



# Weekly Newsletter

1<sup>st</sup> October 2021

## News from Sleights

As the new month begins, we have certainly seen the start of the autumnal weather! Rain and cold weather marks changing times, but one thing remaining very much the same is the excellent work we have seen in school again this week.

The **Explorers** have enjoyed paint this week! Continuing their learning about body parts, the children have been printing hands, fingers, feet and toes! The children have also enjoyed using their new car track, which is designed to help build their gross motor skills, in preparation for writing. Happy Explorers!

The **Pioneers** have had another huge week of reading success. The children have delighted in telling me "I am a reader now, you know!" and I have loved seeing this in action. The Pioneers have also enjoyed learning about food and digging vegetables up. This has prompted some great discussion.

The **Learners** embarked on a trip to the forest this week. Bringing science to life was on the agenda, as children worked hard to identify, classify and group a vast array of leaves from the site. This meant careful consideration and teamwork, as children sorted. Mrs Brown was really impressed by everyone's efforts and hard work.

When I asked the **Adventurers** what they enjoyed this week, there were many answers to choose from! The children talked about how great it has been to spend time with friends, as well as enjoying "everything" in maths and working on their report about France in English.

The excitement of **Discoverers** was quite something this week. After a few (outside of school) delays, the children started their class band! More details will be sent home with the children next week, but their enthusiasm and energy was amazing. There was such excitement, which we can't wait to see develop into one or two songs!

I spent some time in the **Leaders'** classroom on Thursday afternoon. It was a total joy! The children were working with such a mature and focused attitude to create their draft non-chronological country report. Their approach should be commended. I was a super proud Headteacher to be part of it!

Go, Team Sleights! Have a great weekend.

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

## Congratulations reading challenge winners!

Summer Reading Challenge 2021

I was delighted to be able to present so many 'Summer Reading Challenge' certificates in school. Hearing and seeing the enjoyment that just six books over the summer brought to our children was really lovely. A huge well done to everyone involved.

Happy Reading, Team Sleights!



## Food in school – some reminders

- Due to ordering ingredients and produce, we ask that families keep the same meal choice for the half term, please. We do not encourage moving between packed lunch and school dinners at regular intervals, as this can make ordering very tricky. Thank you for your support.
- Children are welcome to bring a drinks bottle to school, but we would ask that this only contains water please – no juice.

### 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.

### Harvest Festival Update



As we approach Harvest, I wanted to share with families that I have made the decision not to host our service in the Church again this year. With several hundred individuals potentially coming together at St. John's to celebrate our Harvest, I would need to feel confident that this was the right decision in terms of keeping everyone safe. With rising rates of Covid and the usual bugs and colds flying around, I strongly feel that a virtual service, shared on Tapestry, would be right. This has been hugely successful in previous years. I hope everyone will support and understand this decision, which is centred on keeping all safe, including our most vulnerable children, staff and families. We look forward to sharing further details with you in the coming weeks.

### Congratulations, Mrs Taylor

Behind the scenes, our teaching staff also lead a curriculum subject. This involves making sure standards are high and learning is fun. Last year, Mrs Taylor worked incredibly hard to reshape the PE curriculum, introducing new planning structures and initiatives, such as the daily run. This work (along with a great deal more) all formed a body of evidence, which Mrs Taylor submitted as part of a PE specialist teacher award. We were delighted this week to learn that her hard work had paid off and Mrs Taylor achieved the award. A huge well done and thank you to her! She continues the next award this year.

### Work with the NSPCC



As part of our continue work to promote staying safe, I am pleased to tell you that this term we will be participating in the **NSPCC's Speak out. Stay safe. online** programme. This consists of an online assembly and supporting classroom based activities. *Speak out. Stay safe.* is a safeguarding programme available to all primary schools in the UK and Channel Islands. It aims to help children understand staying safe, abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse in a child friendly way. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried. If you have any questions or concerns about this, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

### Covid Cases - reminder

As families are aware, 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. 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.

### A Tudor Visit



On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October, the Discoverers and Leaders will enjoy a full day of history and drama, as they bring their current Tudors topic to life. We are looking forward to welcoming a drama specialist for the day and seeing the children's theatrical skills in action. We will share photographs with families on Tapestry.

### School Photographs

Tempest Photography will be in school on Tuesday to take individual and sibling photographs. We will make sure that all siblings in school have their photographs taken during the school day. We will email families who booked for their children and siblings outside of school to have their photographs taken to share a time to arrive shortly.

### Keeping in touch

Over the course of the week, school staff have been making contact with families at home to discuss how the children have settled back into Sleights. It has been great to talk and hear your views. Staff will be continuing phone calls next week. However, if you would ever like to discuss anything with us, please do get in touch.

### Flu Immunisation Programme - reminder

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**.

### 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 22nd 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)

### 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. Full details and consent information is now on ParentPay.

### 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?
6 <sup>th</sup> October	Boys Football at Eskdale	A team made up of Discoverers and Leaders
13 <sup>th</sup> October – <i>new date</i>	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

### Next week's menu

Week Two	
<b>Monday</b>	Chicken Quesadilla and rice, sweetcorn and green beans, followed by sultana and oat cookie
<b>Tuesday</b>	Pasta bolognese, mixed greens and carrots, followed by cheese and crackers
<b>Wednesday</b>	Sausage toad in the hole with onion gravy, creamy mashed potatoes, broccoli and cauliflower, followed by strawberry yoghurt
<b>Thursday</b>	Margherita Pizza, Potato Smiles, Peas and Baked Beans, followed by Apple Pie and Ice Cream.
<b>Friday</b>	Fish fingers, carrots, peas and chipped potatoes, followed by fruit shortcake

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