

Monday 11 February 2019

Principal's Message

Dear Parent / Carer,

I hope you have had a lovely week.

Last week saw our Year 5 children attend a residential at Lineham Farm. They had a brilliant time and were kept very busy with lots of worthwhile activities. Please join me in thanking my colleagues who organised and accompanied our children.

I would like to thank families of the Honest Hawthorns Class who led the assembly on Wednesday of this week. We do hope you enjoyed the mini cakes/snacks provided. As well as being extremely proud of the Honest Hawthorns class for their delivery and presentation, we were also very proud of our Year 2 children who looked after our families with such a polite and friendly disposition.

Next sees the turn of Empathetic Elders on Wednesday 27 February. They will be presenting their value assembly, and we would love for families of this class to come along and enjoy the show. Our Catering team will be providing buns for you to enjoy whilst watching the assembly!

Please note that I have written a further letter of communication to you this week. This is in connection with our inclusion work at the academy. I am very confident that we are further strengthening this area of our work. Please do get in touch if you would like to discuss this once you have received this letter.

I am very proud of our Year 2 cohort who completed practice SATs this week. They are really challenging and the children tried their very best, showing great effort and determination. I would like to wish our Year 6 cohort the very best of luck for their mock examinations this week.

Could I politely ask that you do not allow your children to bring toys into school. This can often cause disruption and the school will not take responsibility for toys going missing.

Finally, I would like to wish you a happy and safe half term holiday. I hope you get the opportunity for some really high quality family time.

Have a lovely week.

Mrs H Townsley
Principal

Captain's Café



Reception places 2019

If you have applied for a Reception place via the local authority website you will receive an email on 16 April informing you which school your child has been allocated a place at. If you have not applied for a Reception place and your child turns 4 between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019, please speak to a member of the Nursery team who can advise you on how to make a late application. If you do not receive an email on 16 April please speak to a member of the Nursery team and we can inform you if you have a place at Ryecroft. Please note, school does not have any information regarding which children have been allocated a place at Ryecroft until the national offer day of the 16 April.

Attendance Reward Day – Friday 15 February 2019

Next Friday (15 February), we will be celebrating attendance with an Attendance Rewards Day! Every child who comes to school that day will receive a special Valentines biscuit! Also, we are holding an Attendance Rewards day when we return to school after the half term holiday on Monday 25 February. This will be a Dress Down Day so children can come to school in their home clothes rather than school uniform!

Year 6 Assessment

This week is Year 6 mock assessments. Parents of Year 6 pupils please ensure that you support your children through these important mocks by ensuring that they have plenty of sleep and arrive at school for breakfast club at 8:15 am. Could all other pupils support our Year 6 pupils by wishing them the best of luck?

I would like to remind parents once again that although SATs week ends 16 May, writing assessment continue until the end of June and booking any holidays will have a severely detrimental impact on your children achieving their highest possible mark. It is the writing mark submitted by teachers that carries the most weight, not the results of the EGPS test, as this contributes to pupils overall combined assessment grade.

There will be another KS2 SATs parents meeting in the coming weeks with further information on how to support your child through this pinnacle time in their educational career.

Punctuality

As you all know, arriving at school on time every day is extremely important to your child's education. School starts at 8.45am prompt and learning starts as soon as the children are in school. Early morning learning activities are often reading or writing and your child can lose many opportunities to learn these critical life skills by arriving late.

Due to the cold mornings and icy conditions please give yourself extra time to ensure that you arrive at school on time, so your child does not miss out on these important lessons.

GORSE Gets Healthy Challenge

Each week, we are going to send out a GORSE Gets Healthy Challenge. If pupils complete the challenges and parents either send us evidence or write in pupils planners that they have completed the challenge, then pupils will be rewarded in school.

Here we go with this week's challenge. Parents, please follow GORSE Gets Healthy on Twitter or Instagram @GorseGetHealthy. On there you will find lots of information about how to be active, what is going on in TGAT, and our first GORSE Gets Healthy Challenge. Any pupils who complete this week's GORSE Gets Healthy weekly workout, as demonstrated by Miss Rhodes in the video, will receive an additional 10 stamps in their planner.

Fun Maths at Home:

This half-term's 'fun maths at home' theme is: MONEY

Similar to the element of 'time' for last half-term's theme, developing children's understanding of money is really beneficial in allowing them to become effective savers and spenders whilst gaining a solid understanding on how the world of money works!

Again, there is a focus on real-life activities to help thoroughly embed and engage children in the learning.

Playing Banks -

One of the biggest misconceptions amongst young children is the value of each coin and note. It can often be confusing that a note is worth more than a coin. A good understanding of money conversion and the opportunity to explore the relationships between money is such a beneficial learning skill for children to master.

How many coins have I got in comparison to the amount they are collectively worth? How many 1ps make £1, How many 2ps make £1 etc. How many different ways can I show 48p using these coins? Can you order these coins in value? For younger children, you could play 'would you rather' showing different coins such as a 10p and a 5p coin. This could increase in difficulty by showing a selection of coins, encouraging them to count money.

If this was my change from £10, how much did I spend? How many 2ps/5ps/10ps would I get if I swapped this coin for them?

Receipts -

Saving old receipts can really help a child compare and analyse the prices of everyday items and more expensive items. Can you find the cheapest item on the receipt? Can you find the most expensive? What's the difference between the most expensive item and the cheapest? Can you put the items in order? What is the purpose of the decimal point? Do any of the prices surprise you? For older children, it may be worth asking questions such as: 'How much would it cost if I had 4 lots of item A and 2 lots of item B?'

Let's Eat! -

Look at a range of takeaway menus and provide a budget to spend such as £10/£20 etc. Allow children to investigate feeding a family of 4/6/10 etc. What is the best deal? As we only have ___ amount, should we get this OR this? This allows children to reason and problem-solve and make sense of their spending. Will everyone be full? Are there any family deals? Do they work out cheaper?

For younger children, it may be useful to represent the amount of money for one item to begin developing their awareness of how much things cost. Would you rather spend this amount of money on this item or this item? Do you think this is too much money? How much do you think it should cost?

School starts at 08.45 am please arrive at school at least 5 minutes before this time

Minutes Late		
Class	Number of Children Late	Minutes Late
Happy Hedgehogs	6	194
Loyal Lapwings	4	99
Fair-Minded Firs	5	137
Honest Hawthorns	1	42
Wise Willows	4	175
Compassionate Chestnuts	0	0
Self-Believing Sycamores	4	233
Resilient Rowans	0	0
Persevering Poplars	0	0
Empathetic Elders	0	0
REMEMBER – EVERY MINUTE COUNTS		

ATTENDANCE

Friendly Frogs	93.8%
Happy Hedgehogs	94.2%
Loyal Lapwings	91.7%
Fair Minded Firs	93.8%
Honest Hawthorns	96.7%
Wise Willows	96.7%
Compassionate Chestnuts	99.7%
Self-Believing Sycamores	91.2%
Resilient Rowans	95.2%
Persevering Poplars	99.3%
Empathetic Elders	96.4%

PUPIL CERTIFICATES THIS WEEK
Superstar

Loyal Lapwings	Taylor
Fair Minded Firs	Freya
Honest Hawthorns	Cornell
Wise Willows	Ayva
Compassionate Chestnuts	Sally
Self-Believing Sycamores	Nikita
Resilient Rowans	N/A
Persevering Poplars	Cory
Empathetic Elders	Ebony

Congratulations to Compassionate Chestnuts for the best attendance this week

99.7%

Year 1 to Year 6 attendance for 4 February to 8 February was

95.7%

Year 1 to Year 6 cumulative attendance for the year to date:

95.8%

Our Target for Year 1 to Year 6 is

97%

SLT Praise Visits

Happy Hedgehogs	Jake Declan James
Loyal Lapwings	Logan Korby-Lee Leighton
Honest Hawthorns	Layla Siena Laurie
Fair Minded Firs	Casey Mia Wiktor
Wise Willows	McKenzie Sky Macy
Compassionate Chestnuts	Kyle Jaiden Rebeccah

Self-believing Sycamores	Carla Emma Grace
Resilient Rowans	Tegan Joshua Laiza
Persevering Poplars	Roxanne Layla Callum
Empathetic Elders	James Ta'Lese Finlay

Diary Dates to Remember

Monday 11 February	House Competition week
Tuesday 12 February	The Gorse games – Cross Country at The Farnley Academy
Thursday 14 February	Girls Netball at Swallow Hill
Friday 15 February	Year 5/6 – Attendance Reward Day to The Farnley Academy
Wednesday 27 February	Empathetic Elders – Value Assembly
Friday 1 March	UKS2 Trip to Magna
Tuesday 5 March	The Gorse Games – Indoor Athletics – The Morley Academy
Tuesday 12 March	School Class Photo Day
Thursday 14 March	Tag Rugby at Swallow Hill
Tuesday 19 March	Robin Hood Writing
Wednesday 20 March	Loyal Lapwings Topic assembly
Thursday 21 March	Sports Relief
Thursday 21 March	Tag Rugby at Swallow Hill
Monday 25 March	House Competition Week
Wednesday 25 March	Mothers' Day Present Room – All Week
Wednesday 27 March	Mothers' Day Lunch
Wednesday 27 March	Resilient Rowans Topic Assembly
Thursday 28 March	Football at Goals
Friday 29 March	Attendance reward day – 100% attendance Year 5/6
Monday 25 May	House Competition Week

Helen Townsley
Principal

Simon Hayes
Assistant Principal

Esafety <https://ceop.police.uk/ceop-reporting/> There is some useful information on the LSCB website about online safety with some useful tips for parents: <http://www.leedslscb.org.uk/Parents-Carers-Wider-Family/Keeping-children-safe-online/> ***If you are worried that a child is at risk of harm please contact Leeds Children's Social Work Services on 0113 222 4403***

Our Designated Officers for Child Protection are Mrs Townsley, Mrs Cattley, Mrs Hodgkin and Mrs France.