



Newsletter

Friday 4th November 2022

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 23rd November
Tuesday 6th December
Wednesday 7th December
Thursday 8th December
Thursday 8th December
Tuesday 13th December
Thursday 15th December
Thursday 15th December

Online Water Safety Talk
EYFS & KS1 Nativity 2pm
EYFS & KS1 Nativity 9.30am
Whole school trip to pantomime
Christmas Fair & Festive Treats 2.00pm
Road Safety Talk
Christmas Secret Room – AM
KS2 Christmas Service 2pm

You can view the school calendar on the homepage of our website and next year's term and holiday dates can be found in the parents section of the website as well.

➤ Staffing Update

We are delighted to inform you that Miss Estensen will be starting with us next week as the new Y5/6 teacher in Helmsley class.
Mrs Barrett will also be joining us in the school office from 14th November.
I am sure that you will join us in extending a warm welcome to them.

➤ Thursday Community Worship

We would like to invite you to join us for our collective worship on a Thursday afternoon starting at 2.50pm in the school hall from next Thursday 10th November.

Our Collective Worship theme for this half term is Compassion. Please find attached a home values sheet for you to discuss as a family.

➤ Shoe Box Appeal

Thank you to everyone who has taken a charity shoe box to fill. Please return them to school by Friday 11th November at the latest. (details attached of what you can include in your box contents)

➤ **Star of the Week Awards**

Congratulations to the following children for excellent effort and attitude in class:

Kayden E
Blake
Liliana

Imogen M
Francesca

➤ **Hot Chocolate Award**

Congratulations to the following children for their exemplary behaviour and for living out our school values of kindness, courage and respect:

Sophie H
Harry TT
Luka
Sophie M

➤ **Ambassador Award**

Zac

➤ **Well-Being Warriors' Award**

Amelia T-L

➤ **Singing Club**

Eva H

➤ **Ripon Cathedral Christmas Fair**

Please find below details of a Christmas Fair which is due to be held at Ripon Cathedral on the 25th and 26th November.

There will be around 100 independent traders selling gifts, homewares and food, along with children's activities, prize draw, live Christmas music and a pop-up café serving festive turkey sandwiches, cakes, mince pies, drinks and mulled wine. It is a great festive day out for all the family and we hope to see some of you at the event.



➤ **COVID**

The government is expecting another wave of covid during this term. We have clarified the rules for children at our school with Elevate head office.

If a child tests positive for covid or shows symptoms of covid, they should remain at home and not come into school for 3 days.

If a child shows symptoms of covid (see Guidance attached at the bottom of the newsletter), they should remain at home until they feel better and no longer have a high temperature.

➤ **Parking**

Could we please remind everyone not to park on the zig zag lines outside school.

➤ **P.E. Uniform**

The children should wear navy/black joggers or leggings, a white t-shirt or polo shirt and a school sweatshirt or school hoodie. It is not non-uniform so could all parents please ensure the children have the correct kit.

➤ **Holidays during Term Time**

Taking a child on holiday during term time interrupts teaching and learning and can disrupt the educational progress. Before deciding to take holidays during term time, parent/carers are

asked to consider the effect on their child's continuity of education. Mrs Thirlaway is only able to authorise leave of absence in exceptional circumstances.

Parents who take a child on leave in term time without the permission of the Academy risk being issued with a penalty notice fine for unauthorised absences.

➤ **Free School Meals**

Families can save around £450 a year with free school meals

As families across the county are feeling the pinch due to the rising cost of living, one way in which many people could save money, is by taking advantage of the free school meals, which may be available to them. This could save £450 a year. All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 automatically qualify for a free meal with no means testing required. Children in Year 3 onwards can also benefit if their parents are eligible for certain income support and allowances, support under the immigration and Asylum Act, child tax credit, working tax credit or universal credit. Help us to make sure as many families as possible are taking up the chance for a free meal by telling friends, family and the people we work with in our communities. Anyone can check eligibility and apply online: www.northyorks.gov.uk/free-school-meals

At the end of this newsletter there is a form which gives details. If anyone would like a paper copy, please call in at the school office.

➤ **School Start times**

Please note the following start times for each class:

8.40 for register at 8.50 Preschool (8.50-11.50 are the times for a morning session)

8.40 for register at 8.50 Reception

8.30 for register at 8.50 Y1-2

8.30 for register at 8.40 Y3-6

Please ensure that your child is in the school building promptly so that they can be ready to start lessons at their allocated time. Late arrivals are noted.

➤ **Collecting Children from School**

This is a reminder that if someone different is collecting your child from school, you need to inform either the school office or a member of classroom staff so that we can ensure permission has been given before your child is handed over at the end of the day. If you are informing classroom staff, please ensure that they have acknowledged an email or Dojo message as they are not able to access these during the teaching day.

If you need your child to walk home or to meet you in your car parked in the village, you will need to complete a walk to school form which is attached to this newsletter.

➤ Wildcats

Weetabix Wildcats is non-competitive football for girls who want to give it a go for the very first time or want to play with other girls their own age. Most importantly, Weetabix Wildcats is all about having loads of fun and meeting new amazing friends. Our Wildcats session run at St John Fishers Catholic High School at 5:30-6:30pm and the age ranges from 5-11 years old.

To sign up click the link below to find our Wildcats centre:

<https://find.EnglandFootball.com/>

➤ Futsal

Futsal is a fast indoor sport which is very fun and exciting to play. On average futsal players touch the ball 3 times more than playing football. We have two age groups, u9's and u11's. Both sessions are delivered at Harrogate High School every Monday, u9's 5-6pm, u11's 6-7pm. 'Matthew really enjoys the sessions, he is always playing with a ball at his, his development has really improved' – Parent.

To find more information please

contact: tomblackburn@harrogatetownafc.com

To sign up: <https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/harrogatetownafc/harrogate-town-afc-courses.html>



➤ Absence reminder

If your child is unwell, could we please ask that you ring the school by 9.15am to let us know rather than send an email.

➤ BAFTA

For any queries about before and after school club please email:

s.snowden@mcgprimaryschool.org

Morning BAFTA sessions are in preschool and after school will be in the school hall.

➤ Music Tuition in school

For children who are interested in applying for music tuition in school, you can find out more information here: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/info/information-about-lessons-available-schools>

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS

Easy fundraising

Please don't forget that Marton-cum-Grafton Primary School is registered with easyfundraising. So, although we're unable to get together and hold fundraising events in person at present, we can continue to raise free funds, at no extra cost to you for the school.

When you shop via the easyfundraising website or app, with over 4,100 of your favourite retailers, including John Lewis & Partners, eBay, Booking.com, Amazon and many more, you will raise FREE donations for the school.

If you're not already registered, please visit our easyfundraising page here:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/martoncumgraftonps/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=s-e3

This will really make a difference to our school! Thank you for your support and thank you to the people who are currently registered on the site and continue to create donations it is very much appreciated.

“Aspire, Believe and Achieve in a Caring Christian Community”

Our children will flourish, be safe and valued, in a nurturing Christian community. They will aspire to be the best that they can be; believe in their abilities and gain the courage and confidence to achieve their goals.

Our Christian Vision is lived out through the values of **Kindness, Courage and Respect** and illustrated through the parable of **The Seed and The Sower**

The seed planted in the good earth represents those who hear the Word, embrace it, and produce a harvest beyond their wildest dreams” Mark 4:20

MAKE SAVINGS by claiming your FREE SCHOOL MEAL



As you probably know, Free School Meal awareness has been increased recently across the media.

Save time and money by claiming your free school meal allowance today. You can get free school meals if your child attends a local authority maintained school and your receive one of the listed benefits.

DO YOU
RECEIVE ANY
OF THESE?

- Child Tax Credit
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- An income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Income Support
- State Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit during the four week period immediately after your employment finished, or after you start to work less than 16 hours per week.
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Universal Free School Meals (UFSM)

Pupils in Reception and KS1 all receive a free hot meal or sandwich, fruit or yoghurt each day and don't need to apply. All you need to do is inform your school that you wish your child to have a daily hot meal.

Free School Meals (FSM)

Pupils may be entitled to a Free School Meal. However, with FSM you will need to apply. The link on this sheet is for your local authority and there is also a link to the Government website about FSM. Your child's school will also have an application form, if you wish to complete the application by hand.

Whether taking advantage of UFSM or FSM, a hot meal (2 choices of main course) or a sandwich, along with a dessert of the day, or fresh fruit or yoghurt and a drink will be the daily choice.

The menus are displayed on the school website and if your child has a food allergy or intolerance, our Catering Manager will discuss the options for your child and accommodate the allergen requirements.

NEED MORE INFO?

Visit...

www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals

OR ASK IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE FOR
AN FSM APPLICATION FORM

WWW.MELLORSCATERING.CO.UK

Fill this in, cut it out and hand it to the school reception to start claiming your child's UFSM!

Child's full name:.....

Child's Class:.....

Date you wish to start the UFSM:.....