#### Message from the Head of School

This week I have enjoyed leading our Celebration Assemblies across the schools and hearing about the children's achievements. We have had a busy half term and the children have enjoyed their topics. The teachers have worked hard to plan and deliver lessons that ignite a love and curiosity for learning. I would like to thank the staff for their continued dedication.

A particular well-done to Foston Staff who have undergone the SIAMS inspection; the report truly reflects our vision as a federation. A quote that stands out for me is, 'Pupils and families are loved at Foston. We are 'one big family' is a frequent and accurate refrain. Teachers know pupils very well and making the most of every opportunity is constantly to the fore. It is seen in their determination to see everyone as an individual, with unique gifts and talents.'

I am also pleased to share that the winning hour for this half term is Dr Seuss.

The results from our houses are:

Dr Seuss: 94

Potter: 79

Atinuke: 70

Carroll: 55

The children in this house will have a non-uniform day on Friday 23rd February. You can find out which house your child/children are in within their planners. Thank you to the parents who brought this to our attention and suggested a solution. I wish all our families a wonderful and restful half term break and we look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 19th February.

#### York Mosque School visit

On the morning of Wednesday 21st of February the children in Key Stage 1 will be visiting York Mosque. The trip supports our learning in our RE topic across the spring term. Please ensure children are in school at 8:45 so that we can be ready to get on the bus as soon as possible. We will return for lunch so there will be no changes to school lunches. To cover the cost of the bus, we would appreciate a voluntary contribution of £6 which will be added to parent pay. Please can all parents provide consent for the trip on parent-pay and can all children wear school uniform, a coat and bring a water bottle.

#### ParentPay & Residential

ParentPay is up to date, please can I ask parents to check your accounts and clear any outstanding balance. For those whose children are attending the residential please make payment, unfortunately if we do not receive enough funds to cover costs the trip will not be viable.

#### Tekkers Football Academy.

Please see the attached PDF for our local, Easingwold based Football Academy.

#### <u>Class 1</u>

We have had a lovely final week in KS1 and EYFS this week.

The children in EYFS have really enjoyed a focus on winter and cold habitats as part of their habitats topics. We have looked at signs of winter, made penguins and talked about how we would wear winter clothes. They have created some brilliant things and have really enjoyed themselves.

In KS1 our favourite achievement is, of course, our glove puppets! The children have been going through their work this week and completing a review on what went well and what did not. They have been very reflective and have had so much fun throughout the entire process.







#### Request for Family Support next half term!

As part of our local history topic in Class 1 'Investigating how our school has changed' we would love to invite any family members, who use to attend our school, to talk to the children about how things have changed over time. Finding out information from different sources is a key part of our history curriculum so your help is greatly appreciated. If you have any photos of the school in the past, it would be wonderful if you can share them. Please get in touch with Miss Allwood or Mrs Hunter.

#### <u>Class 2</u>

This week in class 2 we have been super busy! On Monday we had our DT day, we used our skills to create lever/linkage systems which made a moving element on our information posters about Ancient Egypt.

On Tuesday to celebrate Children's mental health week we had an opportunity to use our voices to push for change in school. We've proposed changes to make our playground safer for everyone as well as some changes to help us improve our schools sustainability.



#### **Stillington Clubs**

Please find below our extra-curricular clubs for next half term. To book a place, please email the school office. For our extracurricular clubs, these are available on a block basis. Wrap around care is also available with Miss Cole with various activities throughout the week.

	Monday	Tuesday
Club	SATS Club	Energy Club & Tennis
Leading Adult	Mr Carlisle	Total Sports
Time	3.30pm-4.15pm	3.30-4.30pm
No. of sessions	4 (start second week)	5
Age	Year 6	Reception, Key Stage 1 & 2 (Reception- Y6)
Cost for the block	Free	Free
Maximum	2	20

Mrs Hunter will also continue with her Languages and Culture Club on a lunchtime.

#### Helmsley Arts events.

I am from Helmsley Arts Centre with regards to our upcoming events for families this half term.

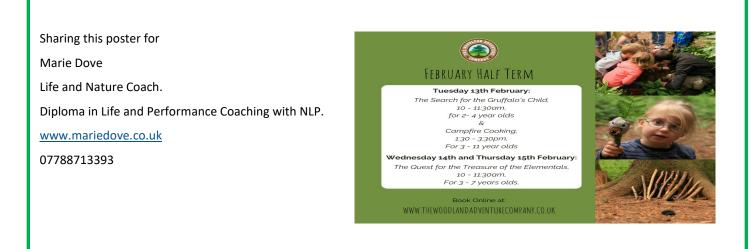
We have some great family theatre, movies and creative workshops and we would greatly appreciate it if you could distribute amongst your networks.

More info can be found on our website - www.helmsleyarts.co.uk/whats-on

As a small venue and a charity, it can be challenging to provide a programme suitable for all and we hope to bring more events and activities created for families and children.

Poster attachment is within the email.

**Lauren Stripling** 



#### Keeping children safe online

There are so many opportunities for us to interact with people anywhere in the world, 24 hours a day. It's also, however, blurred safety boundaries and added new stresses for young people, who are often less aware of the hidden hazards. Please see an attached flier on managing device stress and anxiety.

PDF attached within the email.



This week has been children's mental health week, and

we have spent time this week with our children focusing on how their voices matter.

Launched in 2015, the week exists to empower, equip and give a voice to every child in the UK. This year's theme was My Voice Matters. 1 in 6 children and young people now have a diagnosable mental health condition. By taking part in Children's Mental Health Week 2024, we can help to ensure that children and young people in our schools feel listened to, and know that they're not alone.

This Children's Mental Health Week we want all children and young people, to be able to say – and believe - "My Voice Matters".

We have enclosed some information for 24 top tips for families and a link to the Place2Be website which is a children and young people's mental health charity with almost 30 years' experience working with pupils, families and staff in UK schools.

https://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/wellbeing-resources-forfamilies/

At our schools we give our children opportunities to be heard through our morning check ins. This gives children the opportunity to share any worries or concerns they have with someone and help them to understand that we all have worries, its good to talk about these worries and that sharing a worry with someone can help by talking things through. We also have our worry monsters in school for children to post any worries or our worry button on our website.



### **Diary Dates**

Summer	Friday 19th July (last day at school)
Summer half-term	Friday 24th May (last day at school) Monday 3rd June (first day back)
May Day bank holiday	Friday 3rd May (last day at school) Tuesday 7th May (first day back)
Easter	Friday 22nd March (last day at school) Tuesday 9th April (first day back)
Fantastic Friday– First Aid Training	Friday 22nd March
Easter Service	Thursday 21st March 2.30pm
Community Arts Project	Thursday 14th March
Y3/4 Basketball and Netball	Wednesday 13th March 1-3pm
Sports Enhancement Day	Tuesday 12th March– all day
Parents' Evening	Tuesday 12th March 5-7pm Thursday 14th March 3.30-5.30pm
World Book Day	Thursday 7th March
EYFS (nursery-reception) Farm Visit	Wednesday 6th March
Drama with Audrie	Monday 26th February
Key Stage 1 (year 1-2) York Mosque Visit	Wednesday 21st
Key Stage 2 (year 3-6) Residential	Monday 19th– Wednesday 21st February
Spring half-term	Friday 9th February (last day at school) Monday 19th February (first day back)
Fantastic Friday– Environmental Day	Friday 9th February
KS1 Dodgeball at Malton Sports Centre	Wednesday 7th February 12.30-2.30pm
Sharing Assembly	Monday 5th February 9.15am