



Dear Parents & Carers,

We are very much looking forward to our Harvest Festival and Pumpkin Parade this afternoon. The children have worked very hard perfecting their performances and I know it is going to be an excellent way to end the half term. The quality of pumpkins and courgettes is also very impressive – I'm sure the scales will be struggling at the 'weigh in' this afternoon.

We have all thoroughly enjoyed our Art Week activities which began with a visit from our 'artist in residence' Chris on Monday. Children were able to observe him at work, creating a bespoke timeline the cloakroom of the main building which includes doodles of all of the key periods of history we study in school – as well as local history. It will make a great talking point when we launch our history learning after half-term.

Many thanks to those of you who attended Parents Evening sessions this week. It is always fantastic to share your child's learning with you. Last weekend, we also welcomed prospective starters for next September which was a great morning.

Have a wonderful half term holiday – please remember we return to school on Monday 31st October.

Communication

I would like to remind parents and about the importance of direct communication with school. Whilst it is completely natural for parents to share thoughts amongst themselves, unless matters are brought to our attention they cannot be dealt with in line with school policies.

Myself, Mr. Cope and class teachers make every effort to be available and visible at key times and we thank those who use this as an opportunity to talk about their child.

Governors' Corner #1

Yesterday evening the governing body met for the second time this academic year. Our core functions are always clear: vision, ethos and strategic direction; holding school leaders to account for educational performance; overseeing financial performance. We were able to gather together much evidence to carry out our responsibilities. Indeed, it was a pleasure to hear about so many exciting and stimulating activities that take place with such frequency across the school.

I am sure you will agree with me that the school has a good reputation in our area. A good reputation that has been worked hard for and one we must not take for granted. May I take this opportunity to remind all parents about the open door policy that school leaders operate. It offers the very best way to raise and/or tackle any issues or worries.

May I also take this opportunity to wish all the children and staff a restful half-term holiday. Let us hope the weather is kind to us all!

Patrick Barber- Chair of Governors

Governors' Corner #2

The school opened its doors on Saturday to welcome the 2023 new starters & their families to the open morning & it certainly was a very well attended & enjoyable event. The children loved playing with all the inviting resources in Robin Class & got to know Mrs Cromey-Hawke and Mrs Dozey. Parents were able to learn more about the educational opportunities on offer, chat to staff, ask questions and have a tour of the whole school. It was a pleasure to chat with new and 'not so new' parents & to hear all the positive comments about the reputation the school has for providing an excellent education. Thank you to all the families for attending & to Mr. Donaldson, Mr.Cope, Mrs Cromey-Hawke & Mrs Dozey for making the event such a success.

Beverly Smeeton - EYFS Link Governor

Let's Celebrate!

There is no Celebration Assembly this week due to the Harvest Festival!

Return to School

Pupils return to school on Monday
31st October.

Diary Dates

When?	What?	Who?	How?
Monday 31 st October	Return to School	All	See newsletter
Monday 7 th November	Whole School Visit to Castle Bolton	All	Letter sent
Monday 14 th November	'Odd Socks Day'	All	Information to follow
Friday 18 th November	Children in Need	All	Information to follow
Thursday 1 st December	Class Museums – Parents Welcome 2.45pm	All	Information to follow
Wednesday 7 th December	Rec – Y2 Nativity 2.00pm and 6.00pm	Rec – Y2	Information to follow
Friday 9 th December	Christmas Lunch	All	Information to follow
Tuesday 13 th December	Whole School Visit to Darlington Hippodrome Pantomime 'Peter Pan'	All	Information to follow
Wednesday 14 th December	Christingle @ St Patrick's Church 6.00pm	All	Information to follow
Friday 16 th December	End of Autumn Term	All	Parents informed

Around the Classes...

Robin Class: It has been such a busy week! We loved our walk around Hunton village, exploring human and physical features. We were so proud of all the children, as they were safe, kind and driven. Once back in provision the children loved locating areas on the map. Art week has been extremely exciting, we have looked at a range of different artists, investigated shapes, created waves and explored colour. We hope you have a wonderful half term break, and we will see you all soon.

Kingfisher Class: What a great end to the half-term in Year 2. In English we have enjoyed completing our instructions writing and thoroughly enjoyed making our own 'Lighthouse Sandwiches' from 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch'. It has been a pleasure to see the children develop their sense of pattern and colour during Art Week, with excellent printing and rubbing techniques on show. Have a great half-term holiday!

Partridge Class: What a fantastic week to end our first half term. This week has been all about art, where we have been focusing on the formal elements of art. We have been learning to spot the simple shapes that make up objects, to help us perfect our drawing skills. We have also been working with wire to create simple shapes. To end such a great week, all of the children excelled in our harvest festival. It was a lovely way for family and friends to come together to celebrate harvest. After such a busy half term, we are all looking forward to a well deserved break- have a lovely half term!

Woodpecker Class:

The children have most definitely lived up to our 'We Are Creators' curriculum aim this week with some truly brilliant artwork. We have been focussing on architecture and particularly designs in the style of Friedrich Hundertwasser, designing houses with unique patterns and vibrant colours; the children have, as always, amazed me with their artistic ability and creativity. This week has also seen the conclusion of our Geography unit all about the Yorkshire Dales. This week we focussed on the positive and negative effects of tourism on towns such as Whitby and this led to some great discussions and debate. It has been a fantastic first half-term and I have been delighted with how each of the children have settled in. I hope everyone enjoys half-term!

Safeguarding Reminders

Mr. Sam Donaldson is the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Mr. Gavin Cope is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Mrs. Louise Wyatt is the Safeguarding Link Governor.

If you have worries or concerns about a pupil, please don't hesitate to speak to one of the people named above, in confidence.