

8th December 2023

FRIDAY NEWS

A nurturing family, learning together



Message from Mrs Pearson and Mrs McGregor

Firstly, a huge thank you to everyone who supported this year's FOBS Christmas Fair. Mrs McGregor tells me that the event was super busy, with everyone enjoying themselves and getting into the festive spirit! As soon as we have done all the calculations, we will let everyone know the total amount of monies raised for the school and what it will be spent on. Thank you.

On Wednesday this week children and staff thoroughly enjoyed a trip to the pantomime to watch 'Jack and the Beanstalk', being performed live at the Lancaster Grand Theatre (oh yes they did!). Thank you for everyone's support in getting the children here on time. The show was absolutely enchanting, a typical panto format with lots of audience engagement, a superb cast and a strong story line. All of our children (and accompanying adults) really enjoyed themselves. If you have not already done so, we are asking that parents/carers consider making a voluntary contribution of £13.00 per child towards the cost of this trip. Payment can be made via Parentpay. At the moment there are still 29 parents who have not paid and whilst it is a voluntary contribution this does mean that the school has a shortfall of over £350 to pay.

Similar to this, please can parents of children in Year 4, 5, 6 who have not paid a voluntary contribution towards the Viking Day reconsider this. The children had a fantastic day but so far only 30 parents have paid for this and 37 have not, leaving the school a shortfall of over £300. Please revisit Parentpay if you can and pay the £8.40 per child.

Once again, it was lovely to see so many parents/carers joining children in Class at this week's Stay and Learn session in Hedgehog Class. Next week parents/carers of children in Rabbit Class are invited to join children at a Stay and Learn session on Friday 15th December from 9.00am to 10.00am.

Alongside seasonal fun and activities, children have still been busy learning in class. Our youngest children in Ladybird have been sharing stories by Julian Donaldson. Children have also really enjoyed making Gruffalo Paw Biscuits and Play Dough Stick Men – they even had an opportunity to look at some

pet stick insects that were kindly brought into the school by one of the children.

In Butterfly Class children have been busy learning about and practising how to make a chocolate mug cake. They were also visited in class by the very popular stick insects. After their visit, children really enjoyed researching all about these fascinating insects.

Next door in Hedgehog Class, science lessons have involved children getting busy looking at what materials are waterproof; children have also thought about how waterproof materials could protect reindeers hairy hooves from wet weather! Children have also started writing their very own stories, based on BBC1's 'Christmas Star' advert.

In Rabbit Class children have been learning all about the history of the telephone; children found it absolutely fascinating looking at how the old fashioned rotary dial phones worked – they also found it quite difficult to dial numbers. Children have also been busy practising their Christmas Play.

In Badger and Fox Classes children have been busy practising carols; they have also enjoyed Gymnastics in PE and learning all about how to keep safe in PHSE.

Our oldest children in Owl Class have been working very hard this week practising some KS2 SATs assessment papers. In music, children enjoyed learning to play Christmas themed music on their ukuleles.

On Thursday, our Christmas Crafts evening was as fabulous as ever. It was lovely to see so many children enjoying getting creative. Thank you to Mrs Nelson for organising this Crafting Extravaganza. Thank you also to all those members of staff who stayed behind and supported children with their creative talent.

On Monday next week, 11th December 2023, our Year 5/6 Girls Football Squad take part in the Craven Football Finals at Sandylands Sports Centre in Skipton. Unfortunately, timings for this event have been changed at short notice. More information has been sent home to parents/carers of children involved via

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book-bags.

On Tuesday and Wednesday next week children in years 1-3 will be performing their Christmas production to captive audiences! Children have been working really hard practising for these live performances. This year, once again, we will not be issuing tickets. Entry to both performances will be FREE of charge. We will be giving parents/carers an opportunity to support the costs of putting on the show by leaving a 'donation' bucket out at both performances.

On Thursday, it is our annual Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day! After lunch children in Year 1 through to Year 6 will be taking part in a Carol Service at Bentham Auction Mart. The Service will start at 2.00pm until approximately 2.45pm. Everyone is welcome to come along and join in with this lovely service. Please wear warm clothing! Children will walk to and from the event with school staff and parents/carers should collect children from school at 3.30pm in the usual way.

Please remember, all children are welcome to have a Christmas Dinner. There is no need to pre-order. This festive feast can be ordered in class during registration. Meals are free of charge to all children in Reception, Years 1 and 2. Meals are £2.50 each per Nursery child and £2.95 each for children in years 3,4,5 and 6. Payment for meals should be made, in advance, via Parentpay. If you are in receipt of Free School Meals there will also be no charge.

Parents/carers of children in Ladybird and Butterfly Class are also invited to join in with a Festive Fun Morning on Thursday 14th December, starting at 9.15am and finishing at 10.30am. Tickets for our EYFS nativity show are available from Mrs Williams and Mrs Fox (maximum of two tickets per child).

Have a lovely weekend...will we see some more snow!?

Mrs Pearson and Mrs McGregor

Next Week:

Monday 11th December 2023

Pasta Quorn Bolognese Bake
Oven Baked Veggie Sausage and Bean Bake
Jacket Potato

10.30am Year 5/6 Girls Football Final
3.30pm to 4.30pm Art Club (5/5)

Tuesday 12th December 2023

Harry Ramsden's Battered Fish
Cheese Whirl
Jacket Potato

AM : PE with Kanga Sports : Badger/Fox/Owl
PM : PE with Kanga Sports : Rabbit/Hedgehog

3.00pm Governors' Meeting

3.30pm KANGA Sports After School Club : Invited Children (5/6) – **KS1**

6.00pm Nativity Performance in the School Hall (Years 1-3).

Wednesday 13th December 2023

Roast Loin of Pork
Pea-ter Croquette
Jacket Potato

1.20pm Carol Singing at Victoria Institute (years 4/5) – no parents/carers.

2.00pm Nativity Performance in the School Hall (Years 1-3)

3.30pm Lantern Workshop (3/3) Invited Children

Thursday 14th December 2023

Christmas Dinner (Veggie option available)
Jacket Potato

Christmas Jumper Day (Fundraising for Leeds Children's Hospital Fund £1.00 voluntary contribution in return for wearing a festive sweater).

9.15am to 10.30am Ladybird and Butterfly Festive Fun Morning (ticket entry)

10.00am Keyboard Lessons (NYC Music Service)

2.00pm Carol Service at Bentham Auction Mart

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Friday 15th December 2023

Fun Day Friday : all children invited to join in with a school lunch

- Chicken Burger in a Bun
- Veggie Burger in a Bun
- Jacket Potato

9.00am to 10.00am Stay and Learn (Rabbit Class).

9.30am to 11.00am : BABY AND TODDLER GROUP in the School Hall

3.00pm Celebration Assembly (NO PARENTS/CARERS)

5.30pm Candlelight Lantern Procession in Bentham (more information to follow).

Safeguarding Information – Keeping Children Safe

Safety around dogs

The bond between your child and dog can bring fun and happiness to family life. We don't expect our own dog to bite, but any dog can bite if they feel they have no other option.

Children are most likely to be bitten at home, by a familiar dog. Luckily most bites are preventable and close supervision is key.

A calm, happy dog is less likely to react unsafely to children's natural exuberance.

- Give your dog a safe space of their own where they can go if they need time out. Have a rule to leave them alone when they're there.
- Keep them occupied – physical exercise and mental activity help keep your dog happy.
- Teach your child to be calm and kind with your dog. Avoid shouting, teasing or restrictive cuddles.



Close supervision is the most important thing to keep children safe.

- Watch, listen and remain close when your child and dog are together.
- If either your dog or child seems unhappy, positively and calmly separate them. You can throw your dog a treat or toy, or lead your child away.
- Understand your dog's body language so you can spot signs they feel uncomfortable or stressed.
- When you know you'll be distracted during busier times, use safety gates to keep children and dogs separate. Or, take your child or dog with you.

Your growing child – as your child changes, the risks can change too.

- Teach the rules to your child from an early age and keep explaining them as your child understands more.
- As your child becomes more mobile, review changes needed, like adding safety gates.
- Think ahead about your changing family life and new risks that can emerge. Read our fact sheet on bringing baby home.

Trigger times – teach your child to leave your dog alone when they are:

- Sleeping – no-one likes to be woken up suddenly.
- Eating or having a treat – they might think you're going to take their food.
- Have a toy or something else they really like – they might not want to share!

Still worried?

- If you're worried by the way your dog is with your child, talk to your vet. They'll check your dog's health and can refer you to a qualified animal behaviourist.
- Visit the [Animal Behaviour and Training Council](#) website to find a qualified behaviourist near you.



This work was supported by the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID)

Apply for free school meals online

If you would like to apply for free school meals for your child, simply login to your [Synergy Parent Portal account](#) and follow the process outlined below.

If you have previously applied for school admissions or funding for your two year old you will most likely already have an account. If not, you can easily [create an account here](#).

- STEP 1**
Enter your National Insurance Number/National Asylum Support Service (NASS) number and date of birth.
- STEP 2**
Select the child(ren) you wish to apply for. If you have previously applied for a school place for your child they will already appear on the dropdown list. If your child does not appear automatically, they can easily be added by entering their forename, surname, date of birth and gender.
- STEP 3**
Attach any supporting documentation, if necessary, this could include documents such as a copy of your Universal Credit statement.
- STEP 4**
A message will then be displayed stating that we will be in touch with confirmation details. The school(s) at which your child(ren) attends will be notified as soon as the application has been fully processed by our team (5 working days). Your child(ren) can then begin enjoying free school meals once the school has received this notification.



If your application is unsuccessful you can then move to a further screen to find out why this may be the case.

If you need help or wish to discuss your application please contact us:
Phone: 01609 533 405
Email: schoolwelfare@northyorks.gov.uk



CRAVEN
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
ACTIVITY SPOTLIGHT

A selection of activities available in your area

KANGA

Holiday club to keep you children active, well-fed, and having fun

WILD EXPLORERS

Nurturing and fun forest school

SELFA

A safe and inclusive space for all - SEND exclusive, for members only

Book your FREE space now!

FEAST is available for all children and young people across North Yorkshire with free places and a free meal for eligible children and young people.

feastny.org