



# Newsletter

February, 2017

Dear Parent/ Carer,

We have had a great start to 2017 and I would like to thank your children and the staff for all their hard work.

We are having a big push on improving attendance at the moment. There has been a lot of illness and holidays which has pushed our attendance below the 96% Government target.

Unfortunately, without that target we would be unable to maintain our 'outstanding' judgement for Behaviour and Safety in an OFSTED review. Unfair, I know.

Classes with the best attendance over a half term will receive £50 to spend on whatever they choose. Mrs Spink's are the first class to win this prize.

We will be having a parents' meeting on March 9th. It will be great to see you there.

Thank you for your continued support and I hope you have a lovely half term break.

Mrs Blackham

## It's Oh So Quiet.....

A group of year fours attended the Dolphin Centre on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February, to take part in the primary schools Eurovision Song Contest. They sang the Bjork hit 'It's oh so quiet'



representing Iceland. The children performed confidently and enthusiastically. They were highly praised by the judges for their dancing, singing and performance level. They did not win but are looking forward to taking part again next year. Mrs Telfer and Mrs Watson said that they were the best behaved school in the town. Brilliant!

## Dates For Your Diary

Friday, 17.02.17: School closes for half term at 3.20pm

Monday, 27.2.17: School re-opens

Thursday, 9.3.17: Parents' Evening 3.30- 6.00pm

Friday, 7.4.17: School closes for Easter at 3.20pm

**Monday, 24.4.17: PD Day. School closed for children**

Tuesday, 25.4.17: School re-opens for Summer term

Monday, 1.5.17: School closed for May Day

Monday, 8.5.17: SATs week for Y6 children

Tuesday, 23.5.17- Friday, 26.5.17: Carlton Residential Trip for Y5/6

Friday, 26.5.17: School closes for Half term

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# Other News



## Reading in Reception

RW enjoyed their visit to Cockerton library. On the way there and back they looked at road signs, linking to our topic about road safety.

All the children chose a book and made a book mark after they listened very carefully to two funny stories, read by the librarian.

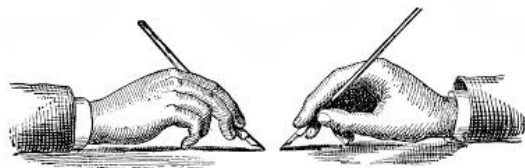
Reading is so important at this age.

If you would like any information

about phonics or how to teach reading, please come in and ask.

## Heavenly Handwriting

*Our whole school focus this term is handwriting. Did you know that handwriting benefits your mind. It 'lights up' your brain and keeps you focussed. It improves coordination, motor skills and your memory!*



*So, we are really encouraging our children to improve their handwriting style, to form letters correctly and join up- even from reception.*

## What are Little Learners learning?

Little Learners have been celebrating Chinese New Year. They made flags and lanterns and were fascinated watching a dragon dance on the iPad. They enjoyed tasting a variety of Chinese food and responded well to the new tastes and textures.

Children who attend Little Learners make an excellent start to their school life. When they progress to Nursery, there is no doubt that they are ready to learn, can sit and listen and have more developed social skills. If you think you know a two year old who might benefit- spread the word!





# Educational Visits

## People Who Help Us

Key Stage 1 have been learning about People Who Help- police, paramedics, doctors and nurses and fire fighters. To support this topic they have had a visit from the police, who came to share how to keep safe, what to do if you are in danger and what their job entails. The children used the visit to write reports and poems. They also loved acting out the job of a police officer.

Year twos are working very hard towards their SATs in May. They will be taking a Reading, Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling and Maths tests and gathering writing evidence. The Government has really raised standards and the tests are challenging.



There will be a meeting about the tests in March.

If you would like any information, please come in and ask.

## Fabulous Footballing

On Wednesday, 15th of February 2017, nine children took part in a football tournament at The Wyvern Academy. The children played excellent football demonstrating fantastic skills. They managed to finish in second place overall becoming the runners up! Their team spirit and sportsmanship was incredible and they were a credit to the school. Well done everyone!



# And Finally....

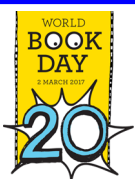


## What a disaster....

Y5 have been studying natural disasters and as part of this project they have made a model volcano. They had to use their scientific understanding to create a chemical reaction and make the volcano erupt. They used baking soda and vinegar with red food colouring to give the effect of molten lava oozing from the summit of the volcano.

## Terrible Tudors

The children in 5/6T and 5/6M visited Ryedale Folk Museum to learn more about the terrible Tudors! After a bus ride to Hutton-le-Hole, the two classes took part in three workshops and had the chance to explore the open air museum itself. Everyone learnt how to build a Tudor house cruck frame, they created a plague potion and also made their own candles! The children were also taught about the differences in the homes of rich and poor Tudor people. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed their day.



World Book Day- we will be celebrating on Friday, March 3rd. Children can come to school dressed as their favourite character.



Have a lovely half term holiday from all at Mount Pleasant

