



Weekly Newsletter

23rd July, 2021

News from Sleights

Congratulations everybody! Today marks the end of the summer term and academic year. In a year of yet more challenges and hurdles, I want to recognise just how brilliant everyone has been in the full Team Sleights' community. From closely following the national restrictions, to enjoying learning at home or continuing to carry out crucial work as a key worker, you have all been fantastic and we are very grateful for your support.

In school, we have been lucky to benefit from the expertise and dedication of our brilliant teaching and teaching assistant staff. Whether learning at home or in school, I am sure you will agree that our very hardworking team have been outstanding and we are really lucky to be able to work with them each day. So, Mrs Walker, Mr Everall, Mrs Creek, Mrs Taylor, Mrs Exelby, Mrs Roe, Mrs Brown, Mrs Wood, Mrs Hann, Mrs McGill, Miss Idle, Mrs Bland, Mrs Wharrick, Miss Greaves, Mr Gokool, Mrs Gurney, Mr Franklin, Hannah and Mel – we thank you!

Behind the scenes in school, I want to thank Teresa (Mrs Eglon) and Tracy (Mrs Harland) It is quite easy to overlook the work that Teresa carries out each day, juggling a vast array of allergies and dietary needs, as well as feeding nearly one hundred children. This is on top of organising a daily snack! Then, Covid threw the need to deliver to individual classrooms in portioned amounts. Not an easy task, but one, I know we all agree, has been carried out so brilliantly. We really are lucky to benefit from her incredible commitment!

Since the pandemic began, Janice (Mrs Leeman) has spent every lunchtime cleaning every classroom, every toilet, emptying every bin, wiping every surface and every door handle. She then comes back at the end of the day to do it all again! Alongside Mr Everall, our school has been kept clean and tidy in a year where this has been more important than ever. Thank you to them both.

For many of our families, after school and breakfast club has been a much needed asset this year. Wendy too has done a brilliant job in shifting how she works and her systems to meet Covid head on. This has been done with a smile and typical Wendy cheer. Thank you to her and Megan, who will always step in to help when we need it.

With the need to communicate almost everything virtually and move towards cashless payment systems, the office has been really busy this year. A huge thank you to Mrs Stubbs, who has worked really hard to keep everything running smoothly in the office. We have all really appreciated it. She is a great asset to me personally, and I am grateful to her for all of her help!

I also want to take a moment to thank our school governors. This role is voluntary and can often be overlooked, but this group works so hard behind the scenes to offer support and challenge to the school. Led by our Chair of Governors, Gemma Kellerman and Andrea Lindøe, her Vice, the governors have been a brilliantly supportive group this year, whose work we really appreciate!

Finally, the biggest thank you I want to share is with the children who, despite everything, have fully embraced school life and given it their all. They have each individually lived out our school vision of working together, showing perseverance, respect and trust and, in turn, we have all been impressed by their happiness and success. A huge well done to them all.

A special mention to the children leaving Sleights for new adventures today. We hope that your time at Sleights has been filled with happiness and laughter. You will all be missed in September, but we wish you the very best of luck in all you do. You have made us so proud.

It just leaves me to wish you all a very happy summer holidays. Let's hope there is lots of sunshine for everyone to enjoy.

Thank you all for your continued support,

Scott Grason, Headteacher
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School will reopen on Wednesday 8th September.



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A message from our Chair of Governors

As we come to the end of another school year, I would like to say, on behalf of the full Governing Body, a huge thank you to you all.

To all our Sleights families, thank you for your understanding and patience regarding all the continued Covid measures we have in place. After another year of restrictions and lockdowns, your continued support for the school is fantastic and much appreciated.

Thank you to all our amazing staff, who have worked tirelessly throughout the year to put the children first in often very challenging circumstances, I hope you all enjoy the summer break and get some well-deserved rest.

A huge thank you to Mr Grason, for guiding us though, for ensuring the safety of everyone at school and keeping us all up to date. I am sure you will all agree, we couldn't ask for a better Headteacher to lead us.

The biggest thank you of all though goes to each and every one of our children. You have all been amazing. You have spent another year of your school life in bubbles, without seeing your friends, working from home and missing out on trips, but you have carried on and continued to work hard.

To all our Year 6 children leaving us, we wish you all the best in your new schools, enjoy the next chapter of your education, we look forward to hearing how well you are doing.

And finally, to all the new children starting their school journey with us in September - welcome to the Sleights family.

Enjoy your summer everyone!

Gemma Kellerman – Chair of Governors.

Thank you to the community

Despite the challenges of Covid, our community has rallied to make sure the children in Year 6 have had special memories. A big thank you to the Whitby Balloons for their support in providing end of year balloons for the Year 6s. A special thank you to our friends at Team Mini Monsters too, who have kindly agreed to host a laser tag session for the children, during the summer break – details have been sent via email.

We are so grateful for their brilliant support!



Covid Measures from September

A summary of the measures in place to manage Covid-19 in school in September has been shared with families this week. Having received a range of feedback from families, we hope that the revised measures go some way to support everyone and their opinions around reopening.

I will write again in early September to confirm or share details of any revised plans, based on the national picture at the time.

The information below is left on as a reminder and has not changed from previous newsletters

Swimming returns in September



After a year away from the pool, we are looking forward to restarting swimming lessons in September. This will be dependent on any restrictions in place at the time. Swimming will take place on **TUESDAY AFTERNOONS** for children in Mrs Walker and Mrs Roe's class (**Leaders** and **Adventurers**). Each session will cost £3.00 which includes hiring the pool and the cost of the bus. This amount is subsidised by the school.

If your child is in Adventurers or Leaders, we ask that you log on to ParentPay to provide consent and make payment for swimming sessions, please. We would be grateful if families could provide this consent before the summer. Payments can be made in one go, or weekly.

Music Lessons for Discoverers



As well as bringing back old favourites to our curriculum, we are excited to welcome new activities too! From September, the North Yorkshire County Council Music Service will be leading whole class music sessions for the Discoverers each week. The children will be provided with their own instrument to learn and practise at home, to support them create their very own class band. This is an exciting project and something we are all looking forward to seeing develop.

Summer Building Projects

Throughout the summer, you may see some work being carried out on the school site. A number of projects will be carried out on the school drainage system, which will involve digging up parts of the playground and laying new pipework. This will be carried out through August, but will be completed before our return in September.

We have also had a number of meetings about our new buildings and hope that plans will be shared soon, as planning permission is sought.

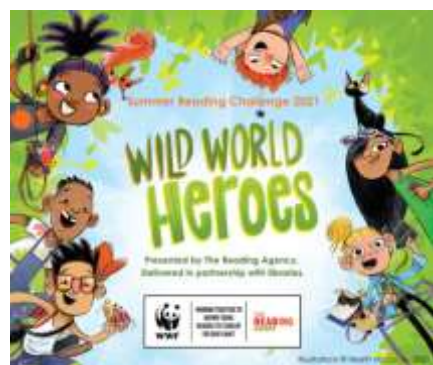
If you have any questions about the new building project, or summer work, please do get in touch.

Breakfast Club Changes from September

An increasing number of our families are requesting an early start to our breakfast club provision. As a result, we have decided to make this option available for all families from September. This will mean that breakfast club will open from **7.45am each morning**. A slight increase in cost will be made to cover the cost of this additional time.

From September, the two session prices will be:

- From 7.45am and including breakfast: £3.00
- From 8.30am and including no breakfast: £1.50



The Summer Reading Challenge is back! **Get started this weekend!**

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.

School Meals – Advance notice of price increase from SEPTEMBER

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.

Menu for the first week back

Wednesday	Macaroni cheese, green beans, sweetcorn and wholemeal bread, followed by fruit muffin
Thursday	Mexican tortilla boats, rice, carrots and broccoti, followed by yogurt
Friday	Breaded salmon, jacket potato, peas, beans and wholemeal bread, followed by chocolate banana sponge and chocolate sauce.

Sleights is a nut free and peanut free school.