



# Weekly Newsletter

26<sup>th</sup> November 2021

## News from Sleights

An explosion of colour continued this week for our **Explorers**, as they continued discovering different emotions. The children have focused on different colours and how they could represent how we feel. It has been excellent to see a rainbow of colours in the room, created by the children on collages, painted pumpkins and huge pieces of artwork.

We have had another great week in **Pioneers!** The children have seen videos of lots of large animals running around our school site – have you seen any? This has inspired the children to write and read lots! The children have also been working hard on the number five and the many ways this can be shown. So much great learning talk!

The **Learners** enjoyed a great morning in the forest on Wednesday, where they made their own memory sticks. The children had to manage some tricky skills, from tying knots and wrapping the string. I was lucky to see the session in action and the perseverance of the Learners was exceptional. Well done to them all.

The **Adventurers** have enjoyed lots of description this week, as they have been busy planning their estate agent details for Stone Age houses. I have heard a huge variety of great vocabulary! The children have also been busy recapping money and problem solving using coins.

On a chilly Thursday morning, the **Discoverers** ventured into the forest to create some stunning stick stars. They used a clove hitch and square lash to attach the sticks together. The stars will sit proudly on the class Christmas tree when it arrives!

Monday was magical for our **Leaders**. The children have loved reading Thomas Taylor's books in class, set in Eerie-on-Sea, over the last few months – they are now on the third in the series! The author himself surprised the children on Monday in a Zoom call, where the Leaders were able to ask questions and hear him read chapters of his books being read. The children also won a competition, which meant Thomas Taylor posted out a signed copy of his book, personalised to Team Leaders. The children were so amazed and I know that Mrs Walker was too!

Have a great weekend with your families.

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

## Covid Updates

As I am sure families will be aware, the rates of Covid cases in the local area and nationally are increasing. We are all very familiar with the impact this has on our school community and the families of Sleights'. As a school, we continue to operate in smaller groups and have not returned to whole school activities. We continue to believe that this cautious approach is right to reduce the risk of transmission or infection.

It is clear that the virus is not going away and we must do all we can to manage the safety of everyone. I would like to thank families for their ongoing support and vigilance to monitoring symptoms and talking to us when the children feel unwell. We are doing all we can in school and are grateful for the continued support of families.

Having reviewed cases locally and the position of our families, we have made the difficult decision to celebrate Christmas with families virtually again this year. We know that some families will be disappointed by this, but in the run up to the holidays and planned time together, we want to do what we can to keep everyone safe and well. In school, we will complete a programme of activities for the festive period and we will share a Christmas nativity on Tapestry once more. We also hope to showcase some of the new skills of our Discoverers and their class band. More details next week.

### Parents Evening – Virtual Meetings or Telephone Conversations – *next week*

On Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November, teachers will be holding parents evening appointments for children in Pioneers, Learners, Adventurers, Discoverers and Leaders. This week, appointment times have been sent home. Where we did not receive a booking from families, we have provided a time and day which we hope is suitable. Staff will be working really hard to share as much relevant information in ten minute appointment slots. If you are receiving a phone call, this will be from a withheld number. If you are meeting online, joining instructions will be sent separately.



### Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children

On Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> December, children are invited to come to school in non-uniform. If they have a Christmas jumper, this would be a perfect day to wear it! However, if they do not have one, there is no need to go out and get one. We will be fundraising for Save the Children on this day, so if families would like to make a small donation for wearing non-uniform, this is available on ParentPay.

### The launch of our Eco Club

We have had so many excellent applications for our new Eco Club this week. Hearing some of the children's fantastic ideas and opinions about improving and caring for our world has been inspiring. Mrs Roe will meet regularly with the Eco Club, who will soon begin a campaign to create a new name and logo. The children will also look to promote eco credentials around school, including saving energy and recycling. This is a great start by our children and we are excited to see what is in store for our Eco Club.

### Selling houses with Henderson's



We are always keen to give the children of Sleights a real reason to write. As part of their work in history, the children have been exploring homes from the past, including Tudor and Stone Age properties. In their writing over the last few weeks, the children have been unpicking Right Move adverts and the details for homes selling locally. With this knowledge, the children have been working hard to create their own property details for houses from history, which we are delighted will be showcased in a real-life estate agency in the town. We are really pleased to be working with Henderson's and would like to thank one of our school families, Rosie, for making this link happen. We are so excited to see the children's work advertised.

### The Book Fair is coming!



It has been great to see so much support for our book fair. For every book bought, the school receives a reward, which can then be used to buy books for school. Thank you for your support. Next week, the fair will be open:

**Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> 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 MORNINGS** – *this is a change from the Leisure Centre*. 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. Thank you. Payments can be made in one go, or weekly.

## 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> DECEMBER – next week**, please. Thank you.

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

### Flu Immunisation Programme – reminder

Just a reminder that the flu immunisation programme will take place in school next week (Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November)

### Next week's menu

#### Week Three

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

**The information below is unchanged from last week**

### 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/>

### **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 **19<sup>th</sup> 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 – THIS WEEKEND**

Families are invited to a coffee morning at Church House on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> 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.