



GOLDSBOROUGH and SICKLINGHALL Federation

Half Term Newsletter: Autumn 2 Sicklinghall Community Primary School



Dear Parents and carers,

27.11.19

We have continued to have a wonderful time in school in recent weeks and as usual, we have been busy squeezing every drop of fun and excitement out of each day.

It has been so wonderful to welcome so many of you to the Class Assemblies that we have seen so far – the children are always so full of character and really make me laugh with their wit. Their reading has been brilliant and the work that they have been completing so far this term has been full of exciting tasks. Their confidence has truly shone when reading in formation and demonstrating tasks from their learning to our parents.

Did you know that all maintained schools – whether they are a church school or not - must provide religious education as part of the curriculum and daily collective worship for all registered pupils and promote their spiritual, moral and cultural development? We often call our Collective Worship 'Assembly' but it is important that as part of these we take time to have reflection and to participate in a prayer. The children will be invited to join in with these if they wish to do so.

We are continuing to build new links with the local community and with St. Peter's Church. We have recently met Mrs Moira Keith – she will be visiting school to share stories with us

Whether you are ready for it or not, the festive season is very quickly approaching. I wonder how many of you have given in and put up your tree at home?



At school, we will be putting the tree up next week. Once again, Geoff from Stockeld Park has donated a tree for us to display in school. How kind!

As part of our Christmas celebrations we will be visiting St Peter's Church, Sicklinghall, and holding a German Christmas Market on Thursday 12th December 2019 at 3.30pm in the school hall, to which everyone is invited (parents/carers, grandparents, friends).



Each class has been busy developing their Design Technology skills by deciding and making an item which they will sell at the German Market. Each class has been given £30 to spend on resources but their aim is to produce a design which can be sold to raise money for their class to spend. Each child will be able to make one of their chosen item, but the class will also vote for their favourite designs and mass produce these to sell. Other children will be involved in marketing and advertising for the event, visiting other classes to talk about their product; and the finances: working out exactly how much each item costs to make and what would be a good price to sell them for.



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Planning for the annual Nativity and Carol Concerts are well under way – excitement is bubbling around school and that's just from the teachers. Following on from the Harvest Service, we have decided to tweak it so that everyone can enjoy it. St. Peter's Church is beautiful, but it was fit to burst last time! There will be a modern take on the Nativity in the Church at 9.30am to which all Cherry Blossom parents are invited, and a 2pm traditional Carol Church Service with the retelling of the birth of Jesus to which all Silver Birch and Willow parents are invited. The German market will be held in the school hall afterwards from 3.30pm – **please join us after school and purchase some of the hand-made Christmas items they have been working on for their enterprise project.**

The PTFA are hoping to have a German cake stall too for which we need to ask for lots of help and donations please! We are asking for any German style Christmas Biscuits / Stollen to be brought into school for us to sell on the cake stall as part of our German market.



All funds raised on this stall will be sent to a charity chosen by School Council.

Please could your cake/biscuit donations be dropped off at school on either Wednesday 11 December or the morning of Thursday 12 December. Many thanks and we look forward to seeing you all there!

Christmas feels like it has come early for us at school. I have said it before, and I will say it again – we are SO lucky to have the support of our amazing PTFA who have been purchasing lots of exciting new things for school such as the new water machine. This has been such a wonderful investment as the children are now eager to fill up their water bottles and stay hydrated all day. Without them, and without your support of these events, we wouldn't be able to enrich the curriculum in the way that we currently do. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I am sure that your contribution and efforts will earn you a place on the 'nice list'.

Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 13 December 2019

On Friday 13 December, the whole school will be able to participate in 'Christmas Jumper Day', along with lots of other work places and schools across the country. Children may come to school wearing their own clothes and the most Christmassy Christmas jumpers of all Christmas jumpers. In return we ask for a small donation (suggested donation £1). **All money raised will go to the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day campaign.**



Save the Children
**CHRISTMAS
JUMPER DAY**

Children may **also** wear a Christmas jumper **again in place of their school uniform cardigan or jumper on Thursday 19th December** when we will be having Christmas lunch at school.



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Advance Notice re: After School Club on the Last Day of Term - Friday 20 December 2019

Please note that After School Club **will not run on the final day of term**, Friday 20 December 2019, due to our early finish of 2:30pm.

The PTFA Christmas party is just around the corner too, on the afternoon of Wednesday 18th December. This will be held in the Village Hall from 1.00pm-3.30pm. Children may come to school wearing their party/casual clothes that day, but please remember they **will still need suitable & sensible footwear**. There will be **no school lunch** on this day as the PTFA **provide a party lunch** for the children on arrival at the hall.

Parents of children with Allergies and Dietary Requirements: Please communicate with the PTFA or via email that can be passed directly on to the PTFA about your child's Dietary Requirements.

Children should be **collected at the end of the party from the Village Hall at 3.30pm please**. We request that you please **park considerably** when collecting your children from the village hall and **preferably park in the car park at The Scotts Arms pub, thank you**.

Any children who will be attending After School Club up until 6.00pm on this day will be walked back up to school by Miss Redmond & accompanying adults at 3.30pm. **As our After School Club staff need to know pupil numbers for this day, we ask that parents please email wraparoundcare@sicklinghall.n-yorks.sch.uk to please book your child in ASAP. Thank you.**

Finally, some important reminders:



It is imperative that children are supervised after school on the playground. When the weather is inclement, and during the winter when leaves create a mulch on the ground, the ground can be extremely hazardous. In school time we safeguard children by preventing them from using certain areas and by adequately staffing and monitoring the playground. While saying farewell to the children one evening after school, I noticed a small child who had been handed over to parents had slipped over by being on the mud. Additionally, children are running on to the field and playing football. They are not currently allowed to do this in school-time due to the mole holes that are unstable underfoot.

Though this may seem over the top, safeguarding children is my upmost priority and your support in this matter is essential. A simple fall at this age can lead to very serious breaks while the children's bones are still growing. Should children remain unsupervised, the school gates will be closed at 3:40pm.

Before or After School:

- **No children are permitted to use any of the Trim Trail / Climbing Equipment.**
- **No children are permitted to use the field.**
- **Children must be supervised by, and remain with their adult whilst on the school playground.**



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Contact/Medical Details

Please inform us of any changes to parent/carer emergency contact details; mobile or landline telephone numbers; medical conditions or medications, etc as they arise throughout the year. Thank you.

Parking in the village

Unfortunately this week, we have once again received complaints regarding inconsiderate parking outside and in the vicinity of school at drop off and pick up times. Sadly, complaints are being received despite reminders. Particular concerns are vehicles that park across residents driveways, blocking access to and from their homes; parking on the zig zag lines outside school; and vehicles that park partially on the pavement, encroaching on walking, wheelchair and pushchair space.

We therefore wish to remind parents that parking on the yellow zig zag lines outside school is prohibited at any time and reiterate the importance of safe parking. We ask for your support in ensuring that you park considerately towards our neighbours, and without encroaching onto the kerb.

It is vital that we maintain good relationships with the local community. Our recommendation is to park in the car park of The Scotts Arms pub and walk your child up to school. It is important that we respond to concerns from our community and we once again thank you for your consideration and co-operation in this matter.

Applications for a Primary School Place for September 2020

If you live within North Yorkshire and your child was born between **1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016**, your child will be due to start school in the academic year 2020-2021 and you will need to apply for a primary school place for **September 2020**.

All North Yorkshire applications are encouraged to be made online, details of which can be found using the following link:

<http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/article/23544/Apply-for-a-primary-school-place>

Applications can be made from now and must be submitted before **15 January 2020**. **Please also see NYCC letter attached.**

*A note for families living in Wetherby/West Yorkshire postcode area: Please note that your applications should be made via your home authority, Leeds City Council, stating Sicklinghall CP School as your preferred school. For further information and advice please see:

<http://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/Pages/Admissions-Primary-School.aspx>

Leeds City Council Admissions Team tel no: 0113 222 4414 and email:

education.admissions@leeds.gov.uk.



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Bad Weather Arrangements at Sicklinghall

We would like to advise/remind everyone of our bad weather and winter arrangements which are outlined below:

- School will endeavour to remain open where possible during the winter months.
- The school would need to close before the school day starts only if staff are not able to make the journey into school, meaning that there would not be enough adults to provide adequate and safe supervision of pupils.
- The school would need to close during the school day only if conditions worsen to such an extent that journeys home for families and for staff would become dangerous.
- Families' journeys to school are diverse, with some walking, some driving from local villages and some driving from further afield. For this reason, we ask that parents/carers take their own decision as to whether it is safe to drive to school on snowy days. If you decide not to make the journey, please inform school via a phone call or email.
- Should school need to close, a text message will be sent to all parents/carers as early as possible. This message will also be posted on the front page of our website (sicklinghallprimary.co.uk) and broadcast on Stray FM (97.2FM).
- Should school remain open but there is a thick blanket of snow on the ground, the playground entrance will remain closed. Pupils are therefore asked to come into school via the car park entrance, which will be supervised by a member of staff.

DATES

Please continue to check the website and letters / texts for dates as these are sent regularly in addition to these sent each half term in the newsletter.

Reminder of dates previously sent via newsletter / text:

12th December – Christmas Church Services (see details above) – followed by Christmas Market after school at the end of the day.

13th December – Christmas Jumper Day - £1 – Full Christmas Clothes and sensible shoes.

18th December – PTFA School Christmas Party in the Village Hall.

19th December - P&A School Christmas Dinner – **children and staff to wear Christmas Jumpers in place of school jumper or cardigan.**

20th December - 2:30pm Sicklinghall finish for Christmas (Join us at 2pm for Carols Around the Tree in the Hall).

Future Dates for 2020:

6th January – School is closed for a Training Day

7th January – First day back at school after Christmas

27th January – 3.45pm Yr6 Parent/Carer meeting re Carlton Lodge Residential, held at Sicklinghall School (Parents from both schools can attend either date)

28th January – 3.30pm Yr6 Parent/Carer meeting re Carlton Lodge Residential, held at Goldsbrough School (Parents from both schools can attend either date)

30th January – 9:05am – 10:05am – Encouraging your child to write (Year 1 Parents)

6th February – Zulu Nation Workshop (pm Sicklinghall)

11th February – 9:05am – 10:05am – Encouraging your child to write (Reception Parents)

12th February – Parent Consultations 2:00pm – 7:30pm

14th February – End of Half Term – normal school closure time.



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24 February – School re-opens to pupils

5th March – World Book Day

9th–13th March – Yr6 Residential to Carlton Lodge

17th March – 9:05am – 10:05am – Making Phonics Fun (Year 1 Parents)

18th March – Y4 Bewerley Park Residential Parent Meeting 3:30pm at Goldsbrough (Parents from both schools can attend either date)

19th March – Y4 Bewerley Park Residential Parent Meeting 3:45pm at Sicklinghall (Parents from both schools can attend either date)

3rd April – 9:05am – 10:05am – Making Phonics Fun (Reception Parents)

3rd April – Last day of Half Term – normal school finish time.

Thank you for your continued support. It is so very important to me to have good relationships with our families and local community. It has been a wonderful term. On behalf of myself and the whole staff team, have a safe and restful holiday. We look forward to welcoming you back to school on Tuesday 7th January 2020.

Best wishes,

Zoe Pickard
Headteacher