



Weekly Newsletter

28th January 2022

News from Sleights

It has been exciting to see a number of new resources being shared in the **Explorers'** classroom this week. In recent weeks, the children have shown a real interest and fascination with vehicles and roads, so they have really enjoyed playing with their new road rug, as well as creating their own large map of Sleight. The children offered some great ideas about buildings in the village and where the roads should be placed.

Communication is so important in the Early Years and this week, the **Pioneers** have used lots of language to talk all things rockets this week. The children have been working tirelessly to design, draw, make and write about them. I was blown away by the level of discussion and detail included in children's work and the annotations they made to their designs. One of the children shared that "Being an engineer sounds like a good idea".

In **Learners**, the children have been finding out about the oceans in geography. Combining this knowledge with their work in art, the children worked hard on Thursday to create a collage representation of the ocean. The children enjoyed choosing different colours and textures to represent this. Learners also told me they have been loving their work on the two times table.

The **Adventurers** have been creating algorithms in computing this week. When I visited, the children were working with intense focus to create their commands and make their sequence work and repeat. The children were really proud to have been able to create their algorithms and were excited to share their work.

The **Discoverers** were keen to talk about some of their highlights with me this week. The children shared updates about their progress at swimming, more music on Thursday and how much they had enjoyed maths this week. The children also enjoyed telling me about their class text - "The Wild Robot".

The **Leaders** shared their enjoyment of RE this week, explaining their work about Hinduism. The children also talked about their work about their own physical and emotional wellbeing. I was impressed by the level of discussion that the children had, as they told me some of the ways we can keep ourselves physically and mentally well. We will be working closely with our school wellbeing nurse in the coming weeks to continue developing this work.

Have a great weekend with your families,

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

Staffing Update

After many years of dedicated service to Sleights, Mrs Roe has taken the decision to enjoy retirement early and will leave the school in April. Mrs Roe has worked with many children across school, both part and full time and we will be sad to see her go, but know that there will be lots of excitement to look forward to in retirement. We will keep families informed about teaching arrangements for Adventurers in the coming weeks.

Coronavirus cases in school - update

This week, we have unfortunately seen a small number of additional cases of Coronavirus in school. We are really grateful to families for their ongoing vigilance and support. I would urge families to continue wearing face coverings whilst at school and carry out regular testing. Where children feel unwell, please speak to us about the best way forward. We are keen, as I know families are, to keep cases low, so that everyone remains safe and well, whilst continuing to learn happily at school. Your ongoing support with this is greatly appreciated.

Work to the school forest

Children and families will have seen the very muddy playground and vehicles on site this week, as work was carried out in the school forest. For health and safety reasons, the decision was taken to remove the man-made pond, following ecological investigations and assessments.

The team from Wilf Noble's have been working really hard to extend the useable space in our forest, creating a whole new section of open woodland for the children to enjoy. The existing paths have been extended, meaning that there is even more scope for great work in the forest. We can't wait for the children to get in and enjoy it!



Year 6 SATS – May 2022

It was great to welcome, on screen, so many families to discuss the Year 6 SATs assessments, taking place this year in the week commencing 9th May. A copy of the timetable for the week is shown below. If you missed the workshops, or would like to know more, please just get in touch.

Monday 9 th May	Tuesday 10 th May	Wednesday 11 th May	Thursday 12 th May
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling	Reading	Maths: Arithmetic and Maths: Reasoning Paper 1	Maths: Reasoning Paper 2

To repeat the same message that was shared in the session, happy children is our key priority, so our work with SATs will be inline with achieving this.

East Barnby Residential for Year 5 and 6

A payment option has now been added to ParentPay for the remaining £300 for the trip later this year. This can be paid in one sum, or in several instalments. If you need any support processing these payments, please do get in touch.

The information below is unchanged from our previous newsletter

Non-uniform day – 18th February

Children are invited to wear RED for our final day of the half term on Friday, 18th February. We are hoping to raise money for the Children's Heart Unit Fund (CHUF), based at the Freeman Hospital in Newcastle. The charity raises much needed funds to support children with heart challenges who require support and surgery. I hope that, together, we can raise lots of money to support this incredible work.

To donate, please use ParentPay, where a payment item has been set up. Thank you for your support!



Music Club for Discoverers

As a follow-up to the excellent work the Discoverers have been doing in school with their class band, Miss Edwards (from the County Music Service) will be offering an after-school club for Brass and Woodwind players on Mondays. Depending on numbers, the young musicians will be able to form two extra ensembles, one for just Brass (Trumpets & Trombones) and the other for Woodwind players (Clarinets & Saxophones). This will give the children the opportunity to rehearse together in smaller groups and prepare pieces for performance. Mrs Taylor has spoken to the children about this opportunity, so if they would like to attend, please let us know on ParentPay and provide consent. Places are limited and the start date is to be confirmed.

Staying Safe – We need your help

Learning how to act safely when using the internet is an incredibly important part of safeguarding our children. To help us at Sleights, we are excited to launch a free online safety package to families at Sleights. Families can create a free online account to learn at home and receive tips and guides for staying safe online.



To set yourselves up:

- Follow this link: <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/sleights-ce-primary-school>
- Click the option of Parent (My child attends this school) and create your account.
- On the left hand side of the screen, you will see a big menu of guides and courses, which can be completed at home. We are encouraging families to spend time completing the "Annual Certificate in Online Safety" to help increase understanding and safety at home.

We are working hard to promote online safety across school, including ongoing staff training for staff and online safety lessons in the classroom. We hope that this work, alongside families signing up, will help us achieve a National Online Safety award.

Recorders

Mrs Rowland has now returned to teaching recorder sessions for Discoverers and Leaders. A number of children required a recorder, so school have purchased some to sell at a reduced rate. If your child requires a recorder, these can be purchased on ParentPay for £5. Unfortunately, due to our school risk assessment, we are unable to offer shared recorders and would encourage buying one to practise at home with.

Chinese New Year lunch – Next week

To celebrate Chinese New Year, the children will enjoy a special lunch menu on 3rd February. This will be made up of:

Sweet and Sour Chicken, Red Dragon Rice, Peas and Sweetcorn, followed by Sachima (rice cakes)

If your child usually has a packed lunch, but wants to join us for this special meal, please book this on ParentPay using the school meals option and adding Chinese New Year into the notes box, please. The meal will cost £2.50.

Next week's menu

Week 2	
Monday	Pasta bolognese, green beans, sweetcorn and bread, followed by oat and sultana cookie
Tuesday	Chicken and vegetable pie, roast potatoes, peas, cauliflower and bread, followed by cheese and crackers
Wednesday	Roast pork and apple sauce, gravy, creamy mashed potato, broccoli, carrots and pumpkin seed bread, followed by creamy rice pudding and peaches
Thursday	Chinese New Year Lunch: Sweet and Sour Chicken, Red Dragon Rice, Peas and Sweetcorn, followed by Sachima (rice cakes)
Friday	Crunchy breaded fish, chipped potatoes, green beans, carrots and 50/50 bread, followed by fruity flapjack

We ask that no nuts or peanuts are brought into school as ingredients or food items.