

8th December, 2023

Dear Parents,

Newsletter

Attendance Our attendance this week is only 95% - below our target of 97%.

Message from the Headteacher

Thank goodness the weather has improved this week - we have far too much to do to have any more missed days! This week has been another busy one with lots of learning and a KS2 sporting trip 😊 We are still busy preparing for the Christmas performance and carol concert - hopefully you are not sick of hearing the songs at home already! I can't believe we only have 2 weeks left to go before the end of term - and still so much to pack in! I am particularly excited about the ice skating in York - a close second to going to Central Park! It is good to see that our farm visits calendar is almost finalised - I can't wait to learn more 😊 (although Annie and Fern are keen, I am not sure I am ready to help with lambing...). We have the interviews for the headship on Tuesday and Wednesday so I will let you know next week who our new head will be. They will not start until September, but will have opportunities to get to know our school beforehand. I am still also staying for at least 1 day a week as English Hub lead - and my CEO office base will be at Lealholm 😊 I will also be gate-crashing trips...

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the warmer weather!

Mrs Z

Life at Lealholm

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at Lealholm. A big thank you to our year 6 children for decorating the Christmas tree in the entrance and adding further decoration around the school.

We are certainly in the festive spirit at Lealholm this week! Thankfully no more snow has fallen, so it has been full steam ahead with our Christmas Play and Carol practice. The children have all brought home a slip of paper to say what they need to bring in for their costume. Please don't buy anything - only if you have it at home - that would be really helpful! 😊

Fern Class have produced some unbelievable writing this week! They are now all experts in hedgehog welfare! We have produced our own non-chronological report, using imperative verbs, adjectives and conjunctions. We are looking forward to sharing these with parents at our 'publishing gallery' today at 3:20pm.

It has been fantastic to be back in school this week and Heather Class children have worked extremely hard. In English, the children have created and published their travel leaflet for Glockenheim. They have used excellent vocabulary and fantastic



persuasive techniques. After reading them to each other, the children (and staff) are all hoping the next school trip will be to an alpine town in Germany!

On Thursday afternoon, Heather class enjoyed an afternoon at Caedmon College, competing with other local primary schools in a range of athletic activities. We are very proud of all the children for competing in a variety of different activities and as always, they were a credit to the school. The year 3 and 4 children did exceptionally well as they were in races against year 5 and 6 children and they did a superb job!

Heather class also had an exciting time on Friday, baking different flavour ginger breads, watch this space to find out what they create before the end of term!

We all had a lovely last swimming session of the term, it is always fantastic to see the progress which each child makes, in terms of both their confidence and swimming ability. We will be in touch when swimming recommences after Easter and have carried forward the session that has been paid for.

After School Clubs – update

We have many festivities in the upcoming two weeks, and due to staff meetings and headteacher interviews next week, we unfortunately will have to **cancel all after school clubs for the remainder of Autumn Term**. We apologise for any inconvenience.

Clubs will resume again in the New Year. Football club will change to multi-skills in Ley hall until February half term, due to the dark nights.

Dojo Point Winners

Fern Class

Red: Mia
Green: Peter
Blue: Lizzie
Yellow: Ivy

Heather Class

Red: Solomon
Green: Liv
Blue: George
Yellow: Emily

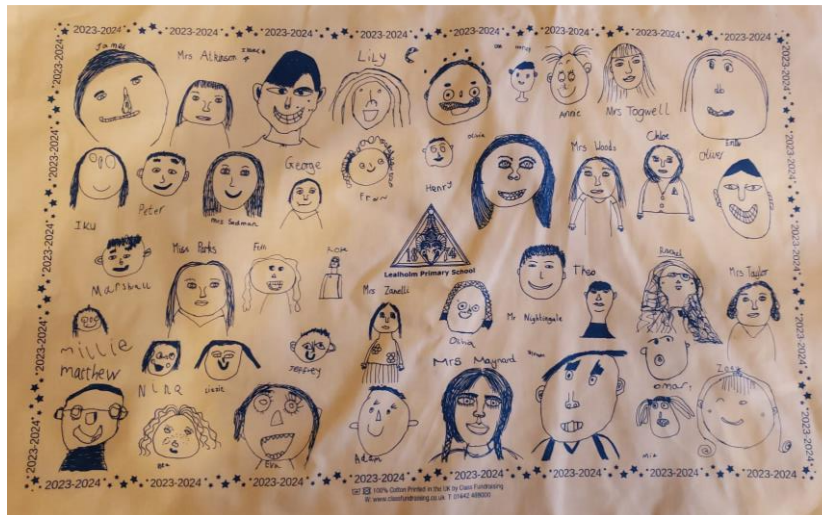
Star of the Week in Fern Class is Ivy. For her incredible work all week, most of which has been completed with one eye! We love the patches Ivy, but we love you and your sense of humour more. Mr Nightingale couldn't keep Ivy's joke she told him to himself... Where do pirates go shopping? Arrrrrrrgos!

Star of the week in Heather Class is Zoey for her excellent attitude towards her learning and completing extra work at home, additional to homework that is set. What a fantastic attitude to learning!



Tea Towels

FOLS have worked with the children to create a Tea Towel. These are now available to purchase at £7.00 each or two for £12.00. The tea towels will be available to purchase at the Christmas Plays, or alternatively please contact Amanda Smith.



Christmas cards

Children are welcome to bring Christmas cards for their friends, if they wish this year, there will also be cards available in school for children to write.

Celebrating 150 years of Lealholm School

Next year marks the 150th year of our special, rural primary school opening in our picturesque village. We are going to put together a video of pupils past and present, to share stories about what it was and is like to attend Lealholm School and we need your help! Please spread the word and ask people to get in touch if they would be happy to tell us their story and/ or any photographs of school through the ages would be gratefully received. We are also asking for ideas from our families' and people in the community for other ways we can commemorate this special occasion.

Online Safety

We wanted to update all parents and carers with some useful information about online safety. As a school, we very much understand the importance of teaching children how to use the internet and technology safely for a variety of purposes in a safe and responsible manner.

We love this Parent Guide from the NSPCC about keeping children safe - it is well worth a read to refresh your knowledge. Also, we feel strongly that if your child has access to a phone, they are always using this while an adult is present. All social



media apps have an age rating too. If you have any questions, please speak with a member of staff. [Keeping Children Safe Online NSPCC](#)

Hamper Packing – Thursday 14th December

FOLS have arranged to do the hamper packing on Thursday 14th December.

The hampers are then raffled during the school plays and make a great prize.

Please send any donations of produce into school by the morning of Thursday 14th December – all donations would be most welcome – Thank you.

KEY DATES

PD Day – Friday 15th December

Please note school is closed to pupils next Friday.

Ice Skating - Monday 18th December

Please ensure you have completed the consent form and let us know if the KS1 children are bringing in their own packed lunches. We will leave school at 9.00 am and expect to return approximately 4.00 pm

School Play - Tuesday 19th December

2.00 pm – Over 60's Performance

School Play – Wednesday 20th December

Performance at 2.00 pm and 6.00 pm

Carol Service – Thursday 21st December

On Thursday 21st December we will be singing carols in St. James' Church, Lealholm at 2.00 pm. There will be plenty of traditional carols for everyone to join in. We hope you are able to come and join us.

Christmas Lunch & Party – Friday 22nd December

We will be making party hats for the party in school. Children will have a traditional Christmas lunch followed by music and games in the afternoon. We may even have a special visitor.....

School Lunch Menu w/c 11th December

Monday: Pasta Bolognese bake and cookie with fruit & ice cream

Tuesday: Chicken burger in a Bun, chocolate sponge & chocolate sauce

Wednesday: Pork with apple sauce, jam bun and cheese

Thursday: Mexican beef pitta with rice, toffee apple muffin

Friday: Battered fish and chips, lemon shortcake

 [Click here for the Autumn Term Menu](#)

Yours sincerely,

Miss Parkes & Mrs Togwell
 Teachers in Charge

KEY DATES LATER IN THE YEAR

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|---|----------------------------|
| 20 th – 22 nd March | Year 3/4 Peat Rigg Visit |
| 13 th – 15 th May | Year 6 SATs Week |
| 10 th – 14 th June | Year 1 Phonics Screen Week |
| 22 nd July | YEAT Arts Extravaganza |

Please avoid booking term time holidays, especially during assessment weeks.

Term Dates 2023-2024

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|--------------------------|---|
| PD Day | Friday 15 th December, 2023 |
| Last Day of Autumn term | Friday 22 nd December 2023 |
| First Day of Spring term | Monday 8 th January 2024 |
| Half term | Monday 12 th February – Friday 16 th February |
| PD Day | Friday 15 th March, 2024 |
| Last Day of Spring term | Friday 22 nd March 2024 |
| First Day of Summer Term | Monday 8 th April 2024 |
| May Bank Holiday | Monday 6 th May 2024 |
| Half term | Monday 27 th May – Friday 31 st May |
| PD Day | Friday 12 th July, 2024 |
| Last Day of Summer Term | Monday 22 nd July |

