



Weekly Newsletter

5th November 2021

News from Sleights

Well done to everyone in the school community for a brilliant first week back at school. I hope you all managed some rest over the half term break, recharged and ready to tackle a super busy term! I have loved visiting classrooms this week and seeing so much excellent work.

Over the half term, the **Explorers** were incredibly busy and, with the support of lots of photographs on Tapestry, the children have enjoyed talking about what they got up to. In the classroom, the children have also loved lots of building and have been really busy in their play, including PE sessions in the hall and visits around school to learn about our site.

The **Pioneers** have had an invasion of pumpkins this week! A big thank you to everyone who has donated, with a special mention to Harrison's Landscape Contractors for a huge haul. The children have spent hours arranging and modelling with these, creating some stunning (and rather large) designs and inventions. The teamwork and evident thought process of the Pioneers was outstanding to see.

In **Learners**, the children have enjoyed getting to grips with our online maths resource, Sumdog. The children have loved tackling new games and earning rewards along the way. Mrs Brown has shared details of the children's login information in reading records, but please do let us know if you need a reminder.

The **Adventurers** have been busy gathering information about the discovery of Stone Age artwork in Lascaux, making links to their history work. The children will combine the information they have gathered to create their own newspaper articles. The children also enjoyed a trip to Danby Moors Centre on Tuesday, focused on developing their map reading skills.

In **Discoverers**, the children have started reading their new class text - Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. I know this has already proved to be a very popular choice! I was super impressed on Thursday afternoon the class band progress as the Discoverers played "Baby Shark" together. Amazing progress!

Finally, in the **Leaders'** classroom, the children have enjoyed hands on, practical learning through evaluating, designing and making their own bridge structures. I was impressed to see the focus and confidence in the classroom when using saws and glue guns. Well done, Leaders.

Have a great weekend with your families,

Scott Grason headteacher@sleights.n-yorks.sch.uk

Our value for this half term: Trust



Over this half term, the children will be thinking about our new value, trust. Already this week, the children have thought about trust means, how we show it others and how others show trust to us. The discussions were excellent.

Coming home with the newsletter today is a resource for families to continue exploring trust at home, with stories, ideas and discussion topics. We hope you enjoy using it – please do let us know.

Additional Teacher Training Day

As a result of the additional Bank Holiday for the Queen's Jubilee next year, all schools will have an additional training day. At Sleights, this will take place on **Monday 25th April 2022**.

School arrangements for dealing with Covid

As you know, earlier in the week I wrote to families with updated guidance from North Yorkshire County Council, in relation to arrangements in school for dealing with Covid. Cases in the area continue to rise, so doing all we can to keep everyone safe is essential. In addition to lots of handwashing, our steps to achieve this include:

- asking that families wear a face covering, unless exempt, at pick up and drop off times. Please carefully consider space and distance between family groups too.
- windows being open to provide ventilation in classrooms.
- continuing to work in our three school groups, not returning to whole school activities at this stage. We are aware that this will cause some upset for families, but please be assured that our decision is based on keeping everyone safe.

Thank you for your continued support.

A visit from David Atherton



On the final day of last half term, we enjoyed our school visit from David Atherton, Great British Bake Off Winner. The children all heard about the journey it takes to win Bake Off, create new recipes and publish a book. It was a fantastic afternoon!

It was also brilliant to hear stories from the children about how they have been inspired by David and his baking success. The children worked together as a school to create their own version of a popular book at Sleights - "It Takes A Village". This was a lovely creation, made by the children full of messages to David. It was a really special gift to see.

A very special thank you to our school friend Lucy from the Little Fox Coffee and Bookshop, who supported the event. A huge thank you to our school families who also purchased one of David's books.

North Yorkshire Sundog Challenge

As part of the National Maths Week next week, children at Sleights will be taking place in a North Yorkshire Sundog competition. The challenge will begin today and run for a full week. It is open to children in Leaders, Adventurers, Discoverers and Learners. Over the week, children can answer up to 1000 questions and their answers will add to a school total.



Throughout the challenge, individual children and schools will be celebrated on a county wide leader board, recognising the hard work of mathematicians. It would be amazing to see our school represented on the leader board, so please do encourage your children to take part at home. We will be providing time in school too.

As part of the leader board, the children's names are shared. If you do not wish for your child to take part in this, please do let me know.

Harvest Festival

Our virtual Harvest Festival has been uploaded to Tapestry today. The children have all worked hard to celebrate and give thanks for food. We hope you enjoy the service at home as a family. Singing is back and it is a real joy to see and hear!

Children in Need – Friday 19th November



On Friday 19th November, we will be raising funds and awareness of Children in Need. Children are invited to come to school in non-uniform. Donations for this excellent charity can be given in advance, via ParentPay. This payment item is open now. Thank you.

Diwali Celebrations

On Thursday, the children celebrated Diwali. This is a celebration of light for Hindus all around the world. It is a time where communities come together to welcome light into their life, which symbolises a fresh start. We celebrate Diwali at Sleights, so that we can learn about other religious celebrations and the things that are important to others and ourselves.

Around school, so many brilliant activities took place focused on the beauty of light. It was great to hear from the children, who shared:

"I have enjoyed looking at all the bright Hindu drawings."

"I liked celebrating a new festival from the Hindu religion."

"I enjoyed it when we were discussing Diwali in Collective Worship."

"I have loved using chalks to capture all of the bright colours in Diwali."

"I liked creating a picture of fireworks which celebrates light."

"I liked welcoming God, and others, into the classroom with a walkway of art."

Take a look on Tapestry to see some of the children's work.

New PE equipment

This week, we have been very excited to receive lots of new PE equipment. Before the half term, we decided to upgrade and increase the kit that children use for PE lessons and over playtimes. It has been fantastic to see so many brilliant pieces of new equipment for children to play with. We know the children are looking forward to using these too! A big thank you to Mrs Taylor for organising this.

Flu Immunisation Programme – reminder

The flu nasal spray will take place in school on **TUESDAY 30th NOVEMBER**. To give consent for your child's flu immunisation in school:

- Go to <https://www.hdft.nhs.uk/fluconsent/>
- Enter the School Code **121491** and click "**Find School**".
- **Complete the form** with your child's information and parent/guardian contact information*.

Click the **green "Submit" button**.

Applying for Reception Class (September 2022)

It has been great to hear about the applications being made for Reception (September 2022) The deadline for applying is 15th January 2022. If you would like to arrange a discussion with me or Mrs Hann, or Pioneers (Reception Class) teacher, or have a full school tour, please let me know.

All applications are made directly to North Yorkshire County Council, who provide school with a list of applicants in April. Families will receive their school offer on **19th April 2022**.

To make your application, please log on at: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/apply-place-primary-or-secondary-school> where you will be asked to set up an account.

We hope to see your applications soon. If you would like any help with this, please do let us know.

St. John's Church Children's Society Coffee Morning

Families are invited to a coffee morning at Church House on Saturday, 27th November to raise funds with our friends at St. John's Church for the Children's Society. The event will take place between 10am and 12pm at Church House, at the top of Coach Road.

Toddler Group Support – Monday afternoon

A toddler group takes place at Church House, each Monday afternoon. We have been asked by our Church family to share that the group is now looking for a new leader. If you are interested, or know somebody who is, please do get in touch and I will pass your details on.

Next week's menu

Week Three	
Monday	Minced beef and dumplings, creamy mashed potatoes and mixed vegetables, followed by chocolate crispy
Tuesday	Quorn dippers, potato wedges, tomato ketchup, green beans and sweetcorn, followed by cheese and crackers
Wednesday	Roast loin of pork with apple sauce, creamy mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli and carrots, followed by raspberry yoghurt
Thursday	Chicken Korma and Rice, green beans and cauliflower, followed by jam roly poly and custard
Friday	Harry Ramsden's battered fish, chipped potatoes, peas and sweetcorn, followed by an iced Swiss bun

Sleights is a nut free and peanut free school.