



Starbeck Community Primary
and Nursery School

Monday 8th July 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now fast approaching the end of the school year. Thank you to everyone who recently attended our sports events, summer fair and the art exhibitions. Here are some key updates.

Academy Development Plan – 2019-20

We have already begun discussing next steps for 2019-20 both off the back of the OFSTED report but also through our own monitoring and team discussions. As you are aware, from September we will become part of Norther Star Academies Trust. In addition to our own school level focuses, our improvement plan will link to the Trust wide vision and where appropriate share targets across the schools. We will benefit from more school to school support as well as the opportunities for training and development for staff through the academies trust teaching school (Skipton Girls High School) which runs a very successful STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Centre, Maths and English training hubs and more. Our key focus areas will be:

- **Curriculum Development – (core Focus)** the new OFSTED framework, which comes into place from September 19, will require all schools to now look closely at the curriculum offer in terms of the Intent, Implementation and Impact. OFSTED will look more closely at subject knowledge as well as skills and how the curriculum is uniquely developed to match the context of the school. We intend looking at all subjects across the year linking these to staff training and development, consulting with other professional organisations and researching best practice. This will continue to link with outdoor learning.
- **Learning Behaviours** – continue to promote and develop provision in teaching learning behaviours – moving to ‘managing feelings’. This was an aspect of our provision which was highly praised during the last inspection.
- **English** – To look at and enhance opportunities for cross-curricular teaching of English.
- **Maths** – Continue on our Mastery Route following a successful 2 year period working with the Maths Teaching and Research Hub.
- **Focus Year** – After a successful focus on Art this year, we are intending RE to be our focus subject next year.

This is not an exhaustive list but key areas of focus. If you have any thoughts or suggestions with regards to future school work then please do let myself or Mrs Pitts know.

Class Organisation 2019-20

On Friday 11th July, we will be having our ‘Moving up’ afternoon when children visit their next year group and teacher. Main teaching staff for the new school year will be as follows:

Early Years Foundation Stage – (Reception & Nursery Provision) – Mrs Kirk

Year 1 – Mrs Kitwood

Year 2 – Mrs Willans

Year 3 – Mrs Anderson

Year 4 – Mrs Watson & Mrs Stratford

Year 5 – Miss Illingworth

Year 6 – Mrs Pitts & Mr de Castro Morland (5I)

Year 6 – Mrs Riley (5S)



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Sadly we have two members of staff who will be leaving at the end of the school year. Firstly, **Mr Stratford**, who has been a member of the teaching staff for many years, will be taking early retirement and is looking forward to pursuing his other passion in life which is Art. We are hoping that Mr Stratford will continue to lead our African Drumming group as a music after school club next year so that children can continue to be inspired by his very successful knowledge of drumming and rhythm. We thank Mr Stratford for his many years of dedication and hard work for the school.

Mrs McKenzie has been a member our support staff for a couple of years now however she is moving to a new permanent role in secondary education. We thank her for her work and commitment and wish her all the best in her new role.

Year 6 Job Junction

Our Year 6 class have been busy working on a special project called Job Junction which focused on future aspirations for the world of work. Harrogate Housing Association partnered with Positive Footprints provided us with a fully funded resource with the aim of inspiring children to recognise their natural talent, believe in themselves and visualise a future that is both exciting and ambitious. As well as preparing CVs, application letters and identifying their own key skills and qualities, they also took part in a special careers day held in the school hall when they had the opportunity to ask questions to adults from a range of different professions. This was an excellent way for children to round off their primary education, looking forward to secondary school and beyond.

School Catering Changes

Following a recent tendering process along with 8 other Harrogate schools, a new company will now be leading our catering and school meals provision from September. The company is Chartwells, who already provide catering at many schools across the county including Harrogate High. Meals will continue to be cooked from fresh produce on site, with a greater emphasis on choice as well as raising children's awareness of healthy eating.

A Chartwell brochure, with lots more information about the company, has been emailed with this letter or a copy provided along with any printed letters (to follow). We will be contacting parents of children with any special dietary requirement in advance of the new school year.

Volunteers

We are interested in hearing from any parents or carers who would be interested in becoming a regular volunteer at school. Tasks would most likely include paired reading, SMIRFS checks/testing, general support with practical activities and more. If you feel that you have the skills and desire to volunteer, please could you let myself or Mrs Pitts know and we will discuss this with you in more detail.

Change to May Day Bank Holiday – 2020

Please note that, since sending out our school term dates for 2019-20 recently, the government have announced that May Day 2020 will take place on Friday 8th May instead of Monday 4th. This is to coincide with the 75th anniversary of VE Day. We have amended our school terms dates which are available on the school website.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Garry de Castro Morland
Headteacher



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