



INSPIRE NURTURE BELIEVE ACHIEVE

*Working **together** to be the **best** that we can be.*

Happiness

Perserverance

Resilience

Kindness

Friendship

Respect

16.12.21

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: review of the term

We made it! We have completed a full term with quite a lot of exciting things going on and it has almost (dare I say it) felt like a regular school term!

It has been such an odd term though, full of challenges for everyone behind the scenes, but I feel immensely proud that despite many operational matters to navigate, the children have enjoyed a term in school which has felt more like school as we know it. Despite the cases of Covid-19 in school this term, our attendance is still 93.11% (compared to 88.9% nationally) – well done everyone! The whole staff team have been fantastic; I know you will have the same feelings of thanks towards them as I do.

Mrs Chantler will officially be ending her contract as the named SENCO at the end of December but she will instead be working on a consultancy basis with us to support some of the children for the remainder of the year as they make the transition to High School. Mrs Richards is a qualified SENCO so in the meantime we will take on some of the day-to-day aspects of the role while we interview. Mrs Chantler will support school with recruiting a replacement and support with any handover as and when we appoint.

Miss Gimeno has been working with Silver Birch some afternoons, helping the children with their reading comprehension. She surprised us last week with an early arrival of baby number three - a month ahead of schedule! Mum and baby are doing well. Welcome to the world baby Arthur, and Congratulations Miss Gimeno and family.

There have been many successes and moments to enjoy this term. It has been very busy and the children have had a fantastic time in school. Our curriculum continues to develop, providing children with support and challenge in all areas. We look forward to welcoming you into school in the new year to show you their wonderful work.

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Quality Mark
Awarded for face to face delivery of mentoring and training in initial teacher training



Harrogate & Rural
TEACHING ALLIANCE



As you have not been able to join us for many events in school (and children can never remember what an amazing time they have had during the school day), we thought we would summarise some of the key aspects of the term in this newsletter.

The Y6 and Reception Buddy System is proving once again successful. The Autumn Term was dedicated to the Y6 children helping their reception buddies to socialise, learn how to play games and get used to school routines at lunchtime. They already have such a wonderful relationship with each other.



School Council has been re-launched for the new academic year. This was really exciting as the last time we worked with School Council was Autumn 2019 before the pandemic caused chaos in the Spring term of 2020.

Each class learned about the British Value Democracy as the process requires that they vote for candidates who they feel are suitable. The long list is reduced following two rounds of anonymous ballot voting to the final candidates. These 'short list' candidates gave a speech and were chosen by their classmates to represent them on School Council.



The School Councillors work with other children in school as they take their minutes back to the whole class to ask for their contributions, votes and ideas. They have already raised money for numerous charities this year and also ensured we have been involved in Anti-bullying week!

School Council are supported in school by the **Y6 Prefects and Y5 Ambassadors**. These roles help develop responsibility and independence as they undertake important jobs such as preparing school for visitors.

Den Building was a way to block our outdoor learning / forest school type lessons this term. The children had an incredible time as it was so much fun! This session was a Design Technology focus, looking at structures and joins. We have already booked sessions for the Spring and Summer terms too for all classes.



Harrogate High Sporting Competitions for Y3/4 and Y5/6

This year we signed up to the weekly competitions at Harrogate High School again but we have actually been able to attend! HOORAY!

The children in KS2 have had an incredible time, playing football with their classmates, playing on a team with their friends from the other class in the federation and even stepping in to help other schools who were short on numbers. We have been impressed with the children's attitudes as they have exemplified EVERY SINGLE ONE of our school values consistently across the term.



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Parents and carers – we couldn't have done it without you! Thank you for taking the children there each week. Thank you also to the staff members too who have completed the paperwork and committed to standing in the cold each week to provide our children with these wonderful opportunities.

Thank you to Wetherby Tool Hire who very generously donated the money to purchase a brand-new kit. We are sure you'll agree that they look fantastic! Find out more about the company here: <https://www.wetherbytoolhire.co.uk/>

We are keeping our fingers crossed that Tchoukball Competitions will go ahead in the Spring Term. We are also aiming to have a session for KS1 children to do some friendly games too against Goldsborough / Sicklinghall in the Summer Term.



Extra-Curricular Clubs is an area that School Council are helping to improve. So far this term we have enjoyed Craft Club, Wednesday Sports Competitions and Drama. If you know of any providers who can run a club from a classroom, or outside in the spring / Summer and who are willing to venture to the village of Sicklinghall or Goldsborough, please pass on their details via the school office.

Curriculum enrichment is something that we are passionate about as a federation. We know that children remember exciting days for many years. This year we have continued with our Departure Days (to mark the start of the learning journey for the half term). The children absolutely love them!

Some of the enrichments Visits and Visitors have been a video call with Sam's Safari, a visit to Harlow Carr, a talk from a member of the Yorkshire Geological Society, an Assembly from the Association of Harrogate Muslims, a talk from Joshua Siegel on World Poetry Day and a safety talk from North Yorkshire Fire Service.



Halloween meant more PTFA supplies and lots MORE fun! Nothing has stopped us taking part in great activities this term, even if they have had to be tweaked!



In November, we held a 1-minute-silence as part of Remembrance. Rev. Stroma (one of our Governors) recorded a Remembrance themed Collective Worship for us to watch which helped everyone to think about the courage people demonstrate when at war and also the sacrifices people made at that time.

The children used different Art skills to make a whole-class wreath of poppies.



The P.E curriculum has been really exciting and the children's attitudes, perseverance, resilience and skills are improving all the time.

This is what they have been up to in their lesson with Mr Colley.

PE With Mr Colley

This term Mr Colley has been working with the Reception, Key Stage 1 & 2 on Outdoor Adventurous Activity and Tag Rugby.

Outdoor Adventurous Activities has given the children opportunities to develop essential life skills in:

- Problem solving
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Orienteering
- Map reading.



Outdoor Adventurous Activities

In Tag Rugby the children have developed:

- Spatial awareness
- Evading an opponent
- Passing and receiving the ball under pressure and the timing and weighting of the pass
- Defensive line.

Reception have been developing their fundamental skills where they have been working on:

- Spatial awareness
- Body awareness and controlled movements
- Throwing and catching.



Tag Rugby

Alongside this we have been developing our social skills of body language, communication, determination, encouragement and respect.

As we approached the end of term, Christmas arrived in school.

Thank you to Stockeld Park who once again provided beautiful tree for school – this is a right of passage for Y6 Prefects who have the honour of decorating the tree each year!

Several naughty elves made an appearance, we raised money for Save the Children on Christmas Jumper Day and also enjoyed our school Christmas Dinner!

Thanks again to the PTFA who provided lots of party games for the children to enjoy in their classes – I have never seen so much excitement! Mrs Perry and her little helpers boxed up what felt like an endless amount of Christmas party lunches. Delicious!



The PTFA also managed to book a time slot in Santa's busy diary so that he could fit in a visit to Sicklinghall, laden with presents for every child! Thank you to Santa's little helper (Mrs Clee!) who must have spent hours wrapping all of those presents! The children are so lucky!

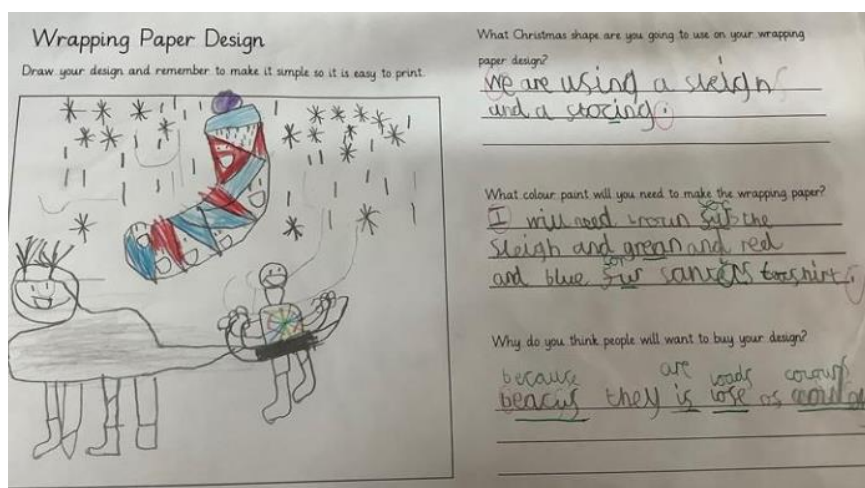
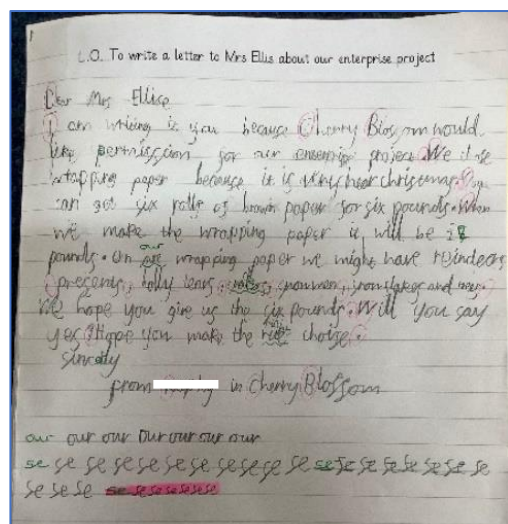


KS1 performed their hearts out in **The Big Little Nativity** while KS2 told the story of Jesus' birth accompanied by Christmas Carols. We hope you enjoy watching the video of it.

Enterprise (German Market)

The children have been learning more about entrepreneurial characteristics in the annual Enterprise Project. Then children love this as they get the chance to apply their Design Technology skills from lessons into a product for the real world.

They had to write a letter asking for some money for resources that they would pay back once they had sold their enterprise products. Next, they had to design their products. Some classes completed market research about the best designs.







emergencies occur, quick reactions can save lives.

School budgets are stretched more than ever and even more-so in small village schools like ours. There is also an increasing need to have accessible first-aid provisions for school children, staff and members of the community. Wide-spread media reports have shown that when cardiac

With support from Yorkshire Building Society, we now have an **additional portable** Defibrillator which can be accessed without a code as it is stored in school. The new one has two sets of pads – one for children and another for adults. It can be taken on Educational Visits and carried around the village, for example, when going to Church. It may not always be in school for this reason but the one in the outside cabinet will remain on site. The new one has already been used by a member of the community and we are extremely thankful to have the support of businesses like Yorkshire Building Society who paid for the full cost of the Defibrillator.



The Johnson and Mukherjee Brothers Charity was formed 30 years ago supporting local organisations and schools in Lincolnshire and North Yorkshire. We have been incredibly fortunate to be one of the schools they have chosen to support – they have donated £8000 for us to repair / replace the Trim Trail. This is booked for early January – watch this space! Without the Mukherjee Trust we would have struggled to raise that amount of money quickly. The children are looking forward to being able to use the Trim Trail again very soon!



Dolce Vacancy

An opportunity has arisen for a friendly & enthusiastic individual to join Dolce's rapidly growing and forward-thinking company, working for a few hours each day in the Goldsborough Sicklinghall Federation.

The role is 10 hrs per week (2hours per day - usually from 11.30-1.30 but these are flexible dependant on service times). If you're looking for a role which fits around your family life and enjoy working with children, go to the vacancies section of the website now for more information!



Such a lot of work goes into the PTFA events and support for school – especially when guidance is constantly changing and events need to be adapted to ensure they can occur and the children don't miss out! We really are grateful for the contribution of every member of the PTFA this term.

As well as extending our thanks to the whole PTFA for all of their ongoing hard work and commitment, we would also like to thank Mrs Bradbury who has stepped down as chair of the PTFA. I am sure you will agree that her passion and contribution to school has been fantastic over the years.



All the staff in school would like to thank you for your support this term. Our school community continues to shine despite the challenging times. We wish you all a very **Merry Christmas** spent with your children and families, and a **Happy New Year**.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Wednesday 5th January 2022!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Ellis
Federation Headteacher