



DISHFORTH C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL
Grange Close, Thirsk, North Yorkshire YO7 3LN
Telephone: 01845 577206
Head Teacher: Mrs J Lyon



Newsletter 1 Tuesday 5th September 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to the new school year!

The children have come to school looking very smart and ready for the new academic year. All the children came into their classrooms cheerfully and settled quickly and there has been a calm and purposeful atmosphere in school. It is that time of year where the weather could do anything from being lovely and sunny to sharp showers. Please can I ask that if it is going to be hot (like this week) that the children have sun cream on them and, just in case, always bring a waterproof coat so that they can get outside for some fresh air.

The school day times are 8.45am – 3.15pm. Please can children arrive promptly at 8.40am (no earlier) ready for learning to start at 8.45am – thank you.

A newsletter is published every week throughout the school year which is e-mailed via the School Office and uploaded onto our school website – it is also available to read outside on the school playground in the display board. Please ensure that you read them every week as they contain essential up-to-date information. At the end of the newsletter there are diary dates so please do check these weekly as sometimes changes are made.

There are many events to look forward to this term and I will share these with you over the coming weeks, however, as this is the first newsletter of the year it is always lengthy, so I suggest you make yourself a drink, sit down with a calendar or diary and read on!

Welcome

A very warm welcome to all the children and families who have joined us over the summer holidays:

Nursery – Hallie, Evelyn

Reception – Zach, Jace, Gracie

Staffing Update

We warmly welcome Mrs Smith and Mrs Pilmoor who have joined our staff team as Teaching Assistants and Midday Supervisors.

Class Structure – academic year 2023-24

Head Teacher: Mrs Lyon

EYFS and Senior Teacher: Mrs Chaplin

Class 1: Mrs Cawood

Class 2: Mr Duffy

Class 3: Miss Ungerechts

Mrs Blyton will be working in Class 2 and 3 covering PPA each week.

School Administrator: Mrs McBride

Home Learning Policy

At our school, we believe that children learn best when parents, the school and children work together in partnership. Home Learning should be a positive experience which is manageable, meaningful and enjoyable for parents, teachers and children.

Reading books will be prioritised this week in school and homework will commence next week. Please refer to the table below regarding homework for each class.

Class	Homework	Homework Given	Collected and Tested
EYFS: Reception	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Speed Sound Books• Daily Reading• Show and Tell task	Daily Daily Weekly	Mrs Chaplin will provide more information in a separate letter.
CLASS 1 Year 1/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily reading• Spellings• Mental Maths• A weekly task linked to current learning	Daily reading Friday Friday Friday	Daily Friday Thursday Thursday
CLASS 2 Year 3/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily reading• Spellings• Mental Maths	Daily Friday Friday	Daily Wednesday Wednesday
CLASS 3 Year 5/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily Reading• Spellings• A Maths activity relating to in-school learning during the week	Daily Friday Friday Friday	Daily Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday

Year 6

Year 6 children might sometimes have an additional piece of homework. Hand-in dates will be made clear by Miss Ungerechts.

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.**

Early Reading and Phonics Session for Reception Parents

Mrs Chaplin will be holding a meeting about our phonics scheme, Read Write Inc. on **Friday 22nd September at 2.30pm.**

Curriculum Class Newsletters

Curriculum Class newsletters which give information about the subjects which are to be taught this term will be sent out to families later this week. The class newsletters will also be uploaded to the school website and will be available for reference for the whole term.

Parents Evening

Parents Evening will be week commencing the 23rd October – further details will follow in due course.

School Uniform

A reminder about school uniform for September:

Charcoal grey trousers (short or long) / skirt
Burnt yellow polo
Burgundy sweatshirt or cardigan (branded optional)
Grey or white socks
Black school shoes – not trainers

PE kit

White loose plain T-shirt (no logos)

Black plain shorts (no logos)

Plimsolls or trainers

Children can wear a plain black or navy tracksuit in the colder months.

Earrings must be removed

Please put your child's name in everything including shoes and trainers.

School bags need to be small in size to fit in the cloakroom.

Car Park

I am delighted that the new car park is open!

Please ensure the children stay on the footpaths around the edge of the carpark on their way to the gate into school. Thank you.

After School Club

Currently, the after-school club will be running on a Monday for one hour only – 3.15pm to 4.15pm.

We have tried to recruit a member of staff to cover the childcare club for the last year, but so far have been unsuccessful. We will continue to advertise the role and once we have someone, then Mondays will go back to finishing at 5.15pm. We do apologise for any inconvenience this may cause some families.

Breakfast Club remains the same with Mrs Burgess.

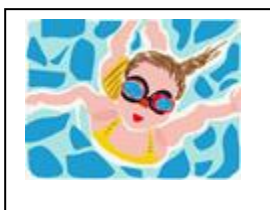
Monday	3.15pm - 4.15pm	Short session only	Mrs Roberts
Tuesday	3.15pm - 5.15pm		Mrs Roberts
Wednesday	3.15pm - 5.15pm		Mrs Roberts
Thursday	3.15pm - 5.15pm		Mrs Roberts
Friday	3.15pm - 5.15pm		Mrs Chester

Breakfast and After School Club – important booking information

Please can any families who would like to use this facility ensure that bookings are made by 12pm on a Friday for the following week.

We can't take any bookings after this time at short notice as we need to ensure we have staff in place.

Swimming – September



School swimming will continue to take place at Thirsk swimming pool. **Class 3 children start on Thursday 14th 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 **£5.00 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.

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.

PE Days in SEPTEMBER

EYFS: Friday

Class 1: Monday and Friday

Class 2: Thursday and Friday

Class 3: Monday and Thursday (swimming)

Sporting Influence club

This academic year we have joined Sporting Influence who will provide PE and staff development in school as well as organising sporting competitions throughout the year that the school can participate in.

Some of the competitions allow mass participation and some competitions are for one team of seven children or five children from each school, depending on the nature of the sport.

The competitions Dishforth Primary will take part in are all held at Boroughbridge High School.

This term we will be taking part in the following competitions:

- Football (7 a side one team) - 13th September
- High 5 Netball (one team) - 11th October
- Cross Country – 15th November

Sporting Influence Club

In addition to the PE in school, staff development and competitions, Sporting Influence will also provide a club after school on a Monday from 3.15pm-4.15pm. The first club will be **Tchoukball** for the first half term for a maximum of 20 children from Key Stage 2. A letter will go out this week for the children to sign up. If more than 20 children want to take part then we will pull names out of a hat!

Forest Schools

I am delighted to welcome Miss Rachel Hunt to Dishforth CE Primary School as Forest School teacher for this year. Forest Schools will take place on a Monday afternoon for the full afternoon for three weeks for each class at some point in the year.

Here is a message from Miss Hunt:

Hello! I am delighted to be able to deliver Forest School sessions to all year groups over the course of the 2023 - 24 academic year. Forest School is child led, outdoor learning where children can learn a variety of skills from wood craft to fire lighting and challenge themselves to take risks whilst learning to respect and care for the natural world around them.

You can expect your child to get messy as we will be outdoors in all weathers so, please make sure that they bring clothes for every weather for every session. Ideally: wellies or walking boots; waterproof jacket and trousers or all in ones and a sun hat or woolly hat dependent on the temperature. I will provide safety gloves, but warm preferably waterproof gloves should be sent in the colder months.

Class 2 will have Forest Schools first on Monday 2nd, 9th and 16th October in the afternoon.

School Dinners – September attach Autumn menu

Children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 can have a school dinner free of charge.

The price for a school dinner for children in Years 3-6 is £3.13 per meal (£15.65 per week). The cost for the month of **September** is **£59.47**.

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

A copy of the Autumn Term Menu has been attached with this newsletter and it is also on the school website for your information.

Walking home unaccompanied

Children in Class 3 may want to walk home unaccompanied. If you are happy for your child to do this, please could you complete and return the attached form to the school office. The form is also available on the website.

Playtime Snack

Children in EYFS, Year 1 and 2 receive a free fruit snack every day which is Government funded. Children in Year 3-6 can bring a piece of fruit in from home to keep in the classroom for playtime. I strongly recommend that you send fruit in for children in Year 3-6 as they have a long morning and

often need a snack. Please can this be put in their book bag and not their packed lunch box as it is easier for them to access at break time – thank you.

Milk

Children under 5 are entitled to Free Milk. Older children can also receive milk (at a charge) and orders are needed by yourself through the Cool Milk website. Forms are available outside the office in the foyer.

Water Bottles

Children are asked to bring a named water bottle into school every day filled with water. These will be sent home every afternoon for washing.

Online safety newsletter

Attached to this newsletter is this month's edition of the Online Safety newsletter. These newsletters are invaluable in the ever-changing world of technology and they offer guidance as to how to keep children safe.

Instrument Lessons – Year 5 and 6 children

All the Year 5 and 6 children will be learning to play the clarinet in school as part of their music lessons.

Music Service – Instrumental Information

If families are interested in their child / children learning an instrument through a peripatetic teacher, information can be found on the North Yorkshire Music Hub website to find out about which lessons that can be provided.

www.northyorkshireremusic.org.uk

The website includes details of the tuition fees and information about benefits which will qualify for remissions.

Clubs

A letter regarding extra-curricular clubs will be sent out in due course.

Attendance

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.

Leave of Absence in Term Time

The Government implemented amendments to the regulations regarding holidays in term time a number of years ago. The amendments remove references to family holiday and extended leave as well as the threshold of ten school days. Therefore, Head Teachers will only be able to grant leave of absence in **exceptional circumstances**. There is no 'Holiday' code for absences at any school. Please refer to the leave of absence forms which are located next to the school office and also on the website for full details. If a form is required then it must be filled out at least six weeks in advance or

the absence is unauthorised. If a child misses a minimum of 10 sessions (one session is half a day) through unauthorised absence, then this can result in a penalty notice being issued by the Local Authority.

Enrichment Activities

We have many events and activities for the children to take part in over the course of the year to both enhance the curriculum and contribute to their personal development. Attached to this newsletter is a document which captures the enrichment activities the children experienced last year for your information.

Class 2 trip to Aldborough Roman Site

On Thursday 21st September Class 2 will be taking a trip to Aldborough Roman Town near Boroughbridge as part of our History Topic of "The Romans, a local history study". During the morning we will look at what life was like in an important Roman Town and investigate how historians today search for relics from the past. Please could children have wellington boots, a coat, hat and sun cream to ensure we are ready for every eventuality weather wise!

Kind regards

J M Lyon

Executive Head Teacher

Diary Dates

September 2023	
4/9/23	TRAINING DAY
5/9/23	School open for the 2023-24 academic year
13/9/23	Football competition 7-a-side team only (at Boroughbridge High School)
14/9/23	First swim for Class 3 (Year 5 and 6) children at Thirsk swimming pool
21/9/23	Class 2 trip to Aldborough Roman Site
22/9/23	Reception Parents Information Session regarding Read, Write, Inc at 2.30pm
25/9/23	Music Service assembly
26/9/23	UK Parliament outreach programme – assembly for KS2 children – An overview of Parliament and how laws are made
27/9/23	Class 3 NSPCC workshop
October 2023	
2/10/23	Class 2 – Forest Schools afternoon
9/10/23	Class 2 – Forest Schools afternoon

11/10/23	High 5 Netball competition Y5/6 - one team girls only (at Boroughbridge High School)
13/10/23	Open the Book – Collective Worship
16/10/23	Class 2 – Forest Schools afternoon
23/10/23	Parent / Carer Evenings
25/10/23	
26/10/23	EYFS and Class 1 Harvest – morning (TBC)
27/10/23	Class 2 and Class 3 Harvest – afternoon (TBC)
27/10/23	Break-up October half term
November 2023	
6/11/23	School open
8/11/23	Number Fun Day – whole school
10/11/23	Individual Photograph morning
15/11/23	Cross Country competition (at Boroughbridge High School)
December 2023	
1/12/23	Open the Book – Collective Worship
14/12/23	Last swim for Class 3
19/12/23	Class 3 theatre trip to Leeds Playhouse to see ‘Oliver!’
22/12/23	School breaks up for Christmas at 2.30pm (no after school club)
January 2024	
8/1/24	Training Day
9/1/24	School open for the spring term

I will be in each school every day as follows:

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	Dishforth Airfield	Dishforth C of E Primary	Dishforth Airfield	Dishforth C of E Primary	Dishforth Airfield
Afternoon	Dishforth C of E Primary	Dishforth Airfield	Dishforth C of E Primary	Dishforth Airfield	Dishforth C of E Primary