



AUTUMN TERM

First Half-term 2017

Issue Number 19

HEADLINES

Welcome back to the start of this academic year and if this term so far dictates, then it's going to be one very busy year!

Updates on staffing so far are as follows:

- ⇒ Year 5 is settling nicely under the guidance of the new teacher to our team, Mrs Sture.
- ⇒ Miss Mawson (one of our Assistant Headteachers) is mentoring Miss Potter in Year 4 who is a Newly Qualified Teacher.
- ⇒ We look forward to the return of Miss Stephenson (now Mrs Cooper) sometime during next half-term from maternity leave. She had a little girl called Lily and got married during the summer.
- ⇒ We say a heartfelt farewell and thank you to Mrs Deary, who was our caretaker. We thank her most sincerely for her service to the school and wish her all the very best for the future ahead.
- ⇒ Mrs Chowdhury leaves us sometime during the next half-term to begin her maternity leave. We wish her all the very best and will very much miss her contribution to our whole school improvement process. We are currently on a recruitment drive for a teacher of quality to take on her class. In the current climate, with the shortage of teachers, this is proving very difficult. We are currently in our fifth round! Be assured that we are doing everything to ensure that the pupils in her class have a teacher before she leaves.
- ⇒ Ms S Foster will soon be joining our Pastoral Team. We give her a very warm welcome.

We continue to share our best practice with other schools and this term we have already had one school visit us.

Our school pets (tortoises) are settling in very beautifully. Miss Terry and Mr Tokio are very well looked after by Miss Baker – thank you for dedicating sometime to them.

A range of workshops, activities and trips have already taken place. These provide our pupils with very valuable first hand experiences that enhance their learning back in the classroom.

Year 2 – Florence Nightingale workshop

Year 3 – trip to Normanby Hall

Year 4 – Real History Workshop

Year 5 – worked with Mr McMillan (Poet) and Mr Goss (Musician) to create a poem. Mr McMillan is frequently reviewing the newspapers on television and had been on SKY that very weekend. We were very privileged to have him in our school and thank Mrs Sands for organising this at very short notice.

Year 5 - MacMillan Coffee Morning.

Year 6 – Mayan workshop

Year 6 - Road Safety, Cycling Proficiency and Power Read at Castledyke Primary School.

Back to School

PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL AT THE USUAL TIME **on TUESDAY, 31st October, 2017.** Registration bell sounds at 8.50am.

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Thank you to Year 5 and those who supported them in organizing another successful coffee morning to raise funds for an extremely important cause. Staff baked cakes till late the day before and others supported us with yummy treats from home. Contributions were made for an exciting raffle and it is only with your support in attending or funding your children with some pocket money for that day that we were able to raise a huge £275.95.

Once again, **THANK YOU!**

Attendance this Term

F1	91.11%	F2BR	95.44%
F2LS	90.89%		
1H	92.76%	1R	95.67%
2G	96.37%	2K	94.51%
2M	94.80%		
3G	98.22%	3S	96.63%
4C	95.54%	4P	91.34%
5S	94.95%	5T	95.63%
6D	97.57%	6F	93.01%
6S	90.90%	Over all	
94.65% (not including nursery)			

GOVERNORS - Governors attended a Governors Conference on a Saturday! We owe them our gratitude for giving up part of their weekend to support the school.

Staff Training

We may be OUTSTANDING in ALL areas but one thing we are not, is complacent! With this in mind, we have already embarked on some well researched quality training to continue to improve our practice to impact on the progress our pupils make.

1. We have had training on 'The Write Stuff', which, ensures a very coherent and cohesive approach to writing. It brings clarity to the mechanics of the teaching of writing.
2. Staff have visited a school we work well with in North Yorkshire to refresh us on the principles of Talk4Writing with the creator himself.
3. Staff have been to Mansfield for training on a 'new' phonics scheme to support in our phonics delivery. They have already implemented this scheme and are already seeing very positive outcomes.
4. As always, the first training day of the year was dedicated to Safeguarding training and how fortunate that we have our own trainer – Miss Baker.

GOVERNORS

Governors – attended a Governors Conference on a Saturday. We owe them thanks for giving up part of their weekend to support us. We have also had involvement from a Governor during the recent pastoral support recruitment, classroom drop-ins and also on trips – thank you. This is a voluntary role for which we are extremely grateful.

F1 and F2

The F1 children have settled into their Nursery extremely well and are thriving in their exciting environment! We have been learning about new stories such as 'We're going on a bear hunt' and making links to our bear theme. We are enjoying our group carpet times every day where we sing songs, learn about numbers and shapes, explore the world around us and practice using scissors, pencils or tweezers. We look forward to our 'Bake-it Fridays' every week where we make delicious cakes, buns and biscuits. Please look out for a letter soon on our 'Fantastic Fridays' where parents are invited to join us in F1 from 11.15am to celebrate the children's learning each week.

The F2 children are settling in well to their new classrooms. We are learning all about the school rules and are trying hard to 'shine' each and every day! We have been learning how to bake cupcakes and write recipes using our 'Talk for Writing' recipe map. We are enjoying finding out about numbers using Numicon. We are learning lots of new letter sounds through our new phonics scheme 'Sounds Write' and we enjoy being the experts and helping to spell new words. We are learning all about the world around us through the exciting provision areas in our classrooms as well as strengthening our fine and gross motor skills in our outside area. Please look out for a letter soon on our 'Tapestry' online learning journeys, which will be accessible for every parent in F1 and F2 to comment on progress at home and see how their child is progressing at school.

Year 2

Year 2 have had a fantastic start to the year!

As part of our topic, 'People of the Past', we have experienced an exciting history workshop. Not only were we visited by Florence Nightingale and Sidney Herbert, but we also dressed up as the famous Nightingale nurses and soldiers too. The workshop helped us to learn about why we remember Florence today and the impact she had on nursing.

Also this term, as part of Black History month, we researched Mary Seacole and compared her work to that of Florence Nightingale. During our topic lessons we have ordered events chronologically and we are currently listening to music by the composer Mozart, reflecting on how it makes us feel.

Finally, we would like to thank parents and carers for your continued support in helping your children to remember to bring their Links Books to school every day. The books play a vital role in communication between school and home, as well as helping your child to progress with their reading.

Year 4

Year 4 have enjoyed a fantastic workshop in preparation of their topic, 'Temples, Tombs and Treasures.' Children were engaged in exciting activities including mummification, hieroglyphics, designing and making a wesekh and also an entertaining Egyptian music and dance workshop.

We have also made magical potions to inspire our writing in English. Pupils decided on their ingredients and loved watching their potions bubble and fizz!

Tour of Britain - 5th September - Megan Kelly and Nile Ianson

Some subject representatives (28 pupils in total) were chosen to go and watch the bike race on our first day back at school. We made some flags to take with us to wave. Lots of police motorbikes went past us and there was a helicopter above us filming the race. We walked from school to see the cyclists on Holme Hall Avenue. We were very excited to see that the group of cyclists in the lead were all British! The bikes were moving so fast; they were speeding around the bends in the roads. There were two groups but the second group was much larger than the first. We could not believe how many cars with bikes on their roofs went past us too! We cheered and waved our flags but could not believe how quickly it was all over. It was a really good experience!

A message from Miss Thomas

Thank you to all the parents/carers who attended SEN-D reviews. If you were unable to attend and would like to book a meeting, please contact Miss Thomas via the school office.

Gates

The gates are set to open automatically at the following times:

*8:00am – 8:15am	(for breakfast club)	*8:40am – 9:15am	(start of school day)
*11:35am – 12:00pm	(Nursery)	*2:50pm – 3:15pm	(end of school day)
*3:50pm – 4:15pm	(for after school clubs)		

Parents/carers and pupils are expected to use the pedestrian gates properly. Please be patient and do not try to force the gates open. **They will not open if they are pushed.** The vehicle gates are **not** to be used by pedestrians; this is for your own safety and the safety of your children.

School Event, Trip or Workshop

Date	School Event, Trip or Workshop	Year Group
30th November	Staff INSET Day – SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS	
31st November - Tuesday	Pupils back to school	
6 th November	Parents/Carers Meetings	F1 and F2
7 th November	Parents/Carers Meetings	KS1
8 th November	Parents/Carers Meetings	KS2
20 th to 26 th November	Road Safety Week Anti-bullying Week	
20 th November	Cycling Proficiency	Year 6
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30 th November	Christmas Fayre	Whole School
4 th December	Christmas Concert	F2
5 th December	Sing-a-long	F1
11 th December	Breakfast with Santa	F2
19 th December	Christmas Jumper Day – Wear a Christmas Jumper to School - LAST DAY OF TERM – school ends at 2pm	Whole School
Tuesday 2nd January, 2018	Staff INSET Day – SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS	
Wednesday 3rd January, 2018	Pupils back to school	

