

12<sup>th</sup> December, 2024

Dear Parents,

## Newsletter

**Attendance** Our attendance this week has dropped to 93.8% below our target.

### Life at Lealholm

#### Heather Class

It has been a week filled with writing letters to the Prime Minister about climate change and lots of Christmas play practise, so that we are ready for the performance next week. I have been astounded by the children's ability when writing their letters. It is lovely to see that they are able to think about the audience and write with the appropriate formality for the text type that we are writing.

The librarians have been busily organising the books which we purchased from the bookshop last week, so they are easily accessible for the children to read.

#### Fern Class

It has been a busy week rehearsing for the Christmas Play and Christmas Carol concert this week. Sadly, a bug is definitely going around as on Wednesday, Fern Class had 6 absentees! For those still off, we wish you a speedy recovery ahead of our final, very Christmassy, week! Lewis commented on how well Reception joined in with PE on Monday during dodgeball, showing perseverance, resilience and teamwork skills. In the classroom, Year 1 and 2 have thoroughly impressed me with their knowledge of alliteration, although Nina's name she chose for herself as 'naughty Nina' couldn't be further from the truth! Year 1 and 2 will start to draft their alliterative Christmas Poetry next week ready to perform to their friends in school, in our summerhouse (which Mrs Sedman has been busy converting into Santa's grotto!)

Mrs Lawn also commented on how the Year 2's showed incredible effort in Maths on Tuesday, puzzling through inverse problems to find missing parts in mathematical calculations. Well done to Year 2!

#### Celebration assembly

Celebration assembly will be held next Thursday at 3:10pm and we will be celebrating those who have achieved the star of the week and clasdojo certificates this week and those who were awarded them last week.

#### Illness

We have had a lot of absences this week, due to a range of different reasons. Just a reminder that our policy is if your child has been sick, they cannot attend school until



48 hours after the last time that they were sick. Hoping everyone has a rest over the long weekend and are feeling much better next week.

### **After school clubs**

There will be no after school clubs next week. Parents will be informed about clubs in the New Year, next week.

### **Christmas performances**

This year, the Christmas play will be performed in the Ley Hall, due to our growing number of families. We will have the over 60's performance on Tuesday 17th December at 2pm and performances at 2pm and 6pm on Wednesday 18th December. We hope you can join us.

### **FOLS Christmas party**

Thank you very much to FOLS for organising the school Christmas party. We have lots of excited children who will be attending tonight.

### **Carol Concert**

Well done to all the children for a magical performance at the Carol concert today, particularly the solo performers who were fantastic. Also, a huge thank you to Mrs Lillie for helping with the preparations for the concert and playing the keyboard for us today.

### **Christmas Pantomime**

A huge thank you to FOLS for financing our trip to the pantomime this year. The children all enjoyed the performance as well as the ice creams.

### **Lily's Book recommendation of the week**

In the spirit of Christmas, this week our book recommendation comes from a year 6 child, Lily, who has enjoyed, 'The Night I met Father Christmas' by Ben Miller. "I am thoroughly enjoying this book because it tells you about the magic of Christmas and he has used lots of great description to show the characters feeling and tell the story. I also picked it because I have previously read 'The day I fell into a fairytale.'" Lily is always on the search for more of his books!



### **Eva's Book Recommendation - Mouse's Wood**

I like the book because I like to see the seasonal changes and the months which are in each season. In this book, the mouse takes a journey and the thing I like about the mouse is the colour of him.



### **Star of the Week Heather Class**

Star of the week in Heather class this week is Fern for all her hard work learning her many lines for the school play.

### **Star of the Week Fern Class**

Star of the Week in Fern Class this week is Ivy for a truly beautiful solo in the Christmas Carol concert - we were all blown away! Well done Ivy!

### **Classdojo winners**

#### **Heather class**

Red- Solomon  
Blue- Lily  
Green- Harley  
Yellow- Emily

#### **Fern Class**

Red - Ivy  
Blue - Adam  
Yellow - Ezra  
Green - Oliver

### **Arts Mark Gold Award**

We are delighted to announce that Lealholm have received their Gold Arts Mark award. Mrs Zanelli's leadership of Art as a subject has inspired everyone! The children's artistic skills and knowledge of artists, alongside their individual choice making during lessons has dramatically improved and has been a joy to see. Our assessor's shared the following lovely feedback with us:



Lealholm Primary School has experienced a renaissance in your arts provision over the past few years. Children now see themselves as artists and partners in their learning with teachers. Teachers have been supported to develop their delivery of technical art skills as well as your planned and progressive art curriculum. The headteacher has supported three other schools with their arts provision. You value arts and culture for their own sake for the wider contribution to personal development and your schools sense of community, including parents feeling more connected to the school through performances and taking part in visits. You link arts and culture to wider learning opportunities in and out of school. To enable trips to happen you combined a visit to the Angel of the North with an RE trip. You advocate widely for arts, with your headteacher now being known as the 'Art Lady' among local schools. You have supported other schools to develop their own vision for arts and arts curriculums that have had measurable impacts on learning outcomes for pupils. You use arts and culture to help children make sense of themselves, for example programming a Samba artist to visit the school and considering the range of artists and cultures you study. You have considered how your curriculum is representative of your school and wider society. Children feel empowered in your school by the arts and they take ownership of their engagement and personal progression within the arts. They keep personal Art Logs. As a result of your art curriculum you have seen improved outcomes in SATs and increased stamina, creativity and enthusiasm in reading and writing. You have paid close attention to the confidence of teachers to deliver art. You have team taught to upskill staff and offer frequent monitoring, training and support to teachers. Through this teachers have a shared understanding of what quality in the art curriculum means. Children have a broad art and cultural offer as a result of art being a pivotal part of the SDP. You have taken children to meet artists and have artists visit the school. You work with a local printmaker. You take children on trips to visit galleries and see outdoor art.

### **Hamper Packing – 16<sup>th</sup> December**

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

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Clay  
Acting Headteacher



### Key Dates Autumn 2024

#### December

Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Performance 2.00 pm Over 60's
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Performance 2.00 pm & 6.00 pm
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Lunch
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Music Lessons
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Party
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Break up for Christmas 3.30 pm

Mondays: PE with LC Sports & Afterschool Football Club

### Term Dates 2024-2025

Last Day of Autumn term Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

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

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

