



NEWSLETTER

09/12/2022



Dear Families and Friends,

School Performance

I was filled with immense pride this week watching all our children perform in their Christmas performances. It really showed some of the best that we have to offer at Castleton, whether that is through our music, signing, acting or other talents.

Thank you to all that attended our performances and to those that donated to the various PTFA-led activities. Your outstanding generosity led to a grand total of £463.05 being raised for the PTFA which will really help the school fund further trips and activities for the children next year – thank you!

Scarlet Fever (group A streptococcus)

You will no doubt have heard, through the news, that there has been an increase in cases of Scarlet Fever (commonly being referred to as 'strep') amongst school age children. To ensure everyone's safety in school, we have sent out a guidance letter this week to outline the possible symptoms of this illness so that parents can remain vigilant. We would encourage any parent with a child displaying symptoms of Scarlet Fever (see below) to contact their GP. In the majority of cases, this illness is easily managed through antibiotics (although children should not attend school for 24-hours after receiving their first antibiotic dose).

If your child is diagnosed with Scarlet Fever, please inform school immediately, as we may need to inform our local Health Protection Team of any possible outbreak (where there are multiple cases occurring within 10 days of each other). Although we have had a number of seasonal illnesses and absences, the school is not experiencing an outbreak of Scarlet Fever or 'Strep' at this time.

Please be vigilant for the following symptoms:

- High fever
- Difficulty swallowing and/or tender enlarged lymph nodes
- A rash (usually develops on the first day of a fever and is red, generalised, pinhead in size, giving the skin a sandpaper-like texture)
- The tongue has a strawberry-like appearance

In school, as usual, we are encouraging good hygiene behaviours and will remain vigilant for any of the above symptoms, informing parents immediately if these are displayed. We will also inform parents immediately if the school suffers an outbreak.

New School Administrator

I am pleased to announce that we successfully appointed a new school administrator who will take over from Miss Gosling in January. Mrs Carolyn Moore, whom some of you in the local community will know and recognise, will be joining us in the calendar year. Mrs Moore has a vast amount of experience in administration and has worked in school administration positions previously. Mrs Moore has started the handover process with Miss Gosling already this week.

Christmas Jumper/Party

On Friday 16th December (our final day of term), children may come to school in non-uniform and/or Christmas jumpers ready for their Christmas party (morning) – no donation required. School will provide some party food

at lunchtime but we will also ask (next week) if for additional snacks/treats to be provided from home, if desired. These will need to be pre-packaged food items (due to the concerns regarding Scarlet Fever). On the afternoon, children will watch a Christmas movie (1.15-3.15pm) which will be chosen by Winter house.

Choir

Carols by the Tree

It was lovely to see so many faces from the school and community join us for an evening of singing, signing and musical performances, as well as having the chance to socialise over refreshments provided by our PTFA. Thank you to all who attended and to our local musicians who played for us!

Singing at Abbeyfields

Our choir got the opportunity to sing again on Thursday, when they performed for the local residents at Abbeyfields.

School Meals

Please note: the school is now being charged extra per meal by NYCC County Caterers due to rising costs. This cost is not currently being passed on to parents and meal prices will, therefore, remain the same. This will be reviewed in February.

Key Stage 2 General Teaching Assistant

I am pleased to say that we have had some interest and applications in our vacancy for a Key Stage 2 teaching assistant. We hope to complete an interview process soon after Christmas, so that we can have someone in place to support Oaks class in the spring term.

School Trips

Whole-school Pantomime Visit: Tuesday 13th December

The whole school will be visiting Billingham's Forum Theatre on Tuesday to watch the pantomime Beauty & the Beast!

Children should arrive at school at the usual time, wearing school uniform (with a coat). Children should bring their own packed lunch unless they have ordered one from school and a drink. We will return to school for a usual collection time.

KS2 York Trip: Thursday 15th December

Oak Class will be heading to York on Thursday to visit the Jorvik Centre, Jorvik Dig and Van Gogh Expo! Children should arrive at 8am at school where they will be taken by coach with Oakridge School to York. They should wear uniform (with a coat), bringing their own packed lunch and drink (unless this has been ordered from school). Children will return for a 4pm collection time from school (although we will keep you posted if there are any delays).

Winter Weather

We are starting to see snow and ice again. We will aim to inform you as soon as possible if we need to close the school. We are fortunate that a number of our staff do live locally, however, we do have some staff members that have to travel routes that may be dangerous during the wintry conditions. For their safety, there may be occasions where we have to, unfortunately, close the school. We will aim to inform you via e-mail, text and social media as soon as possible if we have to close the school or if services (e.g. clubs) are affected. Please always use your best judgement as to whether you think it safe to travel from home to school – we understand, given our rural locality, that we may experience more snow-enforced absences than other schools.

Have a great weekend,

Mr Cooper





"Outstanding Together"



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Headteacher timetable for next week	
Monday	Glaisdale all day
Tuesday	Panto trip
Wednesday	am – Castleton pm – Glaisdale
Thursday	KS2 York Trip
Friday	am – Glaisdale pm - Castleton

Next Week's Events

- Monday** PE for Acorn and Oak pupils Children can come to school in PE clothing
- Tuesday** Music Lessons with Alix Lillie. Please remember instruments.
Signing Club
Whole-school Panto visit Come in normal uniform; visit will take place during school day
- Wednesday** No Outdoor Learning
Year 6 SATs Buster Club (8-9am)
Christmas Dinner
- Thursday** No Choir Club
KS2 Trip to York (Jorvik, DIG! And Van Gogh Expo.) – Arrive at school at 8am; return to school at 4pm (approx.)
- Friday** Final day of term School is closed to children until Tues 3rd January 2023
Christmas Party and movie afternoon Bring pre-packaged snacks, if desired.
Christmas Jumper/non-uniform day No donation required.

Future Diary Dates

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

- 13th: Pantomime Trip
14th: Christmas Dinner
15th: Key Stage 2 York Trip (Jorvik and Van Gogh Expo)
16th: Christmas Party Lunch and Afternoon
16th: End of term (Children return on Tuesday 3rd January)

January 2023

- 3rd: Children return to school
4th: Cricket sessions begin
9th: Swimming lesson begin

Term Dates 2022/23

- ★ ~~Half Term – Monday 24th October to Friday 28th October~~
- ★ Staff Training Day - Friday 9th December
- ★ Last day of Autumn Term - Friday 16th December
- ★ First Day of Spring Term - Tuesday 3rd January 2023
- ★ Half Term - Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February 2023
- ★ Staff Training Day - Friday 24th March 2023
- ★ Last day of Spring Term - Friday 31st March 2023
- ★ First day of Summer Term - Monday 17th April 2023
- ★ Bank Holiday - Monday 1st May 2023
- ★ Bank Holiday – Monday 8th May 2023
- ★ Half Term - Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June 2023
- ★ Last day of Summer Term - Monday 24th July 2023

ENDEAVOUR FUN CLUB FREE CHRISTMAS FEAST SESSIONS

The Endeavour Fun Club is hosting free Christmas feast sessions for those children who are eligible and have received their code letter. Each child is eligible for a free session per day (5 for the week). All food and snacks included.

Our bookings are now open for the following Feast sessions.

Mon 19th Dec 9-1 or 1-5

Tues 20th Dec 9-1 or 1-5

Wed 21st Dec 9-1 or 1-5

Thur 22nd Dec 9-1 or 1-5

Fri 23rd Dec 9-1 or 1-5

Qualifying children will have brought home their codes in a letter via schools.

Please head over to the Feast website for more details or to check if you qualify.

Please ring [07974974033](tel:07974974033) or [07795314255](tel:07795314255) to book.