



15 December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

We are enjoying a fantastic festive season at school with a good mix of learning and fun in the classrooms! We have one more very busy week remaining before your children can take a well-earned rest. This will be my final newsletter of the term so I would just like to say a big thank you for providing such valuable support to our school – it really does mean a lot to us.



ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance is currently 94.81% which is below our target of 97%. Please remember that I am unable to authorise holidays. **From September 2023, penalty notices will be issued for unauthorised absences which reach the local authority limit.** Thank you for helping us to maintain high rates of attendance. **Well done to Class 1 for winning the fortnightly attendance award.**



CLASS 1 NATIVITY – ‘THE SLEEPY SHEPHERD’

What a fabulous nativity! I could not be more proud of our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils. The singing and performing were brilliant and it was so impressive how the children remembered their lines and actions. I could see how much our visitors enjoyed the two performances and it was lovely to receive such positive comments; thank you for your support. A massive well done and thank you to Mrs Hainsworth and the Class 1 team for producing such a fabulous nativity. Click on this link to see some photographs on our school website: <http://appletonwiske.n-yorks.sch.uk/gallery>

SOCIAL MEDIA REMINDER

Thank you for not sharing images and videos of other people's children on social media. This is very important for safeguarding reasons. Consent has been given for photographs on our school website.



CLASS 2 STEM SESSION – VIRTUAL VISIT FROM A GEOLOGIST

On Monday 11th December, Class 2 enjoyed taking part in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) session with a professional geologist. The pupils learned all about rocks, fossils and volcanoes and found out about different careers in science.



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Our Christmas lunch was absolutely delicious! The children had a great time in the hall eating, chatting and listening to Christmas songs. A big thank you to our cook, Elaine, for working so hard in the kitchen all year round.

GENEROUS DONATION

Thank you very much to Mr and Mrs Johnson of JK & J Johnson Grounds Maintenance for their generous donation towards school funds. Mr and Mrs Johnson's granddaughter Jasmine is a past pupil and they were very complimentary about our school: *"Our granddaughter Jasmine attended the school and blossomed into the beautiful girl she is now thanks to the guidance from yourselves."* As you can imagine I was delighted with such high praise for our school and grateful for the donation which will certainly be put to good use.

Happy, Healthy and Productive



SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS PRESENTS APPEAL

Every year, school staff donate to the Salvation Army's Christmas presents appeal and Mrs Gudger spends time purchasing a range of toys for this important charity which supports disadvantaged families in the local area. A big thank you to all the staff for their generosity.



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY - 'SAVE THE CHILDREN'

Thank you for supporting 'Save the Children'. We raised a total of £103.70.

FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL

A big thank you to the Friends of the School for all their hard work this term. The money raised has gone towards a range of additional resources and experiences such as daily fruit, nativity costumes, Christmas crackers and subsidised trips. All of this makes a big difference to the opportunities that we can offer our pupils. Please remember that the Friends have organised a Christmas raffle with luxury hampers as prizes. Tickets will be available to purchase for £1.00 at the Carol Service on the 20th December. Please bring some spare change. Thank you.



MINCE PIES!

Thank you to the Appleton Wiske Christmas Tree Committee for donating lots of mince pies to school – there are enough for every pupil!



Upcoming Events:

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE – MONDAY 18TH DECEMBER

Please join us on Monday 18th December at 2.30pm. Class 3 will be playing their guitars and ukuleles, and there will be solo performances on the piano from children in other year groups too.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE – WEDNESDAY 20TH DECEMBER

We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 20th December at 2.30pm for our Christmas Carol service. Please note that there will not be a Celebration Assembly on Friday 22nd December.

CLASS PARTIES – THURSDAY 21ST DECEMBER

Children can come to school in party clothes and sensible footwear on party day! We will be providing drinks and snacks.



I am sure I will see most of you in the next week before we break up for the holidays but, just in case, I would like to wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Yours faithfully

Mr N Clark
Head Teacher

Happy, Healthy and Productive

DIARY DATES



18th December – Musical Performance – 2.30pm - 3.00pm
 20th December – Christmas Carol Concert
 21st December – Class Parties
 22nd December – Special Visitor – “Ho Ho Ho!”
 22nd December – School Closes for Christmas Break
 8th January – School Training Day
 9th January – Children back to school
 9th January – Y5/6 Football Finals (rescheduled)
 19th January – Judo Taster Sessions
 23rd January – Y3-Y6 Cross Country Competition
 6th February – Y3/4 Tchoukball Competition
 7th February – Class 1 Trip to Ripon Museum
 8th February – Bingo Night
 9th February – School Closes for Half Term
 19th February – School Re-opens

ABSENCE

Please ensure the school office is notified by 9.00am either by telephone or email if your child is absent from school due to illness.



Thank you.

COMMUNITY LINKS



Used stamp collection for bone cancer research trust and cystic fibrosis.

Please keep sending in your used stamps, Thank you.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Please let us know your club arrangements. Booking forms and Parental Contracts are available from the office.

CLUB ACTIVITIES – W/C 18TH DECEMBER 2023 AND 8TH JANUARY 2024

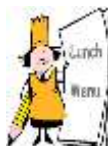


MONDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2023	REINDEER MUNCH
TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2023	MY NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS
WEDNESDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2023	COMPUTER GAMES
THURSDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2023	INDOOR GAMES
FRIDAY 22ND DECEMBER 2023	FILMS & GAMES
MONDAY 8TH JANUARY 2024	SCHOOL TRAINING DAY
TUESDAY 9TH JANUARY 2024	HANDPRINT CRAFTS
WEDNESDAY 10TH JANUARY 2024	COMPUTER GAMES
THURSDAY 11TH JANUARY 2024	INDOOR GAMES
FRIDAY 12TH JANUARY 2024	FILMS AND GAMES

LUNCH MENU W/C 18TH DECEMBER 2023

Main Choice **OR** Jacket Potato

Monday - Mac & Cheese **OR** JP with Baked Beans
 Tuesday - Nacho Beef Bake & Rice **OR** JP with Tuna
 Wednesday - Roast Chicken & Mash **OR** JP with Veg Bolognese
 Thursday - All Day Breakfast **OR** JP with Cheesy Beans
 Friday - Salmon Star & Chips **OR** JP with Cheese



LUNCH MENU W/C 8TH JANUARY 2024

Main Choice **OR** JACKET POTATO = JP

Monday – School Training Day
 Tuesday - Chicken Nuggets **OR** Cheese JP
 Wednesday - Roast Pork & Mash **OR** Tuna JP
 Thursday - Beef Chilli Wrap **OR** Baked Bean JP
 Friday - Battered Fish & Chips **OR** Cheese JP