

GOVERNOR UPDATE

How school communicates with parents is always a hot topic of conversation and we would like to do our best to make sure that you are receiving information in the way that suits you. Please spare us two minutes to complete a quick survey on your preferences. If you don't tell us we don't know, and we can't do anything to improve it! <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TTZPP32>

Going for Gold with outdoor learning

Over the last year, we have been investing and improving our outdoor spaces by developing the Peace Garden with Sally Wolff, installing a new fence around the Starfish garden and purchasing new exercise equipment from our ring-fenced PE budget.

We plan to continue this in the coming months with the installation of a large wooden pagoda, designed to be used as an outdoor classroom. This fantastic addition has been funded by Parents and Friends and will be used by pupils in all classes across the school, allowing us to make the most of our outdoor space.

Sally is continuing to work with the children so we can gain our gold 'Green Tree Award' from the Woodland Trust. Our recent, fantastically well-attended, tree planting day (where every family planted a sapling creating important habitats for wildlife) was part of this work.



Sally said, "The children have been so enthusiastic about learning outdoors and I really feel that this opportunity has taken the learning forward for ALL children in some way. We really are loving our Outdoor Wednesdays."

There are always jobs to do in the garden and parents and carers are welcome to pull on their wellies and come and join us any Wednesday.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Our Parents and Friends do a fantastic job raising funds for the school so that our children get a host of extra benefits such as trips, new technology and play equipment that school would not necessarily have the funding to provide. We always need new parents and carers

to join the team to help organise fundraising events. We don't require huge amounts of your time and you don't need any specific knowledge, just a willingness to get involved. P&F meet in the Shoulder of Mutton and if you would like to join them to find out more, please pop into the school office for more details.

Thank you to all the parents, carers and friends who already help out so much; reading with the children, raising money, baking cakes, helping in the garden etc. You are AMAZING!!

Meet our catering team!

It was all change over the summer last year for our catering team as Mrs Evans retired. Our amazing new team Mrs Helstrip (left) and Mrs Spink (right) are in place providing the children with hot, nutritious school dinners on a daily basis.

As a small school we are limited in the number of lunch options we can provide to children but we are really proud that we do have hot meals made on the premises every day. Some schools have meals delivered which doesn't provide the same freshness. The numbers of children who have meals fluctuates and we know that not all children like all the meals available. If



your child doesn't like a particular food then they can have a baked potato or other alternative. All you have to do is let the school office know in advance so the team can cater accordingly.

Maintaining a hot, fresh school meals service is a

priority for us but falling levels may not always mean that this is possible. If your children have a packed lunch, please look again at whether school meals could be an option for you (particularly in Reception or Years 1 and 2 when they are completely free for parents!) and support us maintaining this valuable service.

PARENT AND CARER CONDUCT UPDATE

To ensure our school is a safe environment for everyone we have a number of policies in place. These include parental conduct, health and safety and social media use, amongst others. Many of these can be viewed on the website.

Please can we remind all parents and carers to behave in an appropriate way at all times. Whether you are on the school site or using social media, such as class What's App groups, it is really important that you remember to behave with respect, valuing other people's views and opinions even if they differ from yours.

Please remember that it is extremely easy for a conversation on social media to quickly become inappropriate and people to be upset or offended. These sites are fantastic resources when used in the right way but can often inflame a situation that could be easily resolved by talking to school in person.

In addition, when you are at school please behave in an appropriate way to other parents and be aware that any inappropriate behaviour you display is often witnessed by our children. School will not tolerate any behaviour that is aggressive or threatening and appropriate steps will always be taken if this happens.

We have a lovely, caring school community and we want to keep it that way. If you have an issue that you think school needs to know about, please come and speak to us.

If you have any comments on this newsletter or suggestions on future articles please email us on cofg@kirksmeaton.n-yorks.sch.uk