



NEWSLETTER



13/01/2023

Dear Families and Friends,

Phoebe Update

Thank you again for your continued support and understanding with regards to my work arrangements over the last two weeks. My wife and I are deeply touched by your response and will not forget this following this challenging period. I must also take this opportunity to thank the rest of the staff team for their response and seamless adaptability over the last fortnight. They have allowed the school to have a 'business as usual' feel over the last fortnight, which is very reassuring.

I am pleased to say that we have been able to return to Yorkshire this week, albeit to Wakefield. This has allowed me to more easily work in school for parts of the week whilst also managing to travel to care for Phoebe and my wife, as well as work remotely during the parts of the week I am not in school. Phoebe continues to make good progress and, whilst she is doing so, will allow me to continue to fulfil most of my normal roles and responsibilities, albeit in a different way. I am, therefore, still contactable throughout the week via e-mail and via the school office, so please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Clubs

All of our clubs started this week, including two new ones: Website/Journalism Club and Art Club. Our children have been enthused with having the opportunity to try new clubs and to explore other talents they may have. It has been great hearing them discuss these during the school day at break and lunch times.

Mrs Beadnall and Mrs Dixon (parent/grandparent of children in school) have kindly offered to run a table/board games club on Mondays after school, starting on Monday 23rd January (3.15-4.15pm). More details of this club and permission forms can be found on this link: <https://forms.gle/caUpBeHq4guWa3zF7>

This means that we now have a club available on every afternoon of the school week – a fantastic achievement for a small school! We will continue to review our extra-curricular provision in the future, especially as we recognise that there is limited opportunities for our youngest children to attend clubs currently. There are potential plans in place to begin a gardening club for this age group in the future – watch this space!

We are also continuing to explore the options for paid wraparound care after school too, to provide additional flexibility for those parents who work or require additional childcare after school hours.

Swimming Lessons

I was delighted to see how much our children enjoyed restarting their swimming lessons again on Monday. Being located close to the coast and with nearby rivers, it is essential that children learn the importance of water safety and water confidence, as well as how they can keep active through swimming.

Thank you to the parents that sent children with 'easy to change' clothing – this makes the process of changing 54 children a lot simpler!



Questionnaire

Our parental questionnaire will close at the end of next week, after which we will share the responses, feedback and any planned changes. If you have not completed this, you can do so by following this link: <https://forms.gle/hhmnkz5QPbY9F4y17>

Key Stage 2 Trip

On Friday 20th January, our Key Stage 2 children will be attending their rearranged trip to York. Children should arrive at school at the earlier time of 7.50am in school uniform and a coat. For children that usually have a school meal, a school packed lunch will be provided unless parents inform school otherwise. An updated consent form was sent out earlier this week from the school office. You can access this through this link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/eWWE5KJ5qJ>

Please ensure that this has been completed. Children will arrive back at school at approximately 3.45-4pm. However, we will try to update you if there are any delays.

Key Stage 2 Teaching Assistant

We are currently looking to recruit an additional part-time teaching assistant to work with our older children. If you know someone that may be interested in this role, please encourage them to contact school or apply through the following link: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/castleton-community-primary-school-general-teaching-assistant-ks2-midday-supervisory-assistant>

Snow Forecast

There has been snow forecast for next week. We will aim to update you as soon as possible if there are any changes to the school day as a result of staff not being able to travel safely to/from school.

Curriculum Overview

Attached to this newsletter is the curriculum overviews for both of our classes. We hope you find it interesting and useful to know what your child is learning in school. We know many of you like to know this so that you can discuss your child's learning at home.

Termly Reports

This week, for children in Year 2-6, you should have received an overview of your child's attendance and assessment information from last term. This is a new system we are trialling following feedback from parents last term who said they would like to have a short termly report alongside the usual parents' evening feedback. We hope you find this informative. We aim to produce an updated version of this report in April, as well as including a report for children in Year 1.

NSPCC – Virtual Reality Headsets and Staying Safe Online Advice

This year, one of the most popular Christmas toys was virtual reality (VR) headsets. The NSPCC have released guidance on how you can keep your child safe online, including when they use these headsets.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/about-us/news-opinion/2022/christmas-vr-safety-advice-for-parents-metaverse/>

Have a great weekend,

Mr Cooper



Awards

Acorns: Scott – for excellent concentration and always approaching new learning with interest and curiosity.

Oaks: Finley – for working independently in lessons and showing super cricket skills with his friends!

Attendance: This week's attendance was **93.6%** which is slightly below the national average of 94%.

Our attendance this year is: 94%



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Headteacher timetable for next week	
Monday	Glaisdale all day
Tuesday	Hospital (contactable via e-mail and school office)
Wednesday	Castleton all day
Thursday	Hospital (contactable via e-mail and school office)
Friday	KS2 York Trip (both schools)

Next Week's Events

- Monday** **Swimming** for all children – please bring swimming kit and towel in a bag
- Tuesday** **Music Lessons** with Alix Lillie. Please remember instruments
Signing Club
- Wednesday** **No Outdoor Learning** Due to cricket lessons and swimming beginning again
Year 6 SATs Buster Club (8-9am)
Cricket Lessons Children may come to school in PE clothing
Website/Journalism Club
- Thursday** **Choir Club**
- Friday** **KS2 York Trip** – Arrive at school at 7.50am
No Art Club – Due to KS2 York Trip

Future Diary Dates

Please note: some of these events may still need to be confirmed.

January

- 20th: Key Stage 2 Trip to York**
23rd: Board/Table Games Club begins

February

- 10th: End of half-term**
24th: Year 3/4 Hockey Coaching

March

- 7th: Year 3/4 Hockey tournament**
14th: Straws Cup Football competition (4-6pm)
24th: Training day
31st: End of term

Term Dates 2022/23

- ★ ~~Half Term – Monday 24th October to Friday 28th October~~
- ★ ~~Staff Training Day – Friday 9th December~~
- ★ ~~Last day of Autumn Term – Friday 16th December~~
- ★ ~~First Day of Spring Term – Tuesday 3rd January 2023~~
- ★ Half Term - Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February 2023
- ★ Staff Training Day - Friday 24th March 2023
- ★ Last day of Spring Term - Friday 31st March 2023
- ★ First day of Summer Term - Monday 17th April 2023
- ★ Bank Holiday - Monday 1st May 2023
- ★ Bank Holiday – Monday 8th May 2023
- ★ Half Term - Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June 2023
- ★ Last day of Summer Term - Monday 24th July 2023