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NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS & CARERS: 26th OCTOBER 2023







Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of a very long first half term, I am sure that children (and staff) are more than ready for the half-term break.

We have packed a great deal into the half term so the extra week has helped! Below you will find information about some of these events in addition to other information and reminders.

I hope you all manage to find time to relax and enjoy some family time over half-term and we will look forward to welcoming children back on the 6th November.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Lavelle, Headteacher

Half Term Activities/Community Events

Please see details of some half-term activities at Bullion Hall, Chester le Street attached.

A new Homework Club for ages 4-7 is starting up at Pelton Community Centre. See poster attached.





Parent/Carer Survey Results

Thank you to everyone who responded to our survey. The results are attached. We will repeat the survey in July 2024

Year 5 Theatre Visit to Lord Lawson and Year 3/4 Visit to Hardwick Park



Year 5 really enjoyed their visit to Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy to watch this show performed by their students and it was nice to spot some former Ouston Primary pupils! The behaviour of our Year 5 pupils was superb and it gave them a great theatre experience. Other Theatre visits will be planned later this year for Years 2, 4 and 6.

Years 3 and 4 had a great full day visit to Hardwick Park last week to take part in a range of activities relating to their Romans History theme, including making Roman clay pots and mosaics using natural materials.



unicef The Rights of the Child, Article 29: Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full

Book Fair

Our book fair was a great success and it was lovely to see the children's enthusiasm for books and reading. Through book sales with Scholastic, we raised £479 to spend on new books for our school





libraries. And our second hand book sale raised £126 which we will also use to purchase new class novels and reading books. Many thanks for your support with this.

Class Attendance



For October, the overall attendance figure for the school is 95.8% which is excellent. Thank you for your support with sending your child into school every day and on time. This has such a positive impact on their learning, friendships and enjoyment of school life.

Attendance in each class from the first of October to today was as follows:

Reception: 93.3%

Mrs Exley's Class: 96.6%

Mrs Baum's Class: 96.5%

Mrs Dadswell's Class: 98.1%

Miss Stebbings Class: 97.9%

Mr Walsh's Class: 97.4%

Miss Allen's Class: 92.3%

Mr Storrar's Class: 96.5%

Mrs Dadswell's class are the Ouston Attendance Bear Winners for October and will be very excited to receive the Attendance Bear in Assembly tomorrow!

School Council and Rights Respecting Team

These pupils have been elected by their classmates to be representatives for their classes this year. We have had a number of meetings so far and they have a lot of ideas and suggestions! A big focus for them this year will be to work towards the Climate Friendly Schools award which we are hoping to achieve by July 2024. Watch out for information and tips from the team in future newsletters!

Reception – Charlotte and Henry

Year 1 - Isaac and Clara





Year 2 - William, Eva and Georgie

Year 3 – Jude and Evan

Year 4 – Freya, Ella C, Ellie B and Mason

Year 5 – Avneet, Evie, Harry and Benjamin

Year 6 - Daniel G and Emmy

unicef The Rights of the Child, Article 12: You have the right to give your opinion and for adults to listen and take it seriously

School Meals

Please see a newsletter from Chartwells attached and the new menu which starts after half term. We had some visitors to the lunch hall from Chartwells recently to let children try out some new items that may appear on future menus. They were so impressed by the behaviour and manners of our children and their enthusiasm to try new things!

Harvest

Following on from my Class Dojo message, another big thank you for your very generous Harvest donations. They were bagged up after the Harvest Assemblies and collected by The People's Kitchen earlier this week, who were delighted with the amount we had collected in.



After School Clubs

Year 5 and 6 Running Club with Mrs Dadswell – Tuesdays, 3.30-4.30pm, no charge (Letter to follow and Class Dojo message in the first week back)

Irish Dancing, Reception to Year 6 with external provider – Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm





£3 per session. Let the school office know if you would like your child to start this club.

Fit and Fun (Year 2) on Thursdays, 3.20 to 4.20pm – External coach, no charge (Letter to follow and Class Dojo message in the first week back)

KS2 Choir (Years 3 – 6) will start on Thursday 16^{th} November – Mrs Lavelle, no charge (Letter to follow and Class Dojo message in the first week back)

Dates for the Diary

6th November: Back to School

8th November: New date for English and Maths workshop afternoon (Reception parents/carers)

13th and 14th November: KS1 and EYFS Parents/Carers Evenings (letter to follow on 6th November)

20th and 21st November: KS2 Parents Evenings (letter to follow on 13th November)

24th November: School closed to pupils for Teacher Training Day



