



"Outstanding Together"



NEWSLETTER



21/07/2023

Dear Families and Friends,

Message from Mr Cooper

On behalf of everyone at Castleton, please can I thank you all for a wonderful year. Your support has allowed us to make leaps of progress as a school which has really benefitted our children in and out of the classroom. This is really reflected in the results we have achieved in national assessments, from early learning goals to phonics screening to Year 4 multiplication check to Year 2/6 SATs – we have achieved in-line or above the national average across the board!

We have a solid platform to build on this progress next year and we have plans in place to improve our school further through the following priorities:

- Further developing our curriculum in all subjects, basing our lessons around key themes
- Developing how we support children with additional needs
- Enhancing our writing curriculum
- Broadening children's experience of their community and wider world so that they are prepared for the next stage in their journey.

On a personal level, I would also like to extend my thanks for all your support during my own family's tricky time just after Christmas with the early arrival of my daughter, Phoebe. I am indebted to you for the care and understanding you gave during this time which allowed me to focus on my own family, as well as my Castleton Family! I am pleased to say that Phoebe continues to do well. Her consultant is very happy with her progress and the outlook is that she will not have any complications due to the premature birth. We are now starting to wean Phoebe onto food; she is starting to roll over on her own and is constantly talking to us or smiling!

Goodbye

We not only say goodbye to our fantastic Year 6s this week; we also say goodbye and good luck to Miss Clay who will sadly be leaving us at the end of this year. We wish Miss Clay and her family the very best for the future and thank her for all she has done for our school, especially our Acorns children.

YEAT Olympics – Monday 24th July

The weather forecast for Monday's Olympics event in Whitby with our other trust schools is not looking favourable (as it stands). We will try make a decision as early as possible as to whether this will go ahead. If we do have to cancel the event, we will have a fun day in school with our children, to make up for it.

Whether the event goes ahead or not, children should come to school in weather-appropriate sportswear (incl. coat) and footwear, with their own packed lunch and drink. We will be collected and dropped-off during the regular school day.

Outdoor Learning and PE

There will be no outdoor learning in the first week of term. Oaks will have fortnightly sessions on Mondays, alternating between Year 3/4 Year 5/6. Acorns will continue to have fortnightly sessions on Wednesday mornings. We will communicate when these sessions will commence after the summer break.

PE sessions for Acorns will take place on Mondays and alternate Wednesdays (when they do not have outdoor learning) – however, this does not include the first week back with the school re-opening on a Wednesday.

Oaks will have PE sessions on Tuesdays and Fridays (including in the first week back).

Children should come to school wearing the appropriate kit for PE/outdoor learning.

Sports Day

Thank you for all your support on Sports Day. We were delighted to be able to get almost all events completed before the heavens opened. The children thoroughly enjoyed the competition, showing great sportsmanship and doing their best at all times whilst putting on some wonderful races and events for us to see. Thank you also to Castleton Cricket Club for the use of their facilities, to Matthew Jackson for cutting and line marking and to the PTFA for keeping us fed and watered throughout the afternoon. The results were as follows:

Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter
131	134	118	105

Summer Fair

A massive thank you for everyone's support at our Summer Fair. Whether you donated a prize, ran a stall, supported with the setting up and clearing away or just came along to enjoy the afternoon, it was greatly appreciated. A special mention must go to our PTFA for their hard word arranging and supporting us again, as they have done all year. We managed to raise the fantastic total of **£652.80!** This is over £250 more than last year – thank you so much!

Clubs in September

There will be no clubs in the first week back in September. We will send out permission forms for our clubs in this first week back, so that they can begin from the week commencing 11th September.

We will also be gauging parental interest in paid-for after-school provision for afternoons where no club is available, or not of interest, to children.

Pre-loved Uniform – If you have any outgrown uniform at home that you would be happy to donate to school, if you can pass this on to us, it would be greatly appreciated.

End of Year Awards

I was extremely pleased and proud to recognise some outstanding individuals this year by providing them with our Nurture, Sport, Outdoor Learning and Resiliency Awards. Our winners were:

Nurture: Holly

Sports: Toby & Katie

Outdoor learning: Jack & Layla

Resiliency: Hordiy and Vasylii

Well done to these students. They now get to keep their trophy until next summer when it will be passed on to the new winner.

Safeguarding Concerns during the School Holidays

With the upcoming summer holidays, and as a reminder to all parents, you may wish to know what to do if you have a concern about a child's welfare. NSPCC offer confidential support for any person who wishes to discuss concerns: 0808 800 5000 (<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>)

For more urgent referrals, please call the North Yorkshire Council Multi-Agency Screening Team (connected to social care): 0300 131 2 131. For emergencies, please call 999.

Children return to school on **Wednesday 6th September 2023** – we look forward to seeing you again. Have a great summer holiday!

Mr Cooper



Stars of the Week:

Oaks: Scarlet - for giving her best in everything she does and taking a mature approach to school life.

Acorns: Scott – for always being such a good friend to others.



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Attendance: Our final attendance for the year was 94.6%. This is above the national average of 94.0% - thank you for supporting and encouraging good attendance across the year!

Headteacher timetable for first week back

Mon	Training Day
Tues	Training Day
Weds	am – Glaisdale pm – Castleton
Thurs	am – Castleton pm – Glaisdale
Fri	am – Castleton pm – Glaisdale

Next Week's Events

Monday	Training Day
Tuesday	Training Day
Wednesday	Children return to school No Signing Club for first week back
Thursday	No Choir Club for first week back
Friday	Oaks PE Please arrive in PE kit No Sports Club for first week back

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

Future Diary Dates

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

July

24th: YEAT Sports Festival at Whitby Town FC

24th: School finishes for summer holidays

Next academic year:

04/09: Training Day

05/09: Training Day

06/09: Children return to school

21/09: Zambia Schools Trust Assembly

05/10: Key Stage 2 Trip to Eden Camp

13/10: Tub-up Music Workshop (parent volunteers may be required)

20/03-22/03 – Year 3/4 Peat Rigg Visit

13/05-17/05 – Year 6 SATs Week

10/06-14/06 – Year 1 Phonics Screen Week

22/07 – YEAT Arts Extravaganza

Please avoid booking term time holidays, especially during assessment weeks.

Get active with the Summer Reading Challenge 2023!

Ready, Set, Read!

You can pre-book events from Saturday 15th July

All events for ages 4-11

A summer of fun at Whitby Library!

- Thursday 27th July 10am-12noon: Elmer and the Race - story, crafts & games
- Thursday 10th August 10am-12noon: Sports in Lego - help build a sport stadium!
- Thursday 17th August 10am-12noon: Sporty Crafts - decorate a sports bag, trophy, & mascot keyring, £2.00 per child
- Thursday 31st August 10am-12noon: Yorkshire Rotters - Smoothie Bike & Love Food Hate Waste activity
- Thursday 3rd August 10am-12noon: Sporty Crafts - decorate a sports bag, trophy, & mascot keyring, £2.00 per child
- Thursday 24th August 10am-11am: Colebrooke Productions "Ready-Set-Read" cheer-leading & dance session

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

THE READING AGENCY

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

[f](#) @ukwhitbylibrary [t](#)

Children can once again sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge at their local library during the holidays. This year the theme is Ready Set Read! and is all about the power of play, sport, games, and physical activity.

The challenge for children is to read 6 library books of their choice and collect special stickers and other prizes along the way – everyone who finishes will receive a limited-edition Ready Set Read! medal and a certificate. Any child aged 4 to 11 can join in and the challenge runs from Sat 15th July until Sat 9th Sept.

There will also be a fantastic programme of activities in libraries all summer, many of them free, to go with the challenge – look out for flyers with more details which have been sent to schools to share with children and families.

Anyone living outside Whitby can also access library books via the Supermobile Library which visits Danby, Castleton, Staithes, Sleights, and Robin Hood's Bay among many others around the County, or you can join our library online and read e-books if this is preferable. Please call us if you have any queries, on 01609 534350 at Whitby Library.