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## NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS & CARERS FEBRUARY 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of the first half term of 2022, I would like to commend our staff and pupils for their resilience, positivity and ability to cope with change during yet another challenging few months. Despite the challenges caused by both staff and pupil absences, we are delighted that we have been able to keep school running as normal and our children have enjoyed a wide range of activities and events. We have had a great end to the half term with two superb Class Assemblies from Mrs Exley's Year 2 Class and Miss Curle/Mrs Baum's Year 5 class. It was lovely to share these events with family members in school and we hope this will now be the case for all future class Assemblies. We are also looking forward to an African Drumming performance by Year 5 which parents/carers will be able to attend next half term!

You will find below information about some of our other events and activities this half term plus further information and dates/reminders for next half term.

I hope you have a lovely half term week and the weather improves for us all!

Best Wishes,

Mrs Lavelle

### Ouston Book Fair

This was a really successful event and it was great to see children purchasing a wide range of books at a bargain price! This event raised £161. This will be added to the £600 raised by our Scholastic Book Fair in October and used to top up our libraries and book corners across the school.



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## New Staff Members

We are delighted to welcome two new staff members to our school after the half term holiday. Mrs Gardener and Mrs Bowes will join our Teaching Assistant team and will work in Years 2 and Year 3. We were also very pleased to welcome Mrs Baum back to Year 5 following her Maternity Leave.

## Art Work

As usual, our pupils have been creating some lovely Artwork. At the top of the newsletter we have some excellent winter scenes (very apt at the moment!) created by Year 4. These are currently on display in the main entrance and around the school, including my office.

Below are some fabulous pieces of work by Year 3, linked to our Equality and Diversity theme this half term plus Valentine's Day.



Devlin



Harry



Oscar



Ella



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## Year 5 Transition Events

As you may be aware, we have very good links with our main feeder secondary schools – Lord Lawson, Park View and The Hermitage. All of these schools have arranged transition visits for our Year 5 pupils during March and April. These will be half day visits and within school time. Our school staff will accompany them and the secondary schools have kindly arranged transport for us too. During the visits they will engage in a number of activities including Science lessons in a secondary school lab plus Art and Design/Design Technology and Drama/Performance activities. The Year 5 class teachers will send more information nearer the time

## Friday Fundraiser

It was lovely to return to our popular Friday Fundraisers, organised by pupils! This was the first one since before the pandemic and was expertly organised by Robyn, Ellie B, Ellie C, Scarlett and Grace in Year 6. Their 'Guess the Number of Sweets in the Jar' fundraiser raised £87 which will be shared between the two charities chosen by these pupil – The British Heart Foundation and Cancer Research.

Our lucky winners (who had the closest numbers) won prizes including the bear below, the jar of sweets, a book, a bag and a bar of chocolate. They were Dale (Y6), Blake (Y3), Jake (Y5), Joshua (Y5), Olivia (Y6) and Will (Y6). The exact amount was 117.



Well done to the Year 6 group for an extremely successful fundraiser and to all parents/carers who supported this event.

## Year 6 Meeting for Parents/Carers about SATs and Transition

This will be held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 5pm. This meeting is for parents/carers only. During the meeting we will give you information about our feeder secondary schools and about the Year 6 SATs this year. There will be opportunity for parents/carers to ask any questions and discuss any concerns.

## Uniform Reminder

I have reminded our older pupils about appropriate skirt length and also about wearing appropriate clothing for PE. Cropped tops are not acceptable PE uniform and we will ask parents/carers to bring in another top (or their child can borrow a top from the spare uniform/lost property box) if crop tops are worn. Many thanks for your support with this.



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## After School Supervision

I have reminded pupils that a number of areas are out of bounds before and after the school day when they are waiting on the yards with parents/carers. No child should be anywhere near our Forest School area on the lower field. Children must also not use the Timber Trails. **Both of these areas should only be used during the school day and with staff supervision.**

## East Fundraising Shopping

This raised £105 for School Funds last term. Thank you for all parents/carers who have signed up to this. Mrs Tyrell will send a reminder out to parents/carers about how this works if anyone else would like to do this.

## After School Clubs

We will start to send letters out after half term about clubs that we are running. You will receive a leaflet showing all clubs in the Spring and Summer terms too.

My Choir Club will start in the second week back after half term and I will send a letter out in the first week back. This is open to pupils in Year 2 to Year 6.

## Dates for the Diary

**28<sup>th</sup> February:** Return to School and the start of our annual One Britain Week

**1<sup>st</sup> March:** Anti-Bullying Workshops (Hate Incident/Crime Theme) with our local PSCOS for Years 4/5/6

**1<sup>st</sup> March:** Poetry Workshops for Years 2 to 6.

**2<sup>nd</sup> March:** Year 1 Vision Screening

**3<sup>rd</sup> March:** Work Book Day/Rainbow Day Children may come to school dressed as a book character or in colourful clothing to celebrate equality, diversity and individuality.

**7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> March:** KS1/EYFS Parents Evenings

**14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> March:** KS2 Parents Evenings

**Week Beginning 21<sup>st</sup> March:** Year 5 Bike-ability (Monday to Thursday) More details to follow

**25<sup>th</sup> March:** Year 4 Bike-ability Day More details to follow

**25<sup>th</sup> March:** Mothers' Day breakfast from 8am (Parents/carers volunteers to help with this would be much appreciated. Let the office know if you are able to help)



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**4<sup>th</sup> April:** Children decorate eggs in school for our annual competition. Teachers will send more details nearer the time

**6<sup>th</sup> April:** Easter Coffee Afternoon for Reception and Nursery parents/carers from 2pm. Parents/carers of pupils in the School Choir will also be invited as the choir will be performing at this event.  
*More details about this to follow*

**8<sup>th</sup> April:** Mrs Dadswell's Class Assembly, 9.15am  
Mr Walsh's Class Assembly, 2.30pm

**8<sup>th</sup> April:** End of Spring Term

**Another reminder also that we have agreed to take our additional Bank Holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June**



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