



Weekly Newsletter

11th February 2022

News from Sleights

On Tuesday, we were joined by our school advisor, who spent the full day visiting classrooms, reviewing children's work and speaking to staff/children about what it is like to come to Sleights. The visit was a really positive one with so much great work to celebrate.

The **Explorers** classroom has been buzzing! The children have been intently engaged in building their own vehicles (including a caravan), linked to their transport interests. The children have also really enjoyed using some big tyres to create new obstacle courses in their play. These new resources have certainly been a hit!

The **Pioneers** classroom has been very wet this week. The children have enjoyed developing their understanding of capacity, as they investigated filling and pouring with lots of different objects. The children created comparisons and ordered different containers, based on what could hold the most and least. It was great to hear so much science talk.

The **Learners** enjoyed time in the forest this week. After their successful Shabbat on Monday, the children enjoyed another Jewish celebration, involving building a special hut called a Sukkah. The children created their own forest Sukkah, which is used by families to spend time together and remember the pilgrimage to Jerusalem. The children worked really well together on this and also spotted signs of spring and sunshine.

I enjoyed listening to a very enthusiastic **Adventurers** class on Tuesday afternoon. The children were confidently counting and talking in French. I could hear some great dialogue, which has been built upon over the last few weeks. I am looking forward to hearing and seeing more progress in French!

Discoverers impressed me with their impressive times tables knowledge earlier in the week. I really enjoyed seeing the children work together to use their facts to add fractions together – something that is super tricky! The children have also been working hard to publish their explanation texts, which have been excellent to read!

Over the last few weeks, I have been fortunate to spend quite a lot of time with the **Leaders**. As a group, they are brilliant and it is so evident to see the care they have for each other. I have been particularly impressed to see how children have been supporting each other with trickier elements of work. The children are a real credit.

Have a great weekend with your families,

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

Staffing Update

After a rigorous recruitment process at the end of last week, I am delighted to share our plans for Leaders and Adventurers when Mrs Walker and Mrs Roe leave us at Easter.

Despite being with us for just a few weeks, we have all seen the great impact and work that Mrs Porter has had in Year 3. Following further recruitment activities last week, after Easter, Mrs Porter will take full time responsibility for the Leaders class. Mrs Porter is an experienced Key Stage Two teacher, with lots of Year 6 experience. She also knows Sleights well, so will be able to hit the ground running in the final term with our Year 6 children.

After Easter, we are also really excited to welcome Mrs Alix Brown to the team, who will take full time responsibility in Adventurers. During the interview day, Mrs Brown demonstrated how she would be a great addition to Team Sleights and we know she will make a great impact here. Mrs Brown will be in school on Tuesday next week to meet the Adventurers' children and families – look out for her on the gate!

I am sure everyone will join me in congratulating Rhiannon and Alix on their new positions.

Non-uniform day – next FRIDAY 18th

On Friday next week, children are invited to wear RED for our final day of the half term. 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!



Supporting Mental Health at Sleights

Children's mental health and emotional wellbeing is so important to us at Sleights. It is because of this that we have our very own school wellbeing nurse, Mel Randell, who carries out play therapy in our own play room.



We also want to promote positive mental health across all classes in school and do this in a number of ways already. However, to celebrate Children's Mental Health week, next week, Mel will be spending time in each class across school to carry out activities linked to promoting positive mental health. The work will focus on our feelings and how to keep our emotional wellbeing positive and healthy.

Learners visit to the mobile library

It was very exciting for some of the Learners to visit the mobile library on Monday. The children were keen to share the titles of some of their book choices, which have been brought back to school to enjoy in the classroom. In their next visit (Monday 7th March), the rest of the Learners will enjoy a visit to swap and get new books.

World Book Day – Thursday 3rd March



We love reading at Sleights! As a school, we always celebrate reading and all things books, but we will also be joining worldwide celebrations on Thursday 3rd March for World Book Day. As well as Book Day celebrations and activities (details to follow, **but no dress up will be required**) the children will be given a £1 book token, which can be exchanged for one of twelve new books, or be put towards another book. Tokens will be sent home before half term.

To celebrate World Book Day, North Yorkshire County Caterers have produced special menu, inspired by Charlie's Mackesey's 'The Boy, Mole, Fox and Horse'. If your child usually has a packed lunch, but would like to join in on World Book Day, please buy one school meal on ParentPay, writing World Book Day, in the notes.

World Book Day Menu:

Positivity Pizza, You can do it diced potatoes, brave broccoli and courageous carrots, followed by Mole Mud chocolate muffins

Next week's menu

	Week 1
Monday	Cheese and Tomato Pizza, diced potatoes, peas and sweetcorn, followed by chocolate crunch
Tuesday	Chicken and tomato pasta bake, carrots, green beans and garlic bread, followed by cheese and crackers
Wednesday	Savoury minced beef and Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, cauliflower, sweetcorn and sliced wholemeal bread, followed by fruit jelly and ice cream
Thursday	Sausage, mash and onion gravy, carrots, broccoli and 50/50 bread, followed by apple crumble and custard
Friday	Fish fingers, baked beans, peas, chipped potatoes and tomato bread, followed by fruity jam sponge

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