

21 November 2016

Dear Parents

The term is moving on at speed and it will be Christmas before we know it. So much has already happened this term but there is so much more still to happen!

WINTER ARRANGEMENTS

Luckily we have enjoyed a beautiful autumn but as always we have to be prepared for what might be to come. Firstly, please make sure children bring coats and warm outdoor clothing to school as we try to get outside at break times and lunchtimes. Also if the children come in boots or wellies please ensure they bring shoes or trainers to change into for indoors.

SCHOOL CLOSURE

If the weather turns wintery with significant snow there are special arrangements to cover the possibility that school may have to close. I hasten to add this is only in extreme conditions as we endeavour to keep school open if at all possible as long as it is safe for children and staff to travel and we have heating!

If there is any doubt we ask parents to listen to radio York in the mornings and consult the list of school closures on the North Yorkshire County Council Website – any decision will be made as soon as possible in the early morning.

INTERNET SAFETY

This is an ongoing worry for parents and school as we want to make the most of information available without possible danger from inappropriate sites and different aspects of social media. Guidance is available on the school's website on how to help your child to stay safe online. May I remind parents that primary school children should not be on Facebook as members are required to be 13 or over?

GOVERNORS

The work of the governors often can go unnoticed and yet the work of the governing body increases almost weekly. Their work covers every aspect of school life by people who volunteer and give freely of their time to ensure every child is given the opportunities they each deserve.

Our current governors are:

- Parent Governor: Rebekah Desport (Chair)
- Local Authority Governor: Ann Spetch (Vice Chair)
- Parent Governor: Becky Capstick
- Foundation Governor: Rev. Nick Bird
- Foundation Governor: Rev Chris Wingfield
- Staff Governor: Catherine Naylor
- Co-opted Governor: Peter Stott
- Co-opted Governor: Catherine Hind
- Co-opted Governor : Rachael Harrison
- Co-opted Governor: Trish Sharma
- Co-opted governor: Dominic Squires
- Headteacher: Janet Wardell
- Associate Governor: Hugh Fenwick
- NYCC Clerk to the Governors: Jacky Brown

Full governing Body meetings are held once every term. There are also meetings of two governing committees, Children's Committee and Resources Committee. Children's Committee is concerned with academic standards for all children, SEND and safeguarding whilst the Resources Committee deals with all finances, premises and health and safety issues. Terms of reference are available on the school websites.

Children's Committee

Chair: Rachael Harrison
Catherine Hind
Catherine Naylor
Trish Sharma
Rebekah Desport
Rev Nick Bird
Janet Wardell

Resources Committee

Chair: Ann Spetch
Rebekah Desport
Rev. Chris Wingfield
Peter Stott
Becky Capstick
Dominic Squires
Janet Wardell

All governors visit school regularly to meet with staff and children. They have responsibility for the recruitment of all staff and are involved in all aspects of inspection from Ofsted, NYCC and the diocese (SIAMS).

Most recently alongside maintaining the smooth running of both schools the governors have been conducting research concerning Academisation. Whilst the government is no longer insisting that all schools should become an academy, ministers support the view that schools should consider this as they look at their future strategic sustainability. Associate governor, Hugh Fenwick has been leading the systematic research into what acadmisation would mean for children, staff and the schools within their own communities.

Charity Events

Thank you to all those families who sent in boxes for the Christmas Shoebox Appeal. These have been collected and are now on their way to Children and Senior Citizens in Eastern Europe.

Our Go Spotty day raised £43 for Children in Need. Thank you for your generous donations.

Best wishes

Janet Wardell

SCHOOL DATES:

Sharing Assemblies Friday 2.30 p.m.

2 December

13 January

27 January

10 February

10 March

24 March

5 May

19 May

16 June

30 June

14 July

24 November	KS2 Children Singing in York Minster, 2.p.m.
30 November	Infant Cross Country at Slingsby School, 1.15 p.m.
8 December	Christmas Carols at York Livestock Centre, Murton, 6.45 p.m.
12 December	Nativity Play at St Mary's Church Warthill, 6.30 p.m.
13 December	Nativity Play at St Mary's Church Warthill, 2.00 p.m.
14 December	Christmas Dinner
15 December	Christmas Party, (including Party Lunch)
16 December	Break up
4 January	Return to School
13 January	Junior Swimming Starts (11 Sessions)
17 February	Break up
27 February	Return to School
31 March	Last Junior Swimming
6 April	Easter Service, Holtby Church, 2.15 p.m.
7 April	Break up
25 April	Return to School
1 May	May Day Holiday
8 - 12 May	SAT week
27 May	Break up
6 June	Return to School
5 July	Y6 Induction Day at Huntington School
5 July	Sports Day 1 p.m.
14 July	Reports Out
20 July	Leavers Assembly - 9.00 a.m., St Mary's Church, Warthill
21 July	Break Up

Further details will be sent nearer the date