

# Leeming RAF Primary School

## Newsletter



Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2016

Dear All,

What a busy month it has been here at Leeming! I had intended to put out a newsletter at the start of October, but have kept putting it off so that I could include the 'next thing' that the children have been up to; but there have just been so many!

A (very) brief résumé of the last half term then. The children have been able to enjoy:

- Y5/6 Residential to Low Mill (amazing few days away, featuring gorge walking, kayaking, caving, climbing and lots of other adventures!)
- Upper Key Stage 2 Forest School Trip to Hack Fall Woods (camp fires, hot chocolate, orienteering and nature trails)
- Y6 Bikeability training (cycling proficiency)
- Y1/2 trip to Thorpe Perrow (nature walks, birds of prey display, and science)
- Key Stage 2 Young Shakespeare Theatre Company (in school performances and workshops for our budding actors!)
- Y6 Crucial Crew (learning about safety and the emergency services)
- Whole school Performance from the Lempen Puppet Theatre (Grimm's fairy tales and other stories)
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Day with RAF STEM ambassadors and pupils from Bedale High School (creating the perfect plane!)
- Key Stage 2 Egyptians Museum Trip to Durham (including mummies, ancient artefacts, and opportunities for dressing up – I hear Mrs. Davies and Mrs. Halliwell joined in!)
- Harvest Services (a great opportunity to be thankful, show our values and care for others)
- Y5/6 Football Tournament (run by Mr. Fenn, hosted by Bedale)
- Reception/Y1 – making Harvest soup and rolls (to share with our parents and friends!)

All this in addition to the 'day to day' studies! It's great to give our children the chance to enjoy such a wide range of enrichment opportunities. These give us a fantastic platform for building on when they come back 'into the classroom'; with inspiring real life experiences, the children are always more animated and eager to engage with their learning.

The Eagles class blog has some great photos and videos of their recent adventures, Kingfishers have posted a video of their trip to Durham, and Woodpeckers have a lovely film of their Autumn trip to Thorpe Perrow!

**Staff Changes** – we have said goodbye this month to a wonderful and long standing member of the Leeming staff team with the departure of Mrs. Langley from Reception / Y1. Mrs. Langley has been a great support to the EYFS team for many years, and has left to take up a new and exciting promotion opportunity. She specifically asked that there not be any 'fuss' in newsletters etc. before she left, (sorry to those of you who said you wished you'd known in advance!) but we wanted to recognise all her hard work here. We will be welcoming a new team member to EYFS, Miss Robinson, who will be joining the staff next half term.

**Footballing Successes** – a huge well done to our Y5/6 football team who yomped home in Bronze medal position at this week's football tournament. Great play and team spirit evidenced by all!

**PE Kits** – please can all pupils bring complete PE kits (including warm clothes for outdoor sports) and have them in school each week. PE doesn't always take place on set days, so please bring kit on a Monday, and take it home on a Friday. Many thanks.

**Active Learners – Going for Gold!** – we have been working this term on introducing the children to the language of 'active learning' and 'active listening'. Sometimes, pupils can seem to be sitting quietly (which is great!), but are not necessarily actively engaging with their learning. We're modelling how they can do this, and giving particular praise for those who go the extra mile to ask insightful questions, make quality contributions and demonstrate great, responsive listening skills. This will take the children to the 'gold' level on our traffic lights, if they tell you've they've "been on gold" – it'll be for showing these qualities!

**Voluntary Contributions** – a word of clarification on the 'voluntary contributions' requested for school trips etc., since some parents have asked about these. We request contributions to offset the costs of special events; we already heavily subsidise these from the school budget. Unfortunately, *if insufficient numbers of parents contribute, the trips will have to be cancelled*. Obviously, this is something we would seek to avoid, so please do continue to contribute so that the children can have these experiences. That said, if you are financially unable to make a payment, please come and have a quiet word with a member of the senior leadership team or your child's teacher; we would hate for anyone to feel disadvantaged and would want to make it possible for all to attend, and would seek to offer financial support in these instances.

**Road Safety** – a couple of requests on this issue:

- Please could parents avoid accessing the school at pick up and drop off times via the car park entrance at the top gate. Please use the pedestrian route by the bike racks and through Hawthorn Close, even if parked at the top. We have a number of vehicles which have to come in and go out this way, so this isn't a safe route for pedestrians.
- Similarly, please could parents supervise their children closely while coming and going to school. We have had a number of reports from residents about young children on bikes / scooters etc. unsupervised, and parents walking down roads etc. rather than on pavements. Please help us to convey the importance of staying safe to the children.

**MSA Recruitment** – after half term, we will be looking to recruit some new Relief Midday Supervisors. If you would like to join the team, please ask Mrs. Brightman in the office for an application form. The role involves helping in the lunch hall with children eating their dinners, looking after them on the field and yard, and a little clear up of the hall at the end. Our MSAs are a lovely group, who will happily 'show you the ropes'!

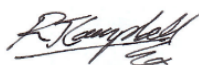
**Charitable Giving** – many thanks indeed for the huge number of donations received at Harvest for the Hambleton Food Bank. I'll be loading up my car with those tonight and taking them down there for those in our community who need support. Thanks also to parents who supported our Harvest Soup endeavours, and who generously donated £35.80 to be given along with the food. Hopefully you have all received your **Operation Christmas Child** letter, please do put together a shoebox with your family over the holidays for those children across the globe who will be in need this Christmas. We have spare shoeboxes in school, so please drop in if you need one!

**Unnamed Clothes** – a word about lost property which is piling up again! Please come in and pick up anything that is yours. Unnamed clothes will be disposed of after 3 weeks! Thank you.

**And Finally...**

For those of you who missed the disco (thanks to all the Friends of the School who ran it and helped), it turns out Mrs. Adams, Miss Baddon and Mrs. Lewis have some serious dance moves... but the prize was taken by our Y5/6 dancers for some truly breath-taking 'dabbing' and dancing! MTV watch out!

Have a lovely half term everyone,



Rob Campbell