



Weekly Newsletter

19th November 2021

News from Sleights

I wanted to thank families for their brilliant efforts in making sure children are on time and ready to learn every day. The gate is locked at 9am every morning and it is great to know that our children are safely in and starting work. Thank you for your continued support with this!

Having discovered different senses, this week the children in **Explorers** have begun to find out and talk about different emotions. Using the book *Colour Monster*, the children have been identifying different emotions around them and exploring how colours can be used to help with this. The children have had a great time showing different emotions using their own faces too, with some great ideas and results.

I have been blown away by some amazing writing this week in the **Pioneers**. The children have also been busy showcasing their incredible reading. I have been really impressed to see their progress and enjoyment. A real joy this week has been hearing from families how the children and showcasing their skills at home too. It is great to see such great partnership work in action!

In **Learners**, the children were keen to tell me how much they had enjoyed writing newspaper reports and starting to learn about different houses. The children were really enthusiastic to share how much they had also enjoyed developing printing skills in art too.

The **Adventurers** spent a brilliant day in the forest on Wednesday. Whilst it was chilly, the children enjoyed using natural materials to make replicas of Stone Age houses, linked to their history unit. The children told me they thought carefully about selecting the materials they needed and enjoyed their building task.

In **Discoverers**, the children have enjoyed their science topic of living things and their habitats, where the children have been looking at how things grow. The children have also enjoyed publishing their newspaper reports and discovering houses with Tudor features to inspire their writing next week.

Finally, in **Leaders**, the children have been busy learning about fractions and rocks. In English, the children have been excited to start work planning their own Right Move style housing adverts for Tudor properties. The children have been studying different examples of adverts, including some from local agents **Henderson's** - more on that next week!

Have a great weekend with your families.

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

Parents Evening - Virtual Meetings or Telephone Conversations - reminder

On Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th November, teachers will be holding parents evening appointments for children in Pioneers, Learners, Adventurers, Discoverers and Leaders. Appointments will be available over the telephone or virtually, using Microsoft Teams. To book your appointment, please follow the links below. Once you have made your booking, we will be in touch again to confirm your time.

- **Pioneers booking:** <https://forms.office.com/r/UDg03rrXmU>
- **Learners booking:** <https://forms.office.com/r/suMdnphC9>
- **Adventurers booking:** <https://forms.office.com/r/ak52Z0grtB>
- **Discoverers booking:** <https://forms.office.com/r/JKBRJAGXNk>
- **Leaders booking:** <https://forms.office.com/r/LKT9drxfj8>

Staffing Update

I am pleased to be able to update families about some recent appointments to our team. As you know, from January, Mrs Roe will be reducing her working hours to two and half days. I am delighted to let families know that, after interviews last week, we have appointed Mrs Rhiannon Porter to work alongside the Adventurers and Mrs Roe in the other half of the week. Mrs Porter brings a wealth of experience to the team and created lots of excitement with the children last week – she even brought a dinosaur egg along! Mrs Porter and Mrs Roe will be working closely together in the coming weeks to make sure we have a super start in January.

Due to increased numbers in Pre-School, we have also been busy recruiting additional staff for our Early Years team. After a rigorous interview process, earlier in the week we appointed Mrs Sharon Gurney to the Early Years staff. Families and children will recognise Mrs Gurney's name, as she already works across school teaching computing. Mrs Gurney is highly skilled and we are really excited to have her join the Early Years team. This will not impact on the children's computing lessons, which will also continue to take place each week.

Finally, we are also pleased to share that Mrs Ann Wharrick, who has also been supporting in the Pre-School will continue with us at Sleights. Mrs Wharrick has very quickly demonstrated that she is a real asset, so we are delighted to continue working with her!

I am sure families will join me in extending the warmest of welcomes to our new appointments.

Christmas Food

As we approach the festive season, I wanted to share some details of the special food events we all look forward to.

Christmas Party Day and Lunch – Monday 13th December

The children will enjoy a day of party games, music and lots of fun, complete with a party lunch! Children will be invited to come along in non-uniform. The party food will include:

Sandwiches, pizza, sausages, carrot and cucumber bites, followed by iced sponge cake

Christmas Dinner day – Wednesday 15th December

One staple of our Christmas calendar is our delicious lunch. The meal will include:

Roast Turkey, stuffing, sausage, mashed potatoes, carrots, peas and gravy, followed by an iced chocolate orange cookie

If your child/ren would like to take part in either or both meal, but does not usually have a school lunch, these items can now be purchased on ParentPay and is charged at £2.50.

To help us with arranging our numbers, we are asking that all orders are placed before **FRIDAY 3rd DECEMBER**, please. Thank you.

Children in Need – Friday 19th November



A very big thank you to everyone for their generous donations for Children in Need. I know teachers have a fun day planned and I look forward to sharing the final total with you next week, but the total at the time of the newsletter going to print is around the £100 mark. Well done, everyone!

Snack Reminder

A quick reminder that we politely ask that snack orders are placed before 9.30am on a Monday morning for the week, please. There is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes to make sure that our systems run smoothly with this, so your support in ordering in advance is really appreciated. Thank you in anticipation for your continued support.

Forest Training

You may have noticed Mrs Brown and Mrs Walker have been away for part of the week. They have both spent time away from school carrying out additional forest school activities training, including cooking! I know both Mrs Walker and Mrs Brown are excited to try out some of their new training back in school.

Sleeps Until Santa – with 'This is the Coast' radio station - reminder

Next week, Paddy Billington from 'This is the Coast' radio station will be visiting Sleights to record children sing "7 sleeps until Santa". We hope to have lots of Sleights' children involved. To give your permission for your child to be on the recording, which will be played on the radio and shared on the station's social media page, please complete the form on ParentPay.

The Book Fair is coming!



The Book Fair will open next week. The children will get chance to take a look at some of the books available in school time. We will also open the fair on lots of occasions, to give families plenty of opportunity to buy books – timings below. There has been a change from Scholastic, the organisers, in terms of how books can be paid for. Card payments are no longer accepted, but families can pay in cash or on a dedicated website available on the day of the fair. Staff will help with this.

We hope the fair will help families buy some early Christmas gifts and help promote reading to the children. In addition, for every book bought, the school receives a reward, which can then be used to buy books for school. We hope to see lots of support. The book fair will be open in the following sessions.

- **Wednesday 24th November** – open before school (8.30am) and after school (until 3.45pm)
- **Thursday 25th November** – open before school (8.30am) and after school (until 3.45pm)
- **Friday 26th November** – open before school (8.30am)
- **Monday 29th November** – open before school (8.30am) and after school (until 3.45pm)

Please note that breakfast and after school club will take place in Mrs Taylor's room whilst the Book Fair is running.

Swimming in January



After Christmas, swimming will begin again for Mrs Taylor and Mrs Hann's class (**Discoverers and Pioneers**) Swimming will take place on **TUESDAY AFTERNOONS**. Each session will cost £3.00 which includes hiring the pool and the cost of the bus. This amount is also subsidised by the school.

If your child is in Discoverers or Pioneers, 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 Christmas break. Payments can be made in one go, or weekly.

The launch of our Eco Club

This week, Mrs Roe launched the new Eco Club. We are looking forward to working with the children to improve our school's carbon footprint and green credentials. Children who are interested in becoming a member have been invited to apply, with an application form being handed out this week. The children's first job will be to set up a name and run a competition for a new logo.

Sleights is a nut free and peanut free school.

The Re-Use Santa appeal

The Re-use Santa Appeal is a charitable campaign to provide help for young people across North Yorkshire who are most in need this Christmas. This year, the charity needs your help to collect used toys, games, books and puzzles for young people who might otherwise not receive a gift. Not only will this help to make Christmas easier for many families, it will also support the environment by encouraging a 'Reduce, Re-use, Recycle' mindset.

How can you help?

Step 1: Make sure your toys/books/games are clean, complete and fit for purpose.

Step 2: Next time you're taking your waste to your nearest Household Waste Recycling Centre, simply bring your pre-loved gifts along too and let the staff know you wish to donate. They will point you in the right direction.

Step 3: Yorwaste will then distribute the donations to the charity partners.

More information can be found here: <https://www.yorwaste.co.uk/reuse-santa-appeal/>

Next week's menu

Week Two

Monday	Chicken Quesadilla and rice, sweetcorn and green beans, followed by sultana and oat cookie
Tuesday	Pasta bolognese, mixed greens and carrots, followed by cheese and crackers
Wednesday	Sausage toad in the hole with onion gravy, creamy mashed potatoes, broccoti and cauliflower, followed by strawberry yoghurt
Thursday	Cheese and tomato pizza, diced potatoes and mixed salad, followed by apple and berry crumble and custard
Friday	Fish fingers, carrots, peas and chipped potatoes, followed by fruit shortcake

The information below is unchanged from last week

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.