



# NEWSLETTER

12/04/2024



Dear Families and Friends,

## Teaching Assistant Recruitment

We have shortlisted for a part-time teaching assistant to support Acorns on Mondays and Tuesdays. We will be holding interviews next week and will let you know if we have been successful in appointing a new team member.

We have still been unable to find a new higher level teaching assistant to support in Oaks. Fortunately, we have been joined by Mrs Laverick this half-term, an ex-headteacher, who has been supporting Mrs Wardell and our new SEND teaching assistant, Miss Searle, as well as our student teacher, Miss Lamb. We have readvertised the position with increased pay and better terms, in the hope that we can finally attract the right person for the role. Thank you again for your patience and understanding whilst we do this.

## School Start Time

Please can I urge you to arrive promptly to school. Children may be dropped off from 8.50am, ready for a 9am start. Children arriving after this time will miss their morning routines and may be listed as late (an unauthorised absence). Due to staff briefings and staff setting up for the day, we cannot allow children into school any earlier than 8.50am unless they attend Breakfast Club.

## Acorns Forest School

Acorns will recommence their forest school sessions next week. They will have fortnightly sessions on Wednesdays. Please ensure children arrive in weather-appropriate clothing and footwear for these sessions. We strongly advise, due to nettles, that children come in longer trousers rather than shorts.

## Swimming

Swimming sessions will start on Monday. Wherever possible, please ensure that children come to school with their swimwear underneath their clothing, so that we save time changing on our arrival. Please also ensure that children come with anything else they need for the session (e.g. towel, change of underwear, goggles). Please can we also ask that children wear uniform items that are easy for them to put back on independently after swimming (avoiding items such as tights).

If you have not completed the electronic form outlining your child's swimming ability, please can you do so before Monday.

## PE

As a reminder, Acorns will have PE sessions in school on alternate Wednesdays (when they do not have forest schools). Their next PE session will be Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April. Oaks will have weekly sessions on Fridays.

## Key Stage 2 Trip to Middlesbrough

On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April, our Key Stage 2 children will be visiting Middlesbrough, as part of their RE and art learning. They will be visiting a Gurdwara, learning how Sikhs worship and live their lives according to their religion. The children will then visit Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art (MIMA) to enhance the art knowledge they have acquired this year. There will be no cost to parents on this occasion. **In order that we can organise/order food for packed lunches, please complete the consent form with this link by Monday 15/04/24 which will give us the information, thank you.** <https://forms.office.com/e/9cVDC6WRdW>

## Easter Building Work/Painting

Unfortunately, the weather scuppered our plans for completing our easter building/painting work. You will have noticed that the front of the school has had some work complete, including a replacement to the rotting fascia and a freshening





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12/04/2024



up the paintwork. In the coming weeks, we hope that the contractors have the weather to complete the rest of the works, including painting the front railings which have now been stripped ready for this.

## Year 6 Leavers' Hoodies

As part of our Poverty Proofing initiative, YEAT and the school have provided each Year 6 leaver with a hoodie (free of charge). The hope is that children can now wear these hoodies in their final term of primary school before they leave. These may be worn in replacement of the school jumper/cardigan.

## Curriculum Overviews

Alongside the e-mail containing this newsletter, families will have received the curriculum overview for their child's class. We hope you find this a useful way to know what your child is learning and as a way to prompt discussion at home.

## Music Exam Results

Over the Easter break, some of musicians have been successful in their exams! A big well done to Martha, Connie, Robyn, Maggie and Katie who all passed with flying colours!

## Clubs

It has been fantastic to see a range of new clubs starting this week! Thank you to all the parent and staff volunteers who have made this happen. There has been a real buzz between 3.30-4.30pm each day, as children enjoy playing board games, baking, singing and taking part in sport – they are so lucky to have such a wide range of activities to do in their small school.

Unfortunately, there was a lack of interest in our Rhythm, Rap and Rhyme club for Fridays. Therefore this will not go ahead.

## Botany for Beginners

One of our former headteachers, Mrs Carol Wilson, will be running some botany for beginners classes for local community members. This is also open to children aged 8 and older (as long as they are accompanied by an adult). Please see below for more information.

## Year 6 Coffee Morning – Edinburgh Trip Fundraiser

Next Saturday (20<sup>th</sup> April), some of our Year 6s (and their parents) will be running a coffee morning at Castleton Village Hall. There will be a selection of baked goods, hot drinks and a raffle. It would be great if other parents could come along and support also. We would appreciate any donations of additional raffle prizes, these can be dropped off at school or given to Mrs Wall. We look forward to seeing you there!

Have a great weekend,

Mr Cooper

**Attendance:** Our attendance this week was: 93.4%

Our attendance this year: 94.8%

National average this year: 94.6%

## Stars of the Week:

Acorns: Vasylii – for great independent writing and excellent sounding out to spell!

Oaks: Ernest – for always being inquisitive, asking interesting questions and being an active learner in all subjects!

Headteacher: Gabriel – for excellent progress in reading!



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2023





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12/04/2024



Headteacher timetable for the upcoming week	
Mon	Glaisdale all day
Tues	am – Castleton pm - Glaisdale
Weds	am – Castleton pm – Lealholm
Thurs	Glaisdale all day
Fri	am – Airy Hill pm - Castleton

## Next Week's Events

### Monday

**Board Games Club** Acorns only

**Swimming for all children** please arrive with swimwear underneath clothing

### Tuesday

**Year 6 SATs Buster Club** (8-9am)

### Wednesday

**Acorns forest school** please arrive in appropriate clothing/footwear

**Year 2-4 Baking Club** led by parent volunteers

**Oaks Sports Club**

### Thursday

**Choir Club**

### Friday

**Year 3/4 Quad Kids Event**

**Oaks PE** Please arrive in appropriate kit/footwear

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mr Olly Cooper (01947 897218 or 01287 660496 or [headteacher.cg@yeat.co.uk](mailto:headteacher.cg@yeat.co.uk))

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Nicola Wardell (01287 660496 or [nwardell.castleton@yeat.co.uk](mailto:nwardell.castleton@yeat.co.uk))

Safeguarding Governor: Mrs Anna Harrison (01287 660496 or [aharrison.cgl@yeat.co.uk](mailto:aharrison.cgl@yeat.co.uk))

## Botany for Beginners

A short series of classes on flower structure and plant identification

to be held at Westerdale Village Hall

and in the field from 10.30 am

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May**

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July**

For further details and to book please contact Carol Wilson on

01287 660461 or via email at

[carolmaywilson@outlook.com](mailto:carolmaywilson@outlook.com)

Children over 8 are very welcome as long as they are accompanied by an adult



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# NEWSLETTER

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## Term Dates 2023/24

- Bank Holiday – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024
- Half Term - Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> 2024
- Staff Training Day – 12<sup>th</sup> July 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.

### April

- 17/04 – Acorns forest school
- 19/04 – Year 3/4 Quad Kids Sports Event
- 20/04 – Year 6 Coffee Morning (Edinburgh Fundraiser)
- 25/04 – Key Stage 2 trip to Middlesbrough
- 25/04 – Acorns visit to library van

### May

- 01/05 – Acorns forest school
- 03/05 – Year 3/4 cricket event
- 15/05 – Acorns forest school
- 13/05-17/05 – Year 6 SATs Week
- 16/05 – Stay and Play
- 22/05 – Key Stage 2 trip to Land of Iron
- 23/05 – Year 1 and 2 Quad Kids Sports Event

### Future Dates

- 06/06 – 80<sup>th</sup> 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)
  - 26/06 – Oaks Summer Performances (1.30-3pm and 5.30-7pm)
  - 03/07 – Choir Really Big Sing Event
  - 05/07 – School 150<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024
- Staff Training Day – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024
- First day of Autumn Term – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024
- Half Term - Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024
- Staff Training Day - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024
- Last day of Autumn Term - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024
- First Day of Spring Term – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025
- Half Term - Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025
- Staff Training Day - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025
- Last day of Spring Term - Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025
- First day of Summer Term – **Tuesday** 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025
- Bank Holiday – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025
- Half Term - Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> 2025
- Last day of Summer Term - Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025
- Staff Training Day – Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025



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