



# NEWSLETTER

27/10/2023



Dear Families and Friends,

## Message from the Headteacher

We have had a wonderful first (and long) half-term of the school year. Our children have settled really well into their new year groups/classes, including our new starters. We really appreciate your support at home with allowing this transition to occur smoothly. This has created a platform for the rest of the year which will allow children to flourish in all areas of our curriculum. We are looking forward to a productive and busy end to this first term when we return in November. No doubt our children (and adults!) will be excited about the festive season and the usual performances and Christmas activities which we are looking forward to delivering.

Thank you again for all your support.

## Co-op Fundraising for School

We are raising funds to support some of our children in their access to specialist sensory provision. We are doing this through Co-op Community Fundraising. If you are a Co-op member, you can choose us as your chosen cause, raising money each time you shop. For more details on the cause and how to sign up, please follow this link:

<https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/86265>

## Mrs Barber Update

Mrs Barber is recovering well from her operation. She hopes to return after half-term, however Mrs Grace has kindly offered to cover any further absence, should Mrs Barber not have recovered sufficiently to return immediately after the break.

## Road Safety

In the interests of safety, please can we ask parents to wait for their children on the playground, rather than waiting outside the gate. This allows families to safely enter/exit the main gate without having to step into the road. Thank you for your consideration.

## Year 6 SATs Buster Sessions

Year 6 will have their first SATs Buster session on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November (8-9am). They have been provided with their first task to complete prior to this session. They may ask for help at home with this, if required, but this should be indicated on the paper. After Christmas, we will expect students to complete these papers independently, gaining any help in school, so we are able to understand what support children require before their assessments in May.

## Key Stage 2 Paralympian and Performance Poet Visit

Our older pupils had an excellent day at Oakridge Primary School on Tuesday. In the morning, they met Paralympic gold medallist, Stephen Miller, who spoke about his life in sport and how he has overcome obstacles in his journey to Paralympic glory. Stephen then led children through a fitness circuit.

In the afternoon, the children had the opportunity to meet Adisa, a performance poet, and take part in an interactive workshop where they got to perform their own poetry.

## Castleton PTFA Coffee Morning

Thank you to our wonderful PTFA for running another successful coffee morning, this time in school. This was well attended and a magnificent total in excess of £300 was raised to help support school trips and resources. Thank you for your support!



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## Acorns Visit to Danby Fire Station

Acorns enjoyed a visit to Danby Fire Station on Thursday as part of their learning on the Great Fire of London. We are very grateful to the fire service for showing us around and helping our learning come to life.

## PE/Forest School

After half-term, children will continue to have forest school sessions (on alternate weeks). These will conclude at the end of November when we will allow our site to recover over winter and when we will focus on the Christmas performance. Please see Class Dojo and the events section below to see which week your child is attending forest school.

Children will continue PE in the same slots as this half-term. Acorns will have weekly sessions on Mondays with Mr Sellers and fortnightly sessions with Mrs Wardell on Wednesdays.

Oaks will have PE sessions on Tuesdays (Mrs Wardell) and Fridays (Mr Sellers).

## Sports Club

Sports Club will continue after half-term until the nights become too dark. We will then offer an art club for Key Stage 2 in its place until the end of term. After Christmas, Key Stage 1 will have the opportunity to an art club (in winter) and sport club (in spring) on Fridays.

## Stay and Play – New Reception Starters September 2024

We will be hosting our first 'Stay and Play' sessions for children starting school in September 2024. These will take place in school on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November (1.30-3pm) and Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December (1.30-3pm). If you are interested in attending, please contact the school office to inform us that your child will be attending. Please feel free to share this more widely with other parents who are not connected with the school.

## Playground Leader Training

On Thursday, our Year 6 children received playground leader training with Mrs Twamley from Lady Lumley's Secondary School. They learnt how to lead a range of games and activities which they can deliver to younger children during lunch and break times, encouraging greater activity and a more structure approach to play.

## End of Half-Term

School will now close for half-term. We will reopen on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November. Please see term dates below for any future holidays and training days.

Have a great weekend,

Mr Cooper

**Attendance:** Our attendance this week was: 96.7%

Our attendance this year: 96.3%

National average this year: 95.4%

## Stars of the Week:

**Acorns:** James – for always approaching learning with interest and enthusiasm and impressing us with his great knowledge on the Great Fire of London!

**Oaks:** Ivan – for sharing and communicating his knowledge confidently in history lessons!

**Headteacher:** Robyn – for excellent effort in RE and recollection of key vocabulary!





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Headteacher timetable for the upcoming week	
Mon	am – Castleton pm - Glaisdale
Tues	Support school in Scarborough
Weds	am – Castleton pm - Glaisdale
Thurs	Castleton all day
Fri	Glaisdale all day

## Next Week's Events

- Monday**                      **Year 5/6 Forest School** please arrive in appropriate kit/footwear  
**Acorns PE** please arrive in PE kit
- Tuesday**                     **Year 6 SATs Buster Club** (8-9am)  
**Wellbeing Club** Year 5/6 only  
**Oaks PE** please arrive in appropriate kit/footwear  
**Music Lessons**
- Wednesday**                **Acorns PE** please arrive in appropriate kit/footwear  
**Signing Club**  
**New Starters 2024 Stay and Play** 2-3.30pm
- Thursday**                    **Choir Club**
- Friday**                        **Oaks PE** Please arrive in appropriate kit/footwear  
**Sports Club**

## Term Dates 2023/24

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





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## Future Diary Dates

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

### November

06/11: Year 5/6 Forest School  
08/11: Reception 2024 Stay and Play (2-3.30pm)  
13/11: Year 3/4 Forest School  
15/11: Acorns Forest School  
20/11: Year 5/6 Forest School  
27/11: Year 3/4 Forest School  
29/11: Acorns Forest School

### December

07/12: Reception 2024 Stay and Play (2-3.30pm)  
12/12: Whole school panto trip  
15/12: Training Day – School Closed  
18/12: Christmas Performance (2pm)  
19/12: Christmas Performance (6pm)  
21/12: Carols round the Tree (6pm)

### Future Dates

11/03-13/03 – Eskdale Festival  
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  
03/07 – Choir Really Big Sing Event  
22/07 – YEAT Arts Extravaganza

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



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