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Headteacher: Mrs Julie Lyon

Newsletter 12 Monday 25th November 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are very much looking forward to the festive period in school. I am delighted to let you know that we have had a Christmas tree donated from the company Amey which is absolutely beautiful – this will be decorated this week in preparation for Advent and our Advent Wreath will be here at the end of the week ready for lighting the first candle next Monday.

Class News:

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

EYFS: What a chilly week we have had this week! The children have enjoyed exploring the frost outside and learning about changes in the weather. We have explored different seasons and created a 'seasons tuff tray' focussing on Winter and what you might find in the environment e.g. ice and snow. We have also been very busy exploring the Christmas story and practising our Nativity songs.

Year 1 and 2: We have had a busy week this week and have been writing all about Stubby's adventures. We have completed our learning on Addition and Subtraction learning how to jump along a number line. We have been busy practicing for our nativity and learning to use our voices and acting skills.

Year 3 and 4: This week we have been continuing our electricity learning in Science. We had to make predictions on whether or not a diagram of a circuit when built would light up a bulb. We then tested the circuits and fixed them accordingly to make a complete circuit. In English we have been writing a recount from the perspective of Stuart the Strawberry who has travelled through the digestive system. All of the children have been very creative with their writing and have written some super pieces!

Year 5 and 6: In year 5/6 this week we have been learning about orangutans and Asian elephants. We are going to be writing a magazine article about these animals and then sharing them with year 3/4. We have



been carrying out research using secondary sources and will be looking at the different features we need to include next week. We have also started our final art piece. We have sketched a landscape focusing on the horizon, the vanishing point and perspective which we will then be painting using acrylics.

Makaton sign of the week

We have a number of children in school who are using Makaton to support their communication. During assemblies, we are continuing on developing some basic signs.

This week's sign is: **Winter**

Here is a link to the Makaton site:

https://makaton.org/TMC/TMC/The_Makaton_community/Sign_of_the_Week.aspx



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.





Christmas Events 2024

We have much to look forward to as we head towards the festive season and I would like to share with you what we have planned so far.

Christmas Cards

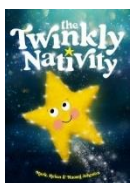
Children can bring their Christmas cards into school for special Dishforth Airfield delivery! Please can children bring their cards into school and post them in the special post box from next Monday – a list of first names can be obtained from the School Office - please ensure envelopes are named correctly and have the class written on!

Nativity Plays

There are two Nativity plays this year, one by EYFS called 'Wriggly Nativity!' and Year 1 and 2 are presenting the Nativity through the story of 'Twinkly Nativity'.



EYFS Nativity is on Wednesday 4th December at 10am



Year 1 and 2 Nativity is on Thursday 12th December in the afternoon at 2.30pm.

School will film each Nativity and photograph the children in costume – photographs will be emailed to parents and the film will be put on our website with a secure password.



Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 6th December, we are taking part in Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children. For a £1 donation to the charity, children can come to school in a Christmas jumper – this can be a home decorated jumper or a bought one.

Carol Singing – Year 5

Year 5 children are going to Boroughbridge Manor Care Home on Friday 13th December to sing carols and spread festive joy to the residents.



School Christingle



On Wednesday 18th December, 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 18th December



School Dinner Special Events: Christmas Lunch – please order in advance

We will be having Christmas lunch on Wednesday 18th December. As this meal will need to be ordered in advance, a separate letter has been sent home for you to complete and return - the **deadline is Tuesday 3rd December**.

Turkey, Stuffing, Sausage, Gravy

Vegetarian Roast (V)

Potatoes

Seasonal Vegetables

Christmas Celebration Cake

Christmas Party afternoon – Thursday 19th December

On Thursday 19th 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 20th December

On Friday 20th December, school closes early for Christmas at 2.30pm.

Christmas Fundraising December 2024

Thank you all for your continued support in raising funds for the school.



The funds which are raised will go directly to the children in school through many ways, such as: the purchase of equipment, visitors into school (workshops for example), subsidizing trips.



Christmas Hampers Raffle – donations

We are asking for your support by donating items that can be made into Christmas hampers. We would be very grateful if you could send contributions into class with your child/ren by **Thursday 5th December** so that the hampers can be made up ready for our Christmas raffle draw in the final week of the term. We have chosen themes for each class. Please could we ask that you try to check the best before dates on any perishable items is after **31st December 2024**. Thank you for your support!

Nursery/ Reception: Confectionary

Year 1/2: Something useful (e.g., notebook, games, pens etc.)

Year 3/4: Smellies (bath bombs, bubble bath, shower wash/gel, hair and body wash candles)

Year 5/6: Bottles (a bottle of something to drink)

Tickets for the raffle will be on sale in December – more information will follow on how and where to buy these shortly. Thank you so much for your continued support in raising money for our school.

Local business donations

We love celebrating local businesses and wish to include items from local businesses in our raffle this year. If you have a business and are able to provide an item/voucher/donation to our school raffle, we would be incredibly grateful. We would be happy to mention and promote any businesses who donate to our raffle on our school Facebook page.

Winter Coat and Christmas Jumper rail sale

After school on **Wednesday 4th December**, we will be holding a sale of second-hand winter coats and Christmas jumpers for a small donation of a few pounds. If you have any old winter coats or Christmas jumpers which no longer fit your children, are in good condition and you are willing to donate to help raise money for our school, please bring these in to the school office by **Monday 2nd December**.

Jingle Jars - donations

As we are getting into the Christmas spirit, we are asking for donations of 'Jingle jars'. These are empty jam jars that have been filled with treats e.g. mini sweets, mini chocolates, bath salts, wax melts, mini colouring pencils and activity books etc – anything you can fit into a jar that you think others would enjoy! All jingle jar donations will be collected and sold at school on our Christmas stall in December and all money raised will be for our school. We have been busy collecting jars already so if you would like to collect one to fill, please visit the school office. Please could all jingle jar donations be handed in to the school office by **Thursday 5th December**. Thank you!



Bauble competition

We are holding a 'design your own Christmas bauble' competition. All children are invited to design their own Christmas bauble with the chance of winning a prize for the best Christmas bauble! Competition entry sheets



will be available to purchase from the school office for £1 from Tuesday 2nd December. Final entries are due back into school by **Monday 16th December** and the winner will be announced and awarded their prize in the final week of term.

Christmas Stall

Throughout December we will be selling raffle tickets, hot chocolate cones and reindeer food after school. More information will follow on the dates for this.

Reception Starters for September 2025

The deadline to submit an application for parents and carers who have a child who is due to start Reception in September 2025 is the 15th January.

Parents of children in our school nursery still need to apply for a Reception place through North Yorkshire Council.

PE 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: Wednesday (swimming) and Friday

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.**

ParentPay

Breakfast and After school club, 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. New families to the school will receive login information for ParentPay once their child / children have started.

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 is £3.55 for children in Years 3-6.

The cost for the month of December for children in Year 3-6 will be £53.25. (15 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.

Please find attached to this week's newsletter some helpful tips and advice from the Local Authority regarding packed lunches.

Bookings for Dandelions Childcare

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. Accounts are put on ParentPay. Parents are charged based on the bookings they make and any additional sessions.

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 a positive attitude to their learning. This person demonstrates all of our school values and is a wonderful friend.

We are loving watching you challenge yourself by speaking up and projecting your voice during our play practice! We know you can do it.



Congratulations and well done to

Mareca!



Ribbons



EYFS – This week the ribbon goes to someone who is striving to achieve their best in phonics. They know all their letter sounds and have been putting in 100% effort. We are very proud of you. Well done George!

Year 1 / 2 – The ribbon this week goes to someone who has a fantastic attitude to school and is always prepared to try all new learning. This person is a fantastic role model and a super friend. Well done Mylah!

Year 3 / 4 – The ribbon this week goes to someone who has worked incredibly hard on their extended writing. This person has focused on our writing tool kit and made sure they included all of these elements in their independent writing. Keep up the super work, Oscar!

Year 5 / 6 – The ribbon this week goes to someone who we have noticed has been putting in extra effort with their presentation. They are working hard to earn a pen licence, and we can see their determination each lesson to achieve their goal. You are working so hard and we are impressed with your dedication! Well done to Jesse!

Values in Action

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

This person has been nominated because they join in school activities and they are very resilient.

The values award goes to Alice who was nominated by Emily-Rose.

Well done, Alice!



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 96% 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 18th November 2024

Reception	Year 1 / 2	Year 3 / 4	Year 5 / 6
95%	90%	96%	97%

Kind regards,

Mrs Julie Lyon
Head Teacher

Diary Dates

December 2024	
2/12/24	Winter coats and Christmas Jumper donations into school
4/12/24	EYFS Nativity – morning - time to be confirmed Winter coats and Christmas Jumper sale
5/12/24	Jingle Jars into school please! Hamper donations in by this date!
6/12/24	Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children £1
12/12/24	Year 1 and 2 Nativity – afternoon – time to be confirmed
13/12/24	Year 5 and 6 children Carol singing at Boroughbridge Manor Care Home
16/12/24	Christmas Bauble entries in
18/12/24	Year 5 and 6 – last swim Christmas School Dinner



	School Christingle Service in the hall
19/12/24	Christmas Party afternoon (children to bring party clothes into school to change into)
20/12/24	Break-up for Christmas at 2.30pm
January 2025	
6/1/25	Training Day
7/1/25	School open for the spring term
8/1/25	Year 3 and 4 swimming at Thirsk pool every Wednesday
	Reception children – balance bike course for 5 weeks
February 2025	
14/2/25	Break up for February half term at 3.15pm

