



## A WORD FROM MRS CALLAGHAN...

Firstly, a huge thank you to everyone for taking part in our Rock Stars Day on Thursday. The children (and staff!) looked fantastic and had a great day. If you haven't already had the chance to do so, take a look at our Twitter and Facebook pages for lots of 'rocking' photos of the day! Mrs Price is very excited to launch our new Times Tables Rock Stars initiative for children from Y2-6. You will have received a letter explaining more about how TTRS works and how to access it at home. Please do encourage your children to access it regularly as part of their homework.

Thank you also for your generous donations for Children in Need, an amazing cause every year but even more so in this challenging year when so many children will have been negatively affected by COVID in one way or another. In many ways, we are very fortunate here at Leavening and it would be nice to think that our children have perhaps been less affected by COVID than others. However, as we again are in a period of national lockdown and the uncertainties continue, we are determined to prioritise children's emotional health and wellbeing by delivering an exciting and engaging curriculum alongside lots of learning support. Initiatives such as Forest School, Relax Kids and Rock Stars Day hopefully help to provide children and families with opportunities to put aside any worries and just enjoy learning and being together.

We are now in what is usually my favourite half term of the year, with its exciting preparations for Christmas.

Obviously this year our preparations and celebrations will have to look a bit different to normal but please be assured – Christmas is definitely not cancelled at Leavening! In place of an out of school visit, we are bringing the 'magic' of Christmas into school with 'bubble' shows from fantastic local magician Magic Mike! We also have plans for 'bubble' Christmas parties, a Christmas jumper and movie day and a special '12 Days of Leavening Christmas' production that will hopefully brighten your days throughout December! Mrs Stockill is also planning a lovely, socially distanced, outdoor Family Carol Service – however this will be dependent on whether we leave 'lockdown' as planned on December 2nd (under the current rules, any such gatherings are banned). It would also be weather dependent! We are also hoping to offer a Christmas Dinner and are waiting for details of this from our catering provider at Malton School.

This half term we are also looking forward to welcoming Mrs Bedford to our Leavening family. She will be working in Acorns Nursery on Wednesdays, Conkers and Oak Trees classes on Fridays and will provide additional learning support across the school on Thursdays. Mrs Smith will be leading Conkers Class on Friday afternoons as a HLTA.

Thank you for your continued support.

As always, my very best wishes

Mrs Louise Callaghan (Acting Headteacher)

## PLANNED DIARY DATES

(Events may be subject to change due to Covid 19)

### DECEMBER

**Weds 2nd** - Flu vaccinations

**Fri 11th** - Family Christmas Carol Service (weather dependent)

**Mon 14th** - Magic Mike!

**Tues 15th** - Conkers Christmas Party

**Weds 16th** - Christmas movie afternoon (whole school)

**Thurs 17th** - Oak Trees Christmas Party

**Fri 18th** - Acorns Nursery Christmas Party

**Fri 18th** - Last day of term

### JANUARY

**Mon 4th** - Staff training day

**Tues 5th** - Term starts

### FEBRUARY

**Weds 24th-Fri 26th**- Peat Rigg

Residential- Oak Trees class (Years 3-6)

As the COVID-19 situation continues, a reminder that staff, children or parents experiencing COVID-19 symptoms (**new and persistent cough or a high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell**) must NOT come to school, should self-isolate for at least 10 days and should arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19).

**We can provide a test if you have difficulty in accessing one.**

If we send your child home from school with Covid-19 symptoms, they will **need to be free of the symptoms and have a negative test before returning to school.**

In the event of one member of a household experiencing symptoms, the whole household would need to self-isolate. Please see the school website for details of our remote learning plan, should a child or family need to self-isolate.