



# Autumn 1

## October 20th 2016

I can't quite believe we have reached the end of the first half term already and, what a busy half term it has been.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the last seven weeks. I have tried very hard not to be locked in the Head teacher's office and have spent as much time as possible out and about with your children. It has been particularly wonderful to spend time in classrooms. This has helped me begin to build a real sense of the quality of the learning in action.

On my travels I have found children who are compliant, willing and well mannered. We want to build on this and so have been focusing on children developing their independence, being self-motivated and understanding that they are in charge of their learning. Your children have been brilliant and have really started to respond to these expectations. The staff team are working hard to ensure the curriculum is balanced and that the teaching is exciting and motivating.

Thank you to those of you who leave your KS2 children to come into school independently. We open the doors at 8.45 in both KS1 and KS2 so that the children can quickly get started with their morning tasks. This really helps to ensure a calm, start to the day, with all children taking responsibility for their own learning.

Alongside this, we want all the children to develop a greater sense of shared pride for our school and a sense of responsibility for their own belongings, remembering for themselves what they need each day. This will really help the office team who do phone home quite frequently for forgotten kits.

A couple of extra points which we would like your support with:

- Children do not need to bring pencil cases to school; it would be very helpful if these could be left at home. We provide all the equipment they need.
- If you are happy for your Y5 or Y6 child to walk home alone, please could you let the office team know so that we have a record of this in each class. Please could you remind your children that if they are being picked up at the end of the day and there is no-one there, they **MUST** come back into school and inform an adult.
- A gentle reminder about PE kit - if you could remind children what the 'standard issue' kit is, that would be very helpful. The children who go out to represent the school look so much smarter when they are all wearing the same. If you are struggling to afford this, please do come and talk to us.
- As you know, there is no-one in the office beyond 4 o'clock. If your children attend an afterschool club, we will make sure that they are brought to the entrance hall in time for pick up. Hopefully this will mean that you are not waiting in the porch for someone to let you in.

Just to remind you that we have a training day on Monday the 31<sup>st</sup> of October. I hope you all have a safe and enjoyable half term break and look forward to seeing the children back at school on Tuesday the 1<sup>st</sup> of November.

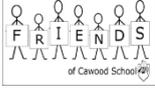
Kind regards,

Shân Brough Jones

## Staffing

We are pleased to welcome Mrs Linda Shortt to our dinner time team. If you would like to join us as a relief/supply Midday Supervisor, please pop into the office to see Mrs Lister.

## The Friends of Cawood School



The Friends successfully raised £3125 at the 4<sup>th</sup> annual beer festival, which is a fantastic achievement. Last year the money raised paid for the outdoor classroom. They have started to plan for the year ahead and would welcome any new parents who would like to join their endeavours. *School would like to thank them for their continued and wonderful work in raising much needed additional funds.*

Please don't forget about the clothes bank situated at the front of school - this also helps towards fund raising.

## Forthcoming dates - a reminder

- 31<sup>st</sup> Oct - Training Day
- 9<sup>th</sup> Nov - Y5/6 Sportshall Athletics, Selby High school TBC
- 10<sup>th</sup> Nov - 6.30pm Parent Evening for Robinwood residential
- 17<sup>th</sup> Nov - Class 1 led worship
- 14-18<sup>th</sup> Nov - Anti-bullying week
- 24<sup>th</sup> Nov - Class 4 led worship
- 6<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas Dinner
- 7<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas production KS1 am
- 8<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas production KS1 evening
- 8<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas production Nursery am
- 13<sup>th</sup> Dec - Riding Lights Theatre Company
- 14<sup>th</sup> Dec - Nursery party am, KS1 party pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> Dec - 9.30 Christmas service, All Saints Church, led by KS2
- 15<sup>th</sup> Dec - pm KS2 Film/Party afternoon
- 16<sup>th</sup> Dec - 9.10am Christmas worship  
2.15pm Christmas sing-a-long

## What have we been up to this half term.....

- Thank you to everyone who came to our Harvest Worship in the church. The children did very well and we raise £138.80 for Christian Aid.
- Our Macmillan coffee morning was very well attended, thank you to everyone who came and to those of you who contributed. We raised a wonderful £158.45. Our impressive outdoor classroom was officially opened by the school's recently retired cook Mrs Pauline Griffin, who did a great job cutting the ribbon.
- The book fair was also very successful, you bought a whopping £598.32 worth of books, which raised money for us to spend on books.
- Rugby - Class 3 enjoyed an afternoon of rugby at Selby rugby club
- Stockbridge - Y4 and Y3 had a great time reaping the benefit of their hard work last year when they harvested their veg.
- *Mia Stonehouse reporting:*



*On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October, we went to play handball at Brotherton School. We learnt different skills (such as passing, shooting, marking, communication, team work and positioning) and played against other schools. We all had a great time and Brotherton School said they would do it again and we really hope they do!*

.....and this is all in seven weeks!

## Parent Pay

We are pleased to tell you that the team in the office are busy setting up parent pay as an electronic means by which you will be able to pay for dinners, trips, uniform. This will be ready to launch in January

## And finally....

Year 4 went to Selby High to do some things to do with STEM (which stands for science, technology, engineering and maths). First we had to make some Lego towers that could hold a tennis ball. Afterwards, we went to look at fire safety and we learned that you must test your smoke alarm at home every month. (Ria)

At the STEM fair, we held rats, tarantulas and a snake. I held rats on my shoulder. They felt tingly and smooth. I also held a snake. It was called Monty. (Holly)

We had a fabulous morning at the Minster. I found it fun and interesting and I liked looking at the tomb. Jeremy taught me things I didn't know about. (Eliza)

At the chocolate factory, we made lollies and we got to see different cocoa beans. We tried different chocolates. I didn't like the cocoa drink - it was too bitter! I liked the chocolate games. (Ngaika)

**Class 4 reporting**

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