

# NEWSLETTER

Friday 3rd December 2021

AUTUMN 2 TERM

## Hello Everyone

I hope you are all keeping warm and well during the onset of winter. As beautiful as Leavening is in the snow, frost, and ice, it is also very hazardous, and we appreciate that parents must be extra cautious when transporting your child to school. Attendance is paramount to children's wellbeing and education, and we value your efforts to get your child to school in all weathers. If there is occasion where this is not possible due to extreme weather isolation, then do let us know in advance and we will resume our home learning policy for those pupils affected.

We will endeavour to keep the top part of the path of Back Lane gritted and certainly the playground and so **please do use the path and not the road when walking up Back Lane.**

Please send children in with hats and gloves as well as a warm coat.

With a new COVID variant in circulation and the ever-increasing winter bugs that are about, we need to take a cautious and timely approach for indoor Christmas events that are in the pipeline. As such, the Parent Craft morning planned for Thursday 9th December has unfortunately been CANCELLED. The Christmas Plays will be subject to review. As it currently stands, we have had sensible responses to our offering of two performances on Friday 10th and we will be in touch in due course with your confirmed allocation.

Finally, we had a safeguarding monitoring visit from our Local Authority School Improvement Advisor last week and I am very proud to have it validated that safeguarding is most effective at school; pupils are happy and feel safe here; there are good relationships between children and their peers and children and adults; our curriculum ensures that pupils of all ages are educated on all relevant matters of safety. Safeguarding compliancy is an essential part of all every school's work. The culture of safeguarding within a school is a result of the team's ethos, commitment, nurturing and representation of the schools' values. Our vision of 'Together We Can' is certainly prevalent in all aspects of the school's work. I am very proud of the children and staff here at Leavening and would like to extend my thanks to the whole team. In addition, thank you to you, the parent community who continuously support all our work at our fabulous little school- it certainly takes a village!

Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to the next 2 weeks of organised chaos, Christmas songs, tinsel, and tea towels galore...

My best wishes

*Sian Mitchell*

## DIARY DATES

(Events may be subject to change at short notice)

**Thurs 9th Dec**

**Nativity dress rehearsal**

*(The Christmas craft morning with parents-all classes-is now CANCELLED)*

**Fri 10th Dec**

**Christmas plays**

(9.30-10.30am & 1.45-2.45pm)

**Christmas Jumper Day**

**FoLS Carol Singing Event-**

**with Swinton & District**

**Excelsior Band**

3.30pm-4pm

**Tues 14th Dec**

**FoLS Christmas Movie**

**Afternoon 3.30pm-5pm**

**Weds 15th Dec**

**Christmas Lunch**

**FoLS Christmas Disco**

**5pm-6pm**

**Thurs 16th Dec**

**Christmas Parties 1pm**

**Fri 17th Dec**

**Last school day**

**JANUARY**

**Mon 3rd Jan**

**Bank Holiday**

**Tues 4th Dec**

**Training Day**

**Weds 3rd Dec**

**First day of term**

## Updated COVID arrangements

Following the latest Covid guidance, please see the information below and new arrangements for school with immediate effect.

### Face Masks

School guidance from the LA advises all adults to wear face coverings in communal areas. Please can we introduce this from immediate effect for all staff, visitors and parents in school.

### Changes to Christmas Event arrangements in December

EVENT	STATUS	RE-ARRANGEMENTS
Christmas crafts (parents invited) on Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	Cancelled	
Christmas Carols on Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	Go ahead as it is an outdoor event	
Christmas Performances on Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	Go ahead but subject to last minute cancellation if we have any cases of COVID.	We will video the performance on Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2021 and send to parents.
FOLs Christmas Movie on Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	Go ahead with no parent volunteers- staff only.	
FOLs Christmas Disco Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	Go ahead but subject to last minute cancellation if we have any cases of COVID.  All volunteers helping to take a COVID lateral flow test 24 hours before the event. Do not attend if you have COVID symptoms.	

### Christmas Play

A reminder that children will need to bring their costume in to school, in a named bag, on Thursday 9th December. Please do not send it in any earlier than this day as storage space is tight in school. We appreciate your help with these. As aforementioned, we will be contacting you with your allocated performance time and number of tickets, in due course. We would politely ask that all adults wear a face mask during the performances, unless exempt.

### Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 10th December is also Christmas Jumper day to raise money for Save the Children charity. Children can come in to school in non uniform with a Christmas Jumper and get changed into their costume for the performance in the morning and then changed again (so not to get dinner on it!) for the afternoon performance.

Donations are via ParentPay please. Thanks for your support.

## FoLS Christmas Movie Afternoon: Tues 14th Dec 3.15pm-5pm

The choice of movies are:

**David and the Elves** (suitable for 7+)

**Nativity 1**- PG- suitable for all ages

Please can you respond Mrs Kemp's email to **give permission** if your child/ren would like to attend this event and **indicate which movie they would like to watch**.

We are suggesting a donation of £3 per child which will include a drink and crisps/popcorn. This is now payable on ParentPay (**Conkers & Oak Trees children**). Due to updated Covid arrangements, we are no longer seeking parent volunteers for this event unfortunately. Thanks for your ongoing support.

## FoLS Christmas Disco: Weds 15th Dec 5pm-6pm

We are suggesting a donation of £3 per child which will include a drink and crisps.

This is now payable on ParentPay. **All children/classes are welcome**.

Due to updated Covid arrangements, any volunteers helping are asked to take a Covid lateral flow test 24hrs before the event. Children and volunteers should NOT attend if they are showing and Covid symptoms. Thank you



Leavening C.P. School's

# Christmas Carol Singing Event



**WITH A SPECIAL APPEARANCE FROM  
SWINTON AND DISTRICT EXCELSIOR  
BRASS BAND!**

**FRIDAY 10TH DECEMBER  
3.30PM START  
IN THE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND**

**THE LOCAL COMMUNITY ARE WARMLY INVITED  
TO THIS EVENT!**

*Any donations will be gratefully received  
in aid of*

*Friends of Leavening School*

LEAVENING CP SCHOOL | BACK LANE | LEAVENING | YO17 9SH  
TEL: 01653 658 313 | WEB: WWW.LEAVENING.N-YORKS.SCH.UK

## Competition time- Sensory Garden Summer 2022

We have an exciting opportunity coming our way in 2022.

We have been awarded a grant under the Healthy School Scheme to make our dream of having our own sensory garden, become a reality. In the spring we will start our process of creating this garden for all our pupils to enjoy. It will support all the great things we do at Leavening to promote emotional and mental health and well-being.

We are asking our pupils to design this garden and will use ideas from the most thoughtful and inspiring designs.

Please could you encourage your child to design a sensory garden for a space approximately 6 metres by 2 metres (6 x 2 m) and to include features, surfaces, objects, and plants that stimulate our senses through touch, sight, scent, taste and hearing.

The deadline for this competition entry is **Friday 7th January 2022**.

Entries are to be handed in to Mrs Mitchell before or on this date.



### Hello from the Governors

Each month we will introduce you to one of our members of the governing body here at Leavening and also use this opportunity to inform you of some of the work in which they do. This week we are delighted to hear from our Local Authority Governor - Dr. Sandra Whitson.

Sandra was appointed as a Local Authority Governor in 2021.



"We moved to North Yorkshire from West Yorkshire about eighteen months ago and I joined the Governing Body in January 2021 as the Local Authority Governor. I am, therefore, very new to the school and the community.

My whole professional life has been committed to education, my teaching career having ranged across kindergarten, primary, secondary, university and further education in Britain, Europe and the USA with a corresponding experience of governance. Since my retirement I have kept my interest in education vibrant in a variety of governance appointments.

Having been a National Leader of Governance from 2016-21 I am keen to contribute to Leavening's Governing Body as appropriate. For example, I am at present the Governor with responsibility for monitoring English and on my two visits this term I observed the school's approach to the teaching of reading and listened to children reading. In June I attended a staff training day when I met with the Head Teacher and staff who gave me a very warm welcome.

I have been impressed with the friendly environment of the school, the interesting and relevant displays in the classrooms and the courteous friendly children who are a credit to the staff and to the community."