



Weekly Newsletter

2nd October 2020

Autumn weather is here!

I think we have certainly seen the last of the warm autumn sunshine. This week has certainly marked a change, with wind, rain and cold creeping in! However, as you will know, this has not put our children off from tackling the elements and enjoying time outdoors. Almost all classes have enjoyed learning outdoors this week, which is always such fun and great to see.

Over the next few weeks, teaching staff will be ringing home to have a catch up with families and talk about how the children have settled into life in their new classes. This does not replace our parents evening later in the term, but hopefully allows time for a useful catch up and discuss any worries you may have.

Have a great weekend and see you Monday!

Scott Grason, Headteacher

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In the classrooms this week

- The Explorers welcomed **more** two year olds this week! It is so lovely to extend the Sleights family and see our new children settle so quickly. In the classroom, the children have been creating their own face models using loose parts and exploring the names of body parts. The children proudly showed me their work (from a distance) and it was clear they were very impressed by their achievements.
- Pioneers had a brilliant day in the forest on Tuesday. Hearing about their adventure was simply brilliant. The children began by talking about ways to keep themselves and others safe – a really important lesson. Once in the forest, the children enjoyed painting and printing, creating a beautiful gallery of work. The children also created their own number line, using objects around them. Again, beautiful results!
- I was blown away on Wednesday afternoon. From the doorway of the Learners' classroom, I was able to have my very own music concert! The children had spent time studying musical notes and the beats they each represent. With their own glockenspiel keys, the children proudly performed one of their own compositions, including varying notes and rests. The results were absolutely brilliant.
- To help them bring learning to life, the Adventurers took to the great outdoors on Tuesday afternoon to study the shape and movements of clouds. This fun activity was part of children's description work of different settings from our current school book 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers. The children told me that they loved getting outside and saw some really funny shaped clouds!
- Continuing the theme of enjoying the great outdoors, I was impressed to see the enthusiasm and excitement the Discoverers had on Thursday. When I asked them what they were working on, I was told by the children they were building dens. The children had been looking for natural materials around the forest to help them combine with some kit provided by Mrs Taylor. I know the children had a great time and enjoyed persevering with their structures.
- On Monday morning, the Leaders made their way down to the forest for a jam packed day. After picking blackberries from our own bushes in school, the children then created their own ink by squashing the fruit and adding salt and vinegar. The children then investigated writing with their homemade ink, opting for drinking straws as a preferred pen. After their hard work, the children finished their morning with a hot chocolate – great stuff!

Christmas Cards

It may seem a little early to be talking Christmas, but next week the children will be designing their own cards for Christmas, which families will then be able to buy. Like in previous years, the children's designs will be available to view online (details to follow) and purchases made directly with the company who will create the cards. This year, we are not able to send the children's designs home, so have decided to upload these to Tapestry instead, with the order code and information needed to buy. More details to follow next week.

Information Update Sheets

Perhaps now more than ever, it is important that we have the most up to date contact details for our families. With this in mind, we have sent each family an information update sheet to complete and return to school. The update also asks parents for photograph permissions for publishing on the school website. Please return these as soon as possible.

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

We have been really impressed with the reading challenge entries submitted this week and over the weekend. It is great to see so much reading going on at home! Please keep sending your reading photographs in from home, either on Tapestry or to me directly: headteacher@sleights.n-yorks.sch.uk. Remember to use the hashtag #extremereading. Happy Reading!

Flu Vaccine Nasal Spray

Just a reminder, we are expecting the flu immunisation programme in school during this term. Families are asked to complete the NHS form sent out earlier in the term by 11th October. Unfortunately, if this is not completed, the children will not be able to have the nasal spray.

Governors Update

On Monday, the governing body met for the first time this academic year. In the meeting, Gemma Kellerman was successfully re-elected as Chair, whilst Andrea Lindøe, our Local Authority Governor, was elected as Vice. We wish them both well in their roles and look forward to working together.

The full governing body met regularly during the summer term to agree our reopening plans. Monday's meeting took place virtually and focused on how the return to school was going. I was pleased to share with governors the school's successes since reopening, as well as discuss the ongoing challenges associated with Covid-19. If you would like to discuss the governing body or its role at Sleights, please do let me know.

Places in our Early Years class

We continue to receive 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 2

Monday	Cheese and tomato pizza, roast potatoes and mixed salad, followed by apple crumble and custard
Tuesday	Chicken pie, mashed potatoes, cabbage, sweetcorn and sliced bread, followed by raspberry yoghurt
Wednesday	Meatballs in tomato sauce with pasta, carrots, green beans and cheese flatbread, followed by chocolate muesli krispie
Thursday	Chicken korma, rice, broccoli, sweetcorn and naan bread, followed by fruity Paris sandwich and custard
Friday	Fish fingers, chips, beans, cucumber bites and crusty 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.