

# NEWSLETTER 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024

“Rooted and grounded in love”  
Ephesians 3:17



Grange Close, Dishforth,  
Thirsk, North Yorkshire  
YO7 3LN 01845 577206

## Headteacher's Message

Headteacher: Mrs K Lacey

As you know we had our Ofsted inspection this Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December. A big thank you must go to all the parents that took time to give feedback to the inspectors about their views of the school. I am not allowed to share the results of our inspection with you until the publication of the final report, which we were told would happen within 35 school days of the date of inspection, later in January. I will say that we felt that the experience was as positive as it could have been and that we were treated fairly by the inspectors. I was very proud of all the children and the whole staff team.

On Wednesday evening we had our Online Safety workshop from our Schools Liaison Officer, Martin Powell. He will be running similar sessions for parents/carers later in the year and I would urge you to consider attending, he is very easy to listen to and a source of very sensible advice and useful information.

Thursday afternoon was our school Christmas Fayre. It was a lovely afternoon and there was a really positive buzz around the school hall. Our class 3 children's stalls were very well received and it was fantastic to see how much time and hard work they put into their games, activities and their money boxes made in their DT lessons. I am delighted to announce that the children's stalls alone raised a huge £170.02 for school funds. We will update you with the final fundraising total in next week's newsletter. As usual, the Friends of Dishforth team worked enthusiastically and tirelessly through the afternoon, setting up, serving, running stalls and the enormous tombola and then spent time tidying away afterwards. Their commitment to supporting school is incredible and very much appreciated by everyone. The money that they raise makes a huge difference to what we can offer our children in school, in the context of challenging funding. Thank you!

Lastly, thank you to everyone that attended our Christingle service in Church this afternoon. It was lovely to see everyone there and join together as a community at the end of such a busy and important week for our school.

## What have we been learning this week?

### EYFS

This week in Early Years we have been enjoying preparing for Christmas in the role play area. We have been making repeating patterns using beads to make garlands for the Christmas tree. We have made decorations in the playdough, using holly from the outdoor area.

### Class 1

This week Class 1 have been busy writing letters to a friend to tell them how much fun snow is. In maths they have continued their work on 2D and 3D shapes. We have looked at a range of micro habitats in science and thought about which creatures we would find in each one. Class 1 have continued to be Nativity superstars and have been teaching the whole school the actions to their songs.

### Class 2

Well what a week that was! This week in Class 2 we have worked incredibly hard. During our toolkit week in English we have looked at how authors and illustrators work to create picture books and add context to pictures. In Maths we have been looking at division, with year 4 beginning to look at formal written methods. In Science we explored different melting points of materials and in PE we continued developing our hockey skills. On Friday we loved going to the church for our Christingle service

### Class 3

Class 3 have been busy with our new English character description of A Christmas Carol's Scrooge. The children have also loved leading the Christmas fayre this year with some excellent stalls! In music they have been perfecting jingle bells on the clarinet and singing songs for the Christingle service. We have also started doing our final piece for art, creating maps with hidden messages - linked to our typography unit.



## Stars of the Week

## Celebrating our Success

## The Values Award

<b>EYFS</b>	This week our star is Meredith. Meredith has had a super week in the making area. We were so amazed at the castle she made using lots of different materials.
<b>Class 1</b>	Class 1 star of the week goes to Emini for always being ready to learn and trying her best in everything that we've been doing this week. She even added extra information in her work on micro habitats. Well done Emini!
<b>Class 2</b>	The star of the week this week goes to Stan Gillies. Stan has worked really hard this week and this has really shown in the work he has produced. He always offers great answers in whole class discussions and he always tries his best. Well done Stan.
<b>Class 3</b>	The star of the week is Charlie for his fantastic creation in art when making his map using typography.



Mrs Lacey would like to nominate all the grown ups in school this week for compassion and trust for their amazing team work through our Ofsted inspection. Thank you everyone!

### Attendance this week

EYFS	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3
81.6%	91.3%	86%	84.4%



### Safeguarding

This week please find attached a 'Wake Up Wednesday' online safety parent guide about Roblox.

We have a lot of illness in school over the past week, both staff and children. On the next page please see information sent by North Yorkshire Council for schools to pass onto families with advice about winter infections.

## Christmas Dates

Please see separate attached document for further arrangements

Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas jumper day Christmas dinner in school
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 10.30am and 5.30pm	Whole School Nativity Performances EYFS & KS1 acting KS2 singing
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Party Day – wear party clothes
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm	Break up for Christmas NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

### Friday Celebration Assembly Class Sharing Dates

Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	No assembly due to early finish
----------------------------------	---------------------------------

### Can you help?

Are you (or do you know) a photographer who would be willing to come and volunteer for free to take some high quality up to date photographs of our wonderful school? We need some to update the website and create new promotional materials. If you think you can help please contact Mrs Lacey via the school office. Thank you!



## Winter infections in children – guidance for parents/guardians

This leaflet gives advice on illnesses that are currently affecting nursery and school children across Yorkshire and The Humber

### What are the symptoms?

There are two groups of symptoms:

- Diarrhoea and vomiting – usually lasting 1-2 days
- Fever, tiredness, runny nose, cough and sore throat – lasting 3-4 days

### What should I do if my child is unwell?

- If your child has diarrhoea and/or vomiting symptoms, they should not attend nursery/school until they have been symptom free for 48 hours
- If your child has a high temperature and is unwell, it is very important they stay at home and don't attend school until they have recovered. Children with mild symptoms like runny nose, sore throat, or mild cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend school.
- Ensure they drink plenty of fluids – taking sips rather than gulps, to avoid vomiting
- If they have a fever – give child paracetamol and/or ibuprofen, according to manufacturer's instructions. Your local pharmacist can also advise you about the best treatment for your child
- If your child is unusually sleepy, can't take fluids or has other symptoms, such as an unusual rash, headache or neck stiffness – **seek medical advice immediately**

### Infection control advice

Handwashing is one of the most important ways to prevent the spread of both of these infections. This applies to the child who is ill and the person caring for them. Hands should be washed using soap and rinsed under running water:

- Before and after caring for the child
- After using the toilet
- Before eating, preparing or handling food
- After cleaning up spills (vomit, diarrhoea or urine)
- Also – keep a separate towel for each family member who has symptoms, and change them regularly
- Dry hands thoroughly

### Other control measures:

- Cover nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, using a tissue if possible – dispose of used tissues immediately and wash hands
- Wash soiled clothing, bed linen and towels at 60°C, using detergent – if possible, wear disposable gloves to handle contaminated items
- Surfaces and touch points (taps, toilet flush handle, door handles) should be cleaned then disinfected with bleach-based cleaner
- Check that your child is up to date with their [NHS vaccinations schedule](#)

**For further information, visit [NHS.uk](#) and search for 'respiratory infections' and 'diarrhoea and vomiting'**



## What do they offer?

- Free 45 minute face to face, telephone or on-line appointments free of charge with a female support worker from The Wellness Gateway and a follow up appointment if needs be
- A chance to identify and express any worries
- Support & signposting
- Monthly sessions on Tuesdays 1-3pm at Dishforth CE Primary School



## How do I book?

Drop a quick email to [community@thewellnessgateway.org](mailto:community@thewellnessgateway.org) and one of our team will respond to tell you what appointments are available.

### Terms & Conditions

All appointments need to be pre-booked in advance by email, sessions are only on designated days and confidentiality does not extend past any safeguarding concerns of The Wellness Gateway staff. The sessions are independent of your child's school and funded by North Yorkshire Council.

The Wellness Gateway are a registered charity and our website is: [www.thewellnessgateway.org](http://www.thewellnessgateway.org) if you would like to find out more about us.

The Wellness Gateway Team ♥