



Weekly Newsletter

14th May 2021

News from Sleights

The summer term is racing ahead! The classrooms continue to be alive with fun and hard work, which is just brilliant to see! We have been working hard behind the scenes too and I am pleased to share details of next year's staffing and class structure below. We realise that it is still early to share this information, but wanted to communicate details for next year as soon as we were able to, in order to offer some reassurance and confidence to families in the final weeks of the term.

Class	Staffing
Explorers/Pre-School	Led by Miss Idle with Mrs Bland
Pioneers/Reception	Mrs Hann (4 days), Mr Grason (1 day) with Mrs McGill
Learners/Year 1 and Year 2	Mrs Brown with Mrs Creek
Adventurers/Year 3	Mrs Roe with Mrs Wood
Discoverers/Year 4 and 5	Mrs Taylor with Mrs Exelby
Leaders/Year 6	Mrs Walker with Mr Everall

You will notice that in almost all cases, the children will keep the same teacher they have had this year. After a period of unsettled schooling, due to the pandemic, we want the children to begin September in the very best position and feel confident that returning to a class and teacher they know well will help this. It will also mean that any targets or strengths that the children may have will already be well understood and can be supported immediately.

We recognise that all children have missed a great deal of schooling over the last year and hope the plans in place for classes and staffing will support their continued progress and enjoyment.

If you have any questions or queries on this, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Have a lovely weekend!

Scott Grason, Headteacher

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Some important reminders

Please can I draw everyone's attention to the following reminders. It is essential that everyone helps to play their part in keeping the school running smoothly. Thank you for your support.

- The school doors open to the first class groups at 8.50am. Please do not arrive earlier than this.
- At pick up and drop off point, please stick to the agreed times detailed below:
Pre-School 8.50am arrival, 3.00pm collection
Leaders and Learners (Mrs Brown and Mrs Walker) arrive at 8.50am and pick up at 3.10pm
Adventurers and Discoverers (Mrs Roe and Mrs Taylor) arrive at 9.00am and pick up at 3.15pm
- We are seeing a worrying increase in children arriving **late**. Staff are taking time away from the classroom to deal with late arrivals, which can, in many cases be entirely avoided. The school gates will be locked at 9.00am, so please ensure you arrive before then.
- Please could we also ask that snack orders are placed by 9.00am each **Monday**, as this is when orders are placed with the school kitchen and suppliers.

East Barnby reminder for Leaders

Last week, we shared the news that East Barnby will not be hosting school residentials until at least the autumn term. We are working hard to ensure that the children are still able to enjoy a week of outdoor fun. Last week, we asked families to give their views on our plans. To date, unfortunately, we have had very few responses from families. Please could I ask families of children in Year 5 and Year 6 to complete the very short online questionnaire to help us plan what this week will look like for our Leaders. The East Barnby activities are at a significant cost, but school will be subsidising this. Please share your interest here: <https://forms.office.com/r/TMaOWpzwrV>

In the classrooms this week

- I was amazed to see the **Explorers** investigating the forest this week to hunt for minibeast, linked to their 'Hungry Caterpillar' work. The children took their clipboards and created very impressive drawings of the things they saw. In the classroom, the children have also enjoyed using a range of loose parts to build models of their houses, which were stunning!
- The **Pioneers** have been busy finding out about whales this week. They each created their own technical drawings, before adding labels using scientific language. The children were keen to identify various fins and body parts before using their phonic knowledge to record these. On Thursday morning, the children loved their PE session, playing many rounds of their favourite "Simon Says" game.
- The **Learnors** have enjoyed finding out a little bit more about Neil Armstrong this week, learning details of his life to help their writing. The children have been discussing Captain Cook and how the two travellers had very different routes and journeys to make. The children have also been making predictions in science about how long a battery would work to keep their torch shining bright – the answer was six days!
- The **Adventurers** had a lovely afternoon in the sunshine on Thursday, enjoying the forest to help them get creative! The children were exploring ways to use clay and the opportunities this presented. The children used a variety of tools and methods to help them create plaques and bowls. It certainly looked like lots of fun for everyone!
- Over the week, the **Discoverers** have been researching and exploring details about Anglo Saxon discoveries to help them create their own newspaper reports. The weather was beautiful on Thursday and it was just lovely to see our children taking advantage of this, as they worked outside to develop their vocabular choices. Some of the children have been working hard to plant new life in the school planters too – do take a look!
- The **Leaders** have been incredibly excited to receive a tweet (from Twitter) from Thomas Taylor, author of their class text! The children enjoyed a lovely afternoon of PE earlier in the week too. You may have seen chalk marks on the side of the Leaders classroom showing off some impressive jump markers. Go, Leaders!

School Photographs – NEXT TUESDAY

Just a reminder that we will be having **individual photographs on Tuesday**. To continue adhering to our Covid risk assessment, we will have to work slightly differently this year. We will only be able to take photographs of children in school. We will arrange for sibling photographs, safely factoring in our in school restrictions. We will not be able to include children not at Sleights. We are sorry about this.

After the photographs have been taken, a proof will still be sent home, but all orders will then need to be made by families online. We will send details home with the children.

If you are a Pre-School parent joining us for photographs, please arrive at 9am (not earlier, please) and wait on the playground, where one of the team will come and collect your child for a photograph. If you have siblings in school, these will be collected safely from the classrooms too. The process should only take a few minutes.

The photographer will also create a class photograph, based on children's individual shots, which will also be available to buy.

PE lessons at Sleights – Pupil Voice

In our discussions with the children recently, we have been exploring the things they enjoy the most about PE. They told us:

- The teamwork and competitive element of PE sessions were enjoyed equally.
- They are excited about the equipment we use, such as the parachute and gymnastics apparatus.
- Specialist teachers, such as Mr Gokool and Hannah Verity, are highlights of the PE calendar!
- Playing lots of games as part of the PE lessons is something that is very popular. These included whole class games and activities for everyone to enjoy.
- They recognised the different sports and skills that were being taught and how they linked together.

Pre-School Invoices

In a bid to continue improving our carbon footprint, we are trialling paperless invoices this week, with all charges for May emailed home. Payments are still to be made on ParentPay, please. If you require a paper copy, please just ask.

With just two months left of the school year, we will be invoicing for June and July (up until the end of the school year) in the middle of June, as all bills will need to be settled before the end of the year.

A message for Year 1 / Learners' Parents – reminder

Just to inform families that on Wednesday 26th May, the NHS vision checks will be carried out in school. These are checks which would usually take place when the children are in Reception, but were not carried out due to Covid.

'Fake Away' Lunch Menu – final reminder

We are inviting all children, including those usually on packed lunch, to take part in a fake away meal on 20th May. For those children usually a school dinner, no action is required. If your child is usually a packed lunch and you wish for them to have this meal, please add this to your basket on ParentPay.

The meal includes:

Chicken korma, rice, cauliflower, green beans and naan bread, followed by arctic roll and peaches and is charged at £2.40

Menu for next week

Monday	Chicken and tomato pasta, green beans, sweetcorn, crusty bread, followed by Krispie cereal bar
Tuesday	Sausage, mash, onion gravy, carrots, broccoli, fifty fifty bread, followed by crunchy apple crumble with ice cream
Wednesday	Minced beef, Yorkshire pudding, creamy mash, carrots, peas, sliced wholemeal bread, followed by fruit yoghurt
Thursday	Fake Away menu: <i>Chicken korma, rice, cauliflower, green beans and naan bread, followed by arctic roll and peaches</i>
Friday	Fish fingers, baked beans, peas, chipped potatoes, tomato bread, followed by banana brownie

Sleights is a nut free and peanut free school.