



DISHFORTH C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Grange Close, Thirsk, North Yorkshire YO7 3LN

Telephone: 01845 577206

Head Teacher: Mrs J Lyon



Newsletter 13 Monday 4th December 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope you have all had a lovely weekend and the children have managed to enjoy some time in the snow!

We have a busy week in school this week with the EYFS Nativity tomorrow at 9.30am in the hall. **Unfortunately, the Y5/6 Netball finals at Ashville College, Harrogate tomorrow have been postponed due to the weather conditions.**

On Friday we are taking part in Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children. For a £1 donation for Save the Children payable through ParentPay, your children can come to school in a Christmas jumper, this can be a decorated jumper or a bought one.

Class News:

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

EYFS - This week we have been busy getting ready for our nativity play – we think you are in for a treat! We have worked hard to learn our lines and the words to the songs. We have started to learn about space, in our Light and Dark topic and have enjoyed reading the book “Whatever Next”. We have talked about how the moon is different to earth.

Class 1 – It has been another busy week with the Nativity preparations really beginning. Everyone has been working really hard to learn the special dances and sing at the same time! We've really enjoyed writing our new Egg Box Dragon adventures and have had a great time reading our stories to each other. In maths both Year 1 and Year 2 have begun learning about 2D and 3D shapes, using some excellent vocabulary to describe the shapes. In Geography we drew routes on a tourist map of Ripon, and then wrote directions using the directions North, South, East and West. I don't think anyone will ever get lost in Class 1 again!

Class 2 - This week in Class 2 we have really enjoyed our football coaching with Mr Sherwood where we looked at goalkeeping skills. In Geography we looked at some of the tallest mountains in the world and in maths we have continued our learning on our times tables. In RE we enjoyed learning the story of Abraham and linking it to the story of Noah and the Ark. In English we have written poetry and learnt about time conjunctions.

Class 3 – Class 3 have been learning about maths vocabulary linked to fractions and have had a go at answering various questions involving mixed fractions. The children have been using their persuasive writing techniques to write letters and leaflets in English and geography. We have completed an art project linked to our Christingle display in the hall using various mediums to create a collage. The children have also enjoyed using crystal explorers to help with their SPaG learning! In computing, we have finalised our designs for our European cook book, thinking carefully about the format and images.

Soap Club

On Wednesday 29th November, Mrs Baldwin, very kindly, came to school to demonstrate to a group of KS2 children, how to make coloured and fragranced organic soaps. The children were able to add their choice of colour and fragrance to a pre-melted 'soap-base', which was poured into a festive mould, before being left to cool. I'm sure you'll agree that the finished soaps look amazing. Please support the Christmas Fair, where you will be able to buy one of our handmade soaps for yourself. Thank you also to Mrs Chester for supporting the club as well.



Cross Country – re-scheduled date - **cancelled**

Unfortunately due to the weather conditions, this has now been cancelled.

Reception Starters for September 2024

Attached to this newsletter is information for parents and carers who have a child who is due to start Reception in September 2024. The deadline to submit an application is the 15th January.

PE Kit

A reminder that the children can wear a tracksuit for PE in either black or navy (plain).

PE Days this half term – **a change for Class 3**

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| EYFS: | Monday |
| Class 1: | Wednesday and Thursday |
| Class 2: | Monday and Thursday |
| Class 3: | Thursday (swimming) and Friday |

Swimming Class 2 – January



School swimming will continue to take place at Thirsk swimming pool. **Year 3 and Year 4 children start on Thursday 11th January.** 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.

The cost of swimming will be **£5.00 each week.** Payments are through your Parent Pay account. School has subsidised the cost of swimming due to rising prices from the bus company and constraints imposed by Thirsk Pool.

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 or water, 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
- SMS message will be sent to all families
- 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 emails.

Learning would be sent home via the class email system directly from the class teacher.

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.



Christmas Cards

Christmas Events 2023

Children can bring their Christmas cards into school for special Dishforth delivery! Please can children bring their cards into school and post them in the special post box from today - please ensure envelopes are named correctly and have the class written on!

Nativity Play

There are two Nativity plays this year, one by EYFS called 'Nursery Rhyme Nativity' and Class 1 are presenting the Nativity through the story of 'It's a Baby!'.

EYFS Nativity is on tomorrow at 9.30am



Class 1 (Year 1 and 2) Nativity is on Wednesday 13th December at 2pm and 5.30pm

Christmas Jumper Day



On Friday 8th 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 decorated jumper or a bought one.



DISHFORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Saturday 9th December 2023 – 1.30pm – 4.00pm at Dishforth Village Hall

The countdown is on until the Friends of Dishforth Christmas Fayre starts, here are just a few of the stalls joining them this year –

- ❄ Reindeer food
- ❄ Sweet gift bags and boxes
- ❄ Letters to Santa
- ❄ Wooden Toys
- ❄ Tombola
- ❄ Raffle
- ❄ Jewellery

If you have any raffle or tombola donations, please drop them off at the school office. More details of what else is happening at the Fayre will follow soon, or check out the Friends of Dishforth Facebook page.



School Christingle – Baldersby St James Church – Friday 15th December

On Friday 15th December, every child in the school will make a Christingle and we will have our own school led Christingle Service at Baldersby St James Church. The Service will begin at **1.45pm** and parents / carers are welcome to join us.

The children can be collected straight from church if parents would like to do this – please let Mrs McBride know by email so that we have a list of children who we know are leaving from church – thank you.



Christmas School Dinner – Wednesday 20th December

School Dinner Special Events: Christmas Lunch – order in advance

We will be having Christmas lunch on Wednesday 20th December; this meal will need to be ordered in advance and the **deadline has passed**.

**Roast Turkey, Christmas Chipolatas
and Seasonal Stuffing**

or

Cheesy Leek Croquette (v)

With

Mrs Claus' Roast or Mashed Potatoes

Rudolph's favourite Gravy

A Merry Mix of Seasonal Vegetables

Followed by

The Elves' Hand Decorated

Chocolate Orange Christmas Cookie

Christmas Party afternoon – Thursday 21st December

On Thursday 21st 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 22nd December

On Friday 22nd December, school closes early for Christmas at 2.30pm.

AWARDS

Celebration Assembly

On Friday, we had our Celebration Assembly. This week the following children were given our weekly awards;



Ribbons

EYFS – This week the ribbon goes to someone who has made great strides in independently writing words. They have tried hard to answer questions in our maths lessons – well done Monty!

work Daniel!

Class 1 - The ribbon for Class 1 this week goes to an all-round super star. They were one of the first to learn their lines for our Nativity, they have fabulous recall of maths facts and always work hard. Keep up the great

Class 2 – The ribbon in Class 2 this week goes to someone who has worked very hard this term. They take on board everything that is taught and put in additional effort to make sure they understand things. Well done Amelia!

Class 3 - The ribbon is going to someone for their hard work in English. This person has been trying to perfect their presentation and handwriting for some time now. It is joined up and they have used their leading lines neatly. It looks wonderful! Well done Ash!

Values in Action

This week our Values Award goes to someone for demonstrating our school values of compassion and respect.



This person has been nominated because they are always trying their best and helping anyone who is sad – she always makes me happy and gets a smile on my face.

The award goes to Isla who was nominated by Ella.

Well done, Isla!

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 95% 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 27th November 2023

| EYFS | Class 1 | Class 2 | Class 3 |
|-------|---------|---------|---------|
| 93.3% | 96% | 94.3% | 100% |

Kind regards,

J M Lyon

Executive Head Teacher

Diary Dates

| December 2023 | |
|---------------|---|
| 5/12/23 | EYFS Nativity – 9.30am Netball High 5 finals at Ashville College, Harrogate - POSTPONED |
| 6/12/23 | Re-scheduled cross-country festival - cancelled |
| 8/12/23 | Christmas Jumper Day – children can wear a Christmas jumper for a donation which will go to Save the Children |
| 9/12/23 | Christmas Fair – Friends of Dishforth – Dishforth Village Hall 1.30pm-4.00pm |

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| 13/12/23 | Class 1 Nativity 2pm and 5.30pm |
| 14/12/23 | Last swim for Class 3 |
| 15/12/23 | Christingle at Baldersby St James Church 1.45pm – families welcome |
| 19/12/23 | Class 3 theatre trip to Leeds Playhouse to see ‘Oliver!’ |
| 20/12/23 | Christmas School Dinner |
| 21/12/23 | Christmas Party afternoon (children bring party clothes to change into) |
| 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 |
| 11/1/24 | Class 2 swimming at Thirsk Pool |
| 15/1/24 | Year 6 Parent / Carer SAT information session at 4.30pm in the school hall |
| 25/1/24 | Meadfleet – conservation talk and hedge planting |
| February 2024 | |
| 9/2/24 | Break-up for February half term |
| 19/2/24 | School open |
| 19/2/24 | Class 3 – Forest Schools – afternoon |
| 26/2/24 | Class 3 – Forest Schools – afternoon |
| March 2024 | |
| 4/3/24 | Class 3 – Forest Schools – afternoon |
| 21/3/24 | Class 2 last swim Class 1 – Fire of London workshop |
| 22/3/24 | Break-up for Easter at 3.15pm (no after school club) |
| April 2024 | |
| 8/4/24 | Training Day |
| 9/4/24 | School open for the summer 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 |