



Starbeck Community Primary
and Nursery School

Starbeck School Newsletter

Friday 20th September 2018

Dear Parents,

Archery Winners

A great time was had at the Archery festival this week at Harrogate High school. We took 6 children from Year 4 and they quickly picked up the skills, having never held a bow and arrow before. By helping each other to load their bows and quickly retrieving their arrows, they managed to score enough points to come first out of ten schools. Alfie received an award for determination to keep trying. Well done to all the team.

Head Boy & Girl Elections

This week we held our elections for the new Head Boy and Head Girl from our year 6 class. Children who were interested in taking part prepared a speech which they presented to the whole school on Thursday morning. All children from Reception through to Year 6 were then allowed to vote for the candidates they felt would best represent the school at special meetings, events and to set an example to all children around school. Congratulations to Lazlo Cudworth and Milena Harper who were the winners of the vote and good luck with your new responsibilities.

Parent's Forum

This year we will continue to hold Parent's Forum Meetings. This is an opportunity to hear updates from our senior leadership team about the school improvement plan. Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 4th October at 2.30pm**. If you signed up to attend the sessions last year then you are welcome to continue to attend. Should any parents be interested in joining the forum, please could you let Mrs Johnson or Mrs Rogers in the office know that you will be attending.

NSPCC workshops

This week the NSPCC visited us as planned to deliver their special assemblies on speaking out and staying safe, encouraging children to share any worries or concerns that they may have. Follow-up class-based workshops will take place on 26th and 28th September for Years 5 & 6.

A reminder that there will be an **NSPCC Parent Internet Safety Workshop** on **Friday 28th September at 2.15pm**. If you would like to attend please make sure that you return the response slip on the letter sent home earlier this week or let your child's class teacher know.

Leave of Absence in term time requests.

A polite reminder that leave of absence requests during term time will rarely be authorised unless they meet exceptional circumstances. For example:

- Where leave is recommended as part of a parents' or child's rehabilitation from medical or emotional problems. Evidence must be provided.
- When a family needs to spend time together to support each other during or after a crisis

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- Where inflexibility of the parents' leave or working arrangements is part of the organizational or company policy. This would need to be evidenced by the productions or confirmation from the organisation/company

Requests must be made **at least 6 weeks** in advance using the correct application form (available from the school office or on our website in the 'Parents' section of the website). Unauthorised absences are reported to the Local Authority by all schools and could result in a penalty notice/fine being issued to parents. We are working hard to ensure that the attendance of children at school is at least in line with national expectations and would value your continued support in this.

End of Term Date Correction

Please accept my apologies for an error in my last newsletter regarding the final day of this half term. Although the date given was correct, the day of the week was incorrect. The final day of this half term for children is **Thursday 25th October**.

Intra-school Sports Competitions

This year we are increasing the level of intra-school competition for sport which is an expectation for all schools. We have got off to a flying start with the help of the Sporting Influence team who visit us every Friday. Children in all year groups have been allocated into one of four houses/teams which they will earn points for over the year. So far, year groups have taken part in cross-country running and football and have impressed the coaches with their resilience and individual and team contributions.

FOSS – Friends of Starbeck School

You will have received a letter this week detailing all the wonderful events that our PTA – FOSS are planning for this term. We are very grateful for their continued support and the fantastic fundraising that results from these events. Their AGM will be on Monday 8th October at 2pm. FOSS welcome help from parents at any time in the year no matter how small or large the amount of time you can offer. We are currently raising funds for a new set of laptops and in addition FOSS kindly help towards the funding of other curriculum linked trips and activities throughout the year.

Yours sincerely,

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