

22nd November, 2024

Dear Parents,

Newsletter

Attendance Our attendance this week is a 97.1% again above our target.

Life at Lealholm

Heather Class

The snow hasn't stopped the children producing some excellent work this week. The children have drafted and published their first person narratives based on Sky Song and done an amazing job. It was so lovely for Mrs Wright and I to see the pride that they have taken in their published piece. As our audience was parents, the children will be bringing home a copy of their completed story, and many are very excited to share these with you! I hope you enjoy reading them as much as we have in school.

In DT, the children enjoyed designing their final product. Mrs Lawn was very impressed with the year 3 and 4 designs for their information poster about the River Esk. which included linkages and levers. Year 5 and 6 have also done a great job of designing their water mill which includes two CAMS. It is great to be able to include the river curriculum in our DT project. We are looking forward to seeing these projects come to life next week when they start making them.

In Geography, it was great to see the children using atlases to locate different places around the world and the year 5 and 6 enjoyed learning about where our food comes from. The year 3 and 4 children impressed with their knowledge of the Equator, Northern and Southern hemisphere.

Fern Class

It has been a wintery week at Lealholm with lots of snowfall! We have had plenty of fun in the snow, building snowmen, reindeers and snow angels. Please do have a look on our school Facebook page 'Fern Heather' if you'd like to see our fun in the snow! This week, Fern Class have enjoyed learning about the layers of the Earth as part of our research lessons for our next writing unit where we are producing a non-chronological report. We are using the core text 'The Street Beneath My Feet' - a book that unfolds to a length that is as long as our classroom! We were very excited to read this. In maths, Reception and Year 1 have begun to compare 2D and 3D shapes, using the language of vertices, edges, sides and faces. We look forward to continuing this learning next week.

We have also finalised our DT topic of 'Fruit Kebabs' this week, evaluating our tasty creations! We all headed down to the village shop last week to buy our fruits to match our kebabs and we spoke with Gareth about the seasonality of fruits after discovering



we couldn't get many strawberries! Thank you to Lealholm Village shop for allowing the children to do their shopping themselves and handle cash. This was a great experience for all of the children.

Fern Class have had visitors throughout the week. I am always so impressed when they welcome visitors into our classroom and showcase their superb behaviour and excellent learning. This week, we welcomed two TA's from Lingdale and a TA from Oakridge on Monday and Wednesday into our school and the children were as superb as ever! Next Tuesday, we look forward to welcoming one of Mr Nightingale's partner schools for the day - all their staff are coming for their training day so Lealholm will be a busy place!

Christmas is definitely on its way, with Mrs Lillie's Christmas songs heard through the classrooms of Lealholm! We have also started to practice our Christmas Play - 'The Magical Christmas Jigsaw'. Parts will be decided and lines will be coming home very soon!

Snow procedure

Due to the snow fall this week, we want to ensure that you are all aware of the procedures that we take in the event of a school closure. Where possible, we will endeavour to inform parents by 7:30am if school is going to be closed for the day due to heavy snow fall and/or treacherous road conditions. Please be aware this is not always possible if heavy snow falls after this time. We will inform parents on our facebook page 'Fern Heather' and on Classdojo. When on the classdojo app, we are able to see who has seen the post, so if you have not seen it we will then begin to ring individual parents. Children who travel on the bus can now be informed by the bus company or if this is not possible, school will make contact with you. If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact school.

Reading Cafe cancelled

Unfortunately, the Reading Cafe which was supposed to take place on Tuesday has had to be cancelled. Sorry for any inconvenience caused. We look forward to seeing you all at the next one in the New Year.

Y6 Club after school club – change of day

The Y6 club will take place on Monday after school just for this week instead of Tuesday.

Parent forum –28th November 3.30 pm

This is an opportunity for parents to come and share ideas or ask any questions about queries they may have. We hope you are able to join us.



Thank you

We would like to thank Mrs Houghton for contacting local supermarkets and getting some Christmas goodies from Asda for all the children - Thank you.

Star of the week

Heather Class

Star of the week in Heather class is Liv for her continuous hard and effort across the curriculum.

Fern Class

Star of the Week in Fern Class this week is Jeffrey, for his fantastic and unwavering effort in every area of the curriculum. Jeffrey is incredible at anything he puts his mind to and he is a friendly, helpful and polite member of Fern Class. Well done and thank you Jeffrey.

Star of the Week in Fern Class is also Sidney for his independence and helpfulness. Well done Sidney.

Classdojo winners

Heather class

Red- Bea
Yellow- Oliver
Blue- Peter
Green- Liv

Fern Class

Red - William
Blue - Mia
Green - Nina
Yellow - Naomi

Staff Recommends

Mr Nightingale's Recommendation 'The Catcher in the Rye' by JD Salinger.

Hopefully, my love of reading comes as no surprise to anyone. From the rows of books which adorn every surface of my classroom, to my passion for teaching phonics and early reading, I truly believe there is nothing as singly more important that reading. This week, I've completed a re-read of one of my all-time favourite books 'The Catcher in the Rye'. Whilst the informal narration of this book might not be everyone's cup of tea, the author's clever use of language structure has allowed me to build a strong understanding of the main character, Holden Caulfield. The subtle references to Christmas have also left me feeling rather festive - hence my tree at home has been up since last weekend! I would thoroughly recommend this book to anyone who hasn't read it - it's so quick to get into and its relatively short length means it could be an ideal Christmas present to ask for if you have a couple of days off over the festive period to



really get stuck into. Do let me know on the gate if you've read this book or have plans to read it!

Child Recommends

First up from our 'Child recommended reads' is William! I chose William to kick off this section of the weekly newsletter due to his outstanding progress with reading since coming to school. William is now confidently reading Phase 2 books and we are all very proud of him. William recommends Tractors and Machinery because it showcases what is important to him. In William's words 'there's lots of tractors and farm vehicles and it's really good!' You can't argue with that review! Thank you William for being such a great reading advocate - we often see you in our book corner enjoying a book!



Christmas Jumper Request

FOLS are looking for donations of any unwanted/outgrown Christmas Jumpers for a swap shop so all our children can join in with Christmas Jumper Day. Sizes ranging from Age 4 to small adult would be most welcome. If you have any you wish to donate please drop in at school or pass onto a member of FOLS. Thank you.

Hamper Packing – 16th December

FOLS have arranged to do the hamper packing on Monday 16th 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 Monday 16th December – all donations would be most welcome – Thank you.

FOLS various fund raising activities go towards financing events for the children throughout the school year including our upcoming pantomime visit.



Sponsored Walk

Thank you to all those who raised money for the sponsored walk. We have collected a total of £457.00 for school funds.

Mental Health

We take mental health very seriously here at school and in our drive to promote strong mental health, we have introduced the myHappyMind program. myHappyMind is all based around helping children to understand how their brain works and to support them in developing positive skills and habits to be their very best selves! Keep an eye out for a letter explaining more including an exciting opportunity for one lucky parent to win a prize!

Music Sessions dates for the rest of the Autumn term are:

Friday 29th

Friday 6th Dec - Now Monday 2nd December

Friday 13th Dec - Now Thursday 12th December

Friday 20th December

Book Swap Free Shop

A quick reminder that the Book Swap Free Shop is open each day, 8am-4:30pm. Please do pop in to browse - maybe pick up a new bedtime story for the children in Fern Class or encourage your child in Heather Class to pick one up as they're leaving school? You're welcome to keep these books for as long as you're enjoying it, we just ask that you pop it back in the swap shop when you've finished for someone else to enjoy!

Secondary School Transport Saturday 30/11/24 12 noon – 1:00pm

Alison Hume MP will be at Danby Village Hall to respond to concerns regarding future transport changes for secondary school. The meeting is open to all parents/carers.

Children starting primary school in September 2025

If your child was born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021 and are due to start school in September 2025 parents can now apply for a place at school. The application is open and closes 15th January 2025. Please visit the webpage below for everything you need to know. www.northyorks.gov.uk/school-admissions
If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Job Opportunities

We still have a vacancy for a Midday Supervisor – please get in touch if you are interested, even if it's just for 1 day.



Yours sincerely,

Mrs Clay
 Teacher in Charge

Key Dates Autumn 2024

November

Monday 25th East Barnby Healthy Eating
 Tuesday 26th KS2 Athletics
 Thursday 28th Parents Forum 3.30 pm

December

Tuesday 3rd Swimming Session
 Friday 6th Whole School – Whitby Spa am
 Thursday 12th Christmas Carol Concert 2.30 pm
 Friday 13th PD Training Day
 Tuesday 17th Christmas Performance 2.00 pm Over 60's
 Wednesday 18th Christmas Performance 2.00 pm & 6.00 pm
 Thursday 19th Christmas Lunch
 Friday 20th Christmas Party
 Friday 20th Break up for Christmas 3.30 pm

Mondays: PE with LC Sports & Afterschool Football Club

Term Dates 2024-2025

PD Day Friday 13th December, 2024
 Last Day of Autumn term Friday 20th December 2024

First Day of Spring term Monday 6th January 2025
 Half term Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February
PD Day Friday 21st March, 2025 (amended date)
 Last Day of Spring term Friday 4th April, 2025

First Day of Summer Term Tuesday 22nd April, 2025
 May Bank Holiday Monday 5th May 2025
 Half term Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May, 2025
 Last Day of Summer Term Monday 21st July, 2025
 PD Day Tuesday 22nd July, 2025

