

A word from Mrs Mitchell

It has been the usually busy start to the new school year and autumn term for pupils and staff alike these last 2 weeks.

Thank you for your support in enabling us to facilitate the (very last minute) visit to York Dig to launch our new topic 'Evolution'. The pupils had a wonderful time and the visit was extremely worthwhile.

This week we welcome our 5 new reception children into conkers class; Charlotte A, Charlotte R, Eleanor, Sonny and Winter as well as new members of our nursery family Harriet and Henry.

Already the pupils have enjoyed a first week of extra curricular after school clubs, the first PE session of the school year with Hawkes Sports, swimming lessons in lower KS2, as well as campaigning to become our new Young Leadership Team.

We also learnt of the sad passing of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II and have been exploring the life and memories of our late Queen, as well as teaching our pupils about managing grief.

You will have seen that I have made an important plea to you all to enable our Friends of Leavening (FoLS) committee to continue this year. Although we do need to elect a chair, vice chair, secretary and treasurer into these roles from our parent body to organise the bulk of the fundraising events, we are also looking for a wider team effort with parents offering their help at these events. Please do not be put off thinking you are committing yourself to an enormous task- it is good fun, worthwhile and a chance to meet new people. Often these committees can be viewed as 'Cliques' or difficult, but we assure you this is not the case at Leavening- we are one big team. Please, please do come along or offer your help in anyway.

Have a lovely weekend and we will see you next week.

My best wishes

Sian Mitchell

DIARY DATES

SEPTEMBER

Extra curricular clubs are now running (3.15-4.15pm) upto and including W/C 17th October. Hawkes Sports club will begin Mon 26th Sept.

Mon 19th Bank holiday

Thurs 22nd Phonics Workshop for Parents/Carers of Reception and Year 1 children 3.20pm

Thurs 29th FOLS Meeting 2.30pm

OCTOBER

Fri 14th Harvest assembly 9.30-10am

Weds 19th School photographer 9am

Thurs 20th FOLS Halloween disco

NOVEMBER

Tues 29th Charlie & The Chocolate Factory theatre trip to Leeds Playhouse (Oak Trees class)

DECEMBER

Fri 9th Peter Pan theatre trip (whole school including Nursery)

FEBRUARY 2023

Fri 3rd Feb Young Voices Concert (Oak Trees class)

IMPORTANT NOTICES:

Children are NOT to bring any toys from home into school. All toys will be confiscated and returned home at the end of the day.

Punctuality

School starts promptly at 8.45am. All children should be in school for this time. We still have some families arriving after this time.

Nursery opens at 8.55am

Results of the parent survey from the summer term

We are pleased to share with you the outcome of our parent survey that was carried out back in late June of the summer term.

✚



Parent and carer survey
26 responses out of 59

	Agree strongly	Agree	Disagree	n/a
1. My child is happy at this school.	61%	31%	8%	
2. My child feels safe at this school.	61%	31%	8%	
3. The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.	61%	31%	8%	
4. My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively.		31%		69% answered n/a
5. The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.	73%	23%	4%	
6. When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly.	85%	11%	4%	
7. a: Does your child have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)? (yes) b: My child has SEND, and the school gives them the support they need to succeed.	100%			
8. The school has high expectations for my child.	54%	42%	4%	
9. My child does well at this school.	54%	42%	4%	
10. The school lets me know how my child is doing.	62%	34%	4%	
11. There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school.	85%	15%		
12. My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school.	77%	23%		
13. The school supports my child's wider personal development.	70%	36%	4% (strongly)	
14. I would recommend this school to another parent.	77%	19%	4% (strongly)	

Positive personal comments

Excellent support for my child, both in classroom and well-being. Any issues dealt with very promptly and effectively. A fantastic school.

My child is a confident little person and the school embraces this. It is a caring, nurturing environment where they are thriving.

Parent Survey results and comments - continued...

I am sad that our association with the school is ending. Both my children have enjoyed their time at Leavening. It is a small school with a big heart.

The staff are fabulous- open, caring, effective communicators and excellent educators. My child looks forward to going to school and is full of the tales of the day.

Leavening is a happy school with a familial atmosphere which my child hugely benefits from. Mrs Mitchell is a fabulous, caring and proactive leader. We could not ask for any more- thank you all.

Our child seems very happy and the staff genuinely care about their happiness. We would like more feedback on development successes/concerns and future expectations. School trips and outdoor learning all great positives!

All staff seem very personable. Great family and nurturing environment. Thank you.

Both my children have great support in the school and if they have any issues they are happy to ask for help in any way.

A school that really does put the whole child first and offers a broad curriculum. I do not know any other schools that offer french from nursery or do Forest School so often. There have been a lot of trips this last year but i suppose that is making up for the pandemic and these seem to be well linked to what they are learning.

Next steps for school leadership to further improve based on the majority of parent's views.

Ensure parents are aware of what challenge looks like for their child and how we provide this in our curriculum. This will be discussed through parent evenings and in the class and curriculum newsletters.

We will communicate with parents (through the parent evening from early November), your child's targets and expectations.

We will continue to offer a wide range (as possible) of extracurricular activities throughout the year within the remit of our staff team.

We would like to encourage parents to complete the similar survey on Parent view over the next few months. **To do so please go to <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>** and register.

It is very simple and quick to complete

School PE and Uniform Reminders

Please can we politely remind you that our uniform policy means:

- No brightly coloured active wear or trainers | No false and painted nails
- No make up | No branded sports gear

Many thanks for your co-operation.

Sensory Garden

We are absolutely delighted with our new school sensory garden. This was completed over the summer and the children will be adding the final touches to it over the next couple of weeks. It is a relaxing space with stunning views that will be enjoyed by all our community. Our Healthy school and well-being grant has funded half of this project and last year (and continuing into this year) we are raising funds through our Friends of Leavening to support the rest of the cost.

We hope to invite parents to enjoy this garden during our seeing is believing days. Meanwhile, if you have any spare or cuts of lavender plants, herbs as well as winter plants then we would be delighted to receive these for our garden. Thank you.



The New School Day

Thank you to those who are adhering and adapting to the new timings. This is making a big difference as children are gaining more learning time in the morning when they are at their most alert.

We will aim for all pupils to be in school for 8.45am

To recap:

School starts promptly at 8.45am and finishes at 3.15pm.

Pupils will be allowed into the school playground from 8.35am. The school bell will ring at 8.40am to enable pupils to come into school and settle for the day. Any pupils who arrive after 8.45am will be recorded as a late arrival. Staff will be on duty from 8.35am

Nursery opens at 8.55am and finishes at 3.10pm on a Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

The nursery pupils are welcome to wait in the playground from 8.35am when the gate opens, particularly if they have siblings. However, parents and carers will be fully responsible for their child until a member of nursery collects them from the playground at 8.55am. Nursery children must be promptly collected at 3.10pm and again may wait in the playground, with their parent and carer until their siblings finish at 3.15pm.

PHONICS WORKSHOP - THURS 22ND SEPTEMBER AFTER SCHOOL

This will be held for Parents & Carers of children in Reception and Year 1. Please can you let us know ASAP if you would like to attend, by emailing Mrs Kemp so we have an idea of numbers. Children are welcome to join. Thank you.

HARVEST ASSEMBLY- FRIDAY 14TH OCT AT 9.30-10AM

The children will be singing some songs that they have been learning. We warmly welcome parents/carers to join us for this event if this wish to do so. We will also be collecting for Ryedale Foodbank - donations to be brought into school **the day before please** (Thursday 13th). <https://www.ryedalecommunityfoodbank.co.uk/> Thank you.

FOLS HALLOWEEN DISCO - THURSDAY 20TH OCTOBER

The FOLS Halloween disco is back! This will take place on Thurs 20th Oct from 5.30-7pm. All children are invited (including Nursery). £4/child which includes snacks and a drink. Get favourite halloween costume at the ready...

REQUEST FOR HELP!

We are looking for a kind volunteer who could possibly spare their time to paint our small school staff-room. Paint will be provided and we would be eternally grateful! Please email Mrs Kemp if you can help... Thank you!

IMPORTANT: Friends of Leavening School

A heartfelt plea to our school family members to ask if you would be able to spare some time to support the school in their fundraising this year

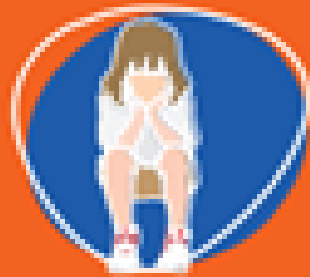
Until last year the FOLs (Friends of Leavening School) has been an active fundraising registered committee who we have relied on for raising funds for school. Past fundraising has included money to subsidise transport costs for school visits, Young voices registration and cost towards the coach, school sports kits, resourcing the Acorns and Conkers outside play areas, supporting the sensory garden project, Year 6 leavers days out and treats, Christmas treats for ALL children, to name a few. With the cuts to school budgets, these funds are more vital than ever to ensure our pupils have these rich experiences.

Last year the FoLs only consisted of staff members Mrs Kemp, Mrs Stockill and myself as well as an ex-parent as our treasurer. We had the kind and valued regular help of one school parent. Unfortunately, the level of fundraising we require is too large a task for existing school staff to take on in addition to our school roles. Staff are always willing and happy to support every event put on by the FoLs but we cannot sustain the roles of chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary and chief organisers, nor is this usual practice.

Without our parent/carer community willing to take on a key role in the committee, FoLs will cease and therefore we will no longer be able to raise vital funds to enhance our children's education.

Therefore **we would like to warmly invite you to our AGM to be held on Thursday 29th September at 2.30pm at school.** At this meeting we would elect new committee members and discuss ideas for the years fundraising events. From this, we would then delegate roles to people. Any help, in any form is valued. If you cannot make the meeting but would like to help please let Susie know asap.

We truly hope to see as many of you there as possible to help continue to raise funds for our small school. Many thanks in anticipation -Mrs Mitchell



BeAware

of child exploitation
in **North Yorkshire**

A Hub for Everyone
in North Yorkshire,
so we can tackle Child
Exploitation together.

- Raise awareness
- Spot the signs
- Know where to go for help and advice
- How to share concerns



www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/beaware

Scan the QR code to find out more

