

NEWSLETTER

Thursday 24th October 2024

Autumn 1 Term

Hello everyone!

And there we are...the end of our first half term of the school year. In the last 8 weeks we have welcomed our 2 year old buddies into nursery; participated in two house team events which have linked with our learning and developed our team work, co-operation and problem solving skills; we have taken the small schools football tournament by storm with our amazing mixed team performance; we have explored whether there is life in another form out there, laid under the stars in our visiting planetarium and so much more! All while developing our learning behaviours to becoming more independent in our learning through better resilience, stamina and understanding of how we learn. It certainly has been a busy and most fun half term.

Next half term sees our creative learning continue with our 'Land Ahoy' topic which we are very much looking forward to. Combined with all of our Christmas themed fun it is set to be another busy one.

Attendance has dropped somewhat over the last few weeks. We appreciate that this is the time of year for illnesses and bugs etc, and we do support parents in keeping their children off school with some of these illnesses to avoid spreading etc and to nurse poorly children who feel too unwell to be at school. However we do ask that you are vigilant to your child's attendance and reasons for absence. Lost learning needs to be caught up on and this can prove difficult when absence is prolonged or frequent. We always want to work with parents on securing good attendance so if there is a reason for your child's absence that you wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to make an appointment with your child's class teacher.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to say farewell to Mr Mortimer who will be leaving us tomorrow after 14 months at Leavening. Mr Mortimer will be missed by all of the school community as he embarks on adventures new. It has been a pleasure having Mr Mortimer as part of our school team and we all wish him well. Mr Mortimer, thank you for everything you have contributed to our school and for the fond memories that so many will take from your time here. Mr Mortimer will not be a stranger to Leavening and we hope to see him again in the future supporting us in various events.

Have a lovely half term and keep safe and warm. My best wishes.



Sian Mitchell
Headteacher

School Attendance

14 October 2024 - 18 October 2024

Our school weekly attendance was: 94.6%

This was below the **primary national average of 94.8%**

Attendance **this week** so far: **94.6%** | Attendance **this term** so far: **94.7%**

TERM DATES

OCTOBER

Fri 25th

Last day of term

NOVEMBER

Mon 4th

Launch of 'Land Ahoy' topic

School children can wear pirate-themed dress-up clothing
Extra Curricular Clubs begin

Tues 5th

Bags 2 School by 9am please

Weds 6th

Yr3/4 Football Tournament

W/C Mon 11th

Parent/Teacher consultations

Anti-bullying week

Tues 12th

Wear odd socks day

Fri 15th

Children in Need Day

W/C Mon 18th

UK Parliament & British Values week
'Dress to Express' (Fri 22nd)

DECEMBER

Weds 4th

Yr5/6 Dodgeball Tournament

Thurs 5th

Christmas Craft afternoon
Parents/carers welcome* plus
Christmas dress up day
in exchange for a tombola prize

Fri 6th

Christmas Fair after school

Fri 13th

Christmas Production 9.30am & 2pm

Tues 17th

Christmas Movie Afternoon
3.15-5pm. Further details to follow

Weds 18th

Pantomime trip

(Conkers & Oak Trees)

Thurs 19th

Christmas lunch & parties

End of term

Fri 20th

Training day

Our Safeguarding Team at Leavening CP School:

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is: **Mrs Mitchell**

Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is: **Mrs Bennett** | Our Safeguarding Governor is: **Mrs Isaacs**

Good Attendance means...

Being in school at least 97% of the time or 184 to 190 days

Remember

Education is important - don't miss out!

Did you know?

A two week holiday in term-time means that the highest attendance a child can achieve is

94.7%



Did you know?

When pupils attend school they:

- Can achieve their full potential
- Have better career prospects
- Learn how to look after themselves and be healthy
- Grow in confidence
- Keep up with work and homework
- Make new friends

There are **365 DAYS** in a calendar year

175 DAYS are NOT spent at school

Is my child too ill for school?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school or nursery when they're unwell. If you do keep your child at home, you must phone the school office and report their absence by 8.30am.

For further NHS guidance, please see their website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school>

A huge thank you to all who donated towards the Harvest Festival last Friday.

All items will go to the local community foodbank helping those in need. It was lovely to see so many parents/carers attending the Harvest Assembly this year. Well done and thank you to Mrs Stockill for her wonderful music efforts!

Harvest Festival Donations



Young Leadership Team

Here's Jessica, a member of the YLT team, with a message about the afterschool fundraiser...



“Unfortunately, the creepy-crawlies at the allotment have eaten most of our pumpkins! However, we still have lots of other treats available which will be for sale afterschool on Friday. Please support this fundraiser if you can!”



School Reminders For Next Term!

PE for Conkers* will be TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS

PE in Oak Trees* will continue to be on FRIDAYS

**Children should come to school in their PE kits on those days please*

There will be **no Forest School** for Conkers OR Oak Trees next half term

FOLS Christmas bag-packing fundraising event!

We have managed to secure a fantastic bag-packing slot at Morrisons in Malton, on **Saturday 7th December between 10am-4pm.**



Please let the office or Mrs Jacques know if you can help by **Friday 22nd November.**

We have a sign-up sheet in reception. Can we ask that you please share this with everyone, so we can drum up as much support as possible- helping to raise funds for our wonderful village school!

Thanks in advance for your support 😊



Leavening School are now registered for the Asda Cashpot for Schools scheme.

If you use the Asda rewards app, please select our school and then (at no extra cost to you) every time you shop this month, **Asda will donate to Leavening School.** Thank you.



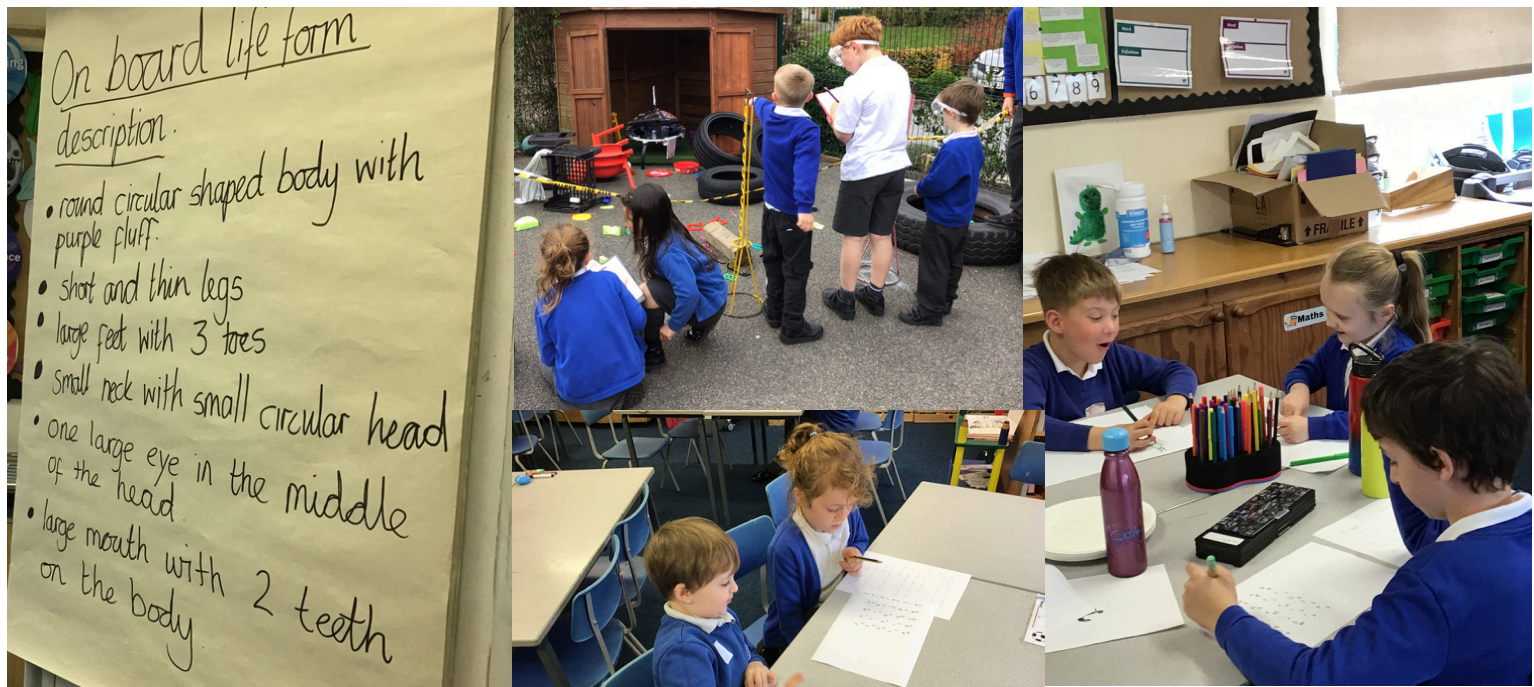
Star Gazers

This week, just as our whole school topic of 'Star Gazers' came to an end, an unexpected event occurred at our school....

The children arrived in school to discover that **an alien spacecraft** had crashed into our playground! All plans were cancelled for the morning as the children investigated the crash site, decoded alien languages, filled our crime scene reports and used all senses to investigate some interesting forensic evidence... All children were enthused and excited to take part and had a wonderful morning.

Of particular interest was why exactly did the aliens only steal the Bounty bar chocolates from a box of Celebrations...???!

Many thanks go to **Miss Templeman and her special friend from NASA** who set the children challenges to find out exactly what had happened and why....



Yr 5/6 Football Tournament: 2nd October 2024

“Three weeks ago, the year 5 and 6 children went to a Football Tournament at Malton Sports Centre. We were very excited to take part as we don't often get the chance to play football at school. We were the first school to arrive there. The manager gave us a ball to practice with. We headed off to the pitch and kicked the ball around. We then practiced who was going to be the goalie.

We had two matches to try and get to the final. The first match was scary because we really wanted to get into the final. We won this match and we were over the moon! After this, we had 2 games off, then we had our second match. We were very nervous because if we won that, it would mean we were in the final. We won this too! We were all AMAZED! We headed to the pitch where we were playing the final. In the end, the opponent's team scored a very skilful goal and won, but we were still very happy that we had got into the final. Thank you to all the helpers.”

-By Amelia (Year 6)



BAG 2 SCHOOL

FREE FUNDRAISING FOR SCHOOLS

In partnership with your school or organisation



Leavening Community Primary School

Bag 2 School is a company that specialises in the reuse and recycling of good quality second-hand clothing and we have arranged to make a collection from your school. All the bags will be weighed and you will be paid for the total weight collected. Remember, the more you collect the greater the benefit to your school.



PLEASE USE YOUR OWN BAGS (THERE IS NO LIMIT).

When the clothes have been removed from the bag the plastic will be packed and sent for recycling.

We are collecting good quality items for RE-USE:

Men's, ladies' & children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts & accessories.

(No uniforms, workwear, pillows, duvets or pieces of fabric please)

***The more we weigh the more we pay!
Extra bags are welcome - there's no limit***

Please return your Bag2School on:

Tuesday 5th November at 9am



01609 780 222



www.bag2school.com



helpdesk@bag2school.com



LEAVENING CP SCHOOL

CALLING ALL ALUMNI!

**Did you attend
Leavening Community Primary School?**

If so, we would love to hear from you!

We are looking for ex-pupils to get in touch to let us know what job, career or further education training/course you are doing now.

We are looking to inspire our current pupils as part of our **'Start Small, Dream Big'** career-related learning curriculum. We would use your information to showcase to our pupils.

We would be really grateful if people were also happy to **come and speak to the children** as part of our 'A career a week' project (although this is not essential.)

If you would like to help us, then we would love to hear from you. Please contact **Susie Kemp** by email at **admin@leavening.n-yorks.sch.uk** or call **01653 658 313**.

**Please do share this far and wide
to reach as many alumni as possible. Thank you!**

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HORROR FILMS & AGE RATINGS

The 'on-demand' availability of streaming platforms in many homes creates extra possibilities for young viewers to be exposed to age-inappropriate content. Material which features horror or violence can cause anxiety and nightmares for children, especially since it can be hard for young ones to grasp that what they're watching isn't real.

CLASSIFICATION BREAKDOWN

The British Board of Film Classification has the following age ratings:

U: Suitable for all ages

PG: For children aged 8 and above; this content shouldn't unsettle them

12A: Children under the age of 12 should not watch without an adult; this content potentially features bad language, nudity or sexual references

15: Suitable only for 15-year-olds and above

18: Exclusively for an adult audience, with potentially explicit themes of violence, nudity or sex



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STREAMING IS EVERYWHERE

Modern mobile devices make it very easy for children to watch streamed films without the need for a TV. The availability of inappropriate content has risen significantly on streaming platforms, almost all of which host 18-rated content. If not restricted by parental controls, this could be viewed by children who aren't quite ready for such adult themes, concepts and imagery.

FACT VS. FICTION

Many children have no trouble separating fact from fiction. However, with modern day technology making pretend violence and horror look ever more realistic, it's becoming harder for youngsters to tell the difference. For instance, consider remakes of older films, where dated special effects (making it easy to discern that something wasn't real) have been replaced by far more convincing monsters and gore.

PEER PRESSURE

Friends encouraging each other to watch the latest film featuring violence or horror can lead to children consuming content that they're not ready for. As 18+ content is available on many streaming platforms, youngsters can watch these together – potentially without their parents' or carers' knowledge.



CHILDREN SCARE DIFFERENTLY

It can be difficult to decide what content is appropriate for children. What's fine for one child could be extremely frightening for another. As many children admit to not sharing or discussing the content they watch with their parents, encouraging an open dialogue around the kind of media that young people consume can help avoid exposing them to any inappropriate content.

PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACTS

Horror prides itself on its ability to startle or induce genuine fear in the viewer – so it's no surprise that this genre isn't usually intended for children. A natural side-effect of this is that 'jump scares' or a creepy, suspenseful atmosphere can have lasting effects on younger minds. The resulting anxiety can impact a child's sleeping patterns or eating habits.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH THE FILM FIRST

If you're concerned that a film might be unsuitable for children (whether it's their first dive into the horror genre or a step up in age classification), then take a look for yourself. There's no better way to judge whether this content is something you'd deem appropriate for a child – and if a parent, for example, has actually seen the film (or at least a portion of it), they can construct a far more credible case if they decide it's inappropriate.



REMEMBER – IT'S NOT REAL

Emphasise to children that the content they're viewing is entirely fictional and has no chance of affecting them in real life. If a child is upset after watching a film, try to understand what exactly has unsettled them: this can help you approach the topic in a healthy and informative manner, to dispel any fears or anxieties they may have.



DISCUSS THE CONTENT OF FILMS

If a child has seen a film that you think may have exposed them to potentially uncomfortable themes and ideas, don't shy away from talking about it, and answer any questions they may have. This is especially important if they watched the film without an adult present. Ask them to summarise the story for you, as this will give you an understanding of what they've learned from watching it.



USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most streaming platforms have the option to put age ranges on children's accounts. This means that films and shows that are inappropriate for children won't be advertised while they're browsing and won't even appear if a child specifically searches for them. This can be changed any time at parents' discretion, but it's wise to protect these settings with a password, so a child can't alter anything on their own.



Meet Our Expert

John Insley is an assistant principal at a secondary school. He has been involved with e-safety in schools for over 10 years, writing policies and supporting various schools in developing their e-safety provision. John has introduced a range of strategies at multiple schools aimed at helping parents to better support their child in the ever-changing digital world.



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE TO BUILD EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE

With increasing societal pressures, many children struggle with managing emotions, facing challenges and processing failure in a healthy way. This is why building emotional resilience in young people is vital for their mental health and personal success. This guide provides practical strategies for parents and educators to help children develop resilience and foster confidence, adaptability and a positive mindset.

1 ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION

Regularly engaging children in open dialogue fosters trust and emotional expression. Encourage them to share their thoughts and feelings freely without judgment. Set aside time daily, perhaps during dinner, to ask open-ended questions such as, "What's made you happy today?". This encourages children to express themselves openly.

2 MODEL POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

Children often learn how to manage emotions by observing adults. By modelling calm and positive responses to challenges, you can teach them valuable emotional management skills. If you've had a difficult day, verbalise how you're feeling and explain how you plan to handle it, such as "I'm a bit worked-up, so I'm going for a walk to clear my mind."

3 TEACH PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS

Helping children break down challenges into manageable steps encourages a proactive mindset. Explain that every problem has a solution, even if it's not immediately obvious. For example, if a child is stuck on homework, support them in breaking the task into smaller steps, saying things like "Let's focus on just this first question for now."

4 FOSTER A GROWTH MINDSET

Encourage young people to view mistakes as learning opportunities. A growth mindset helps them see setbacks as part of the process, rather than something to be upset about. After a child loses a game or performs poorly on a test, for example, ask them what they've learned from the experience. This reinforces the idea that effort – and even failure – leads to improvement.

5 PROMOTE SELF-CARE PRACTICES

Teaching children about self-care helps them understand the importance of balancing work with relaxation to maintain emotional wellbeing. Parents and carers could start a screen-free hour before bedtime where the family engages in relaxing activities like reading, setting an example to the child for how to unwind.

6 BUILD HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Strong relationships with peers and adults provide a support system that enhances resilience. Encourage positive, respectful interactions to develop social skills. Playdates or group activities can be instrumental in teaching children how to resolve conflicts with friends by modelling and practicing calm communication.

7 SUPPORT EMOTIONAL AWARENESS

Helping children to identify and name their emotions allows them to manage those feelings more effectively. When a child's upset, encourage them to talk to you about what they're feeling in an empathetic and supportive manner, and ask them why they might be experiencing these emotions.

8 ENCOURAGE INDEPENDENCE

Giving children opportunities to make their own decisions boosts confidence and problem-solving skills. A good example of this would be letting children choose and pack their own lunches for school, guiding them with options but allowing them to assume responsibility for the task to help them take ownership.

9 DEVELOP COPING STRATEGIES

Teaching children techniques like mindfulness, deep breathing or journaling can help them to manage stress. Show them how to perform breathing exercises when they're feeling anxious, and practise this regularly. Reinforcing this behaviour in young people will make it easier for them to use these techniques of their own accord during stressful moments.

10 CELEBRATE SMALL WINS

Recognising effort, no matter how small, reinforces perseverance and encourages children to keep trying. After a child completes a difficult task, makes progress on a project or reaches another type of personal goal, praise their efforts. Emphasise the hard work they've put in and be sure to let them know how proud you are!

Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is Associate Vice Principal for Personal Development at Penistone Grammar School and works on secondment one day a week for Minds Ahead, which works with schools on improving their mental health provisions.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®