

SLINGSBY C.P. SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Thursday 15th October 2026



Head Teacher: Mr L Smith BA HONS QTS

Slingsby C.P. School, The Green, Slingsby, North Yorkshire, YO62 4AA (01653) 628370

'Be Ready. Be Safe. Be Kind.'

A Message from Mr Smith

What another wonderful and busy week it has been here at Slingsby Community Primary School!

As we approach the end of our first half term, it has been lovely to reflect on just how much our children have achieved in such a short space of time. I continue to be incredibly proud of their enthusiasm for learning, their kindness towards one another and the positive attitudes they bring into school each day.

This week has been particularly special, as we welcomed prospective new families to our Open Afternoon. It was a real pleasure to meet so many lovely parents and children; and share with them what makes our small school such a wonderful place to learn and grow.

We have also had some fantastic achievements to celebrate, including our incredible fundraising success following the Great Athletes' visit. The generosity and support of our school community never cease to amaze me, and I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed.



With just one week remaining before the half-term break, we are looking forward to finishing the term positively, with plenty more learning, laughter and exciting activities ahead.

As always, thank you to our wonderful staff, parents and carers for your continued support. It is the strong sense of community that makes Slingsby such a special place.

Mr L Smith
Headteacher



Class 1 Hamza (Years R and 1)

Class Hamza are coming to the end of their Art topic looking at line and drawing with a focus on portraits. Reception completed "mirror portraits" using a photograph of their faces cut in half with the children completing the "missing" half. Year 1 applied their learning on organic shapes to create self-portraits in the style of the artist they have been learning about, Paul Klee. The results of all were very impressive so we have created a wonderful gallery in the classroom. We also enjoyed a visit from Winnie's Grandma who came to talk to the children about her childhood, before the children asked questions to explore how hers was different to their own. This was to enhance our learning about past and present and the Year 1 enquiry question which asks how they are making history.

Class 2 Bolt (Years 2 and 3)

Class Bolt have continued to work on addition and subtraction and shown wonderful resilience as it has started to get more challenging. The year 2 children are now starting to practice their 2 x tables and already showing excellent confidence with multiplying numbers. Yesterday we enjoyed an afternoon of autumn craft with year 1 children and created autumn wreaths as well as stained glass effect leaves. It was lots of fun and enjoyed by all. We also shared ideas on the seasons and discussed the changes that occur.

Super Sand Sculptures - During Sports Club last week, some of our talented Class 2 girls got creative in the sandpit, making some fantastic sand sculptures! The girls were extremely proud of their wonderful creations, and rightly so! What a lovely display of creativity, imagination and teamwork. Well done!



Class 3 Currie (Years 4, 5 and 6)

Week 6 of the half term has been another jam-packed, learning-filled one for Class Curie! We have been working hard in Science to plan and carry out an investigation into the key question "How does temperature affect the time taken for sugar to dissolve?" The children worked methodically and strategically in small teams to carry out this test three times (to check for accuracy in their data). I was so impressed to see all of the teams communicating well and with kindness and I was amazed by the level of independence that is building for all of the children in their Science work already! They showed great health and safety knowledge when handling the warmer water and used their excellent scientific vocabulary to explain their findings. Well done Class Curie!

Attendance - Every Day Counts



Here are last week's attendance figures:

Class 1 (Hamza) - 92.86%	Class 2 (Bolt) - 91.43%
Class 3 (Currie) - 96.40%	Whole School - 93.56%

Congratulations to Class 3 for taking the top spot this week!

House Points

Dragon – 256

Griffin – 218

Pegasus – 204

Phoenix – 214



Key Information

A Wonderful Open Afternoon at Slingsby!

What a fantastic afternoon we had on Tuesday when we opened our doors to welcome prospective Reception children and their families for September 2027!

It was wonderful to see the excitement and enthusiasm of our youngest visitors as they explored our school and discovered what makes Slingsby such a special place. A huge thank you to everyone who came along to the afternoon.

If you were unable to attend our Open Afternoon, please don't worry! We warmly welcome enquiries from families interested in joining our school, whether for Reception in September 2027 or for other year groups. Families are welcome to arrange a personal tour of our school at any time throughout the school year. Simply contact our friendly school office, and we will be delighted to arrange a convenient time for you to visit.

Please help us spread the word and share what makes our wonderful little school so special!

Harvest Festival – Tuesday 20th October

We are looking forward to celebrating our Harvest Festival at All Saints Church on **Tuesday 20th October at 2.15pm**. This is always a lovely opportunity for our school community to come together, reflect on the importance of kindness and generosity, and celebrate this special time of year.

We are continuing to collect donations for Ryedale Foodbank. Thank you to everyone who has already contributed. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and will help support families in our wider community.

Class 1 Arboretum Trip - Wednesday 21 October

A little reminder to all Class 1 parents and carers that the children will be visiting Castle Howard Arboretum on Wednesday 21st October. Please ensure your child comes to school wearing their school uniform with sensible, comfortable footwear suitable for outdoor activities.

Children will also need to bring a water bottle and a warm, waterproof coat, as we will be spending time outdoors. We are looking forward to a wonderful day of exploring, learning and enjoying the beautiful autumn surroundings!

Secondary School Applications – Important Reminder

A reminder to parents and carers of Year 6 pupils that the deadline for secondary school applications is 31st October 2026. Please ensure your application is submitted before the deadline, as late applications may affect your chances of securing a place at your preferred school.

Class 2 Swimming – Final Reminder

Parents and carers of children in Class Bolt are kindly reminded to complete the swimming ability form by Monday 19th October if they have not already done so.

Swimming lessons are scheduled to take place from 9th November to 14th December.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Welcome to Our New School Governor!

We are delighted to announce that Matthias Menck has joined the Full Governing Body at Slingsby Community Primary School as a Co-opted Governor. Matthias brings a wealth of knowledge and experience across a variety of areas, and we are thrilled to welcome him to our school community.

Our governors play an important role in supporting the school, helping to shape its future and ensuring the very best opportunities for all our children.

We look forward to working with Matthias and the valuable contribution he will make to our school. Please join us in giving Matthias a very warm Slingsby welcome!

Key Information

Healthy Breaktime Snacks

A friendly reminder that children should **only** bring healthy fruit snacks to enjoy at morning breaktime. We kindly ask that sweets, crisps, biscuits and other unhealthy snacks are not brought into school. For safety reasons, grapes and cherry tomatoes must always be cut into quarters before being brought into school to reduce the risk of choking.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us to promote healthy eating and keeping all our children safe!

Half-Term Reminder

A friendly reminder to all parents and carers that Thursday 22nd October will be our last day of school before the half-term break. **School will be closed on Friday 23rd October**, so the children can enjoy an extra day to start their half-term holiday! We hope all our families have a lovely, restful break and enjoy some special time together.

Bonfire Night Special School Lunch - Thursday 5th November 2026

To celebrate Bonfire Night, we're making a special change to our usual school dinner menu on 5th November!



Key Information

Have your say in The Big Future!

We want to make sure the voices of our pupils are heard.

The Children's Commissioner for England has launched The Big Future. This is national survey giving children and young people a chance to share their thoughts, hopes, and ideas for growing up today.

The survey can be completed here:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture>

CHILDREN'S COMMISSIONER

THE BIG FUTURE

The Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched The Big Future survey.

It's your chance to have your say on what it's like to be a child or young person in England today - what you love, what worries you, how you have fun, and the changes you want for a better future.

There are questions about voting, school, your area, online safety, and space for you to tell her what you think is important!

It takes less than 10 minutes to complete the survey.

Take part now:
childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture
#TheBigFuture @childrenscommissioner

Key Information

Digital Education, Health and Care Plan

A new digital EHCP system is being introduced to make the EHCP process more efficient, accessible and transparent, with a platform that will support better collaboration between families, education, health and care professionals. This will help all families to understand the changes ahead and prepare for the transition to the new digital system. Further information can be found on the attached flyer.



**Your EHCP,
made simpler**

Your future, your goals, your independence.

Digital Education, Health and Care Plans are coming.
A new online system designed around you.

- Everything in one place, in a secure online space
- Clearer updates - you can see what's happening and why
- Better teamwork around you - joining up education, health and care, working together
- Reduce delays caused by separate systems
- Designed around your needs - new system shaped by user feedback

Your EHCP is all about you - your future, your goals, your independence. This new system will make the journey smoother, with support available so you feel confident using it.

Keep up to date:
Visit northyorks.gov.uk/transforming-ehcps-new-digital-system-coming

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

Have Your Say on North Yorkshire's Budget

North Yorkshire Council is inviting people to take part in their annual budget consultation, Let's Talk Money. The council delivers a wide range of local services, including social care, education, housing, leisure, roads and waste collection. Like councils across the country, it faces increasing demand for services and rising costs. The Let's Talk Money survey asks what services and priorities are most important to you and how you think the council's budget should be spent. People are also invited to tell the council what level of council tax increase feels right and give feedback on the second home premium introduced in 2025. The survey is open until 26 November 2026.

Take part at www.northyorks.gov.uk/LetsTalk



NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

**Let's Talk...
Money**

The poster features three circular images: a group of children in school uniforms, a young woman and an older woman smiling, and a council waste truck next to a bin.

November Art & Craft Clubs – Donations Needed!



We are busy planning some exciting and festive activities for our November Art & Craft Clubs, starting after half term, and would be very grateful for any donations of the following items:

Art & Craft Materials

- Card and envelopes
- PVA Glue
- Paint
- Recycled paper
- String and ribbon
- Natural or reused Christmas decorations

Items can be dropped off in the main reception area.

We will also be sending out an email to parents and carers today with details of additional items and equipment we are hoping to borrow or receive as donations for our upcoming Christmas craft activities.

If you are able to help in any way, we would be extremely grateful. Please let the school office know if you have anything you would be happy to lend or donate.

Every donation, big or small, will help us provide some wonderful creative experiences for the children in the run-up to Christmas!

Thank you, as always, for your kindness and continued support!







FOSS Update

FOSS AGM - Thursday 15th October

Our AGM is taking place this evening at 6.30pm in school. All school families are invited to attend, please come along to show your support, meet the committee and find out more about how FOSS raise funds. We will be voting in our officer roles and the rest of the committee, we currently have vacancies for a chairperson and secretary, if you would like to find out more information about joining the committee, please email friendsofslingsbyschool@hotmail.co.uk.

FOSS Halloween Party - Wednesday 21st October

We would be very grateful if you could register your child/children by Monday if they are attending the Halloween party, please complete the form using the link <https://forms.gle/gmnt6r5qdQsVBESo8> or scan the QR code on the attached poster. The party will take place straight after school where DJ Frankensmith will be hosting a disco and games. There will also be a quiet chill out zone, tuck shop, fancy dress competition and a pumpkin carving competition!

If you are able to volunteer or bake, please complete the volunteer section on the attendance form or email friendsofslingsbyschool@hotmail.co.uk.

FOSS Christmas Cards - return by Monday 19th October

Christmas card designs have now been sent home, please check book bags and return the form by Monday 19th October.

EasyFundraising

Support FOSS when shopping online by installing the easyfundraising app and become a Friends of Slingsby School supporter. At the moment our school will get a £50 donation for every 10 new supporters who join before the 1st November. Simply use the app to do your normal day-to-day online shopping and FOSS will get a cashback donation at no extra cost to you!



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Thursday 15 th October	FOSS AGM - 6.30pm
Monday 19 th October	FOSS Christmas Cards return artwork deadline
Monday 19 th October	Class 3 Swimming
Tuesday 20 th October	Whole School Harvest Festival – Slingsby Church
Wednesday 21 st October	Class 1 Trip - Castle Howard Arboretum
Wednesday 21 st October	FOSS Halloween Party – Village Hall
Friday 23 October	Inset Day – School Closed to Pupils
Saturday 24 October – Sunday 1 November	HALF TERM BREAK – SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 2nd November	First Day Back for Pupils
Wednesday 4 th November	Years 3 and 4 Football and Benchball – Malton Community Sports Centre
Monday 9 th November	Class 2 Swimming commences
Tuesday 10 th November	Year 6 Christmas Tree Decorating – Castle Howard
Wednesday 11 th November	Whole School Remembrance Assembly - Chapel
Friday 13 th November	Children in Need – NON-UNIFORM DAY. Sporty Spotty Circuits. Children to wear yellow, spotty or stripy. £1.00 donation per child
Friday 13 th November	Meet FOSS, pre-loved uniform sale and Children in Need Bake Sale
Monday 16 th November	Anti-Bullying Week – Wear Odd Socks to school day
Monday 16 th November	Class 2 Swimming
Wednesday 18 th November	Class 2 Flamingo Land Zoo Trip
Monday 23 rd November	Class 2 Swimming
Wednesday 25 th November	School Photographs
Monday 30 th November	Class 2 Swimming
Friday 4 December	Whole School Pantomime Trip - Robin Hood & The Babes in the Wood

PLEASE BE REMINDED THAT WE ARE A NUT-AWARE SCHOOL. WE KINDLY REQUEST NO NUTS OR NUT DERIVATIVES ARE BROUGHT INTO SCHOOL IN PACKED LUNCHES OR AS SNACKS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING.

We are all guided by our Slingsby Values: Be ready, be safe and be kind.

DATES FOR THE DIARY (Continued)

Monday 7 th December	Class 2 Swimming
Monday 7 th December	A Magical Christmas Surprise
Wednesday 9 th December	Chapel Christmas Activities – Whole School
Thursday 10 th December	Whole School Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 14 th December	Class 2 Swimming
Thursday 17 th December	FOSS Christmas Party
Friday 18 th December	Whole School Christmas Service – Slingsby Church
Friday 18 December	Last Day of Term
Saturday 19 December to 3 January	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS – SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 4 January	Inset Day – School Closed to Pupils
Tuesday 5 January	First Day Back for Pupils

Child Welfare and Safeguarding – Who to speak to

At Slingsby Primary, safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do to keep our pupils safe, happy and supported. If you have any concerns about a child's welfare, please contact one of our school safeguarding team members:

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) – Mr Leigh Smith Headteacher@slingsby.n-yorks.sch.uk

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) – Mrs C Jordan

Safeguarding Governor – Mrs J Breckon

External contacts and further advice:

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) – 01609 533080

Multi-Agency Support Team (MAST) – 0300 131 2131

North Yorkshire Policy – 101

Full details and policies can always be found on our website under Safeguarding and Child Protection

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