

NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 6th April 2022

SPRING 2 TERM

Hello Everyone

It is hard to believe that 3 weeks has passed since the last newsletter and we have been involved in so much activity and excitement. We have had 3 external monitoring visits from our school improvement partners from the Local Authority, who have focussed on pupil feedback to help learning, as well as how we encourage reading for enjoyment among our learners.

The SIP's spend time in lessons across the school, look through pupil's work, meet and talk to pupils and staff and hold discussions with me and governors to really get a full picture of our school. I am delighted to say that both visits were extremely positive, and we were proud to showcase all the improvements and good practice we do in these areas. Together We most certainly can!

The last few weeks have seen normality return in terms of our rich and engaging curriculum opportunities. The visit to York was brilliant and the children made us so proud. Their behaviour was impeccable, and their enthusiasm and interest were rewarding. As I write this, the whole school are celebrating the end of our topic on 'Its a wonderful world' with a visit to Yorkshire Wildlife Park. The pupils have been really interested in supporting the people of Ukraine after learning all about the current conflict and as such they planned and organised a jumble sale the week before last. It was so humbling to know that the ideas came from the children and the passion they showed in raising as much as possible was heart-warming. We truly have such a bunch of thoughtful, compassionate, and empathetic children at Leavening.

The KS2 pupils kicked off the start of sporting fixtures with a valid and respectable performance at Norton College last week. Man of the match goes to Harry who was a warrior in goal!

We have also enjoyed parent engagement in the form of coffee mornings and craft morning, followed by Mother's day lunch. Thank you to all of you who make the effort to come to these events. We really value your time and effort in ensuring that we remain at the heart of our wonderful community.

The children have enjoyed a wonderful Science fortnight organised by Mrs Price our Science Leader and have had the delight of nurturing chicks in the incubator to enhance our topic on 'Growing'.

We have a few more days left this term and we are looking forward to the new things we will learn together.

My best wishes

Sian Mitchell



DIARY DATES

APRIL

Thurs 7th Apr

FoLS Movie Afternoon £3
Please pay via ParentPay.

Fri 8th Apr

Last day of term
Non uniform day (£1- via ParentPay)
9am Coffee Morning
9.30am Easter Assembly (All invited)
Egg rolling competition.

Remember your decorated egg!

Mon 11th -Fri 22nd Apr

Easter half term break

Mon 25th Apr

Training day -No children

Tues 26th Apr

First day of Summer 1 term
Howsham Mill Trip (Oak Trees)
(Further info & ParentPay details to follow soon....)

Weds 27th Apr

School photographer 9am

Fri 29th Apr

Howsham Mill Trip (Conkers)

MAY

Mon 2nd May

Bank Holiday

Mon 9th May

Hawkes after-school sports club starts -weekly. Further info & ParentPay details to follow soon....)

Weds 25th May

Test The Teacher - YorkMix radio in school. Mrs Mitchell competing for a chance to win prizes for school!

Thursday 26th May

1.30pm Parent well-being afternoon

Mon 30th-Fri 3rd June

Half term break

JUNE

Mon 6th June

Term starts



Picture News Advocate

We are delighted to have been chosen as an Advocate School for Picture News, which is a scheme of work that we use across the whole school, allowing opportunities for children to learn about our world, develop independence, resilience, respect and unlock their own drive and passion for learning. Teaching the news not only provides great content and stimulus and grips children's attention, it is also something that the children can impact. It is current, happening now and so their voice is given meaning and purpose. It is our world and we all matter. Find our testimony here <https://www.picture-news.co.uk/blog/advocates/>

Occasional job role available at school

Are you looking for occasional work to fit around the school day?

Are you passionate about making a difference to our pupils during their treasured part of the school day?

Would you like to join our school family?

We are looking for a relief Kitchen Assistant and Midday Supervisor to call upon when our current staff are absent.

Hours could be up to 2.5 hours per day between 11.30am-2pm

If you are interested or would simply like to find out more, please contact Susie in the office for an informal chat. We look forward to hearing from you.

EASTER FUN

We have several special activities planned for the last week of term to celebrate Spring and Easter.



Easter Movie afternoon

On Thursday 7th April from 3.15pm until 5pm we will be holding an Easter Movie afternoon. For a £3.00 suggested donation, each child can watch a film of their choice with popcorn and a drink. There will be a choice of two films- Hop (U) or Peter Rabbit (PG). Payment is via ParentPay (available now). Children can decide on the day (you don't need to let us know beforehand).

Thanks for your support.



Egg Story Character and Rolling Competition

On Friday 8th April all children can take part in the design an egg competition, followed by the tradition egg rolling competition. All they need to do is use their creative skills to turn a hardboiled egg into a book character of their choice and bring them into school on 8th April. There will be 4 categories for entry; EYFS (nursery and reception), KS1 (Years 1 and 2), Lower KS2 (Years 3 and 4) and upper KS2 (Years 5 and 6) These will be judged and then in the afternoon we will hold our famous egg rolling competition using these eggs.

In addition to this, the whole school will participate in an egg hunt in the afternoon.

Also on Friday 8th April, we will be holding our spring assembly and all parents/carers are welcome to come along from 9am to join the coffee morning before the assembly starts at 9.30am until 10am.

IMPORTANT Health and safety announcement ref Parking

Parking remains an ongoing issue in the school area and following the coach returning from the school visit last Thursday, we have received a number of formal complaints regarding this. In the first instance, the school coach was not able to safely reverse up Back Lane due to the volume of cars parked along the road outside school.

More generally the problem lies in around the cars that continue to drive up and park along the lane and on the corner during the restriction times. There are signs that clearly state the restrictions are in place during school drop off and pick up and, except for school transport, parents/carers should not be parking here. Parents/carers should also be avoiding driving up the lane while children are crossing the road in and out of school. We have been fortunate not to incur any incidents, or worse, but this does not mean it is not a problem. It is a public highway and so we cannot enforce this, but we do politely and strongly urge you to be considerate.

The car park at the Jolly Farmers is available to use and we would like to express sincerest thanks to those families who do use this already. Of course, there are exceptions for those with mobility issues and if this does apply to you, we would ask you to speak to us so we can accommodate this safely.

If this continues to be a problem
then we will be speaking to the council for support in addressing this.

Key Stage Two assessment week- week commencing 9th May 2022

During the week of Monday 9th May- Thursday 12th May, the Year 6 pupils will be taking their KS2 tests (SATs) at school.

It is of paramount importance that all Year 6 pupils are in school for the duration of this week.

HELLO FROM THE GOVERNORS!

David Griffin: Co-Opted Governor

David Griffin joined the Governing Board as a co opted member in late 2019 . Having retired after serving for 30 years in Humberside Police, he was looking for ways to give something back the local community . He comes from a family of teachers and has experience as a non executive director in the NHS . He's also a Parish Councillor in Thixendale where he lives and is keen to get the best outcomes for rural communities.

The challenges of Corona virus meant most of his first two years was working as a governor remotely on Microsoft Teams but now that visiting the school in person is possible again he's picking up the role of governor overseeing the development of the school curriculum.



As Deputy Chief Constable in Humberside Police , David oversaw performance, planning and professional standards so he brings a rich background of public sector experience to support the Board and the school.

As well as volunteering as a governor David has established a vineyard with a farmer friend in Fimber which will come into production this year as Farthing's making white and rose wine. When he's not tending the vineyard he's a keen motorcyclist having been the national motorcycle safety lead in the Police service before retiring.

Helping the people of Ukraine

Oak trees class planned and organised a bring and buy jumble sale in aid of helping the current crisis in Ukraine. We planned this after Mrs Mitchell talked to us about the current situation between Ukraine and Russia and we said that we wanted to be able to help. It was a team effort and we were delighted with the number of donations we received to sell.

As a result, we have raised an enormous £120!!



FOLS SPRING FAIR

Thanks to all who came to support (as well as help out) at this event. It was a fantastic afternoon - raising an amazing **£207.85 for Friends of Leavening School!**

Sensory Garden

We are delighted to finalise our arrangements for the new school Sensory garden. This will begin its landscape and build over the summer term. We already have a grant from the Healthy School Scheme to support this project but we need to raise an additional £1000. We are having a non uniform day on the last day of term (Friday 8th April) and would ask that parents kindly consider donating to this cause via ParentPay in exchange for children wearing home clothes.

We will also be holding a coffee morning before the assembly from 9am and would welcome donations for the cakes and hot drinks on offer that morning. We are extremely excited by our design and plans for the sensory garden. The whole school community will benefit from this and we will hold an official 'garden party' opening early September.

Polite plea from the Young Leadership Team- Donations of cakes for the Easter Assembly coffee morning on Friday 8th April

We are politely asking if any parents or carers would be willing to make/buy some cakes for this event to support raising funds for the sensory garden.

Please let Susie know if you can and ensure donations of cakes are sent in on the morning of the 8th.

Thank you ever so much in advance! -Leavening Young Leaders



COVID-19 Latest Guidance & Information

Children and young people (aged 18 years and under) who have symptoms of a respiratory infection, including COVID-19

Respiratory infections are common in children and young people, particularly during the winter months. Symptoms can be caused by several respiratory infections including the common cold, COVID-19 and RSV.

For most children and young people, these illnesses will not be serious, and they will soon recover following rest and plenty of fluids.

Very few children and young people with respiratory infections become seriously unwell. This is also true for children and young people with long-term conditions.

Some children under 2, especially those born prematurely or with a heart condition, can be more seriously unwell from RSV.

Attending education is hugely important for children and young people's health and their future.

When children and young people with symptoms should stay at home and when they can return to education

Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education setting.

Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school, college or childcare, and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend.

All children and young people with respiratory symptoms should be encouraged to cover their mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when coughing and/or sneezing and to wash their hands after using or disposing of tissues.

It can be difficult to know when to seek help if your child is unwell. If you are worried about your child, especially if they are aged under 2 years old, then you should seek medical help.

Covid-19 Guide for Parents of 5-11 year olds

Please use the link below:

<https://coronavirusresources.phe.gov.uk/covid-19-vaccine/resources/covid-19-guide-parents-5-11-year-olds/>

For further information please visit the [NHS](#) website, NHS [COVID-19](#) website and the [GOV](#) webpage.

Spring fair games

We have two great games to raise funds for our school sensory garden. These were introduced at the Spring fair last week but sadly, as yet, haven't had much uptake or interest.

We have '**Guess the name of the spring lamb**' square and '**Pick a square to win £20**' both at £1 a go.

These will be in the main office area for people to have a go and will be drawn and announced early next term.

Please do have a go and support our school and our innovative and wonderful sensory garden project.

We also have some lovely hand crafted plant pots designed by your children (if you haven't already brought one at the spring fair). These will be available to buy from the office too for £3.
- With thanks, The Young Leadership Team

REQUEST FOR LARGE PLANT POTS & COMPOST PLEASE!

We would be very grateful for any large plant pots and compost donations to be brought into school please. These will be used across school. Thank you very much in advance.

ACORNS NURSERY SPRING FUN

Children in Acorns have had lots of fun recently. They have enjoyed playing in the snow and planting sunflowers, carrots and herbs in the nursery area.



RECENT SCHOOL TRIPS

As part of our topic 'Memory Box' the whole school visited the **City of York** recently.

We started off the day with a stroll along the city walls taking in all the sights and sounds of this historical city. Mrs Mitchell was quite the tour guide! Then we visited the minster building and gardens and enjoyed playing in the sunshine and listening to the bells.

Oak Trees went on an 'eye spy' trail of the city while Acorns and Conkers visited the library. Finally, we all enjoyed exploring the museum gardens and its medieval ruins. We had a thoroughly enjoyable day and a first-hand experience of all the history York has to offer.



To celebrate our topic of 'It's a Wonderful World' the whole school had a trip to the Yorkshire Wildlife Park. It was very much enjoyed by all...



RECENT SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Football Tournament - Years 5 & 6

A **huge well done** to the Year 5 & 6 children who took part in the recent Football Tournament that was held at Norton College. They all did amazingly well. Mrs Bennett and Mrs Kemp were **so proud of them all**. Leavening School came fifth out of seven schools overall. A really fantastic effort was shown by all players! Thank you once again to those parent volunteers who helped with the transport. Man of the match goes to Harry who was a warrior in goal!



Spring Fair

Thank you once again to all those who supported the fair in aid of Friends of Leavening School. A big thanks also to those who helped on the day as well as donating buns, cakes etc. In addition, thank you to Harbour Bar in Scarborough who kindly donated ice-creams. As mentioned earlier, we raised a fantastic **£207.85**. The choir did a lovely job entertaining us all - thanks to Mrs Stockill. Well done to all involved....

