



Scarcliffe Primary School

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School Newsletter

Friday 25th November 2022

It has been another jam-packed start to the term at Scarcliffe and with Christmas only 30 days away we are busy making costumes, rehearsing plays and making festive plans. Here are some of the things we have been up to over the last few weeks.

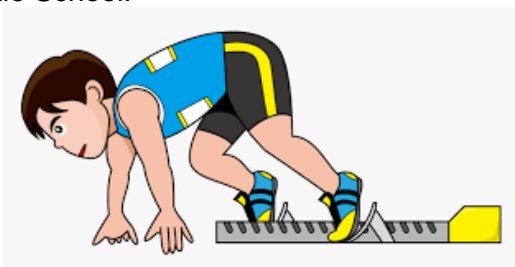
Trips

This week, Class 3 had the chance to travel back in time to the Stone Age as they headed over to Sheffield Manor Lodge. While there, they made spears, built a shelter, used bow and arrows and had a go at cave paintings. The trip really did bring their learning to life!



Sporting Events

We continue to be active members of our School Sports Partnership. Recently, we took part in a fantastic festival aimed at Year 3 and 4 where a small group of children had the chance to participate in handball, seated volley ball, new age curling and boccia. This week, the Year 5 and 6 sports hall athletics team had the chance to compete against other school at The Bolsover School. Unfortunately, and despite our very best efforts, we were unable to defend our title as we came a very close second to Bramley Vale School.



Yesterday, the girls' football team had the chance to compete in a county final. It was one of the most challenging sporting events I have ever had to endure – and that was just the weather. After a win and a draw, the event was cut short and we returned to school.

I am always delighted by the way every child represents our school when we get the chance to head out of school. They show amazing team spirit and determination!

Christmas Tree

You may have noticed a Christmas tree has appeared on the school playground. I wanted to thank Miss Tebb for liaising with RH Claytons and Sons who have once again donated the tree to our school!

PTA

Our wonderful PTA organised an amazing disco for us which raised an amazing £373. We hope the children had an amazing time! They have arranged to hold a small raffle at each of the Christmas shows and then will be making plans for the return of our Easter Bingo night! Watch this space for more information.

Children in Need

We never ever cease to be amazed by the generosity our pupils and their families show. Our Children in Need activities including a colouring contest, a teddy sale, use of the large apparatus, a teddy bear quiz and a pie the adult raffle. This raised £271 – I think this is an amazing amount for such a small school.



Online Safety Tips

Our iVengers recently shared a poster they have put together about children sharing concerns about online activity with their adults at home. Hopefully, their advice was helpful.

As Christmas approaches, we are sure that lots of children will be asking for new games and apps. We wanted to make you aware of a wonderful website for parents and carers called **Taming Gaming**. This website provides visitors to the site with a synopsis of almost every game that is on the market. It also gives suggested age ratings as well as alternative games that are more age-appropriate. We thought it might be worth a look before parents and carers buy games this year.

Attendance Updates



Our school attendance for the year to date is 97.2%. I wanted to thank you for your continued efforts to get your child to school on time and as

often as possible. As a whole school, our attendance is consistently above the national average and I appreciate your ongoing support in this area.

Medication

We are aware that there are times when children are unfit to come to school and that some absences are unavoidable. When a child is off, please contact the school office – either via Class Dojo or by telephone to provide a reason for your child's absence. If children come to school but need medication, we can only give this to them if an online medication form has been completed. This can be found on the school website – under the parent tab (admin of medicine). Medicines must be clearly labelled and taken to the school office.

Parking

We are really pleased the The Elm Tree Inn (known locally as the bottom pub) have opened their gates for parents and carers to park. This should alleviate some of the traffic issues we have been hearing about in the village. Please remember that the landlord has requested that anyone wishing to park in the carpark pays £25 for the school year. This should be posted through the side door of the pub in an envelope with the vehicle registration number.

I would also like to politely request that people avoid parking on the zig zag lines whenever possible – particularly around busy pick up times. As you know, the zig zags are there to make sure children (and adults) can leave school safely.

Christmas Plays



As mentioned above, classes are busy rehearsing, learning songs and sorting costumes and props for the school play and nativity.

I have shared a link to a Google forms on Class Dojo earlier today which gives Class 1 and 2 parents a chance to book their tickets. Please note that a form must be completed for each child and the responses will be used to allocate the tickets. Please see the Dojo post for full details.

Governor Monitoring Morning

On Wednesday 16th November 2022, we held our first governor monitoring morning of the year. The focus of the vision was on the school improvement priority about literacy and had a particular focus on reading.

During the morning, governors spent time in lessons – watching phonics sessions, whole class reading sessions and reading interventions. They also spent time talking to staff and pupils about their views about reading at Scarcliffe. They had the chance to hold leaders to account by interviewing Mr Horton (our literacy lead).

The governors in attendance left very satisfied with what they had observed in classes and around school. They saw high levels of expectations and consistency and could see that what was should be happening was happening in lessons.

They were impressed with the strategic direction the subject leader had put in place in school and were able to see the impact that our work is having on children's attitudes towards reading and on pupil outcomes in this area. Governors discussed strategies that were in place to ensure that every child leaves our school as confident, enthusiastic and able readers.

Mr Berry Guitar Lessons

We have been thrilled to be able to get after school guitar lessons up and running for Year 3 pupils upwards. These run on a Thursday evening (one lesson 3:15 – 4:00pm and the other 4:00 – 4:55pm). We currently have some (limited) availability for spaces at each of the lessons. Please see Mr Marsh if you require more information about this.

Dates for Diary

All key dates for 2022/23 are available to view on the homepage of the school website.