



*Together We Can*

# Newsletter

14th January 2019

A Word from Mrs Mitchell -

Hello and welcome back to the new school term. We are already a week into the term and our new topic 'Once Upon a Time', today has seen the launch event for this topic and I would like to thank you for the effort you go to in supporting these curriculum events, that make our school that little bit different and special' to others. Please look on our website and follow us on face book (closed group- search Leavening Community Primary School to request to be added) for photos and news of this event.

I have been delighted to be able to spend a significant amount of time teaching in each class last week. One day I taught in all 3 classes and it allowed me to rejoice in the pleasure of learning with our fantastic children. From exploring the area of compound shapes in Years 4/5/6, to getting entranced in the magic of Alice in Wonderland in Years 2 and 3, to role playing Goldilocks and the 3 bears in Acorns. Staff are also undergoing renewal of our Level 3 paediatric first aid training over the next few weeks. Last week I also carried out some very valuable Pupil Voice. I was focusing specifically on pupils views around one of our school values of 'care, share and belong'. I would like to share with you some anonymised responses and feedback I had from the children.

' Here at Leavening School I love the way the staff are all friends with us and each other. They are lovely, energetic all the time and always care'

' People are kind and I feel happy and safe here'

'This school is very unique'

' The teachers are brilliant and treat all the children the same.'

'There isn't anything I would change about this school- I am lucky to come here.'

' I have been educated in the best way possible.'

' I love that we aren't given boring stuff to learn!'

'I absolutely love PE lessons as we learn so much and grow in confidence. It doesn't matter if you are natural at sport, Mr Addison and my teacher gets the best out of us.'

**Some ways to improve were:**

'Make all the breaks longer'

'Make English more challenging'

'Improve playtimes by having organized games led by the staff or introduce playground game leaders'

This term we welcome two new children in nursery, Jasmine and Oliver along with Mrs Jacques who has joined the team in Acorns. We also formally welcome Mrs Peel who joined the team in Oak trees just before the Christmas break.

Our wrap around care provision is going well and we have our regular families who use this service. However for longer term sustainability we will need to increase our take up for this over time. If you would be interested in using this, very reasonable and excellent quality, service then please ask for details in the office.

Finally, may I politely request that all parents who bring their child to school ensure that they arrive before 9am. Punctuality is declining recently and we would like to address this as positively as we can. Also, the playground is not staffed until 8.45am and some children are arriving before this time and being left unattended. We do not take responsibility for pupils before this time. Attendance was also at it's lowest in a long time at just 93% last term. I understand there was a spate of illnesses last term. If you would like to discuss your child's attendance and reasons for persistent or regular absence then please make an appointment

As always, there are an abundance of exciting events coming up this term and they are listed in the 'dates for your diary' section- please do make a note of them all and we look forward to working with you this term.

Best Wishes  
Sian Mitchell

## Dates for your Diary

**17th Jan;** Parent Forum @2.45pm—focus around reporting to parents

**4th Feb;** After School Clubs commence—letter sent out.

**5th Feb;** Swimming gala, am

**5th Feb;** Chinese New Year Lunch—Parents invited , letter sent out

**5th Feb;** Chinese New Year Party, pm

**11th Feb;** E-Safety Parent Meeting@ 6.00pm

**13th Feb;** Whole School 'Bring your parents to school day'

**18th Feb;** End of Topic celebration, Performances @2.15pm in the Hall

**19th Feb;** Yr3/4 Peat Rigg Residential Meeting

**21st Feb;** Break Up for half term

**22nd Feb;** Training Day for staff

**4th & 5th Mar;** Parent Consultation

**7th Mar;** World Book Day

**11th Mar;** Parent Curriculum Meeting @ 6pm

**21st Mar;** Whole School 'Bring your parents to school day'

**25th & 26th Mar;** Yr3/4 Peat Rigg Residential

**5th Apr;** Easter 'Dress Up Day', Luxury Easter Item donation please

**9th Apr;** Easter 'Movie Night'

**10th Apr;** 'Easter Extravaganza', it's going to be smashing! 2.15pm Easter Raffle

**11th Apr;** Easter Egg Rolling Competition

**12th Apr;** Easter Concert @ 9.15am, Coffee and biscuits in the hall from 9.00am

**12th Apr;** Break Up

**29th Apr;** Training Day

**30th Apr;** Back to School

## PE kits

Following monitoring on Friday of last week, it is clear that a significant number of children do not have the correct PE kit, particularly the older pupils in Oak Trees. As explained to the children, it is not us being picky or unnecessarily fussy, but to instil a sense of pride in themselves as well as preparing them for secondary school where there are consequences if the uniform policy is not adhered to. A reminder that PE kits should comprise of a plain and dark coloured jogging bottom (at this time of the year) or shorts and a plain white T shirt without a pattern on. Pupils should wear trainers and plimsolls. We will be keeping an eye on this over the next few weeks. Thank you for your cooperation in this.

## Monday 18th February will be our End of Topic Celebration

Each class will be doing a short performance from 2.15pm until 3.15pm

All parents are welcome to attend and pupils can wear the same outfit they wore for the launch of the topic.

## Parents!

It would be great to see as many of you as possible at the following;

17th Jan @ 2.45pm - Parent Forum, all welcome— discussing reporting to parents

11th Feb @ 6.00pm - E-Safety Meeting, all welcome

13th Feb 'Bring your parents to School Day'

19th Feb @ 3.15pm Yr 3/4 Peat Rigg Meeting

21st Mar 'Bring your parents to School Day'

## Chinese New Year Lunch

**Tuesday 5th February 2019 Parents are invited to join us for the**

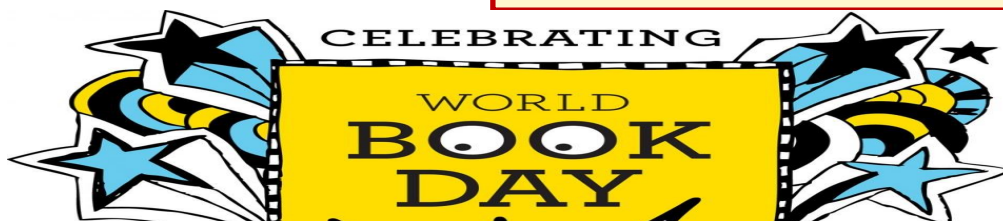
## Chinese Themed Lunch

**Please complete the form sent out last Friday and return to school by Monday 21st January if you would like to attend.**

After School Activities will be starting week commencing

Monday 4th February.

If your child would like to take part, please complete the consent form sent out last week and return with the monies, Thank you



## Thursday 7th March

## World Book Day

Please come dressed to school as your favourite book character.

Let your imagination run wild....

You can use the same costume from the Topic launch if you wish!



## Breakfast and After School Club

We are very lucky to be able to offer the Breakfast and After School Club.

If you would like your child/children to attend it is quick and simple, you can ring the office the day before and book them in. An admission form will need completing initially. All payments are now on parent pay.

