



"Outstanding Together"



NEWSLETTER



24/02/2023

Dear Families and Friends,

New Staff Member – General Teaching Assistant (Morning in Oaks)

I am pleased to say that our search for additional classroom support has concluded. Shortly before half-term, we successfully appointed Mrs Victoria Napoleon to our staff team as a general teaching assistant in Oaks Class (mornings only) and as a midday supervisor. Mrs Napoleon currently works in the NHS as well as running a Mini-First Aiders business where she has experience of supporting and teaching children.

Subject to background checks, Mrs Napoleon should be able to join our team after Easter, although she hopes to visit the school/children for a couple of days in the next month, to get used to the new role.

This means that we now have four members of staff in our large, mixed-aged class, allowing children to more easily access support and/or have their needs met. I know for many of you with children in this class that this will be welcomed.

Eskdale Festival

Our school choir will be performing at the Whitby Spa as part of the Eskdale Festival on Wednesday 15th March (10am). We would love to see as many parents/family members join to support our children. There will be a small fee on the door. We look forward to seeing you there.

Swimming

Many apologies for the confusion regarding swimming this week. Unfortunately, Loftus Pool was unavailable to us this week due to Redcar & Cleveland Council's half-term break not coinciding with ours. A session will be refunded to those parents that contributed to the cost of the transport.

Key Stage 1 Trip – Preston Park

Our Acorn Class will be visiting Preston Park Museum on Wednesday. We are really pleased to get our youngest children out on another trip, which helps address some of the parental feedback we had earlier in the year.

Children should arrive at the usual time in their uniform with a warm coat. Packed lunches will be provided by the school. Children will arrive back to school before the end of the school day, so should be collected at 3.15pm. If you have not already done so, please can you complete and return the consent form sent out before half-term.

Outdoor Learning

Next week, Oaks class will begin their outdoor learning sessions again on Wednesdays. However, going forward, to allow children to have full value of the sessions, the class will be split, so that older and younger children will have sessions on alternate weeks. Reminders will be placed in the newsletter each week as to which year groups will be attending, however the following can be used as a guide (subject to change):

Oaks class (all year groups for one week only): Wednesday 1st March 2023

Year 5/6: Wednesday 8th March & Wednesday 22nd March

Year 3/4: Wednesday 15th March & Wednesday 29th March

Please note: Acorns will be starting their outdoor learning on Wednesday 8th March (as they are on their trip next week). They will continue to attend as a whole class.

World Book Day – 2nd March 2023

We will be celebrating World Book Day in school on Thursday 2nd March 2023. Children may come to school dressed as their favourite book character! Our School Council will be helping to decide some of the in-school activities that we will do to mark this date and encourage positivity around reading.

Acorns Class History Provision

Our Acorns class would really appreciate some donations of some older/interesting objects for their history provision area. If you think you have anything that fits this loose description, please bring into school. Please note that these items will be regularly handled by children.

Wellbeing Club – Redcar & Cleveland Mind

We were delighted to start our new Wellbeing Club this week for children aged 9-11. This is being led by trained counsellors from Redcar & Cleveland Mind. All the children really enjoyed the mindfulness activities they experienced, as well as establishing a safe space where they can discuss their mental health.

After School Care

After-school care is now available! This will be run by Mrs (Sophie) Wilson each day at the cost of £3 between 3.15-4.15pm and £5 for any child attending after 4.15pm (up until 5.15pm).

Please note: all other school clubs will still be free of charge. This is provision for those children that are not attending a club and/or requiring care after a club has finished.

If you would like to book your child in for this provision, please contact the School Office.

Unfortunately, if we do not have enough interest in this provision, we will need to limit the days it is available or withdraw it entirely.

Phoebe Update

I am delighted to say that Phoebe is very close to being ready for discharge from hospital after battling through the last two months! It is possible that she will be home as early as this weekend.

As a result, over the next few weeks, it is likely that I will be splitting my week between school and home. I will still be contactable in emergencies and will continue to work from home (whilst also spending time as a family, of course!) However, please, in the first instance, as usual, contact Mr Sellers (Teacher-in-Charge) if you need to discuss any issues.

PTFA

The PTFA are holding a coffee morning at Castleton Village Hall at 10:00am on Saturday 4th March, 2023 in aid of funds. Please come along and support us.

Have a great weekend,

Mr Cooper



Attendance: This week's attendance was **92.3%** which is below the national average of 93.8%
Our attendance this year is: 94.2%

Stars of the Week/Awards

Acorns: Martha – for always showing kindness and empathy towards others.

Oaks: Robyn – for continued hard work and independence, especially in maths!

Headteacher's Award: Vasyliv – for an amazing improvement in speaking and writing in English!
за дивовижне вдосконалення усної та письмової мови англійською!



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Next Week's Events

Monday	Swimming for all children – please bring swimming kit and towel in a bag Board/Table Games Club
Tuesday	Music Lessons with Alix Lillie. Please remember instruments Signing Club
Wednesday	Outdoor Learning (Oaks only) Acorns Trip to Preston Park Year 6 SATs Buster Club (8-9am) Website/Journalism Club
Thursday	Choir Club
Friday	Art Club

Future Diary Dates

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

February

28th Stay and Play for new starters 2023 (1.30-3pm)

March

1st: Key Stage 1 Trip to Preston Park
1st: Oaks (whole class) Outdoor Learning
2nd: World Book Day
7th: Year 3/4 Hockey tournament
8th: Acorns start outdoor learning (weekly)
8th: Year 5/6 Outdoor Learning
14th: Straws Cup Football competition (4-6pm)
15th: Year 3/4 Outdoor Learning
17th: Red Nose Day
20th: Parents Evening – Oaks and Acorns
22nd: Year 5/6 Outdoor Learning
23rd: Parents Evening – Oaks and Acorns
23rd: Stay and Play for new starters 2023 (1.30-3pm)
24th: Training day
28th: Parents Evening – Oaks Only
29th: Year 3/4 Outdoor Learning
31st: End of term

April

17th: Children return to school
20th: Stay and Play for new starters 2023 (1.30-3pm)

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

Term Dates 2023/24

- ★ Staff Training Day – Monday 4th September 2023
- ★ Staff Training Day – Tuesday 5th September 2023
- ★ First day of Autumn Term – Wednesday 6th September 2023
- ★ Half Term - Monday 30th October to Friday 3rd November 2023
- ★ Staff Training Day - Friday 15th December 2023
- ★ Last day of Autumn Term - Friday 22nd December 2023
- ★ First Day of Spring Term – Monday 8th January 2024
- ★ Half Term - Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February 2024
- ★ Staff Training Day - Friday 15th March 2024
- ★ Last day of Spring Term - Friday 22nd March 2024
- ★ First day of Summer Term - Monday 8th April 2024
- ★ Bank Holiday – Monday 6th May 2024
- ★ Half Term - Monday 27th May to Friday 31st 2024
- ★ Last day of Summer Term - Monday 22nd July 2024