

Leeming RAF Primary School Newsletter



Friday 29th April 2016

Dear all,

Firstly, thanks to all for the continued warm welcome I've received to this great community. I'm thoroughly enjoying getting to know everyone, and very much appreciate the patience being shown by those whose names I've learned... and then forgotten again!

The start of term has already been busy in all the classes. Our year 6s are fully into SATs prep, and working really hard towards these. Year 5 have been writing up stories of their dreams (there's some weird things in those!), whilst years 3 and 4 have been learning some really interesting facts about Rainforests. In year 1 and 2, the pupils have been thinking about 'mysteries' – it's all been very philosophical down there! In Reception, the children have been having some great fun with the traditional tale of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' (I was roped into playing the role of the giant in the castle – my 'fee fi fo fum' needs a little work I think!).

In terms of other activities – there's been loads going on already. We played host to the M&M theatre company last week, who delivered a great performance of 'Charlotte's Web'. The Reception pupils also had a trip this week to the fantastic Monk Park Farm – they had a great time, and even adopted an orphaned goat – whom they have named 'Bumblebee'. They'll be writing some messages to him in future.



Sporting Successes – it's been a busy few weeks for our sports teams! Our Y5/6 Tag Rugby team came 2nd in their Level 2 (regional) tournament, narrowly missing out on qualifying for the next stage. Our Key Steps Gymnastics teams also did fantastically in their Level 2 event: year 3/4 won bronze medals, and year 5/6 won silver in their category, missing out on qualifying for the county level by a score of just 1.6 – amazing work girls! And last, but by no means least, our year 5/6 netballers won their regional tournament, meaning they go through to the county level in July! Well done to all.

Coffee Morning – thanks to all who attended our coffee morning recently, it was good to see a number of you there. We'll keep running these as a chance for you to spend some time together in school, it's a lovely opportunity for some of the staff and leadership team to chat with you too.

Book Fair – another thank you to all who have supported the book fair. We haven't had chance to count up all the sales, but this has a direct benefit to our school, as well as providing some great value reading material for your children!

Coats – it's been a week of extremely changeable weather – please ensure that your children come to school with a warm coat, even if the sun is shining in the morning, it could well be snowing by playtime!

Behaviour in school – we are working really hard at the moment to ensure consistent high standards are maintained among all our pupils. We do understand that a number of our children need certain adaptations, since they have particular needs / issues which cause them to struggle to regulate their behaviour. However, this is not the case for the majority of our pupils and we have had a few incidents recently of disrespectful behaviour towards members of staff or other children. We are making clear to pupils that this is totally unacceptable. Please support us by sending this message to your children and making clear to them the importance of following school rules and respecting both staff and each another. Thank you.

E-Books and Online Reading – an exciting online resource, entitled Ziptales, is now available to all children in North Yorkshire who have a library card. The platform allows pupils to read for pleasure in a fun way, accessing 500+ exciting interactive stories with voiceovers, animations, games, puzzles and much more. This resource can be used right now by logging in with a library card, either at home or at school. You can find out exactly how to log in at <http://ziptales.co.uk/subs/northyorkshire/>. We hope you and your children enjoy accessing these!

Parental Feedback – many thanks to all who filled in our parent surveys before the holidays. I spent my first weekend here reading through and collating all the responses. I'm delighted to say that these were very positive indeed overall; it's clear that the school is getting a lot of things 'right'. The surveys have flagged up a few areas (for example homework) that we want to look at more over the coming weeks as we consider how we can further improve the school. We would appreciate some further specific input from parents on some of these issues, and will be convening a parent forum for this purpose. Please keep an eye on the newsletters and consider if you could be part of this.

Notification of Deployments and Postings – could we please request that all parents who are being posted / deployed notify us of this as soon as possible. It's good for us to know for the purposes of pupil numbers and our planning if children are going to be leaving, but, equally importantly, it's vital that we know about which pupils may be feeling a little vulnerable if a parent is away. Please notify either the office or your child's class teacher.

Parking – a reminder that the car park in school is only for members of staff. Please do not use the car park when dropping off / picking up children as we try to keep traffic in this area to a minimum. Thank you.

Dates for the Diary: [see separate list for full term]

Mon 2nd May – Bank Holiday, school closed

Monday 9th May-Thurs 12th – Key Stage 2 SATs week

Tuesday 10th May – Governors' Meeting

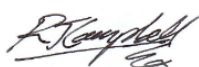
Friday 13th May – Mrs. Whitworth's class assembly

And Finally...

I had a brilliant visit the other day from Chloe Hanson who brought me an amazing time machine she'd made for homework. We popped inside and visited the dinosaurs, but it was only later that I thought how helpful such an invention would be to simply find a few more hours in each week!

Have a lovely bank holiday weekend,

Best regards,



Rob Campbell