

12th February 2021

Dear Parents,

Newsletter

Staff PD Day

Please note the staff PD day in March has been rescheduled to Friday 5th March. School will not be open to any pupils on this day.

Snow

The weather forecast was correct, the snow arrived as predicted for the first half of the week (and this afternoon). Thank you for your understanding when we again needed to close the School.

Heather Class

Heather Class have had a fantastic final week of the half term. In English we have been looking at poetry this week. We all got some hints from Michael Rosen about how we can best perform poetry when reading it aloud. We then had a go at reading aloud a poem called 'Jelly Lover'. The videos I received were amazing and Heather Class definitely has some up and coming Michael Rosen readers! We then looked at another poem called 'What is Pink' and the children had a go at writing their own in the same style. They were absolutely fantastic and myself and Miss Parkes were so impressed with the amazing standard of poetry! In other subjects we have continued to produce some fantastic work, science was lots of fun this week. Y3/4 were looking at food chains, while Y5/6 were investigating what is in our blood and they made some 'homemade blood!' I think most of all this week, we have enjoyed getting outside and playing in the snow! It is my last day today and I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of the amazing staff, children and parents at Lealholm school for making me feel so welcome for the past 6 months. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here, teaching the amazing children in Heather Class!

Goodbye

We would like to thank Miss Storr for all the hard work and commitment she has given to our school over the two terms. The children have enjoyed her lessons both in school and online. We wish her the best of luck for the future.

Fern Class

The children in Fern Class have been very busy again this week. The Y1/2 children have been writing diary entries from the point of view of the snail or the whale. The reception children have learnt some interesting facts about whales and snails. The KS1 children finished their science topic of seasons by looking at how to measure wind. They created happy boxes with Mrs Woods in PSHE and also enjoyed some activities to celebrate Chinese New Year with Mrs Scholey. The children have worked extremely hard both in school and at home and I would just like to say thank you to them and also parents for doing such a great job with home learning, I know it can't be easy, but you have been constantly impressing me with the work you complete so thank you! I hope you all enjoy the half term holidays. Fern class would also like to say a massive thank you, good luck and goodbye to Miss Storr as today is her last day with us, we will miss her and wish her all the best!

Star of the Week

Heather class - Everyone received a Star of the Week certificate this week for being such superstars over the past 6 months! Miss Storr has loved teaching you all and will miss you all lots.

This week in Fern class we have two stars of the week:

Olivia for working really hard at home, I have really enjoyed seeing the videos of you completing your work this week. Olivia wrote some excellent sentences about humpback whales, become an expert on the subject and even starred in an interview as a snail expert as well. Well done Olivia!

Fern for really impressing me with your phonics knowledge, especially of the set 2 sounds and red tricky words. Fern became a snail expert and sent me a video of 'Ferns Five Facts' which really impressed me. You are always really engaged and enthusiastic in our zooms and are working really hard. Well done Fern!

Heather Class Merit Winners:

Red - Chloe W
Yellow - Chloe S
Blue - Noah
Green - Theo

Fern Class Merit Winners:

Red - Isaac
Yellow - Solomon
Blue - Emily & James
Green - Oliver

Chair of Governor Message

We hope this newsletter finds you all safe and well as we reach the half-term break.

The announcement at the beginning of January about partial school closures presented the staff of our schools with a huge challenge as they were given a matter of hours to arrange and implement the delivery of both in-school and at-home learning. We are sure you will join us in thanking our staff for how quickly they adapted and the incredible efforts and hard work they have put into delivering the very best possible experiences for our children over the last six weeks. We are also very aware of the immense pressure the announcement put on our families who were also expected to make arrangements and adapt with very little notice. The wellbeing of our whole school communities - pupils, families and staff - is of paramount importance to us as a governing body and to the Yorkshire Endeavour Academy Trust and we sincerely hope that you and your children feel well supported by the schools.

As you know, the earliest date for a reopening of schools in England is currently 8th March and so, until that time and perhaps beyond, the school will continue to provide both remote and in-school learning. Your feedback on how you have found this so far is therefore very important and once the responses have been collated from the recent parent and pupil surveys, the governing body will review the insight these provide and will work to monitor how suggestions for improvement are being taken on board and how any issues raised are being addressed.

Although we have not been able to carry out in-person visits over this last half-term, we have worked with the staff across the three schools to ensure that monitoring activities have still gone ahead to schedule. As part of this, it has been fantastic to see and hear about examples of the three schools working so closely together - this clearly has a hugely positive impact on efficiency and on the quality of teaching and learning.

We currently have a vacancy on the board for a co-opted governor. We are looking for someone for this position who is not a parent of a current pupil at any of the three schools and a recent skills audit has indicated that the board (and therefore the schools) would benefit from further expertise in HR and finance. Please think of anyone you know who may be suited to this and who would be passionate about contributing to the education of the young people in our community - good

governance is an integral part of a successful school. Further information about the role of a governor can be found on our website

<https://www.lealholm.n-yorks.sch.uk/about-our-school/our-governors/the-governor-role/>

Covid-19 Symptoms

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- a high temperature - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Please limit what your child brings into school. Due to Covid-19 restrictions they should only have essentials with them i.e.: coat, medication, book bag with reading book and homework book when applicable.

If you have any concerns or queries please phone or email to arrange an appointment. At the moment parents are unable to come into school without prior appointment.

I hope you enjoy your half term break and have the opportunity to relax and have some fun family time.

Yours sincerely

H Ward
Headteacher