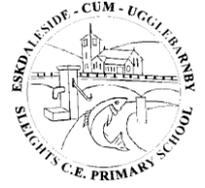


Sleights Church of England (VC) Primary School
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"Helping each child flourish"

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Headteacher: Scott Grason

22nd September 2017

Dear families,

It has been another busy week in school with so many exciting activities taking place. This week, I enjoyed reading stories to some children in Pre-School and learning different animal names. In Class 1, it has been lovely to see lots of fun being had with rice in the outside area (although, I hear, it was less fun cleaning it up!) I was lucky to be able to teach Class 2 on Wednesday afternoon and we had a great time making forest art. I also know that some super writing has been created by Y1 and Y2 this week! In Class 3, I enjoyed reading some beautifully presented poems about rock formation, as well as seeing Class 4 master some impressive subtraction skills!

On Tuesday morning, we had our first visit from our Local Authority school advisor. We spent time discussing what was going well at Sleights and some different ideas for moving forwards. We also visited each classroom and talked to children and staff. The advisor was impressed by what she saw and spoke positively about the direction the school is moving in. The staff and children made me very proud when walking around and it was great to hear our advisor recognise everyone's hard work and efforts. Well done to everyone!

Class 1 new starters

For the last few weeks, our new Reception class (Class 1) have been coming to school each morning and some afternoons. Next week marks the start of their next big school adventure, as they start coming to school for full days! Well done to our new starters for settling in so well. A big thank you to the staff and other children who have done all they can to make the children's start at Sleights has been a great one.

MacMillan Coffee Afternoon

As you may know from the text that was sent earlier in the week, we will be holding our MacMillan Coffee Afternoon on **Monday** from 2pm. This is a change to the original date sent home.

During the afternoon, we will be selling cream teas, scones and cakes. In addition, we would be grateful of any cake or biscuit donations from parents and families. These can arrive at school on Monday morning, or at 2pm on the afternoon. We hope to see many families attend this event to help us raise lots of money for the MacMillan charity.

Thank you to Mrs Exelby, who I know has been working hard to make the event a successful one.

Parking outside school

A huge thank you! As in previous weeks, I have spent time before and after school on the double yellow lines. On nearly all occasions, there have been no cars parked. Whilst I know that finding somewhere different to park can take an extra minute or too, I appreciate the effort that is being made to keep our children safe (I know that many other parents and children do too!) Even on Thursday morning (when it was pouring down!) the double yellow lines were almost clear and I am hopeful that we can continue to keep all our children and families safe. Thank you again for your support with this.

Pupil Premium additional funding

Just another reminder that all parents and families that a letter and application form for additional funding was sent home last week. If you would like another letter, or any more information, please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff.

Harvest Festival

This year's Harvest Festival will take place at St. John's Church on Tuesday 17th October at 9.30am. More information will follow in the coming weeks.

Our uniform policy – jewellery and earrings

It is great to see our children coming to school looking incredibly smart in their uniform each morning. Over the last week or so, I have been asked about earrings in school. With this in mind, I thought it would be helpful to share a reminder of our uniform and jewellery policy with you. As you will see from the prospectus, this policy has been in place for a number of years.

On our school website and in the school prospectus (which can be found on the 'Virtual Office' tab of the website), it states that:

- *No jewellery or earrings should be worn in school because of the risk of injury or loss.*

I know that the summer holidays are a great time of year for having ears pierced, as it is usually around six weeks before the earrings can be taken out. However, I do also understand that this can be slightly longer for some children. As a result, we currently have a number of children in school wearing studs from their summer piercing. Can I urge that when ears are pierced, this is done only in the summer holidays.

Where a child has had their ears pierced over 6 – 8 weeks ago and the studs can be removed, no earrings should be worn in school. If a child's ears are not yet ready for the studs to be removed, they will be unable to take part in PE sessions – we are not able to cover earrings with plasters.

Jewellery and earrings can very easily cause nasty injuries to the child wearing them and I certainly do not want this to be the case for any children at Sleights. I hope this information helps to clarify the important messages around keeping our children safe in school. Please do not hesitate to speak with me directly if you wish to discuss these matters further.

Pre-School News

To celebrate all the hard work and new learning happening in Pre-School, we have introduced "Wow Moment" certificates. These are displayed on our new "Proud Cloud" before being sent home in your child's book bag. Your child may also come home with a "Wow Sticker" telling you about their learning or suggesting an activity to do at home.

We would also love to hear about all of those "Wow Moments" your child has at home. If you would like some "Wow Moment" certificates to complete at home and return to Pre-School to tell us about them, please ask a member of staff. Alternatively our email address is: preschool@sleights.n-yorks.sch.uk This is particularly useful if you want to include photographs without the cost and inconvenience of printing them out.

Class 2 multi skills event

Well done to our Y1 and Y2 children who travelled to Caedmon College Whitby on Thursday for a multi skills event. Having spoken to the children and staff, I was impressed to learn what great representatives the children had been for our school and how much fun they had!

Octoberfest

The Rotary Club of Whitby & District is once again organising the popular Fun Run event, Octoberfest. This year the races will take place on SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1st. at Caedmon College (Scoresby Site) from 2pm and every runner will receive a medal. If your child, or children, would like to take part, please collect an application from the school office. All entries are £2.50.

Kids' Club:

I am pleased to let you know the themes for our after school Kids' Club for the coming weeks:

Friday 29th September – Scary Arts and Crafts

Friday 6th October – Scary Bingo

Friday 13th October – Scary Treasure Hunt

Friday 20th October – Scary Party Night

If you would like to book your child, or children in for the theme nights, please speak to Wendy and Reanna in the Kids' Club.

Next week's collective worship theme:

In our collective worship next week, we will be studying the Christian Value of Honesty.

Thank you for your continued support. As ever, if you have any concerns or questions, do not hesitate to come and see me. Have a good weekend with your families.

Scott Grason
Headteacher