



Weekly Newsletter

2nd July 2021

News from Sleights

We have had a really busy week again at Sleights! The classrooms have been busy with lots of exciting activities for our children. At the start of the week, the Year 5 and 6 children ventured offsite canoeing and climbing and had an excellent time – more details later in the newsletter. We are currently undertaking some assessments across school to identify the progress our children have made since returning from the lockdown. We are so proud of their achievements and successes.

In the news this week, there have been suggestions that on 'Freedom Day' (19th July) all restrictions, including school bubbles will be removed. In anticipation of this decision, I have communicated with all school governors, who agree that the arrangements for Sleights will **remain unchanged, regardless of any national decision made**. This means that, for the final week of term, bubbles will continue to exist and all steps taken to keep children and staff safe over the last year will remain. We do not think the benefit of the five days of lifted restrictions outweighs the risk to children and families over the summer. Decisions and arrangements for September remain unclear from the government, but we will communicate our own plans as soon as we are able. It is highly likely that, even if all national restrictions are lifted, we will continue to keep in place a number of measures to keep our children and staff safe. Please do get in touch if you would like to discuss this information further.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a lovely weekend.

Scott Grason, Headteacher

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In the classrooms this week

- The **Explorers** have loved another week of fantastic 'Duck in a Truck' themed learning. I have been particularly impressed to see the children persevering when tackling the hook a duck game, which has been added to the setting this week. The children have also loved lots more mud in the classroom – I know the hoover and mop have been less enthused!
- It has been lovely to see the children in **Pioneers** explore the idea of light and how it shines, as part of the Diocese of York competition. The children created stunning artwork of the sun, each beautifully designed and painted using a carefully selected colour pallet. The children then created inspiring pieces of writing on their artwork about how their light shines.
- The **Learners** have really been enjoying their RE work and exploring a range of parables. The children have been fascinated to discover the meanings of stories and how these are related to their own lives today. I was really impressed with some of the children's thoughts and ideas when I was able to speak to them about it.
- The **Adventurers** have been working incredibly hard on their 'Being Light in Difficult Times' competition entry. The children worked with Jenny Taylor (our Foundation School Governor) and Mrs Roe to study the centenary window from St. John's Church, before replicating the artwork in stained glass paint. The impressive outcome is displayed in Mrs Roe's classroom window. Take a look when collecting the children from school.
- This week, **Discoverers** have been using figurative language to create the most wonderful poetry. Being given the challenge and freedom of writing Free Verse, everyone rose to the challenge and produced the most stunning poems around the theme: Being light in difficult times. Their artwork to go with this poetry was stunning too!

The Summer Reading Challenge is back!

We are excited that Whitby Library is back up and running! This week, we received information about this year's summer reading challenge, which sounds fantastic! Children can once again sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge at their local library during the holidays. This year, the theme is Wild World Heroes and is all about nature and looking after the planet.

The challenge is to read 6 library books of the children's choice and collect special stickers and other prizes along the way – everyone who finishes will receive a limited edition Wild World Heroes medal and a certificate. Any child aged 4 to 11 can join in and the challenge runs from Sat 10th July until Sat 11th Sept.



Leaders at East Barnby

The **Leaders** had a brilliant two days of outdoor activities with our friends at East Barnby. Monday was climbing and Tuesday was canoeing. The children had a fabulous (if not soaking!) time and all conquered so many fears and challenges. We were very proud of their hard work and efforts. They told us that:

- "It was lots of fun, but tricky in places"
- "It was very wet" – the words wet, drenched and soaking appeared lots of times!
- "Very exciting to be in the canoes"
- "It looked easy when you were looking at it, but hard when you had to do it"
- "Teamwork was the best thing in both activities"
- "It was awesome!"

We think their opinions speak volumes!

I want to thank Mrs Walker, Mr Overall and Mrs Creek for their commitment in taking the children and to Mrs Stubbs for her hard work behind the scenes, making sure the trip went ahead smoothly. So many schools have abandoned trips like this and I think it is vital that our children have these experiences – even if it did mean that the first few minutes of the England game was missed (We made sure all of the goals were saved for the second half)

We have been really grateful to hear your kind words of support and thanks for these efforts. It means a great deal!

Parking



A huge thank you to everyone who has acted to keep our children safe this week. The parking on the double yellow lines has improved significantly this week. Let's please work together to keep this up. Earlier in the week, you may have noticed or heard that the traffic wardens were on patrol. This will continue to be the case in order to continue keeping our children, families and neighbours safe.

School Reading Books

We will be collecting all reading books in and not handing out new texts in the last week of term. Over the summer, we will be working hard to refresh and update some of our reading colour bands, so that the children can enjoy reading new books. If you have any school books at home, please do return these to help us with our update and refresh.

We hope that children can continue reading over the summer by taking part in the summer reading challenge.

Pre-School Fees

The final session fees for the Pre-School have been issued this week, via email. Please can all invoices be settled by Monday 12th July. Thank you in advance.

Big Ideas by the Seaside Postcard Project

Over the coming weeks, the children will be writing postcards to be displayed in the Grand Hotel in Scarborough to celebrate the seaside. The project is part of a National Literacy Trust initiative, where prizes and books for school will be awarded. The exhibition will be on display in the hotel and online. For more information: <https://literacytrust.org.uk/communities/north-yorkshire-coast/connecting-stories/send-postcards-to-the-grand-hotel-in-scarborough/>

If you **DO NOT** want your child's work to be sent, please get in touch.

Transition to Eskdale School

Eskdale School have asked us to share details of their transition activities this year. This information should also have been emailed directly to families.

Tuesday 20th July:

Year 6 students attend Eskdale School and spend the day with their form tutors, getting to know the school, our staff and their new friends.

Wednesday 21st July:

Year 6 students take part in a selection of taster lessons, followed by an afternoon tea celebration event in the garden.

Families should have received an invite to join the children at the afternoon tea, starting at 2.30pm.

Milk in School - Reminder

Children currently in Reception receive free milk each day. From September, these children will be able to continue having milk, for a small charge. To apply for milk, families need to book this online through the 'Cool Milk' website.

For children currently in Pre-School and moving to Reception class in September, milk will be provided for each child at no cost, so no action is required.

Summer Term Events – This information remains unchanged from previous newsletters

- **Transfer events to Secondary schools**– The children will transfer on **20th and 21st July** and return back to Sleights for their final two days of primary school. This is subject to restrictions being lifted. We have talked to the children about this today.
- **Current Reception children transition** – The current Pioneers will join their new friends in Learners for the full week of **Monday 12th July -16th July**. This will be supported by Mrs Brown and Mrs Hann.
- **New Starters** – Children joining Sleights in Reception in September will enjoy transfer days with Mrs Hann and Mrs McGill on **Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th July**.
- **School Reports** – Staff are currently collating information to share with you and your child about their successes this year. Reports will be shared with families on **Monday 19th July**.
- **Leavers' Assembly** – This momentous occasion will absolutely be celebrated! However, we will be holding this virtually. Leavers' assembly will take place on **Friday 23rd July at 9.30am**. A meeting link will be shared in advance for Year 6 families. We will applaud our Year 6s out of the school site for the last time in the afternoon – details to follow.
- **End of term** – The school will close for the summer term at **2pm on Friday 23rd July**.

Archery!

In our 2019 summer fair, we were lucky to be joined by the Whitby Company of Archers. The archery activities were very popular! We hope that the free events below are enjoyed by many of the families at Sleights.



Free Target Archery Coaching

If you are 8 or over*, you will be coached in small groups by our Archery GB coaches. Each session will run on the hour for around 40 minutes. [Book through our website to guarantee your place.](#)

Defeat the Sheriff of Nottingham

For younger archers (4 years +)* and those who are young in heart and mind, try attacking Nottingham Castle and taking on the sheriff and his defenders. [No need to book, just turn up.](#)



* Under 18s should be accompanied by a parent/carer **OR** get written permission from them to attend

Whitby Company of Archers

Supported by



School Meals – Advance notice of price increase from SEPTEMBER

This information is unchanged from last week's newsletter

For the last few years, the school has subsidised each meal for children and families at school. The Local Authority have now increased the cost for each meal to be made at school, which, in turn, has forced our governors to review how much we charge families for school meals. Despite a significant jump in the cost of each meal to the school, the governors have agreed to continue subsidising meals every day for families. This means that, from September, the cost of each meal will increase to **£2.50** per day (£12.50 per week) A slight increase will also be made to Pre-School meal costs. This continues to provide great value!

From September, the current Year 2 children will no longer be eligible for free school meals (unless in receipt of benefit), so will be required to pay for school meals each week from September, using ParentPay.

Seaside Special Lunch – 15th July

Mrs Eglon will be providing a special seaside themed menu on Thursday 15th July. The meal will be made up of:

Harry Ramsden's crispy, battered fish, chips, peas and tomato ketchup, followed by doughnut muffins

For children who usually have a packed lunch and would like to join in for the seaside special, the option has now been added to ParentPay (£2.40)

Leavers' Lunch – as chosen by our Year 6 children – 22nd July

After careful consideration, the Year 6s have decided the whole school menu for the 22nd July. It was a difficult choice! The whole school will enjoy:

Minced beef enchiladas, mixed salad and garlic bread, followed by artic roll and peaches (Leaders) / ice cream and peaches (rest of the school)

For children who usually have a packed lunch and would like to join in for the Leavers' Lunch, the option has now been added to ParentPay (£2.40)

End of year picnic – final day of term

As per tradition at Sleights, our final day will be celebrated with a picnic lunch. Unlike previous years, we are asking that teddy bears stay at home, to reduce the amount of items being brought into school, in line with our Covid risk assessment. The menu includes:

Pork sausage in a homemade roll, chips, vegetable bites and tomato ketchup, followed by iced sponge

For children who usually have a packed lunch and would like to join in for the picnic lunch, the option has now been added to ParentPay (£2.40)

Next week's menu

Monday	Chicken Korma, rice, cauliflower, green beans and naan bread, followed by fruit yoghurt
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	Chicken and tomato pasta, green beans, sweetcorn, crusty bread, followed by Krispie cereal bar
Friday	Fish fingers, baked beans, peas, chipped potatoes, tomato bread, followed by banana brownie

Sleights is a nut free and peanut free school.