



NEWSLETTER

01/12/2023



Dear Families and Friends,

Teacher-in-Charge Interviews

On Wednesday 6th December, we will be holding interviews for our new Teacher-in-Charge. All children and staff will get an opportunity to meet the candidates during the morning, either through having lessons taught by them or at lunch time. We hope to confirm if we have successfully appointed by the end of next week and will also confirm when the successful candidate can take up the position, as well as any interim arrangements should they not be able to begin immediately after the Christmas break.

PTFA Support/Donations

Our wonderful PTFA will be, once again, supporting our Christmas events. However, they require your support. If you are able to support with any of the following, please contact a member of the PTFA or school:

- Raffle donations for a hamper to be drawn at the school performances (by 14th December)
- Mince pie donations for the Carols round the Tree event (by 21st December)
- Volunteer support with these events

Snow Closures

We will always endeavour to open school. However, as stated in an email sent to families earlier in the week, we will only open if it is clearly safe to do so. Some staff members travel considerable distances to get to/from school and this needs to be factored into any decision regarding school closures, including planning for these staff to return home at the end of the day. This decision is never taken lightly and is often complicated as it is dependent on forecasts being correct and individual staff's ability to travel from their respective locations. We will aim to inform families as soon as possible as to whether the school is open or not during snowy/icy conditions. Thank you for your understanding.

School Pantomime Visit – Tuesday 12th December

You will have received communication regarding the upcoming visit to Billingham Forum to watch the pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk* which will take place on Tuesday 12th December. The children will be out of school for the majority of the day, meaning that a packed lunch will be provided from school (for those that regularly have school meals) unless you inform us otherwise on the consent form. The total cost of the visit is £18.80 per child, however the PTFA and school will subsidise the majority of the cost, so that the (voluntary) cost to parents is £7 per child.

Coastguard Visit – Acorns

On Wednesday, Acorns were fortunate enough to be joined by the coastguard! They spoke to our children about their role and how they help people who have got into trouble near the coast, before venturing to our woodland site to learn about keeping safe near rivers and open water and what to do if someone gets into difficulty. Finally, we had a tour of the search and rescue truck and got to try on some of the equipment. We even got to see if we were big enough to drive the truck!

We hope to arrange a similar visit for Oaks later in the academic year after their visit with cancelled.

Forest Schools/PE

We have now finished forest school sessions for the term. These will start again in the spring when the weather/site improves.

Acorns will now have weekly PE sessions on Wednesdays. They will no longer have PE on Mondays.

Oaks will continue to have PE sessions on Tuesdays and Fridays.





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Stay and Play – Thursday 7th December (1.30-3pm)

We will be hosting our next Stay and Play for children starting school in September 2024 on Thursday 7th December (1.30-3pm). All families with children who have birthdays between 01/09/19 and 31/08/20 are welcome to join us, especially if they are choosing Castleton as their destination next year or if they are undecided.

Staff Training Day – Friday 15th December

On Friday 15th December, school will be closed to students whilst staff have their training day.

Have a great weekend,

Mr Cooper

Attendance: Our attendance this week was: 93.2%

Our attendance this year: 95.3%

National average this year: 95.2%

Stars of the Week:

Acorns: Vasylii – for some excellent ideas and suggestions when exploring materials in science!

Oaks: Emily – for excellent effort all round!

Headteacher timetable for the upcoming week

Mon	am – Castleton pm - Glaisdale
Tues	Castleton all day
Weds	am – Castleton pm - Glaisdale
Thurs	am – Castleton pm - Glaisdale
Fri	Glaisdale all day

Next Week's Events

Monday *No PE or Forest School for either class until spring. Please arrive in uniform.*

Tuesday
Year 6 SATs Buster Club (8-9am)
Wellbeing Club led by Redcar & Cleveland Mind
Oaks PE please arrive in appropriate kit/footwear
Music Lessons

Wednesday
Acorns PE please arrive in appropriate kit/footwear
Signing Club
Teacher-in-Charge Interviews

Thursday **Choir Club**

Friday
Oaks PE Please arrive in appropriate kit/footwear
Art Club



National Nurturing
School Award
2023





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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.

December

- 06/12: Interviews for Teacher in Charge
- 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

- 06/03 – Acorns Author Visit
- 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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Friday 15th
December 2023
1:30pm

ST HEDDA'S
CATHOLIC
PRIMARY
SCHOOL
presents
GRINCHMAS

**CLASS 2 CHRISTMAS
PERFORMANCE**

FOLLOWED BY OUR
'WHOBILATION' FAIR
FEATURING:

- CHRISTMAS CRAFTS
- ANIMAL PETTING
- REINDEER FOOD
MAKING
- GLITTER TATTOOS
- TRADITIONAL GAMES
AND STALLS



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YORKSHIRE
Endeavour
academy trust
Ethical | Nurturing | Brave

