



Weekly Newsletter

3rd December 2021

News from Sleights

It was clear to see that Christmas had arrived for our **Explorers** when I visited on Wednesday. The classroom had been filled with festive arrivals and activities, including trees to decorate and role play to help with festive linked learning. I know everyone, including the Pre-School staff, loved it! The children also had a busy PE lesson on Thursday morning, with lots of throwing and catching.

The **Pioneers** have been learning about animals this week and their different habitats. The children have enjoyed talking about the things animals need, which included discussions around food chains and predators. The children worked hard to create animal homes using models and boxes, creating some great language and writing from everyone.

The **Learners** been studying the weather this week, recording the temperature outside and the weather each day on their own charts. The children have painted pictures of different types of weather too. The Learners have also enjoyed getting familiar with the Aldi advert of "A Christmas Carrot", to inspire our next writing topic. What a busy week!

When I visited the **Adventurers** on Monday afternoon, they were busy creating sculpture replicas of Stonehenge. The children were carefully discussing their models and were working hard to make these realistic. The children also tested out light from the sun (using a torch) on their models to explore how important the sun is. The children also made people and rafts they used to transport the stones. They've really enjoyed this!

This week, the **Discoverers** adopted a class panda! This was as a result of the children's work studying Asia earlier in the term, linked to the book 'The Firework Maker's Daughter'. The children are really excited to receive regular updates about their adoption. The class are also so looking forward to sharing their English work with Henderson's Estate Agents. They have produced some very professional home adverts, including many Tudor features.

In their classroom, the **Leaders** have been finalising and publishing their house details, using their best powers of persuasion to sell a Tudor property. The children have also been using their artistic skills in the form of Batik, making backdrops for our next design and technology project. We are looking forward to seeing the effects once it has been dyed!

Have a great weekend with your families.

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

Our Reading Advent Calendar

As we welcomed the start of advent this week, we have enjoyed sharing the first chapters of "How Winston Delivered Christmas" on Tapestry. As an alternative advent calendar, each night at 6.00pm, a new chapter from the book will be read by a member of Team Sleights all the way through to Christmas Eve. We hope you enjoy sharing these together as a family to follow along at home.

Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children - NEXT WEEK



Next Friday, 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 are 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. Thank you for those already received.

Flu Nasal Spray – Catch Up Clinic

If your child was unable to have the flu nasal spray in school this week, please email: hdft.childhood.immunisations@nhs.net or give the team a call: 01423 553115 to hear details of catch up clinics.

Clubs after Christmas

After the Christmas holidays, the following clubs will be available for each class:

- Tuesday after school: Dance with Hannah Verity for Learners and Adventurers (Years 1, 2 and 3) No charge, but permission on ParentPay, please.
- Wednesday after school: Sports with Mr Gokool for Discoverers and Leaders (Years 4, 5 and 6) Payment to Mr Gokool, with a link for booking due to be sent out next week.

Illness and absence from school

I am really grateful for families working with us to try and reduce the spread of any winter bugs or illness in school. However, I just wanted to remind everyone of a few points relating to absence and illness:

- If your child has vomited or had diarrhoea, they should not attend for a **full 48 hours** since their last bout of illness. This is an NHS requirement and something enforced for all at Sleights, including staff.
- We understand the difficulties in finding suitable appointments (dentist, opticians, doctor) but would ask, where reasonably possible, that these are made in advance for outside of school time. We understand that emergency appointments don't work like this, so in these cases, please let us know if a child is missing from school due to medical appointments.
- If your child is absent from school, please let us know as soon as possible (before 9.30am each day) This can be done through a variety of ways – email to me or the school office (both addresses are on the newsletter) Text the school mobile number or give us a ring. We are not always able to get to the phone on a morning, but we do pick up voice messages.
- Mrs Stubbs will make contact with families where we have not heard a reason for absence after 9.30am, so please help us by sharing this information as soon as you can. Thank you.

Selling houses with Henderson's

The children have been working really hard over the last few weeks preparing house adverts for homes from history. The first batch of completed work has been handed over and more will go next week.

The children are delighted to share their work with Henderson's Estate Agents, who have kindly agreed to showcase some of the adverts in their agency. This is an amazing writing opportunity for our children who will see, first hand, the impact their writing can have. Well done everyone and a big thank you to Rosie and the team at Henderson's. The Gazette will be covering this story too.



Book Fair News

A HUGE thank you for your brilliant support over the last week at our Book Fair. It was great to see so many families browsing and buying lots of fantastic new books. In total, our small school bought over **£700** of books! This is staggering and shows the great commitment we know our families and school has to reading. This superb amount means that school receives money to purchase new books for the library. Thank you all once again.





Swimming in January - reminder

After Christmas, swimming will begin again for Mrs Taylor and Mrs Hann's class (**Discoverers** and **Pioneers**) Swimming will take place on **TUESDAY MORNINGS**. 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.

St John's Crib Service

We have been asked to share details of the St. John's Crib Service on Christmas Eve, which will take place at 3pm.

Christmas Food - Booking for these additional meals has now closed.

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

Sleights is a nut free and peanut free school.

Next week's menu

Week One

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

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.

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.