

MAY

Lost Property collection –

Friday 14th May, 2.30-3pm

Assessment Week in school –

week beginning 17th May

JUNE

**Year 6 transition days to
Malton AND Norton School -**

Tues 22nd June

JULY

**Year 5 Experience Day at Malton
School-**

Thurs 1st July

Dear Parents and Families

It seems hard to believe that we are already four weeks into the half term! It's the time of year when we begin to put in place lots of transition activities to support children as they move onto the next stage of their education, either from Y6 to secondary school, from KS1 to KS2 or from Nursery to Reception. Obviously this year has been unusual but we are pleased to say that most of these activities will be going ahead as normal! Year 6 children will be visiting their chosen secondary schools and staff from the schools will be visiting Leavening to meet the children. Our Year 5 children have also been invited to an Experience Day at Malton School. Please see Diary Dates below for more details.

In school, we will be giving our KS1 and Nursery children opportunities to get to know the staff and children in their new classes to ensure they are ready and confident for the new school year.

Assessment Week

Normally, at this time of year, teachers would be getting ready for SATs for Y2 and Y6 and the Phonics Screening Check for Y1. As you may be aware, due to the COVID situation, formal assessment of these year groups has been cancelled. However, as a school we feel it is still very important that teachers assess children's progress regularly in order to plan effectively for the next steps in learning. We will be having a whole school assessment week, beginning Monday 17th May, and full attendance during this week is expected and strongly encouraged.

Holidays in term time

We are aware that, due to the pandemic, some families have missed out on planned holidays and time with extended families. As a school, we are responsible for making sure that school attendance is always a high priority, as periods out of school can impact negatively on learning over time. We are unable to authorise requests for absence, except in very limited exceptional circumstances, and would ask all families to think carefully before planning any holidays or absences in term time.

Staffing update

Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Callaghan will be continuing to work together until half term as Mrs Mitchell completes her phased return to school.

We are currently recruiting/ putting in place staffing for Mrs Milson's maternity leave and will share the arrangements with you as soon as possible.

Lost Property

There is a significant amount of lost property (PE kit, uniform etc.) in school at the moment. To help you reclaim any lost items, Mrs Kemp will be putting a lost property table in the playground on Friday 14th May at 2.30pm. If you are missing any items of clothing and are unable to look through the lost property, please contact Mrs Kemp before Friday. Any lost property not claimed will then be donated to a local charity shop!

Some general reminders

A polite reminder that the school day starts at 8.50am for Conkers and Oak Trees classes. Learning starts as soon as the children come into school and being late can have a negative effect on the rest of the school day. We ask all parents to make every effort to arrive at school on time.

Conkers and Oak Trees children need to have their PE kit at all times, as occasionally we need to make changes to the timetable. We have been informed by the local community about a number of incidents of children and young people entering fields with animals and behaving inappropriately. Please remind children about following the Countryside Code and showing respect for our beautiful natural environment.

Thank you for your continued support in this most unusual of school years!

As always, our very best wishes

Mrs Sian Mitchell and Mrs. Louise Callaghan