



Weekly Newsletter

27th May, 2021

News from Sleights

A huge well done to everyone for their outstanding commitment and hard work this half term. Today marks the start of the half term holiday and we hope that everyone has a great week enjoying time together. The weather is supposed to be good too, which is a bonus!

As ever, I have been immensely proud of the achievements that everyone has accomplished this half term and the leaps that have been taken. The ongoing challenges of life during a pandemic have not deterred anyone at Sleights and I am grateful to you all for the support and your role in living out our Church School vision of working together for our whole community to be happy, flourish and succeed. Thank you.

We have welcomed many new families to Sleights this term, both across the school and in our Explorers Class (Pre-School). It has been lovely to see everyone settle into life at Sleights!

Behind the scenes this week, we have been working hard to generate plans and ideas for our new learning topics after half term and September. We are excited about the plans and look forward to sharing these with you!

Have a very lovely half term break. I hope the sun shines for everyone and you all manage to spend some quality time together with your loved ones.

Scott Grason, Headteacher

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In the classrooms this week

- As always, there is just so much to celebrate in **Explorers** this week! The children have produced some amazing work, linked to patterns and textures on animals. I was very impressed to see the children carefully arrange patterns to make animals, before talking to adults about the various body parts. The work was beautiful. Elsewhere, the children have enjoyed writing and mark making too. We have been blown away by some of the pieces the children have created, linked to their 'On the Way Home' class text. Go, Explorers!
- The cold, wind and rain did not deter our **Pioneers** on Wednesday, who enjoyed a day outside in the tent and forest. The children used natural materials from around the school and forest to combine with clay and create their own pieces of art. We saw dinosaurs, letters, butterflies and shells, amongst many other designs. The children were also interested in spirals, linked to ammonites, so explored these shapes and patterns in print too. Such a brilliant day!
- A very proud Mrs Brown was excited to show me the writing successes of our **Learners** this week. After spending the last few weeks gathering information about Neil Armstrong's mission to the moon and steps to create newspapers, the Learners this week put all of their preparation together to create some stunning reports of the event. The final pieces were incredible, with children independently working to produce some fantastic newspaper articles. Well done, Learners!
- The **Adventurers** told me that they had enjoyed a very busy week in class. As well as tackling time in maths and newspaper reports about space travel, the children were keen to talk to me about our school safety curriculum. The children have been learning about water safety and lifeguards which, as we know living by the seaside, is very important. Great to hear, Adventurers!
- The **Discoverers** took their learning outdoors on Thursday and tackled orienteering. The children navigated through cone trails, before moving on to use their map reading skills around the school site. In advance, Mrs Taylor had placed flags to find, with letters to discover a mystery word. This prompted a great deal of concentration and focus, which resulted in the children successfully finding all hidden markers and revealing the word. Great job, Discoverers!
- The **Leaders** have been working hard to complete their newspaper publications this week. The children have worked hard to gather information about Anglo Saxon invasions, before drafting, editing and finally publishing their work. In the forest today, the children are looking forward to a day of sunshine, popcorn and smores - which sound delicious! I am sure there will be lots of great stories to share!

Specialist teaching arrangements after half term

As families know, throughout the year, classes receive teaching from a range of specialist teachers. Some of these sessions cover the teacher's release time for planning and preparation (known as PPA). After half term, the following arrangements will be in place:

Class	Specialist Teacher	When
Year 5 and 6/Leaders	Hannah Verity teaching dance and drama	Tuesday afternoon
Year 1/Learners	Mrs Wood	Wednesday afternoon
Year 2/Adventurers	Mr Gokool teaching sports	Wednesday afternoon
Year 3 and 4/Discoverers	Mrs Gurney teaching computing	Wednesday afternoon
Year 5 and 6/Leaders	Mr Overall	Wednesday afternoon
Year 1/Learners	Mr Franklin teaching tennis	Thursday afternoon

East Barnby for Leaders - reminder

Just a reminder that we are busy planning a week of outdoor activities, as a replacement to the East Barnby residential. This will be a shared week of activities with children from Goathland School. Consent and payment instructions are on ParentPay. Payment can be made in instalments, or in one payment. Therefore, we are asking that families log onto ParentPay to give their consent and make the subsidised payment of £50 to help cover the costs of these activities. A full programme of events and consent form from the team at East Barnby will also be sent home. If you need any help, or have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Food in School - **IMPORTANT**

Keeping everyone safe at Sleights is our top priority. This extends to the food in school. Due to a wide range of dietary needs across classes at Sleights, **we will not hand out any food from home at any time to other children.** This includes birthday treats or sweets brought in from a holiday. Thank you for your support in keeping every child at Sleights safe.

What was the last investigation you planned in Science? – Pupil Voice

We want to support our children to ask questions and investigate ideas. In our most recent pupil voice discussions, we found out from the children that:

- Across school, all children, despite the pandemic and school closures, could name an investigation that had been carried out.
- A variety of scientific language was being used in their answers (prediction, monitor, results).
- Children had enjoyed a range of investigations, including those completed as whole class and individual experiments planned and concluded independently in school.
- Our youngest children are encouraged to think of their own questions and then test out their theories. They are supported in recording their ideas scientifically.

We will continue supporting all children in understanding and using the steps required for scientific investigation to build confidence and skill in investigating an individual idea or theory.

Transition dates for Caedmon College Whitby children

Staff from Caedmon College Whitby will be writing to new Year 7 parents after half term, but we wanted to share the following information in advance to help families plan.

- **Welcome Evening** - Wednesday 7th July, 6.00pm (an opportunity to look around the building again, visit tutor rooms and meet their tutor). Laughing Whale (Marcus Coates) will also have a uniform stall, and families can place orders with him on the evening from 5.00pm.
- **Transition Week** - Monday 12th - Friday 16th July, (students wear primary uniform, and remember to bring their maths and English exercise books).
- **Exhibition of Learning** - Thursday 15th July, 2.30pm (an opportunity for students to present their learning outcomes to parents).

A message from Eskdale School

We are aware that the transition days for children in Year 6 going to Eskdale will take place on the 13th, 14th and 15th July. Further details and information has been sent directly from Mr Fyfe, the Headteacher, who also writes to our Year 5 families below: As we come closer to the summer holidays, we are aware that you will be starting to consider secondary school placements for your child for the 2022/23 academic year. We would like to offer you the opportunity to come and visit Eskdale School with your child next half-term. Eskdale School is a place of belonging and a place of inspiration. As a school, we are committed to ensuring that all students are provided the opportunity to reach their goals and fulfil their potential. We pride ourselves on our pastoral support system and we place significant importance on the wellbeing of the children in our care. Our school site has just been updated with a brand new 3G pitch for PE and extra-curricular activities, and we have also secured funding for five new classrooms to be built on the site over the summer holidays. This will enable us to further develop learning opportunities and add to the already wide array of extra-curricular activities on offer. We will be taking appointments to tour the school and speak with the Headteacher from Monday 21st June 2021 through to the end of the summer term. To book your visit, please follow this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MMB7N8F>. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Headteacher via the school office by calling 01947 602856 or emailing admin@eskdale.n-yorks.sch.uk.



Information about Music Lessons in school

North Yorkshire County Council provides instrument lessons through their music service, which children from across school can take part in and enjoy. The service offers lessons in brass, woodwind, strings, guitars, percussion, singing and piano across 32 lessons a year.

These can be as part of a group, or individual. Sessions are already discounted by the music service, but families in receipt of free school meals can claim these at no charge and other benefits will also see a reduction in costs. Learning an instrument is a really excellent and enjoyable skill, so we would encourage families and children to consider this offer. For more information and to register your child's interest, please visit: <https://www.northyorkshireremusicclub.co.uk/>

Pre-School Invoices - reminder

As families know, we emailed home paperless invoices for charges for May's Pre-School sessions. Payments are still to be made on ParentPay, please. If you require a paper copy, please just ask. Thank you to families who have already settled this month's bill. Just a reminder, 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.

Menu for after half term

Monday	Minced beef enchiladas, broccoli, sweetcorn and herbie bread, followed by fruit yoghurt
Tuesday	Macaroni cheese, peas, carrots and herbie bread, followed by chocolate orange crunch and orange
Wednesday	Roast chicken, sage and onion stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes, cabbage, cauliflower, wholemeal bread, followed by fruit yoghurt
Thursday	Pork meatballs in tomato sauce, rice, green beans, sweetcorn, garlic bread, raspberry bun and cheese
Friday	Crunchy fish nibbles, potato wedges, broccoli, carrots, homemade fifty fifty bread, followed by chocolate pudding and chocolate sauce

Sleights is a nut free and peanut free school.