

NEWSLETTER

Friday 17th September 2021

AUTUMN 1 TERM

A WORD FROM MRS MITCHELL...

The first week of term started as we would expect; full of positivity and enthusiasm with happy children and staff who are excited about the term ahead. The nursery children have settled in beautifully and are enjoying the small class size and plenty of attention from Miss Cooke. They spent the week enjoying the outdoor classroom.

Parents of children in Conkers class will be delighted to see the huge changes made to the provision in reception, year 1 and year 2 this term. Mrs Bennett and Mrs Bedford have worked tirelessly over the summer to ensure the classroom environment offers the highest standard of play provision and education. It has been overwhelming to see how engaged, excited and motivated the children have been. Even more exciting developments are planned for the outside classroom although this has already undergone a huge transformation too.

Oak Trees children have gelled beautifully as a new class, with the Year 3 children receiving a very warm welcome. New to Acorns are Charlotte and Theo. We welcome Robin, Alfie, Kylo, Jake, Isaac, Aila, Jessica and Lincoln into our reception class. In addition, new to Oak Trees class are Noah and Miss Mitchelmore, who we also welcome to our school family.

A particular highlight so far is seeing all children mix once again and being able to enjoy playtimes, lunchtimes and assemblies together. The children are back eating in the dining hall together and the familiar buzz is returning around school.

We have also been able to reintroduce our buddy system across the school and this has enabled the younger children to meet the older children and to have an older child assigned to them who looks out for them. We are (hopefully) seeing more normality return to our school and as a result, our pupils being able to experience the family ethos and unique provision that we offer. If all continues in the direction we hope, we may be able to open our doors and allow you to experience the magic of one of our traditional Leavening Nativity's- The West End hasn't got anything on us!

PLANNED DIARY DATES (Events may be subject to change)

SEPTEMBER

Weds 29th - 5pm-8pm

Norton College Open Evening
(Aimed at Year 5&6 children)

Thurs 30th - from 6.30pm

Malton School Open Evening
(Aimed at Year 5&6 children)

OCTOBER

Weds 6th - Fri 8th

Peat Rigg Residential Trip
(Oak Trees class)

Fri 8th - 2.15pm

FOLS Meeting- with coffee & cake!

Weds 20th

School photographer in

Thurs 21st

Topic landing: Nursery to Yr6 will participate in a first aid course

Fri 22nd

Harvest Assembly (no parents unfortunately). We will be collecting items for the local foodbank. More details to follow

Mon 25th - Fri 29th

Half term



EVENTS THIS HALF TERM

As things currently stand with COVID restrictions and advice from the government and North Yorkshire Education Services, our policies and procedures in accordance with our risk assessment still remain. Therefore, in the short term we are avoiding any school events that would see large groups of parents in school, such as our usual phonics information sessions for parents in EYFS as well as parent information sessions on the curriculum in general. However, we are mindful that this information is important and so will look at alternate ways of disseminating this. Thank you for your ongoing support and engagement.

Best Wishes

Sian Mitchell

FRIENDS OF LEAVENING SCHOOL

Friends of Leavening School are the group who organise and run fundraising activities and events throughout the year. We are urgently looking for some new members in order to raise vital funds for children of ALL ages across the school. There is an informal FOLS meeting (with coffee and cake!) on **Friday 8th October at 2.15pm**

We would be EXTREMELY grateful for your support if you can help in any way.

Committee roles we are seeking include: Chair | Treasurer | Secretary
FOLS members help to organise all manner of events such as-
the School Fairs, Discos, Quizzes, Easter Egg trails and community events
We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Thank you in advance!

PUNCTUALITY

We appreciate that the start of term is always a shock to the system and a break from the usual summer holiday routine but please can we ask that you all parents are punctual this week. The gate opens at 8.50am and the children can come straight in ready for an 8.55am start. Nursery start at 9am but can come in from 8.50am.

Last week we had a number of pupils arriving late and this is causing the start of the day to become unsettled. Thank you for your understanding.

The school gate will close at 9am and after this time, children will need to be taken to the main entrance. Unfortunately, this means they will incur a late mark.

We appreciate that it is not always the children who are late for school and often family logistics/traffic etc but we do kindly ask that you work with us to ensure punctuality is a priority.

LOOSE PARTS

Our curriculum aim is to include a play-based approach as much as possible for KS2 too. Our research shows that all children of all ages require the opportunity to access creative play at times of the day. Whereas in the nursery and EYFS/KS1 class, this is easily achieved, it is often overlooked in KS2. Therefore, we would like to create a 'loose parts' play resource area for the children to access to encourage creative play, team work, problem solving and communication skills. We would very much appreciate it if you could provide us with any spare items from the list below that you may have kicking about. Thank you very much.

LOOSE pARTs Play

Ribbons & FEaTHERS *EGG cartons and ACorns*

SHELLS and leaVES *wool & string* MILK CRATES AND BASINS

POTS & PaNs **Baking trays & MUD** Sand & SToneS

Kitchen utensils – spOOons, potato masher, SIEVES

Hammer and nails **Sticks and stones** *twigs & felt*

Silk and tin foil **Tarpaulin & DRiftWOOD**

Velcro ROLLERS and Sponges *Brushes AND PAINT*

Dried pasta and PULSES *Guttering and TYRES* **Cardboard**

PLasTIC bottles and TOPs **DOLLY pegs and CURTAIN rings**

FuNNels and WAteR **Plant POTS** and wood Pallets

Rope, Wool and RiBBoN **STRAW bales and wood**

KeYs and cove moulding **Bamboo and baskets**

SHeetS and CHALK *Hessian and buckets*

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