



SCARCLIFFE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Scarcliffe Primary School

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Headteacher: Ian Marsh

School Newsletter

Friday 26th January 2023

We have been delighted to see how well your fabulous children have settled back in to school after Christmas. They already seem fully back in to the swing of things and have been enjoying some exciting new topics.

Class 3 – Egypt Day



Class 3's new topic – Ancient Egypt – got off to a great start with a visit from Portals to the Past. They sent a specially trained archaeologist in to school to work with the children to find out lots of information about living in the past. The children also watched (and helped to carry out) the preparations for a body to be mummified!

Balance Bikes

We continue to enjoy being part of the Shirebrook School Sports Partnership and are thrilled they are in school this term working with our Reception children. All the FS2 children are having balance bike lessons and have even had to get an understanding of responding to traffic lights and stop signs. They are proving to be a great group of talented cyclists.



Parent / Carer Survey

I am really grateful for the time people have already taken to complete the parent/carer survey. We have had 26 responses so far and would love some more before it closes on Friday 2nd February. The link to the survey has been shared via email and Class Dojo.

Out of Office Notification

I wanted to make sure you were aware that I have been called up to complete jury service for two weeks – starting on 29th January. Assuming it goes ahead as planned, I won't be in school for two weeks. During this time, please direct any concerns to your child's class teacher or the Ms. Rich. Mrs Brocklesby and Mr Horton will both be stepping up to be in charge of school while I am away and will be able to help should you have an issue that needs to be addressed. Equally, I will be contactable during the two-week period via email, but probably won't be as quick to reply.

Any safeguarding concerns will need reporting to Miss Baldwin (our deputy safeguarding lead) while I am out of school.

Breakfast Club – FULL!

We are so pleased that so many families make use of our before and after-school clubs. Because of their popularity, we are getting very close to saying they are full –

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Equality and Achievement

especially breakfast club. Please make sure you have booked in for the sessions (even if it is a phone call the day before) so we can make sure we have space.

Phonics

You might have noticed a letter recently posted on Class Dojo which we received from Damian Hinds (the Minister for Schools). The letter was sent in recognition of the fantastic phonics results our Year 2 pupils achieved at the end of last year. The fact 100% of our pupils passed puts us in the top 1% of all primary schools in the country. While we are not in it for the test results, we are very proud of this achievement and hope the children are too!



Staff News

I have two lots of good news to share regarding staff in school.



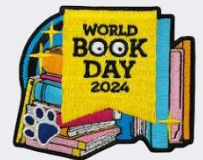
Firstly, it is getting very close to Miss Baldwin's wedding day. She will be getting married over the Easter holiday and will return to school as Mrs Swift. I'm sure the

children in Class 1 will get to grips with this change much quicker than the adults!

Secondly, we are really proud that Mr Horton has qualified to become a Key Stage 2 writing moderator this year. This means he will be visiting other schools in Derbyshire to moderate their writing outcomes. While this will mean he needs some time out of school, it will also result in him gathering a wealth of knowledge to share at Scarcliffe so we can improve what we do further.

World Book Day

I wanted to just let you know about our approach for World Book Day in order to stop any unnecessary spending. For last year's World Book Day, Mr Horton (as literacy leader) took the decision to move the focus away from dressing up so we could spend more time enjoying books. He explained that costumes not only cost lots of money, but in recent years have taken the focus away from the thing we want to celebrate – enjoying books. Once again, we won't be asking children to get dressed up this year for World Book Day so please don't worry about getting an outfit together.



Residential Visits

We are very proud of the residential offer we have as a school and are always really pleased with the uptake we get from our pupils. This year, we have planned for Year 4, 5 and 6 to spend two nights at Whitehall in Buxton.

Next year, the Year 2 and 3 children will be invited to go to Lea Green for a night.

Beyond that, we have the following plan in place:

Class 2 – Visit Lea Green for one night.

Class 3 – Have a one-night sleep-over at Gulliver's Valley in Sheffield.

Class 4 – Visit Whitehall for two nights.

Fundraising

In the last newsletter, I explained how delighted we were with the money raised through the Christmas raffles. I wanted to let you know that we have used some of the money to buy three new iPads for use in all classes. We would really be struggling to buy them without your support and generosity. Thank you!