



# Weekly Newsletter

24<sup>th</sup> September 2021

## News from Sleights

I must apologise for my absence from the gate this week! It has been a week of meetings and courses, which has meant I have not been able to see everyone as much as usual. I have missed seeing smiles and hearing "Hello" each morning! It has, once again, been a bumper busy week, with so much place across our super Sleights School.

The **Explorers** have continued to learn about themselves and their appearance. The children have enjoyed creating self-portraits and looking closely at themselves in a mirror. The children have also loved playing outside and using the water this week. There have been some very wet, but very happy children!

The **Pioneers** have continued their exploration of the village this week, using the story "Six Dinner Sid" as inspiration. I was really impressed to see the village they built on Thursday, which extended to a huge train track on Friday. The children have also been working tirelessly with their reading too! They are so proud of themselves – as are we!

Our **Learners** were very excited on Wednesday, as they took their first trip out to the multi skills festival. The children told me they had a brilliant time and enjoyed doing "everything!" Mrs Brown shared lots of photographs on Tapestry and the big smiles on everyone's faces certainly shows a great deal of enjoyment from everyone.

The **Adventurers** have been tackling plans for a report this week. As the children have started their French lessons this term, the Adventurers have been using geographical skills to learn about France. The children have identified landmarks and physical features of the country, which will be used to help them create their own reports.

The beautiful Tuesday sunshine saw **Discoverers** take a trip to the forest and enjoy the great outdoors. The children were inspired by our forest and created their own class prayer to give thanks. The children have been working hard to think about what God is like and how he could be described. Some of the ideas were incredible.

**Leaders** also took to the forest this week, enjoying Wednesday's glorious weather. The children were challenged with learning to tie different knots, as well as a structure building project. Leaders created some great designs and structures to protect their kindling. Fingers crossed they work, as the kindling needs to be dry for their next forest visit, so it can be used to make hot chocolate!

Go, Team Sleights! Have a great weekend.

Scott Grason [headteacher@sleights.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@sleights.n-yorks.sch.uk)

## Covid Cases

We are aware that cases of Covid are rising around the town and local schools. We would urge, therefore, that all families remain vigilant to symptoms of Covid and do not send their child to school if they are experiencing them. Lots of coughs are around at the moment and, in line with guidance, we are asking for PCR tests (test centre) in these instances. Advice from the GOV.UK website also states that:

**If you develop symptoms of COVID-19, stay at home and self-isolate immediately.**

With so much guidance around, it can be difficult to know what the right thing to do is, so please do get in touch if we can help at all. Thank you for your support.

## No After School Club – Advance Notice

Due to staff training from North Yorkshire County Council, after school club will not be open on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October**. Sorry for the inconvenience this may cause.

### End of day arrangements

We are worried that time is being missed from learning each day, due to families picking up children before 3.10pm. From Monday:


- The gates will open at **3pm** for families in Pre-School.
- The school doors will at **3.10pm** for children across school. Families arriving earlier than this time are asked to wait on the playground, carefully considering space and distance.
- To support families with distancing, children can be collected between **3.10pm – 3.15pm**.

### Flu Immunisation Programme

Earlier in the week, we shared details about how to book your child/ren a flu nasal spray in school. This is available to all children in Reception to Year 6. To give consent:

1. Go to <https://www.hdft.nhs.uk/fluconsent/>
2. Enter the School Code **121491** and click "**Find School**".
3. **Complete the form** with your child's information and parent/guardian contact information\*.
4. Click the **green "Submit" button**.

### School Photographs

 On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October, we will be hosting Tempest Photography for individual and sibling pictures. During the day, any siblings in school will have their photograph taken and we will organise this. However, if you have siblings **who do not** attend Sleights, but you would like them to have a photograph taken, please let us know by completing the link below: <https://forms.office.com/r/9vLGzwnEc3> We will be restricting access to the building for family members. Children who do not attend Pre-School on a Tuesday are also welcome to join us for their photograph. Miss Idle will be in touch to arrange this directly.

### Keeping in touch

Next week, teachers will be ringing school families to discuss how the children have settled into the new school year. This is an additional discussion and will not replace a parents evening (which will take place later in the term). We look forward to sharing the children's successes with you all.

### A visit from Great British Bake Off Winner – David Atherton



We are very excited to announce that next month, we will be having a visit from the Great British Bake Off Winner, David Atherton. David will visit Sleights on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October and lead workshops with children in school to celebrate baking. This will include some healthy cakes, using vegetables as ingredients. As part of the visit, the children will spend time reflecting on harvest celebrations and offering thanks for the produce we all enjoy.

David's visit will also include an opportunity to buy copies of his cook book, which will be signed. We are pleased to be working with our local book supplier, Lucy at The Little Fox Book Shop. Books can be bought on in school on the day, but we will also take some pre-orders, using ParentPay. These are available in the payment items now.

### Special Census Lunch Day – 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Mrs Eglon will be providing a special menu on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October. This is the day of the school census to North Yorkshire. The meal will be made up of: *Margherita Pizza, Potato Smiles, Peas and Baked Beans, followed by Apple Pie and Ice Cream*. We would encourage **all** children to take up this meal. Any children who usually have a packed lunch and would like to join in for the Special Census Lunch, the option has now been added to ParentPay (£2.50)

### Sports Questionnaire - reminder

Mrs Taylor is our lead teacher for sports and PE at Sleights. Over the last year, she has been working hard to develop our school curriculum and upgrade some of our resources. Her work this year will continue in this area and she is keen to gather your views. Please help us by clicking the link below and completing the very short survey below:

[Mrs Taylor's PE questionnaire](#) Thank you!

### Upcoming Trips

- **Adventurers:** The children will be travelling to Danby Moors Centre on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 for a day of Compass and Map skills activities. Full details and consent on ParentPay to follow.
- **Discoverers and Leaders** will be taking a trip to Scarborough on 14<sup>th</sup> October for the 'Engineering Event'. This is always a very popular event for the children, with fascinating activities and exhibitions. More details to follow.

### Information from Caedmon College Whitby – next week

Caedmon College Whitby are opening their doors on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September, between 4.30pm and 7.00pm for a school tour. More information will be sent home directly from the College.

### Keeping Children Safe at Sleights

We are committed to keeping everyone safe at school and have regular training and updates. In line with national changes, our safeguarding policy has recently been updated and can be found on our school website. The Designated Safeguarding Leader at Sleights is **Scott Grason** and the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leader is **Helen-Louise Hann**. The school's Safeguarding Governor is **Gemma Kelleman**. We often talk to the children about how they stay safe in school.

A summary of their ideas from the last few weeks include:

- Road Safety elements, such as staying on the path and looking at the colour of traffic lights.
- Recognising site safety, such as the school gates and fences. Children also noticed that our play equipment is inspected to make sure it is safe.
- Children discussed keeping safe in the forest, such as walking, respecting the space and not eating anything!
- Our children also talked about how adults around them can keep them safe and told us they could talk to staff at school if they had worries.

### Sports dates – upcoming dates

Permission will be given on ParentPay, with a text sent nearer the time for each event:

Date	Event	Who is competing?
1 <sup>st</sup> October	Rugby Mega Fest at the Whitby Rugby Club	Discoverers Class
6 <sup>th</sup> October	Boys Football at Eskdale	A team made up of Discoverers and Leaders
13 <sup>th</sup> October – new date	Girls Football at Eskdale	A team made up of Discoverers and Leaders
15 <sup>th</sup> October	Tag Rugby at Whitby Rugby Club	A team made up of Discoverers and Leaders
5 <sup>th</sup> November	Sports hall Athletics	Team to be confirmed
3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Dodgeball	Team to be confirmed

### Octoberfest

The Rotary Club of Whitby & District is once again this year organising its fun run for young people, Octoberfest. The event will take place on Sunday, October 3rd from 2pm at Caedmon College and will include 5 races, separate boys and girls races for years 3/4 and also 5/6 with a final race open to anyone under 14. Everyone who runs will receive a medal and there will be special trophies for the winner and runner-up in each race. In addition, the schools providing the most runners at different age-groups will be awarded a shield. If you would like to take part, entries cost £2.50 and an application form is needed. If you would like one, please just let us know.

### Next week's menu

#### Week One

<b>Monday</b>	Beef burger in a bun, chipped potatoes, peas and carrots, followed by sticky date and apple bar, with custard
<b>Tuesday</b>	Macaroni cheese, green beans and sweetcorn, followed by cheese and crackers
<b>Wednesday</b>	Roast chicken, sage and onion stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes and a medley of vegetables, followed by a raspberry yoghurt
<b>Thursday</b>	Mexican Tortilla boats and savoury rice, followed by a muffin
<b>Friday</b>	Breaded salmon, potato wedges, baked beans and peas, followed by chocolate banana sponge and chocolate sponge

**Slights is a nut free and peanut free school.**