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Newsletter 2 Monday 11th September 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

The children have had a super first week back at school. They have settled back into routines very well and there has been a lovely, purposeful atmosphere in school.

Welcome

A very warm welcome to Aarish who is starting tomorrow in Year 1.

Class News:

Every week the classes will share the highlights of what they have been learning about with our families:

EYFS: In Nursery and Reception we made an excellent start to the day by getting straight on with early morning tasks which have involved construction, movement, yoga and drawing. The children have learnt how to complete 'busy jobs' in our areas of indoor and outdoor provision. We have enjoyed getting outdoors exploring a range of water-based activities; these have involved transferring water and knowing how to keep the water flowing without waste, bathing babies and creating a baby changing station and making marks using paintbrushes and water wheels. We have also noticed over the summer our vegetables have grown so we have harvested them, washed them, chopped them and found a lovely soup recipe to make and try.

Year 1 and 2: The children have had an amazing first week back and have settled into their new routine. We have been really impressed with the children's attitudes to learning. We have been working on Place value in maths and have begun to explore the story called Fergal is Fuming in English - all about a dragon who struggles to control his emotions. In PSCH this week we explore who lives in our homes and played some circle time games.



Year 3 and 4: This week we have enjoyed getting to know each other as a new class. We have also been busy demonstrating our football skills. investigating forces in Science and writing poems about our own individual worlds.

Year 5 and 6: We have had a wonderful first week back in year 5/6! It's been lovely to be back in the classroom and get to know our new class. We have started our class reading book 'The Curse of the Maya' which is a very exciting, mysterious story. We have also been thinking about our class and school rules and how we can make our classroom a happy place to learn.

Willow Weaving Year 1 – Year 6

Mrs Kestell has organised for a local artist, Anna, to come into school on Monday 2nd October to work with the children in Years 1-6 on willow weaving. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to take part in the workshops which will enhance their art curriculum.

School will be subsidising this experience but we are asking for a contribution towards this of **£3** no later than **Friday 29th September 2023**. Please make this payment via ParentPay.

NSPCC – speak out, stay safe programme

I am pleased to inform you that we are participating in the **NSPCC's Speak out. Stay safe. Programme** this term. *Speak out. Stay safe.* is a programme for children aged 5-11 which aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a safe adult or Childline.

This child friendly programme is aligned with the curriculum and consists of age-appropriate virtual assemblies and supporting classroom-based activities, alongside NSPCC volunteer led face to face workshops for children in Year 5 and 6 on Wednesday 27th September. The content is delivered in an engaging and interactive way with the help of the NSPCC mascot Buddy. If you would like to know more about the *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme visit www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout.

Feedback survey for pupils aged 7-11

The NSPCC would like to gather feedback from pupils aged between 7-11 about the *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme to gauge their learning. **This will be voluntary and children can still take part in the programme if they don't take part in the survey.** Please see the letter attached to this newsletter and if you don't want your child to take part in the survey then please return the slip.

Reception Baseline

Children who are in Reception will be participating in the national reception baseline assessment (RBA) this half term. There is a document about this attached to the newsletter for further information.

Homework



Homework begins this week. Materials to support homework – spelling tips and paired reading - are attached to this newsletter. I would also like to draw your attention to our Maths scheme, White Rose Maths, there is an app which accompanies this that children can use at home. This has been updated and would be useful for all children in school to have access to:

<https://whiterosemaths.com/1-minute-maths#download>

In addition to this, there is advice and guidance regarding Maths on the White Rose Maths website which families may find useful:

<https://whiterosemaths.com/advice-and-guidance>

Homework

At our school, we believe that children learn best when parents, the school and children work together in partnership. Home Learning should be a positive experience which is manageable, meaningful and enjoyable for parents, teachers and children.

Reading books will be prioritised this week in school and homework will commence next week. Please refer to the table below regarding homework for each class.

Class	Homework	Homework Given	Collected and Tested
EYFS: FS2 Reception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Sight words to learn when appropriate • Mental Maths when appropriate 	Mrs Hutchinson will send information separately to parents.	
Year 1/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily reading • Spellings • Mental Maths • Extended task – see below 	Friday – spellings and mental maths Friday	Homework is collected on a Wednesday. The spelling and mental maths tests are given on a Friday.
Year 3/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily reading • Spellings • Mental Maths • One other piece • Extended task – see below 	Friday – Spellings and Mental Maths Friday	Friday – Spellings and Mental Maths Wednesday
Year 5/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Reading • Spellings • Mental Maths • Maths and reading comprehension • Extended Task – see below 	Friday- spellings and mental maths Friday	Thursday- spellings and mental maths Wednesday



EXTENDED TASKS

Extended tasks are set every half-term, not weekly. These tasks are designed to incorporate many skills and aim for high quality pieces of work throughout the year. **The class teacher will always ensure the hand in time for the extended task is made clear.**

Reading

All children need to read at home every day. Please listen to your child read and ask them questions about the text and / or pictures. Please ensure that you record what your child has read and how they have managed with their reading in their record book. **Reading and record books need to be in school every day so that they can be checked and new books issued.**

Early Reading and Phonics Session for Reception Parents

Mrs Hutchinson will be holding a meeting about our phonics scheme, Read Write Inc. on **Thursday 14th September at 2.30pm.**

Parents Evening

Parents Evening will be week commencing the 23rd October – further details will follow in due course.

Swimming – Year 5 and 6 children – this Wednesday



School swimming will continue to take place at Thirsk swimming pool. **Year 5 and Year 6 children start on Wednesday 13th September.** Please ensure your child has swimwear, goggles and a towel (named). It is helpful if girls wear socks and not tights on swimming days. Due to the layout and number of cubicles at Thirsk swimming baths, some children need to share a cubicle in order to change before and after the lesson. If any parents have questions or queries about this then please don't hesitate to speak to

Mrs Lyon. After Christmas children in Years 3 and 4 will go swimming.

The cost of swimming will be **£5.00 each week**, this still has to be paid even if your child misses a swimming lesson as we still have to pay for the bus, pool hire and swimming instructors. Payments must be made on your Parent Pay account. School has heavily subsidised the cost of swimming due to rising prices from the bus company and constraints imposed by Thirsk Pool.

PE Days in SEPTEMBER

PE Kits are needed on the following days:

EYFS: Please have PE kit in every day

Year 1 and 2: Tuesday and Thursday

Year 3 and 4: Monday and Thursday

Year 5 and 6: Tuesday and Wednesday (swimming)



Sporting Influence Club - tomorrow

In addition to the PE in school, staff development and competitions, Sporting Influence will also provide a club after school on a Tuesday from 3.15pm-4.15pm. The first club will be **Tchoukball** for the first half term for a maximum of 20 children from Key Stage 2. A letter will go out this week for the children to sign up. If more than 20 children want to take part then we will pull names out of a hat!

Forest Schools – starting today

I am delighted to welcome Miss Rachel Hunt back to Dishforth Airfield Primary School as Forest School teacher for this year! Forest Schools will take place on a Monday afternoon for the full afternoon for three weeks for each class at some point in the year. Here is a message from Miss Hunt:

Hello! I am delighted to be able to deliver Forest School sessions to all year groups over the course of the 2023 - 24 academic year. Forest School is child led, outdoor learning where children can learn a variety of skills from wood craft to fire lighting and challenge themselves to take risks whilst learning to respect and care for the natural world around them.

You can expect your child to get messy as we will be outdoors in all weathers so, please make sure that they bring clothes for every weather for every session. Ideally: wellies or walking boots; waterproof jacket and trousers or all in ones and a sun hat or woolly hat dependent on the temperature. I will provide safety gloves, but warm preferably waterproof gloves should be sent in the colder months.

Year 3 and 4 will have Forest Schools first on Monday 11th, 18th and 25th of September in the afternoon.

Sporting Selfies! Message from Miss Newton

We would love to see some of your sporting selfies to add to our PE display in school. Take some selfies of yourself doing the sports you love and print them off and bring them in or send them to the school admin email so we can add them to our Sporting Selfie Display!

Keep in touch – School FaceBook Page

Please ensure you are signed up to the school FaceBook page so that we can get in touch with families quickly.

ParentPay



Breakfast and After school club, swimming, school meals and nursery fees are put on Parent Pay at the end of every week. Please can we remind families to check their account on ParentPay and make sure bills are paid as soon as possible.

School Dinners

Children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 can have a school dinner free of charge.

The price for a school dinner for children in Years 3-6 is £3.32 per meal (£16.60 per week). The cost for the month of **September** is **£63.08**.

Children in Nursery can order a school dinner and the cost of their meal is £2.10

Packed Lunches

A polite reminder that there should be no sweets or chocolate bars in packed lunches or fizzy drinks. Also, we are a **NUT FREE SCHOOL**. We do have children with allergies to nuts so please refrain from any sort of nut products in packed lunches – thank you.

Bookings for Dandelions Child-care

All bookings must be made by 12pm on a Friday for the following week so that we can ensure we have staffing ratios and food for the children.

Please either telephone the school office or email admin@dishforthairfield.n-yorks.sch.uk

AWARDS

Celebration Assembly

On Friday, we have our Celebration Assembly. This week the following children were given our weekly awards;

Celebration Cup

The cup this week goes to someone who has really impressed us with their positive attitude towards all of their learning. This person has had the biggest smile on their face all week. They have amazing manners and are a pleasure to have in our class.

Congratulations and well done to

Jack!



Ribbons



EYFS – The ribbon this week goes to someone who has made such a fantastic start to Reception. They have followed all the routines and they have put so much effort in with writing their name and the new sounds in phonics. Well done, Scarlett!

Year 1 / 2 – The ribbon this week goes to someone who has had a fantastic start to the new school year. We are so proud of your attitude to learning and the effort that you have put into all of your learning - keep up the good work. Well done to Tristan!

Year 3 / 4 – The ribbon this week goes to someone who has started the year with a fantastic learning attitude. They have been kind, caring and welcoming to new children in our class, they have organised and led group games and they have worked to the best of their ability across all lessons. This is a fantastic start to the year, keep it up! Well done to Kiera!

Year 5 / 6 – The ribbon this week goes to someone who has really impressed us with their attitude towards their learning since returning from the holidays. This person has been telling us all about their holidays and the exciting activities they have been doing. They are trying hard in lessons, putting their hard up and helping their peers. Well done to Camden!

Values in Action

This week our Values award goes to someone who has demonstrated our school values of compassion, resilience and respect.



This person has been nominated because they are the best friend anyone could ask for, they never give up on their work and they respect people's values. They are a great friend.

The values award goes to Jessica who was nominated by Eliora.

Well done, Jessica!



Attendance

Weekly Attendance

Good attendance at school is key to your child's progress.

Good attendance is essential for pupils to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing, and wider life chances. Nationwide research has shown that the pupils with the highest attainment at the end of key stage 2 have had higher rates of attendance throughout primary school, compared to those with the lowest attainment. The government aims for all pupils to have a minimum of 95% attendance across the school year, and any child with less than 90% attendance is recorded as a persistent absentee. Here is our school's current overview of attendance:

Week commencing 4th September 2023

Reception	Year 1 / 2	Year 3 / 4	Year 5 / 6
94%	99%	98%	97%

Kind regards,

Mrs Julie Lyon
Executive Head Teacher

Diary Dates

September 2023	
11/9/23	Year 3 and 4 children – Forest Schools afternoon
13/9/23	First swim for Year 5 and 6 children at Thirsk swimming pool
14/9/23	Reception Parent Session on Read, Write, Inc Phonics with Mrs Hutchinson at 2.30pm
18/9/23	Year 3 and 4 children – Forest Schools afternoon
19/9/23	Football competition 7-a-side team only (at Outwood Academy Ripon)
25/9/23	Year 3 and 4 children – Forest Schools afternoon
26/9/23	UK Parliament outreach programme – assembly for KS2 children – An overview of Parliament and how laws are made.
27/9/23	Year 5 and 6 NSPCC workshop
October 2023	
2/10/23	Willow Weaving
10/10/23	High 5 Netball competition Y5/6 - one team girls only (at Outwood Academy Ripon)
24/10/23	Parent / Carer Evenings
26/10/23	
24/10/23	Planetarium Morning



26/10/23	School photograph morning
27/10/23	Break-up October half term
November 2023	
6/11/23	School open
7/11/23	Number Fun Day
21/11/23	Cross Country Competition (at Outwood Academy Ripon)
December 2023	
13/12/23	Last swim for Year 5 and 6 children
19/12/23	Year 5 and 6 theatre trip to Leeds Playhouse to see 'Oliver!'
22/12/23	School breaks up for Christmas at 2.30pm
January 2024	
8/1/24	Training Day
9/1/24	School open for the spring term

Mrs Lyon's working week:

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	Dishforth Airfield	Dishforth C of E Primary	Dishforth Airfield	Dishforth C of E Primary	Dishforth Airfield
Afternoon	Dishforth C of E Primary	Dishforth Airfield	Dishforth C of E Primary	Dishforth Airfield	Dishforth C of E Primary

