



Newsletter

Thursday 10th November 2016

Together We Can

Attendance to date this term
97.6%

A word from Mrs Mitchell

Hello and a warm welcome back to the busiest, most hectic but most fun half term of the school year! This half term's topic is 'What is Spirituality and why is it significant to some'? We launched this topic with a workshop on meditation from Pocklington Buddhist Centre and we will be landing our topic with the EYFS, Year 1 & 2 nativity on Friday 9th December at 10am.

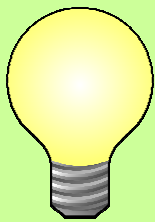
The last parent forum I held on Tuesday 1st November was to discuss and explore wrap around provision in school (breakfast and after-school clubs). I will be sending out a survey this half term to gather everyone's views.

'Who dunnit'!

Well, the crime has been solved, thanks to the intricate detective work of all the children! Poor Mrs Mortimer was the culprit....but in all innocence! She had borrowed Mrs Mitchell's laptop to get her secret chocolate cake recipe and ran off with the laptop when she was nearly caught! Anyway..... No harm done; the children enjoyed an end of topic party with cakes, baked by Mrs Mortimer, of course!



Switch Off Fortnight



As part of the EDF saving energy campaign, The Pod would like us to take part in their Switch Off Fortnight from 14th-27th November. We also want to be an Eco School. This includes encouraging all children and staff to turn lights, taps and plugs off when they're not being used and recycle as much cardboard and paper as we can.

Safety Week

PC Jones will be in all day on Thursday 17th November holding various workshops with each class.

The children will learn about which people they can trust and who they class as strangers, how to deal with strangers and learn how to stay safe using the computer and internet, in a fun way with games and discussions.

PC Jones will also lead an E-Safety talk for **parents at 3.15pm on Thursday 17th November**, where she will hold a short quiz to check parents knowledge of various symbols seen on the computer/internet and answer any questions about general computer safety.



14th Nov—Fire safety talk for all the children from Malton Fire Fighters

I know how busy we all are these days and how many emails we have to trawl through every day, but please can you try to check school emails regularly, especially the time sensitive ones like those requesting information regarding trips. Most trips we organise, especially the residentials, have to be booked and paid for in good time and any delay in getting accurate numbers can result in either school losing a deposit or your child missing out on the trip.

Contact Details

It is imperative that I have correct email and mobile numbers for you - please ensure any changes to your details are given to the office as soon as possible.

Please email admin@leavening.n-yorks.sch.uk with any comments about this newsletter.

Children in Need Day— Friday 18th November 2016

To support this event, pupils can dress in spots/own clothes/onesies for a £1.00 donation.

Face painting will be available for 50p per face from the Year 6 girls.

We will also be having a cake sale (20p each) - Donations of baking would be very much appreciated. Thank you.




Poppies are now on sale in school



Christmas Crafts - 1st December.

All parents are invited to join their children in some Christmas craft fun on the **afternoon** (previously the full day) of 1st December. Please arrive at 1.15pm (or 12 noon if you would like to join us for lunch - please let Claire know if you would like a lunch).



Friends of Leavening School

Thank you to those parents who have so far come forward with offers of help - we could still use some more! Please see Lisa Rowe, Karen Drabble or Alison Gaskell if you are interested in helping to raise funds for Leavening school in any way.

School Start Times

Please can you make every effort to get your child into school by 9am - The morning bell will sound at 8.55am to give pupils time to hang their coats, bags etc and get to class at 9am. It is very disruptive to have children arriving in class when lessons have already started.

Maths Workshop for Parents

Our maths workshops for parents to understand how their child learns maths will take place on 24th November - 9am for Acorns and 3.15pm for Conkers and Oak Trees.

Parent Forum


Next parent forum is on Wednesday 23rd November at 9am. The topic is our curriculum and your views on it.

Forest School Fun!



Dates for your Diary

- 14th Nov - Fire Safety Talk
- 17th Nov - Cross Country
- 17th Nov - PC Jones in School, E safety talk for parents
- 18th Nov - Children in Need Day
- 23rd Nov - Parent Forum
- 24th Nov - Maths workshops for parents
- 1st Dec - Seeing is Believing day (craft day)
- 9th Dec - Dads & Lads day
- 9th Dec - Nativity 10am
- 12th Dec - Community Carol Singing 4.30pm
- 14th Dec - Pantomime
- 15th Dec - Christmas Lunch, Christmas Parties, Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children
- 16th Dec - Choir singing at Jolly Farmers



Governors at Leavening School

The main role of the Governing Body is to provide strategic direction for the school, ensuring that pupils achieve the highest possible standards and that targets for improvements are in place. We also help provide support and advice to the school, whilst ensuring the school is accountable to the parents and public.

Governors do not intervene in the day-to-day management of the school unless there are weaknesses in the school, when it then has a duty to take action.

Types of Governor -

Staff Governors: Teaching and support staff working at school can become a staff governor, and are elected by their fellow staff. The Headteacher is a member of the governing body due to their position.

Parent Governors: are parents of pupils attending the school and are elected by fellow parents

Local Authority Governors: are appointed by the Local Authority. There is often a shortage of candidates for LA governors and details can be found at www.northyorks.gov.uk

Community Governors: are appointed by the governing body to represent community interests. They can be individuals who live or work in the community served by the school or are committed to the good governance and success of the school even though they do not work or live close to it.

Clerk to Governors: A clerk, independent of the Governing Body, must be appointed to the governing body. They cannot vote, but are important in providing advice on procedures and regulations and making sure the governing body's work is well documented.

New Governors attend training provided by the LA to effectively undertake the role. The term of office for a Leavening school governor is up to four years and governors can be re-elected for further terms.

Sian Mitchell - Headteacher

Neil Audsley - Chair & Community Governor

Alan Ockenden - Collaborative Vice Chair & Parent Governor

Peter Whittell - Community Governor

David Sharpe - Local Authority Governor

Juliette Stone - Collaborative Vice Chair & Parent Governor

Rebecca Lee - Collaborative Vice Chair & Parent Governor

Anna Rose-Adams - Parent Governor

James Robinson - Parent Governor

Lindsay Harrison - Community Governor

Meetings - The full Governing Body meets once every half-term. Each governor is also appointed to at least one sub-committee which meets at least once a term. These committees are responsible for different aspects of the school and are linked to the school improvement, so may change depending on the focus for improvement.

Each committee produces minutes that are then discussed at meetings of the full Governing Body. Minutes of meetings of the full Governing Body can be consulted by all parents at the school office. We also produce a newsletter twice a term to include a summary of these meetings. Information of a sensitive or personal nature is always kept confidential.

Committees

Curriculum and Standards: This committee ensures that the national curriculum is followed in school and standards are tracked and monitored to ensure children are making expected progress. Governors may visit school to observe some of the procedures put in place to ensure continued progress in different subject areas..

Finance, personnel, H&S and premises: This committee, together with the head teacher, oversees the school's budget and monitors income and expenditure. The school budget is approved by the full Governing Body each year.

It is also responsible for staffing policies and ensures that the school's facilities and premises are safe, identifies work that is required for improvement and monitors any health and safety issues and incidents.

Headteacher's performance management: This committee sets and reviews the Headteacher's targets annually.

Special Roles - Some governors have specific additional roles including:

Special educational needs/inclusion: This role includes ensuring that all learning differences are addressed including special needs and gifted and talented pupils. The aim is to ensure that no pupil is excluded from receiving a broad, well-balanced and meaningful education.

Safeguarding children: A governor is responsible for ensuring the school fulfils its role in child protection and welfare, including bullying.

Parents are welcome to correspond with the Governing Body, who can be contacted through the school office.