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Newsletter 15 Monday 18th December 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

I can't quite believe we are at the end of the autumn term and break-up on Friday. I hope your preparations are well under way for the festive season and on behalf of all the staff, we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

We have the Year 5/6 Class to see Oliver! trip tomorrow, Christmas School Lunch and Christingle to look forward to on Wednesday and the parties on Thursday – please read the newsletter carefully for further details.

We break up on Friday afternoon at an earlier time of 2.30pm and we will look forward to seeing the children on Tuesday 9th January when school opens for the spring term.

Class News:

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

EYFS: In Early Years we have been writing what items they think Santa may have in his sack. The children have worked hard to draw and label these items. It has been amazing to see Reception's progress in writing. They are using their phonic knowledge and making sure they write each sound in they hear. In maths we have been making 10 in different ways using counters, ten frames and Numicon. Some children are starting to recite number bonds to 10 e.g. 5 and 5 makes 10. We have also been very busy making Christmas crafts and enjoying many Christmas stories.

Year 1 and 2: This week the children in Year 1/2 have been working exceptionally hard. We have been learning about place value to 20 in Year 1 and Money in Year 2. We have been measuring our heights and working out who is the tallest. In DT we have been making our final products using sliders and pop-up cards. In PE we have been practicing our dances and learning different multi skills - stopping and passing a ball. We loved being able to perform the nativity to you on Thursday.



Year 3 and 4: This week we have been writing winter senses poems in English and have really focused on using sophisticated vocabulary when describing what we may see, hear, smell, taste and feel in winter. In Science, we have been learning about our muscles and how they help us to move. We have also been busy planning and carrying out our own fair tests to answer our own scientific questions. In art, we have been finishing off our final pieces where we have had to really focus on our pencil pressure and shading techniques to colour our still life sketches in the style of Paul Cezanne.

Year 5 and 6: This week we have been using a programme called 'TinkerCad' to design our Christmas tree decorations. We will then use a 3D printer to print our designs. We have also been reading a version of 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens and we have done some wonderful writing from the perspectives of the different ghosts.

Spring Term Menu

Attached to this newsletter is the Spring Term Menu for school dinners for your information.

Year 6 Information session for parents / carers regarding SAT assessments

On Thursday 18th January at 3.30pm in the school hall, Miss Newton will be holding a parent / carer information session about the Year 6 SAT assessments. Please can all Year 6 parents and children attend this – thank you.

PE Days for after Christmas

When the children return in January for the spring term, PE days will be as follows:

EYFS:	Wednesday and Friday
Year 1 and 2:	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 3 and 4:	Monday and Wednesday (swimming)
Year 5 and 6:	Tuesday and Friday

Swimming Year 3 and 4 – January



School swimming will continue to take place at Thirsk swimming pool. **Year 3 and Year 4 children start on Wednesday 10th January.** 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.



The cost of swimming will be **£5.00 each week**. Payments are through Parent Pay. School has subsidised the cost of swimming due to rising prices from the bus company and constraints imposed by Thirsk Pool.

Emergency Procedure for School Closure – weather related / loss of utilities

It is rare, however there are occasions where it has been necessary to close schools because of inclement weather, no electricity or because of lack of heating, so I would like to bring to your attention the procedures I will follow if this event occurs now that we are heading towards winter:

- An email will be sent to all families via Scholar Pack
- A direct message will be sent to the Scholar Pack App
- County Hall will be informed.

Hopefully, this will not happen this winter but I feel it is better to be prepared.

Please always assume school is open unless you hear via any of the above methods. Please do not phone the school to ask if we are open as we may need to keep the line clear in order to contact staff. Please check on the school Facebook page and check emails.

Learning would be sent home via the class email system direct from the class teacher.

Reception Starters for September 2024

Parents and carers who have a child who is due to start Reception in September 2024 need to submit an application by the 15th January 2024.

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.**

Forest Schools – starting Monday 15th January for Year 5 and 6

Miss Rachel Hunt is back at Dishforth Airfield Primary School as our 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 5 and 6 will have Forest Schools first on Monday 15th, 22nd and 29th January in the afternoon. Please bring the outdoor clothing and footwear above in a named bag.

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 **December** is **£53.12**.

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





Christmas Events 2023



School Christingle

On Wednesday, every child in the school will make a Christingle and we will hold our own Christingle Service towards the end of the afternoon.

Christmas School Dinner – Wednesday



**Roast Turkey, Christmas Chipolatas
and Seasonal Stuffing
or
Cheesy Leek Croquette (v)**

**With
Mrs Claus' Roast or Mashed Potatoes
Rudolph's favourite Gravy
A Merry Mix of Seasonal Vegetables**

Followed by

**The Elves' Hand Decorated
Chocolate Orange Christmas Cookie**

Christmas Party afternoon – Thursday

On Thursday 21st December, the children will have their Christmas Party in classes. Please can children come to school wearing their uniform and bring their party clothes in a named bag to change into after lunchtime. Thank you.

Break-up for Christmas – early closing – Friday

On Friday 22nd December, school closes early for Christmas at 2.30pm.



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 grown in confidence and is beginning to shine!

This person has worked hard learning the dances for our Nativity.

We are so proud of everything you are achieving in class – just continue to believe in yourself.

Congratulations and well done to ...

Audrey!



Ribbons



EYFS – This week the ribbon goes to someone who is becoming very independent in their learning. They are thinking for themselves and putting extra effort into their focussed work. This person is a very good friend and has been so welcoming to our new starters. Well done Mylah!

Year 1 / 2 – This week the ribbon goes to someone who has been able to learn lines not only for his character but also as part of the narration for our Nativity. This person listens carefully and follow the instructions and stage direction. We are so proud of you. Well done, Yuvaan!

Year 3 / 4 – The ribbon this week goes to someone who has been very focused on their learning and who has been making some super choices. We have been impressed with the resilience they have shown. Keep up the great work. Well done to Jake!

Year 5 / 6 – The ribbon this week goes to a kind, caring and helpful soul. This person is a role model and demonstrates our school values on a daily basis. She is hard working, determined, conscientious and always aims to do her best with everything she does. Keep being you! Well done to Felicity!



Values in Action

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

This person has been nominated because in class we got to be partners and they showed compassion, respect and co-operation.

The values award goes to Brooke who was nominated by Khloe.

Well done, Brooke!



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 11th December 2023

Reception	Year 1 / 2	Year 3 / 4	Year 5 / 6
90%	88%	92%	96%

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Kind regards,

Mrs Julie Lyon
Executive Head Teacher

Diary Dates

December 2023	
19/12/23	Year 5 and 6 theatre trip to Leeds Playhouse to see 'Oliver!'
20/12/23	Christmas School Dinner Christingle Service



21/12/23	Christmas Party afternoon (children to bring party clothes into school to change into)
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
10/1/24	Year 3 and 4 swimming at Thirsk Pool
15/1/24	Year 5 and 6 children – Forest Schools – 3 afternoons
22/1/24	
29/1/24	
18/1/24	Year 6 Parents SAT information session at 3.30pm in the school hall
February 2024	
9/2/24	Break-up for February half-term
19/2/24	School open
March 2024	
20/3/24	Year 3 and 4 – last swim
21/3/24	Year 3 and 4 children Murton Park Year 5 and 6 children Murton Park Year 1 and 2 – Fire of London workshop
22/3/24	Break-up for Easter at 2.30pm
April 2024	
8/4/24	Training Day
9/4/24	School open for the summer 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

