

Dishforth Airfield Community Primary School  
Short Road  
Dishforth Airfield  
Thirsk  
YO7 3DL



Tel: 01423 322556

Email: [admin@dishforthairfield.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@dishforthairfield.n-yorks.sch.uk)

Website Address: [www.dishforthairfieldprimaryschool.com](http://www.dishforthairfieldprimaryschool.com)

Headteacher: Mrs Julie Lyon



## Newsletter 39 Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

We have had a super year in school and we are all looking forward to spending time at home with our families for a few weeks over the summer break and hopefully we will be able to enjoy some lovely weather as well!

We have much to be proud of at Dishforth Airfield Primary School. The staff are dedicated and passionate in supporting every child to reach their potential and I can't thank them enough for all their hard work and commitment. I do hope you all have a lovely summer and I wish you well in all your plans for the future if you are a family moving on.

School closes at 2.30pm on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July for the summer holidays.

There is a lot of information which has come through from the Local Authority which is to be shared with our families prior to the summer holidays – some of this information is in the newsletter and some are in the form of attachments which will be emailed out to you.

### Class News:

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

**EYFS:** This week we have been busy writing an 'Early Years Bucket List' this is where we have had chance to look at all the fun we have had this year, looking at photos and sharing our favourite experiences. We have written a list of all the things we would like to do again in our final week next week. We have also enjoyed playing lots of puzzles and board games focussing on turn taking and working as a team.

**Year 1 and 2:** This week Year 1/2 have been learning all about time and position and direction. We have learnt to turn clockwise and anticlockwise. The children have danced along to Cha cha slide remembering which way they need to turn and which direction to jump or hop! In English we have been writing a recipe - using headings, sub-headings and numbered bullet points linked to our DT work on fruit kebabs. In PE we have been practicing the skills ready for sports day on Monday.



**Year 3 and 4:** This week we have been writing and performing our own limericks in English. In Art, we have been applying all of our skills using drawing pencils, colouring pencils and pens to complete our final pieces in the style of LS Lowry. We have also enjoyed developing our team work skills by working collaboratively to complete mini challenges and groups tasks in PE and during our transition morning.

**Year 5 and 6:** This week, in year 5/6, we have been thinking about our summer holidays. The children wrote some lovely poems about all of the fun and exciting things they are getting up to - and some things they wish they could do! The children have also finished their final art piece where they designed, cut and printed their final piece about nature. These pieces were inspired by Michelle Hughes who is the artist that we had in school in April.



### Sports Day – Reception – Year 6

Thank you so much for supporting us this morning with our Sports Day – we couldn't have asked for better weather! A huge thank you to Miss Newton and the children in Year 5 and 6 who helped make the event run so smoothly.

### Sports Festival for Nursery children – tomorrow

A Sports Festival for Nursery children only is on tomorrow at 2pm in the EYFS learning garden. Families are welcome to come and watch and please feel free to bring your own chairs!

### Music for Life – Mishra – this Thursday

Mishra are an award-winning global folk collective who use their strong roots in U.K folk to weave a tight web of intricate, Indian-influenced original music into joyous live performances. Mishra's founding partnership of Kate Griffin on vocals, banjo, and dobro and Ford Collier (The Drystones) on low whistle, percussion, and guitar are coming to perform to the whole school this Thursday. Afterwards, children in Year 3 and 4 will participate in a workshop and share what they have learned with the rest of the school.

### Year 6 Leavers' Assembly – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July

The Year 6 Leavers' Assembly is taking place on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 2.00pm in the school hall. Please can we ask that **no more than two family members** join us for this assembly due to the limited space in the hall – thank you.

### Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July – last day of the school year

School closes at 2.30pm on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July for the summer break.



## Swimming – Year 5 and 6 - September



School swimming will continue to take place at Thirsk swimming pool. **Year 5 and Year 6 children start on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> 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 **£6.00 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 kit is a plain white t-shirt, black or navy shorts, socks and trainers / pumps. Children can also bring into school a plain black or navy tracksuit for cooler days.

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: Tuesday and Thursday**

**Year 5 and 6: Tuesday (for the first three weeks then Friday) and Wednesday (swimming)**

## Ear-rings in PE

Please can I remind parents of the policy regarding the wearing of ear-rings in PE. Guidance was updated by the Association for PE a number of years ago.

*All personal effects should be removed including earrings.*

*Newly pierced earrings can be removed after a 6-week healing duration. During this period students should be given alternative tasks within physical education such as officiating.*

*Students unable to remove earrings were previously permitted to make them safe by taping. The guidance on the aforementioned has now changed based on national advice issued by the Association for Physical Education (afPE) 2019. It is now felt that the taping of earrings 'creates a perception of safety and is not recommended', as there have been several incidences within the local authority where children's ears have been injured from earrings being pulled out from under the tape.*

*Teachers/TAs are not permitted to take out or replace children's earrings if they are unable to do so themselves, therefore, it would be helpful if earrings could be taken out at home on PE days.*

*If a child has recently had their ears pierced and is unable to remove their earrings, they will not be permitted to take part in the practical aspect of PE lessons for six weeks, after which time they will be*



*expected to remove their earrings in order to participate in PE lessons. During this six-week period the child will be able to take on the role of umpire, referee or coach where appropriate.*

Please be aware that this policy will be followed by school staff and Sport coaches.

**If your child is going to have their ears pierced, please do so at the start of the summer holidays rather than during term time.**

### **Class Structure for the academic year 2024-25**

Please see below the staffing structure for the next academic year – this remains the same as it is now.

Head Teacher: Mrs Lyon

Deputy Head Teacher and SENCO: Mrs Kestell

EYFS: Mrs Hutchinson

Year 1 and 2: Mrs Kestell (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday) and Mrs O'Connell (Wednesday)

Year 3 and 4: Mrs Armstrong (Monday – Thursday), Mrs Porter (Friday)

Year 5 and 6: Miss Newton

### **School Dinners – Autumn Term Menu**

Please find attached to this newsletter the autumn term school dinner menu. This menu runs up to February half term.

In addition to the menu, Mrs Crabtree (our wonderful school cook) has also added a jacket potato option each day – this is on a separate document underneath the main menu for your information.

### **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.**

### **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.

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

**Please note that the cost of a school dinner has increased to £3.55 for children in Years 3-6.**

**The cost for the month of September for children in Year 3-6 will be £71.00. (20 meals)**

## 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](mailto:admin@dishforthairfield.n-yorks.sch.uk)**

## Reading Challenge Summer 2024



### **Get active with the Summer Reading Challenge 2024!**

Children can once again sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge at their local library during the holidays -this year the theme is Marvellous Makers!

The challenge for children is to read 6 library books of their choice and collect special stickers and other prizes along the way – everyone who finishes will receive a limited-edition Ready Set Read! medal and a certificate. Any child aged 4 to 11 can join in and the challenge runs from Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July until Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September.



There will also be a fantastic programme of activities in libraries all summer, many of them free, to go with the challenge – look out for flyers with more details which have been sent to schools for children to bring home.

## **FEAST information – updated information from North Yorkshire**

### **Reduction of credits on FEAST vouchers**

Last week we received an important update regarding the Department of Education's guidance on how many FEAST sessions eligible children and young people can attend.

In order to ensure that as many families as possible can access FEAST activities, we have been required to reduce the number of credits on each voucher.

For Summer 2024, the Department for Education has funded 16 four-hour sessions for each eligible child or young person. Most FEAST activities are booked as full day activities, making this the equivalent of 8 x 8 hour sessions. The number of credits on each voucher has been reduced accordingly to 8.

**\*Any bookings that are already confirmed are not affected by the change in credits. 75% of all FEAST places are already booked and are therefore not affected\***

A small minority of families used more than 8 credits before this change was implemented. Any bookings over and above this rate **are being honoured** as we understand that families may have made arrangements around these bookings and cancellations could cause safeguarding challenges (for example, if a child is dropped at an activity but is no longer booked on).

### **What do I do next?**

**You do not need to change anything** with your HolidayActivities account.

Most families use less than 8 credits and therefore will not be affected by this change. We therefore ask that you don't publicly communicate this change as it may cause confusion and negatively impact attendance.

However, some families may approach you to understand the change that has been made. We have supplied some text (below, in blue) that you can use if you are asked, or you can direct them to the FAQ on our website.

*We understand your frustration regarding the change in the number of FEAST credits. This was implemented following guidance regarding the Department for Education's guidelines, to ensure that as many families as possible can take part in FEAST activities.*

*For Summer 2024, the Department for Education has funded 16 four-hour sessions for each eligible child or young person. Most FEAST activities are booked as full day activities, meaning families have been given 8 credits on HolidayActivities. This allows you to book the equivalent of 16 four-hour sessions.*

*For a short period at the beginning of the Summer booking period, families had access to more than 8 credits. Only a small minority of families used more than 8 credits before the change was implemented. Any bookings over and above this rate are being honoured as we understand that families may have made arrangements around these bookings and cancellations could cause safeguarding challenges (for example, if a child is dropped at an activity but is no longer booked on).*

*We appreciate your understanding and hope your child enjoys the activities planned for this summer. If you have any further questions or need additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.*



## A Message from the FEAST team

We appreciate that a change at this stage is far from ideal, and we really appreciate your understanding on this matter. Please know that we worked hard to find an alternative solution to this situation, however unfortunately it is ultimately out of our control. We are already working closely with the Department for Education to ensure that planning for Christmas can be as clear and smooth as possible.

We are so grateful for all the amazing and hard work put in to make FEAST a success, and whilst this change is unanticipated, the intention is that a wider range of families access to the programme – ultimately making FEAST the best it can be. With over 25,000 FEAST places already booked, it should be a great summer.

## Request to support families to redeem vouchers and make bookings

The reduction of credits per voucher is to ensure that families who have yet to redeem their vouchers can make bookings on remaining activities.

Therefore, **we'd be really grateful of any support you can give to families to redeem their vouchers and make bookings.**

This might include meeting one to one, [printing out our list of activities](#) – some schools have even held a 'FEAST party' to get families and young people engaged in the idea of our exciting holiday activities!

The North Yorkshire Together team is here to help you, your school and your families in any way we can, so please email [hello@northyorkshiretogether.co.uk](mailto:hello@northyorkshiretogether.co.uk) if you want some support or ideas.

And, with HAF funding nationally for after March 2025, not yet secure, we need to do everything we can to demonstrate we're reaching as many families as possible. With any remaining spaces, we are encouraging providers to **spread these out across as many families as possible**, rather than allowing fewer families to book onto a large amount of activities

## Other tips and resources for FEAST Summer 2024

### *Waiting lists*

Families may tell you that they can only be added to waiting lists, rather than book places. Providers do this to try and ensure the spaces available are spread fairly around a wide range of children and young people. If only a waiting list is available, this does NOT necessarily mean there are no spaces available.

It's definitely worth joining waiting lists as places are likely to become available during the holidays as people's plans change.

### *FREE video workshops and resource packs*

We have almost 100 free video workshops and downloadable resources on our website for all families, eligible or not, to access this summer:

<https://northyorkshiretogether.co.uk/get-involved/video-workshops/>

<https://northyorkshiretogether.co.uk/get-involved/downloads/>

## Information to share with families about FEAST



## Redeem your vouchers for free holiday activities this summer

We have issued vouchers to all families whose children are eligible for free places on FEAST activities this summer. You should have received this via email or text, from a platform called Holiday Activities. Follow the link in that email/text to redeem your voucher and request your child's place on some of the fantastic activities on offer across North Yorkshire.

Please note that an activity showing a waiting list does not always mean that an activity is full. To help ensure as many families as possible get to take part in FEAST, most activity providers will open a waiting list for all booking requests before confirming places. Please request a place and you will receive an email/text notification from Holiday Activities if your place is confirmed.

If you believe your child is eligible and you have not yet received your voucher, or you have lost it, please contact the school office.

To learn more about FEAST, and for information on activities, eligibility and how to manage your bookings, [visit the website](#). For a step-by-step guide on how to redeem your vouchers and book a place using HolidayActivities, [watch this video](#).

## 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 given everything their all from the moment they joined us here at Dishforth Airfield.

You have grown in confidence and determination and we are seeing your amazing personality shine through.

We love your sense of humour and you demonstrate all our school values. Keep up the hard work – it has not gone unnoticed.



Congratulations and well done to,

Brooke!





## Ribbons



**EYFS** – This week the ribbon goes to someone who is really showing their ability to concentrate and focus. They have made some fantastic contributions to our class discussions and have put lots of effort into their reading, writing and PE lessons. Well done David!

**Year 1 / 2** – This week the ribbon goes to someone who is a fantastic member of our class. We have watched you grow and thrive this year and we couldn't be prouder. Well done, Aarish!

**Year 3 / 4** – The ribbon this week goes to someone who always works incredibly hard. They have a super learning attitude and always strive to achieve their best. This person is a lovely friend, frequently demonstrating compassion and kindness. Keep up the super work, Khloe!

**Year 5 / 6** – The ribbon this week goes to someone who has worked incredibly hard since starting here. We are so proud of their achievements and their positive attitude towards school. You have grown in confidence, shown resilience and determination and you have wonderful manners! We will really miss you next year but you will have an amazing time at your new school. Well done to Alfie!

## Values in Action

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

This person has been nominated because they are a really nice friend, they make me laugh and help me.

The values award goes to Audrey who was nominated by Lexa.

Well done, Audrey!



## 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 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2024			
Reception	Year 1 / 2	Year 3 / 4	Year 5 / 6
99%	98%	94%	97%

### Leavers

Goodbye and Good Luck to all the children and families who are leaving Dishforth Airfield over the summer. It has been a pleasure to have the children in the school and we are all going to miss you!

I would like to thank all the staff for their hard work, dedication and commitment over the last year – we have a fabulous team of staff who work incredibly hard to ensure that the children have an exciting curriculum and make excellent progress.

On behalf of the staff and governors, may we wish you a relaxing, peaceful summer break. We look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 8.45am.

Kind regards,

Mrs Julie Lyon  
Headteacher

### Diary Dates

July 2024	
15/7/24	Sports Day – Reception – Year 6 at 9.30am – families can come and watch Sports Day - Promotional School Dinner
16/7/24	Nursery sports festival at 2pm in the EYFS Learning Garden – families can come and watch
18/7/24	Music for Life morning – with band Mishra – whole school concert  Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 2pm
19/7/24	School closes for the summer holidays at 2.30pm
September 2024	
2/9/24	Training Day
3/9/24	School open for the new academic year 2024-25
9/9/24	Year 3 and 4 – Forest Schools
11/9/24	Year 5 and 6 – first swim to Thirsk Swimming Baths



12/9/24	Judo taster session for children in Reception to Year 6 – children need PE kit in school
16/9/24	KS2 Virtual Reality
16/9/24	Year 3 and 4 – Forest Schools
23/9/24	Year 3 and 4 – Forest Schools
<b>October 2024</b>	
3/10/24	Promotional School Dinner – Build a Burger
7/10/24	Flu immunisation
w/c 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Parent / teacher/ child consultations
24/10/24	Individual photographs
25/10/24	Break-up for October half-term
<b>November 2024</b>	
4/11/24	School open
5/11/24	Promotional School Dinner – Bonfire Night
6/11/24	Year 5 and 6 children Ripon Cathedral Service
15/11/24	Promotional School Dinner – Children in Need
<b>December 2024</b>	
18/12/24	Year 5 and 6 – last swim  Christmas School Dinner  School Christingle Service in the hall
19/12/24	Christmas Party afternoon
20/12/24	Break-up for Christmas at 2.30pm
<b>January 2025</b>	
6/1/25	Training Day
7/1/25	School open for the spring term

