition over the last week and a half, this week we have seen all children move to their new teachers and classrooms confidently and calmly. The school has felt purposeful and focused. I would like to extend a huge thanks to our full school community for their part in supporting this transition. A special mention to our brilliant staff team for making the move so seamless.

Yesterday, I wrote to families to provide an update on our response to Coronavirus. The letter also detailed how we managed suspected cases and what schools do in the event of a positive test. Please do let me know if you would like to discuss anything from the letter directly with me.

It looks to be a wet weekend, but I hope you have a lovely one with your families.

Scott Grason, Headteacher

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## Mixing Bubbles

Yesterday, I sent a letter summarising our response and some concerns shared by families about tackling Covid outside of school. A key message is to avoid mixing any bubbles outside of school where possible. In school, we keep bubbles separate to avoid spreading any virus. This must be the same approach outside of school. The impact of a play date here or going out for tea there could be huge on our school community. Please do consider this carefully.

## In the classrooms this week

- The Explorers welcome new friends to play this week. We have opened the doors to two year olds and it has been lovely to have our first group in the classroom over the last few weeks. Our youngest children have settled beautifully into life in Explorers and we are excited to be part of their school journey!
- I heard lots of excitement from my office on Wednesday afternoon. Our lovely Pioneers enjoyed their first PE session with Mr Gokool in the hall. It was clear from their cheers and giggles, they loved it! The new Reception group have made a stunning start to their time in Pioneers. Great things are in store for them all.
- The new Learners made the big move from their Reception class base to the main building this week. Each time I have seen Mrs Brown this week, she has been wearing the biggest smile! She has told me just how thrilled she is with how well the children have settled. The children are enjoying a play based curriculum to support their move from Early Years to more formal Year 1 teaching.
- As part of our topic 'Believe it or Not', the whole school are exploring Oliver Jeffers 'Here We Are' book. The Adventurers have started to investigate the range of beautiful illustrations in the book. These images are being used as inspiration for the children's own descriptive pieces of writing, which they will complete next week. The children in Adventurers looked so grown up when I saw them through the door this week. I know they've made a brilliant start to Year 2.
- This week, the Discoverers have started to read their whole class novel. They have really enjoyed the opening chapters of 'The Nothing to See Here Hotel', with children describing it as "a funny book". The new Discoverers have settled really well into life with Mrs Taylor, who is excited for the year ahead.
- On a rainy Thursday afternoon, the Leaders brought the school alive with samba! Using a range of percussion instruments, the children worked together to create different rhythms and explore sounds. Whilst it was rather noisy, the children did also say it was great fun! Mrs Walker has been really impressed with the Leaders this week. Here's to a great year together.

## An Extreme Reading Challenge set by Mrs Hann, our English Leader

Our school library is usually full of children enjoying books together. With restrictions in place, we have had to limit the time children can visit the library. To help us continue spreading the joy of reading and see the children read, we want to set you all a challenge.

We want to see photographs of you and your family enjoying reading. You may send a photograph of you reading on the sofa, in the garden, or perhaps somewhere more extreme! With your photographs, we will create a new display in the library, so that all of the children can enjoy seeing everyone else reading. Please email your photographs to Mr Grason [headteacher@sleights.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@sleights.n-yorks.sch.uk) or upload them to Tapestry and include the hashtag #extremereading. We are excited to see your photographs!

### Secondary School places

I know our Year 6 parents are busy investigating which secondary to send their child to. This sounds very early, but the deadline for applications for Year 7 is not far away. With this in mind, both Caedmon College Whitby and Eskdale are offering tours of the schools. Families need to ring and book a slot for an after school session.

### Cool Milk and Snack

Children from Year 1 to Year 6 can buy a portion of milk each day to enjoy in school. All of the details for doing this can be found on the Cool Milk website. Families will need to set up an account for this and pay online. Mrs Stubbs in the office receives a weekly list of who has ordered milk. Any questions, please just give her a ring in the office.

Just a reminder for snack, please send children with their money in a named purse or envelope, please.

### Places in our Early Years class

We are receiving lots of interest for our Early Years classes, particularly children who are two years old. If you have a child aged between two and four and would like them to join the Sleights' family, please do get in touch. Equally, if you have a friend or family member looking for great provision, please do tell them about us.

Our Early Years team work incredibly closely together to support every child in Explorers and Pioneers. Families are entitled to funded places for children over three, but we may also be able to organise funding for any children aged two.

### Next week's lunch menu – Week 1

<b>Monday</b>	Sausage in a homemade roll, ketchup, roast potatoes, peas and cucumber bites, followed by banana sponge and custard
<b>Tuesday</b>	Pasta bolognese, mixed salad and garlic bread, followed by orange chocolate muffin
<b>Wednesday</b>	Roast chicken, stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans and cauliflower with 50/50 bread, followed by oat cookie and orange segment
<b>Thursday</b>	Mexican beef tortilla boat, rice, broccoli and carrots, followed by fruit jelly and ice cream
<b>Friday</b>	Battered fish portion, chips, peas, sweetcorn and wholemeal bread, followed by cheese, crackers and an apple wedge

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

### 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.**