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Educating For 'Life In All Its Fullness'

25th April 2025

Dear Families,

I hope families had a restful and enjoyable Easter break. It has been great to hear the children talking about some of the places they have visited and things they have done. This half term is a short one with the May Day Bank Holiday in a couple of weeks. It is also a busy one. Class 4 have been on residential this week to Herd Farm (Photos will be on the website in the next couple of days), SATs for Year 6 are in a couple of weeks' time and there are a whole number of other activities planned. Please keep an eye on Class updates for details specific to classes.

External Validation and Accreditation – Congratulations Harewood

Last term School had visits from the Local Authority to check our systems and processes as part of their cycle of inspections. The first of these was by the Safeguarding Team who undertook a lengthy audit of our Safeguarding processes and policies. We were judged to be compliant with all regulations and were praised for a good number of the areas covered, with us attaining 'Exemplary' in a good number of areas.

The second visit was to revalidate our PSHE and MindMate Friendly Status. Mrs Watts, who is our PSHE and MindMate lead, put a lot of work into this with the other staff. The day included speaking to families, staff, children and looking at our curriculum offer.

The feedback from the assessor was fantastic. Some of the quotes from her report are below. Everyone should be very proud of this.

School has a strong and committed belief in the health and wellbeing of the whole school community and this is at the heart of all practice and policies. There is a strong sense of teamwork and staff are dedicated and passionate about the part they play in making this a safe and happy school.

The school fosters a culture of respect, kindness and care which was evident in everything I observed and heard during my visit. Pupils demonstrated a strong understanding of inclusion and spoke with maturity about diversity and the importance of being kind and welcoming all.

Staff have worked hard to create a calm, nurturing, and welcoming environment. The school atmosphere is warm and inviting, ensuring that all pupils feel safe, valued, and supported.

The pupils are a true credit to the school. Their behaviour during my visit was exemplary—they were happy, confident, engaged, polite, and friendly, demonstrating an impressive awareness of health and well-being.

The school provides extensive opportunities for pupils to develop the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to become active, responsible citizens. This is evident in the strong leadership roles within the School Council, Eco Council, MindMate Ambassadors, and Church Ambassadors. Pupils are rightly proud of their contributions and feel empowered to influence change and make a positive impact within the school and the wider community.

The before and after school club is run by school staff which ensures the same caring and nurturing principles that are evident in school are applied at all times of the day. The flexible booking system is a huge support for parents.

PTA Easter Bingo

Thank you to everyone who helped with, or attended the Easter Bingo on the final day of last term. It was great to see so many families there and taking home so much chocolate!



During this term the main PTA events are a father's day sale on the 13th of June and Summer Fair on the 27th. Please look out for details later.

The Crafty Cottage.

Over the Easter holiday the Crafty Cottage has had a major make-over thanks to a donation from the PTA and other grants. This has turned a draughty, cold room which was not used as well as it could be, into an amazing group and meeting room which we can now use all year round for intervention groups, meetings and other activities. There are a few final finishing touches to be added and furniture to purchase but it is just about there.

We are always short on space in school and this will make a massive difference. Below are a couple of before and after photos for you so you can see the difference.



Roadworks

Everyone will have seen this week that the roadworks in Harewood village are causing all sorts of issues for families. Thank you this week for battling through the additional traffic and for setting off earlier to account for this.

Next week should be better as the temporary lighs have now moved away from the junction but can we please ask that families remember that it will take longer to get to school even for after clubs etc and bear this in mind. Most clubs finish at 4.10pm unless you have been told otherwise and Sunset Club pickups must be no later than 4.30pm for the early session and 6pm for the later session.



Road works



Wellbeing Quote for the Month

With the springtime the weather improves and we have the chance to be outside more, this month reflects this.

Collective Worship Music for the week - Reach – S Club 7

Our song this week is called 'Reach' by S Club 7. S Club 7 were a British pop group from London that was formed in 1998. They quickly rose to fame by starring in their own BBC television series, Miami 7.

Their song 'Reach' was released in 2000 and is an up-tempo, feel-good track. The song discusses how, if you follow your dreams, and "reach for the stars", you are destined to fulfill your goals.

This week we are thinking about our friendships and how we need to stick together and look out for each other, no matter what life throws our way. These lyrics in the song remind us that being a friend is really important but knowing that you 'have' a friend is important too.

*"We've got to all stick together
Good friends, there for each other
Never ever forget that
I've got you and you've got me"*

It is reassuring to know that you have someone in your corner who is there to support you, in good times to celebrate success and in times when things aren't quite going your way. Being a friend is one of the most important roles we can play in our lives.

So, this week, think about being a friend, we need to remember to always be there for each other and to stick together.

Here is the website link for the song: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JqUoJ_uu284

Dates for the Spring Term

Date	Event
Monday 5 th May	Bank Holiday Monday
Wednesday 7 th May	No After School Clubs (Staff training)
Thursday 8 th May	VE Day Commemoration
WB 12 th May	Year 6 SATs Week
Friday 16 th May	Wizard of Oz Theatre Performance and Workshops
Friday 23 rd May	Final day of school for the half term.

Additional dates will be added once confirmed

Have a good weekend.
Mr Ratcliffe

