



# NEWSLETTER

08/12/2023



Dear Families and Friends,

## New Teacher-in-Charge

Families will have received a separate letter to announce the news that we have successfully appointed Mrs Nicola Wardell as Teacher-in-Charge, starting January 2024. I am sure you will all be pleased to hear this news, despite the disappointment of Mr Sellers' departure at the end of term. I am also sure you will welcome Mrs Wardell to our Castleton Family, so that she can have as much of an impact as Mr Sellers has. Please refer to the additional letter for more details.

## 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 14<sup>th</sup> December)
- Mince pie donations for the Carols round the Tree event (by 21<sup>st</sup> December)
- Volunteer support with these events

## School Pantomime Visit – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December

We will be visiting the Billingham Forum to watch the pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk* on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. Children should arrive at the usual drop-off time, so that we can depart promptly. We will return before the end of the school day. Children should wear their regular uniform and bring a coat. All children who regularly have a school meal will be provided with a packed lunch from school unless you have signified otherwise.

*If your child requires ear defenders for such performances, please ensure these are provided from home and brought to school.*

## Stay and Play – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December (1.30-3pm)

It was wonderful, again, to see so many new faces join us for our Stay and Play. As a reminder, for children starting school in September 2024, applications must be made via North Yorkshire Council (<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-admissions/starting-primary-school-and-junior-school>) by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

## Final Club Sessions of the Term

The final sessions of our clubs will take place on the following dates:

Wellbeing Club: Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December

Signing Club: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December

Choir: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December

Art Club: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December

Clubs will recommence in the new term. However, we will need to confirm whether a club on a Friday can go ahead due to staffing changes.

## Music Lessons

Due to the pantomime visit on Tuesday, music lessons will take place on Wednesday next week.

## Christmas Lunch – Thursday 21/12/2023

All children are invited for Christmas Lunch, if your child usually brings a packed lunch and would like a Christmas lunch, please can you let school know by Wednesday 13/12/2023 so that Gaby can order the food.





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## Staff Training Day – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> 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: 92.2%

Our attendance this year: 94.9%

National average this year: 95.1%

### Stars of the Week:

**Acorns:** Dylan – for a brilliant week and for taking part in his phonics groups and assemblies for the first time!

Gabriel – for participating in group activities with enthusiasm and focus!

**Oaks:** Alfie and Maddy – both for super effort in their independent writing!

**Headteacher:** The entire Oaks class – for their excellent attitude and for welcoming all candidates during the interviews!

Headteacher timetable for the upcoming week	
Mon	am – Glaisdale pm - Oakridge
Tues	Castleton all day
Weds	am – Glaisdale pm - Lealholm
Thurs	Supporting school in Scarborough
Fri	Training 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) still on despite panto trip  
**Whole school trip to Pantomime** (during school hours)  
**Wellbeing Club** led by Redcar & Cleveland Mind  
**No Oaks PE** due to panto trip

**Wednesday**  
**Acorns PE** please arrive in appropriate kit/footwear  
**Signing Club** Final session of the term  
**Music Lessons** On Wednesday due to panto trip on Tuesday

**Thursday** **Choir Club** Final session of the term

**Friday** **Training Day** School closed to children



**National Nurturing**  
School Award  
2023





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## 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

## Future Diary Dates

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

### December

- 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)

### January

- 08/01: Children return to school

### 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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**ST HEDDA'S  
CATHOLIC  
PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**  
*presents*

**Friday 15th  
December 2023  
1:30pm**

**GRINCHMAS**

**CLASS 2 CHRISTMAS  
PERFORMANCE**

FOLLOWED BY OUR  
'WHOBILATION' FAIR  
FEATURING:

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



**National Nurturing  
School Award  
2023**

YORKSHIRE  
**Endeavour**  
academy trust  
Ethical | Nurturing | Brave

