Leavening Community Primary School
Together We Can

A word from Mrs Mitchell

Hello everyone

January is approaching its end and we have to say how it has flown by given the sheer fullness and breadth of the curriculum offer this term. Children launched the topic of 'Once Upon a Time' with a wonderful dress up launch day (and Mad Hatters tea party) and have continued to learn with enthusiasm.

What do our pupils say about school?

I have spent a considerable amount of time gaining pupil voice over this term as it is our young people who drive all we do at Leavening. It has been pleasing to hear that all pupils feel safe and happy at school for the vast majority of the time and all pupils have a trusted adult that they would speak to if they needed too.

Other key positives are:

-A great enthusiasm for learning due to learning being interesting and engaging

-The vast majority of pupils accessing our extra curricular clubs or wanting to.

-Pupils feeling a sense of pride and achievement with their learning.

-Pupils feeling they are given lots of feedback about what they are doing well and what they could do to improve further.

-Pupils feeling the relationships at Leavening are happy, respectful and fun.

Pupils would like more support in:

-Encouraging them to talk about their emotions and feelings each day

-The use of classroom displays in supporting their learning.

Miss Mitchelmore will be working with our Young leadership team this term, on improving the recycling facilities at school so watch this space on how you can support this.

Thank you to the parents and family members who have volunteered to come into school during aspire week and share your love and passion for a job or hobby you have. There is still time to sign up for this (it takes place during the week beginning 6th-9th February).

Have a lovely weekend and we will look forward to the final 2 weeks of the spring 1 term.

My best wishes

Sian Mitchell

School Attendance

Last week our school attendance was 94.8%

This is *above* the primary national average attendance of 94.5**%**

Attendance **this week** so far: **92.9%**
Attendance **this term** so far: **93.3%**

We believe that regular attendance at school is key to enabling pupils to thrive socially, emotionally and mentally as well as progress and enjoy learning.
See visit the school website for further information on attendance and to view our attendance policy

Reminder: Children are NOT to bring any toys from home into school.

DIARY DATES

JANUARY
Tuesday 31st
Swimming gala (KS2)

FEBRUARY
Wednesday 1st
Multi-skills event (KS1)
Monday 6th-Thursday 9th
Aspiration week
Monday 6th
Yorkshire Pudding Day!
Tuesday 7th
Safer Internet Day
Thursday 9th
Popup library at school 1pm
FOLS Valentines Disco 5.30pm
Friday 10th
Young Voices Concert
(Oak Trees class only)
Monday 13th-Friday 17th
Half term week
Monday 20th
Love Your Pet Day
Oliver Hind (British paralympian athlete) in school
Tuesday 21st 3.20pm
E-Safety Parent Session held by police.
Childcare provided. Please let us know if you are able to attend.
Thursday 23rd
Popup library at school 1pm
Oak Trees STEM Challenge

MARCH
Thursday 2nd
World book day (Dress up as a book character & bring in favourite book).
Monday 13th-Friday 17th
Science week
Wednesday 15th
Bingo night -details to follow...!
Thursday 16th
Popup library at school 1pm
Friday 17th
French Breakfast Café
Friday 24th
Fire safety day
Tuesday 28th
Easter movie afternoon
Thursday 30th
Non-uniform day
Popup library at school 1pm
Friday 31st
Easter concert, crafts, FOLS cake-making & egg-design competitions
Last day of term

APRIL
Tuesday 18th
Start of term

Recent highlights from Oak Trees class...

In DT, Oak Trees have been researching chair organisers to understand their purpose and features. This will inform the designing and making process of their own chair organiser for the classroom!

The first stage in the creation of Oak Trees' chair organisers in Design Technology - tie dyeing!

Oak Trees have been writing nonsense poems. Year 3 and 4 have written theirs about the classroom and Year 5 and 6 have based theirs on The Jabberwocky by Lewis Carroll.

Conkers Class enjoyed being their audience!

Recent highlights from Conkers class...

Over the last couple of weeks, Conkers children have enjoyed designing their puppets using characters from 'The Gingerbread Man'. First of all, they drew their designs and labelled which materials they would use. The following lesson, they used running stitch to sew the two pieces of felt together, and then attached other decorative pieces in different ways. They can't wait to show you their final design!

As part of our Science learning about Humans as animals, we worked collaboratively to draw around a 'human' and to label the different body parts. We also had the challenge of identifying the main organs and five senses. We did a fantastic job!

Recent highlights from Acorns class...

This week, we have focused on making sure that our guinea pigs are having a lovely time. We have ensured that they receive lots of cuddles (and spinach!) and have built exciting obstacle courses for their enjoyment!

Conkers visit to Leavening Church

In Conkers we have been learning about special places for religious believers, in particular the church and the mosque. Yesterday we visited Leavening Church to support our learning about all of the features in a church. We discovered that Leavening Church used to be a school and so it does not have all the traditional features of a church and we found it to be a modern church. We asked lots of interesting questions to the lovely ladies who showed us around and thoroughly enjoyed our visit.

REMINDER: SCHOOL *AND* SEN PARENT/CARER SURVEYS

We are currently undertaking our bi-annual survey to help us understand your views about this school and your child's education. The last survey was only carried out in June 2022, but we feel we would like to capture your current views, especially in light of us awaiting our next Ofsted Inspection. Leadership are keen to constantly evaluate, reflect, celebrate and improve our school. Parent views and engagement is something we place high emphasis on at Leavening. The SEN survey is for parents of pupils with special educational needs
Please can any surveys that have not already been returned, be back to us by the end of the week. Thank you.

WORLD BOOK DAY: Thursday 2nd March
Children are invited to dress up as a book character
and bring in their favourite book on this day.
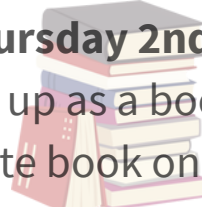
Online safety parent workshop: Tuesday 21st February at 3.20pm

We would like to invite you to attend an E-Safety session for parents that we are holding in conjunction with the South Ryedale Neighbourhood policing team. Keeping our children safe online is a key priority in the area of safeguarding, one which, I'm sure you would agree you can never know enough about. The speed of how things evolve and change online, never ceases to amaze me and it is important to be fully aware of the dangers our children may face when accessing technology online. There will be childcare available. We do hope you can attend and support this very valuable event.

POP-UP LIBRARY VISIT

The children had a fantastic time when the pop-up library came to visit this afternoon. Children from all classes across school were given the chance to explore the wide range of books on offer. We can't wait for the next return visit to change our borrowed books when the library comes back to school on Thursday 9th February.

FOLS VALENTINE'S DISCO

Price includes a drink and a snack.

Games and prizes to be won!

All children/classes (including nursery) are welcome.

Due to space and capacity in the school hall (and adequate staff supervision), we would encourage parents/carers to drop their child off and return to school at the end of the event.

Thank you for your support!

5.30pm–6.45pm
Thursday 9th February 2023

MAIN SCHOOL HALL
Dance games & prizes!
£4/child via ParentPay

12 Top Tips for
BUILDING CYBER RESILIENCE AT HOME

As a society, we're increasingly using technology and tech services in the home. Digital assistants which can adjust the heating or turn lights on and off; streaming services for shows and movies on demand; games consoles; smart speakers; phones; laptops ... the list goes on. As we introduce each new gizmo to our homes, however, we increase the level of threat from cyber criminals. It's essential, therefore, that we learn to become more cyber resilient in relation to the devices and digital services that the people in our household use.

WHAT IS 'CYBER RESILIENCE?'

Cyber resilience focuses on three key areas: reducing the **likelihood** of a cyber attack gaining access to our accounts, devices or data; reducing the potential **impact** of a cyber incident; and making the **recovery** from a cyber attack easier, should we ever fall victim to one.

1. PASSWORDS: LONGER AND LESS PREDICTABLE

The longer, less common and predictable a password is, the more difficult it becomes for cyber criminals to crack. The National Cyber Security Centre's 'three random words' guidelines are ideal for creating a long password which is easy to remember but hard to guess.

2. AVOID RE-USING PASSWORDS

When you use the same password across different logins, your cyber resilience is only as strong as the security of the weakest site or service you've signed up for. If cyber criminals gain access your username and password for *one* site or service, they'll definitely try them on others.

3. USE A PASSWORD MANAGER

A good way to juggle different passwords for every site or service you use is to have a password manager. This software stores all your passwords for you, so you simply need to remember the master password. LastPass, Dashlane, 1Password and Keeper are all excellent password managers.

4. BACK UP YOUR DATA

Keep a copy of your data using OneDrive, Google Drive or another reputable cloud-based storage solution. If it's extremely important or sensitive information, you could even decide to keep more than one back-up version – by saving it to a removable USB drive or similar device, for example.

5. ENABLE MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION (MFA)

Multi-factor authentication is where you need access to your phone (to receive a code, for example) or another source to confirm your identity. This makes it far more difficult for cyber criminals to gain entry to your accounts and your data, even if they *do* manage to get your username and password.

6. CHOOSE RECOVERY QUESTIONS WISELY

Some services let you set 'recovery questions' – such as your birthplace or a pet's name – in case you forget your password. Take care not to use information you might have mentioned (or are likely to in future) on social media. More unpredictable answers make cyber criminals' task far harder.

7. SET UP SECONDARY ACCOUNTS

Some services provide the facility to add secondary accounts, phone numbers and so on to help with potentially recovering your account. Make sure you set these up: they will be vital if you're having trouble logging in or if you're trying to take back control of your account after a cyber attack.

8. KEEP HAVING FUN WITH TECH

Consider our tips in relation to the gadgets and online services your household uses. Protect yourself and your family, and don't let the bad guys win: devices are not only integral to modern life but also a lot of fun – so as long as you keep safety and security in mind, don't stop enjoying your tech.

9. CHECK FOR BREACHES

You can check if your personal information has been involved in any known data breaches by entering your email address at www.haveibeenpwned.com (yes, that spelling *is* correct!). It's useful if you're worried about a possible attack – or simply as motivation to review your account security.

10. CHANGE DEFAULT IOT PASSWORDS

Devices from the 'Internet of Things' (IoT), such as 'smart' home appliances, are often supplied with default passwords. This makes them quicker to set up, but also less secure – criminals can identify these standard passwords more easily, so change them on your IoT devices as soon as possible.

11. KEEP HOME DEVICES UPDATED

Download official software updates for your household's mobile phones, laptops, consoles and other internet-enabled devices regularly. Security improvements and fixes are a key feature of these updates – so by ensuring each device is running the latest version, you're making them more secure.

12. STAY SCEPTICAL

Cyber criminals commonly use various methods, including emails, text messages and social media posts. Be cautious of any messages or posts that are out of the ordinary, offer something too good to be true or emphasise urgency – even if they appear to come from someone you know.

Meet Our Expert

Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that adults and children alike become more aware of the risks associated with technology, as well as the many benefits.

National Online Safety NOS
#WakeUpWednesday