



NEWSLETTER

15/03/2024



Dear Families and Friends,

General Teaching Assistant (SEND)

I am pleased to announce that we successfully appointed Ms Helen Searle to our team this week as one of our GTA (SEND) in Key Stage 2, replacing Mrs Sophie Wilson, who will leave us at the end of term. Ms Searle joins us having worked in various settings supporting children with special educational needs, including in special schools and SEND departments in mainstream provision. Ms Searle will predominantly be working with children with specific needs, however, like Sophie, she will also support other children with their learning and school experiences. Ms Searle is due to start with us after Easter, at which point I know you will all make her feel very welcome to the team.

Mrs Victoria Napoleon and Teaching Assistant Support in Oaks and Acorns

Sadly, we will be losing another team member in quick succession. Mrs Napoleon will also be leaving us at the end of term to start a new position at Roseville Nursery. Mrs Napoleon joined us last year in Oaks, to provide extra additional adult support until December 2023. Fortunately, due to additional funding being sourced, Mrs Napoleon was able to join us for longer, supporting children in both classes. However, this contract/funding was due to end in August and we support Mrs Napoleon's decision to find a long-term position.

Therefore, we currently have two job adverts posted for:

- An advanced/higher level teaching assistant to support Oaks full time (to replace Mr Wadley)
- A part-time teaching assistant to support Acorns on Mondays and Tuesdays (to replace Mrs Napoleon)

We, therefore, once again, would appreciate your support sharing our social media posts and these adverts with other community members who may be interested and suitable for these positions.

In the interim period, to ensure that children have a good amount of adult support, we will be welcoming two new temporary team members.

In Oaks, Mrs Pauline Laverick will be joining Oaks every morning. Mrs Laverick is a former headteacher who now provides supply cover in schools. This will mean that Oaks will have two qualified teachers leading them through maths and English sessions. Mrs Laverick has just finished a similar placement at Glaisdale School and has a wealth of other experience in teaching this age group. She will be a valuable asset whilst we recruit a permanent member of staff.

In Acorns, we will be joined by Miss Holly Chippindale on Mondays and Tuesdays. Miss Chippindale is studying for her TA qualification. However, she has recently volunteered at Glaisdale School, supporting their youngest class and has performed magnificently. She, too, will be a valued team member.

This means that, despite some changing of staff, we will have a full complement of staff after Easter (all being well!) Thank you for your patience and understanding during the last term whilst we have been arranging new staff and replacing those staff leaving us this term.

Eskdale Festival

We are so proud of all our musicians and performers who took part in the Eskdale Festival of the Arts this week. We had the most entries of any school in the area, despite having the furthest to travel and being one of the smallest schools. In total we achieved:

6x 1st places; 13x 2nd places and 4x 3rd places

A massive thank you must go to Alix Lillie and Miss Wilson for all the time and effort they have put in to allowing her children to succeed at this competition! Thank you to the family members who transported children to and from the event.



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Straws Cup

We were very proud of our football team on Monday evening when they reached the quarter final of the Straws Cup – a competition for all Whitby area primary schools. The team, who joined forces with Glaisdale, were narrowly beaten 2-1 in their final match.

Peat Rigg Residential

Year 3/4 children will be visiting Peat Rigg next week (Wednesday-Friday)! They should arrive on Wednesday at the usual drop-off time. They will be collected later in the morning by a coach alongside children from the other YEAT schools. On Friday, children will return at 1.45pm and may be collected at this time.

Year 5/6 Exchange Days

With our Year 3/4 children out of school. Our Year 5/6 children will have a 'school exchange' with Year 5/6 children at Castleton! On Thursday, Glaisdale children will visit Castleton School, being taught by a mixture of Mr Wood (Glaisdale) and Castleton staff. On Friday, Castleton children will travel to Glaisdale. This is a perfect way to help our children meet other children of a similar age, especially in view to their upcoming secondary school transition. On Friday, Year 5/6 will need to arrive in their PE kit, as they will experience a session led by Mr Wood on this day.

Year 6 Coffee Morning – Raising Funds for Edinburgh Visit

The next coffee morning scheduled for the use of the school has been allocated to our Year 6 children, so they all have an opportunity to raise the £50 (per child) contribution to their Edinburgh residential visit which is taking place in June. We, therefore, require Year 6 parents/children to run this coffee morning which will take place on Saturday 20th April (10am-12pm). If you and your child are interested in this, please contact Mr Cooper to confirm. Unfortunately, if we do not have enough volunteers, we will be unable to run this fundraising event.

Year 6 children are, of course, able to fundraise in their own individual ways, especially if they are unable to make this coffee morning.

PE and Forest Schools next Week

Next week, Acorns will have forest school on Wednesday. There will be no PE session in this week.

Year 5/6 should come to school on Friday in PE kit for a session with Mr Wood when Glaisdale visit.

Clubs next Week

Wellbeing Club: final session due to funding ending

Acorns Sports Club: now finished (no session next week due to Mrs Wardell being on Y3/4 residential)

Signing Club: no session due to Mrs (Sophie) Wilson being on Y3/4 residential)

See below for proposed club schedule for after Easter

Clubs

We have had an excellent response from staff and parents, volunteering their time to create/support clubs. We will confirm exact arrangements next week and provide consent forms. However, it is likely that we will have the following clubs on the following days:

Monday: Board Games (Acorns)

Tuesday: No club currently

Wednesday: Baking (Year 2-4) and Sports (Y3-6)

Thursday: Choir (Year 1-6)

Friday: Rhythm, Rap and Rhyme (Oaks)



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Shared Signing Afternoon with Parents

On Monday 18th March (3pm), parents/family members are welcome to join us for a shared signing afternoon. Children will perform a signed song they have been learning in their signing assemblies. The children will then have the opportunity to teach their family members some signing!

World Down Syndrome Day

On Thursday 21st March, we invite children and staff to wear **odd socks** in support of World Down Syndrome Day. This is not a fundraising event at school, however, if you wish to contribute towards the Down's Syndrome Association, please do so by clicking on this link: <https://www.downs-syndrome.org.uk/>

End of Term

As a reminder, term finishes on Friday 22nd March for all children for the Easter break. Children return to school on Monday 8th April.

Have a great weekend,

Mr Cooper

Attendance: Our attendance this week was: 97.8%

Our attendance this year: 94.9%

National average this year: 94.6%

Headteacher timetable for the upcoming week	
Mon	Supporting school in Scarborough
Tues	am – Castleton pm - Glaisdale
Weds	am – Castleton pm – Peat Rigg
Thurs	Supporting school in Scarborough/Peat Rigg
Fri	Supporting school in Scarborough/Peat Rigg

Next Week's Events

- Monday** Shared Signing Afternoon (3-3.30pm)
- Tuesday** Year 6 SATs Buster Club (8-9am)
Wellbeing Club led by Redcar & Cleveland Mind
- Wednesday** Acorns forest school please arrive in appropriate clothing/footwear
No Acorns Sports Club due to Mrs Wardell being on Y3/4 residential
Year 3/4 Peat Rigg Residential
- Thursday** Choir Club
Year 3/4 Peat Rigg Residential
Year 5/6 from Glaisdale visiting
- Friday** Year 3/4 Peat Rigg Residential
Year 5/6 visiting Glaisdale
Year 5/6 PE please arrive in appropriate clothing/footwear





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Term Dates 2023/24

- 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
- Staff Training Day – 12th July 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.

March

- 18/03 – Shared Signing Afternoon with Parents
- 19/03 – Stay and Play (1.30-3pm)
- 20/03 – Acorns Forest School
- 20/03-22/03 – Year 3/4 Peat Rigg Visit
- 21/03 – Glaisdale Y5/6 Visiting Castleton
- 22/03 – Y5/6 Visiting Glaisdale
- 22/03 – End of Term

April

- 08/04 – Children return to school

Future Dates

- 13/05-17/05 – Year 6 SATs Week
 - 16/05 – Stay and Play
 - 06/06 – 80th D-Day Anniversary
 - 10/06-14/06 – Year 1 Phonics Screen Week
 - 19/06 – Y5/6 visiting e-safety/police roadshow
 - 20/06 – Rotary Club design competition
 - 25/06 – Year 6 visiting secondary school and Whitby Archives (on school train)
 - 03/07 – Choir Really Big Sing Event
 - 05/07 – School 150th Anniversary Summer Fair (2-5pm)
 - 08/07-12/07 – Caedmon transition week
 - 17/07 – Year 6 Crucial Crew Visit
 - 22/07 – YEAT Arts Extravaganza
- Please avoid booking term time holidays, especially during assessment weeks.*

Term Dates 2024/25

- Staff Training Day – Monday 2nd September 2024
- Staff Training Day – Tuesday 3rd September 2024
- First day of Autumn Term – Wednesday 4th September 2024
- Half Term - Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November 2024
- Staff Training Day - Friday 13th December 2024
- Last day of Autumn Term - Friday 20th December 2024
- First Day of Spring Term – Monday 6th January 2025
- Half Term - Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2025
- Staff Training Day - Friday 28th March 2025
- Last day of Spring Term - Friday 4th April 2025
- First day of Summer Term – **Tuesday** 22nd April 2025
- Bank Holiday – Monday 5th May 2025
- Half Term - Monday 26th May to Friday 30th 2025
- Last day of Summer Term - Monday 21st July 2025
- Staff Training Day – Tuesday 22nd July 2025



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