

NEWSLETTER

Thursday 9th February 2023

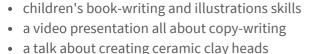
SPRING 1 TERM

What a busy fortnight it has been!

Thanks to Wendy Midgley, Charlotte Russell, Steve Tolhurst, Neil Clark, Gemma Boak, Jan Lomas and Ken Sanderson who came to visit the school this week to talk to children for Aspire/Inspire week.

The children learnt a wide range of information, were shown a variety of skills and given a flavour of different careers. This included:

- the horse-racing industry -we even had a mechanical horse which children-and staff-had chance to have a go on!;
- the farming industry -where children were shown lots of interesting items that are made on a farm and with an explanation of how they are produced;







Some guotes from Oak Trees children about the visits from:

Author and illustrator - Neil

"It was inspiring because it's fun to draw and imagine it in your head"

Ceramic Heads - Jan

"It was so cool! It looks so fun to create the heads from clay and get ideas for sculptures"

Farming - Steve

"I enjoyed hearing about the day in a life of a farmer and was amazed at the different types of machinery and what they could do."

Code-breaking - Ken

"It was really cool learning how to send messages to your friends without the teacher knowing what you're saying!"

School Attendance

Last week our school attendance was 94.4%

This is *above* the primary national average attendance of 93.5%

Attendance **this week** so far: **96.7%** Attendance **this term** so far: **92.3%**

DIARY DATES

FEBRUARY T.: 1.211

Friday 10th

Young Voices Concert

Monday 13th-Friday 17th

Half term week

Monday 27th

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 cakemaking & egg-design competitions Last day of term

APRIL

Tuesday 18th

Start of term

Reminders:

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

See visit the school website for further information on attendance and to view our attendance policy

Recent highlights from Acorns Nursery and Conkers Class

What a week we have had learning about different jobs we could do when we are older! Conkers and Acorns class loved dressing up like horse riders and having a go on the training horse, even Miss Cooke and Mrs Bennett couldn't resist a go to! Neil Clark then came to share what he does as an author and illustrator, showing the children the process of producing a book and reading us one of his books 'Walter the Wonder Snail', (what a great story that is!) and sharing with us the ideas of his upcoming books, which sound amazing!







Conkers children have been working hard this half term on creating their puppet characters from 'The Gingerbread Man' story. We think they've done an amazing job and they have definitely shown off their talents!



KS2 Swimming Gala

A huge well done to Jack H, Noah, Oliver T, Jenny, Bella, Betty, Amelia and Olivia for taking part in the KS2 swimming gala on Tuesday morning last week against 7 other local schools.



Reading for pleasure at home

We are delighted with our pupils' attitudes towards reading at Leavening and we have a positive culture of 'everyone a reader' which, of course, is the most important factor in enabling access to a broad curriculum. We are keen for all pupils to read widely and often at home and therefore have introduced the following incentive to start after half term.

Your child will have a reading reward card and will be encouraged to read 5 times a week at home.

Each time they read/share a book, they/you will sign their reading record and then this will correlate into a 'punch' onto their reading card (a bit like a loyalty card in Costa!)

Every time a child achieves 20 'punches' to demonstrate they have read 20 times, then they will be able to choose from the reading reward list.

You child won't bring their reading reward card home, but they will bring their book and reading record and so please do encourage and support them in reading for pleasure at home. Any further questions please get in touch.



Oral Health

The Oral Health Promotion Service across North Yorkshire and City of York is working with special schools to set up evidence-based, supervised toothbrushing programme. The programme is designed to improve children's' oral health. Poor oral health in childhood has a significant impact on children and families, with tooth decay being the most common reason for 6 to 10 year olds being admitted to hospital to have teeth removed.

Top tips for parents

There are many Apps available that can support your child's teeth brushing. A reward chart might be helpful but remember not to use a sugary food treat as a reward!

Many children benefit from visual prompts to support their understanding of routines. Include a picture of teeth brushing or a toothbrush in your child's morning and evening visual schedule.

Sometimes children don't like the feel of a toothbrush or the taste of toothpaste. It takes time to get used to the taste and feeling of toothpaste and toothbrushes. Using a different type of toothbrush or toothpaste might help.

Between these ages, your child will be experimenting with many new foods and drinks so you need to know what sugars do to their teeth, as well as continuing to encourage toothbrushing.

To encourage healthy eating, it is important to reduce overall snacking and concentrate on providing healthy family meals. However, children need energy as they grow to develop and keep them active.

Young children have small appetites and need regular meals with snacks in between and do need some full fat foods in their diet.

Childsmile has put together some ideas to help you provide a variety of healthy safe snacks for both you and your children to enjoy at home and at school or play.

Dried fruit and fresh fruit juice can be counted as one portion each of your 5-a-day fruit and vegetables. However, they contain hidden sugars and are best taken at mealtimes.

What can I do if my child won't allow me to brush their teeth?

- Let your child see you brushing your teeth. Young children love to copy.
- Make a game of it brush your teeth and then let your child brush your teeth. Then you brush your child's teeth.
 - Use a mirror and clean their teeth from behind so they can watch what you are doing.
- Make brushing part of the bedtime routine. If your child is tired after a bath try brushing before bathing or even during bathing.
 - Let your child choose their own toothbrush, but make sure it's suitable for children.
 - If using a toothbrush is difficult, try using a smear of toothpaste on a clean dry flannel wrapped around your finger. You can move onto a toothbrush when your child is more confident.
- Using sounds can make tooth brushing fun. Ask your child to make 'teee' sounds when you clean their from teeth, and 'ahhh' sounds for the back teeth.
- Singing can also help. Let them choose a song for you to sing when they brush. You may also like to use a tooth brush timer which helps children to see they are brushing their teeth for long enough to get them clean (about 1 to 2 minutes). Tooth brush timers are available with colourful characters to make it more fun.
 - Books about tooth brushing and visiting the dentist are available and videos of other children brushing can be found on the internet.