SLINGSBY C.P. SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Thursday 22nd October 2026



Eco-Schools 2024 - 2025

Healthy Schools North Yorkshire

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

As we reach the end of our first half-term, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on what a wonderful few weeks we have had at Slingsby Primary School.

It has been lovely to see the children settle so happily into their new classes, embracing new challenges, developing friendships and showing such enthusiasm for their learning. We have enjoyed so many exciting experiences already, both inside and outside the classroom, and I am incredibly proud of everything the children have achieved.

Last week, we were also delighted to welcome Michelle Hattersley from North Yorkshire Council for a Safeguarding visit, which went extremely well. Michelle spent time speaking with staff, children and parents, and it was a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate the caring, supportive and nurturing environment we are so proud of here at Slingsby. Safeguarding and the wellbeing of our children remain at the heart of everything we do.

As we head into the half-term break, I hope all our families have the opportunity to enjoy some well-deserved rest, relaxation and quality time together. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in November for another exciting and busy half-term, with plenty of wonderful activities and festive celebrations to look forward to as Christmas approaches!

Wishing you all a very happy and restful half-term!

L Smith

Mr L Smith
Headteacher

Attendance - Every Day Counts

Attendance Matters
Every student. Every day.

Here are last week's attendance figures:
Class 1 (Hamza) - 95.24%
Class 2 (Bolt) - 97.14%
Class 3 (Currie) - 98.80%
Whole School - 97.06%

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

House Points

Dragon – 208

Griffin – 219

Pegasus – 282

Phoenix – 385

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Class 1 Hamza (Years R and 1)
This week, Class 1 enjoyed a wonderful visit to Castle Howard Arboretum as part of their learning about autumn and the changing seasons. The children followed a trail, spotting signs of Autumn as well as features of the environment, including some very old oak trees!

Class Hamza have been working hard in Maths this week. Year 1 have started the new topic of addition and subtraction. We have been exploring this initially through part whole models to investigate the concept that numbers can be split apart or combined. Reception have started to look at numbers 1,2 and 3 using the rhyme of "Three Blind Mice" to help us count and match quantities with their corresponding numerals. We have also been concentrating on "why" as well as "what" when giving an answer to develop our reasoning skills.

Class 2 Bolt (Years 2 and 3)
The final week of the half term has been an extremely busy one for Class Bolt and all of the class have made an excellent start to their new school year. This week has been test week in school and we have completed reading, writing and maths assessments. Everyone has shown resilience and tried their best and made me feel very proud. As well as this we have completed our DT project linked to structures and made a chair for baby bear. The children then evaluated their designs and looked at ways it could be improved.

Class 3 Currie (Years 4, 5 and 6)
The Vikings Invade Class 3!
Class 3 stepped back in time this week when we welcomed John Conyard from Historical Interpretations for a special Viking-themed visit! The children had a fantastic opportunity to bring their history topic to life, learning more about the fascinating world of the Vikings and what life was like over 1,000 years ago. It was a wonderful way to make history exciting and memorable, helping the children develop their knowledge and curiosity about the past. A huge thank you to John for visiting our school and providing Class 3 with such an interesting and inspiring learning experience!







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Key Information

Parents' Evening – November
We are looking forward to welcoming parents and carers into school for our upcoming Parents' Evening. Class 1 and 2 parent evenings will take place on Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th November. Class 3 parent evenings will take place on Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th November. These meetings provide a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress, celebrate their achievements and talk about their learning so far this academic year. A letter containing further information has been emailed to parents/carers this week. Please ensure you complete the online form by **Friday 30th October**.

Remembrance Day
As Remembrance Day approaches, we would love to give our children the opportunity to learn more about the importance of remembrance and why we take time to honour those who have served and sacrificed so much. We are hoping to welcome a special visitor into school to speak to our children about Remembrance Day and its significance.



If you are a parent,
grandparent or member of our local community with a connection to the Armed Forces, either past or present, and would be willing to come into school to share your knowledge or experiences, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact the School Office if you feel you could help.

November Art and Craft Club
We have some lovely Christmas-themed activities planned for our Art and Craft Club after half-term! The children can look forward to getting creative and enjoying some festive fun in the run-up to Christmas. Please see the poster included in this newsletter for further details of our upcoming sessions. Places can be booked through ParentPay, so don't forget to reserve your child's place!

Christmas Craft Donations
Thank you to everyone who has already offered to help with materials and equipment for our upcoming Christmas craft activities. If you are able to donate or lend any suitable items, please contact the School Office. We are particularly grateful for offers of baking equipment and craft supplies.

Harvest Festival
We had a lovely afternoon celebrating our Harvest Festival with Rev. Brown this week. It was a wonderful occasion, and we were incredibly proud of all the children, who gave such fantastic performances and helped make our Harvest celebrations so special. A heartfelt thank you to Rev. Brown for leading our service and to all our families for their donations to the Ryedale Food Bank. Your kindness and generosity will make a real difference to those in need within our local community.



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Slingsby Community Primary School

Eco-Schools
Distinction | 2026 - 2027

GREEN SCHOOL Badge
Greening Education Partnership

A GREENER HALLOWEEN

A little less plastic. Just as much fun!

Halloween can be full of fun, creativity and a few spooky surprises. It can also come with a lot of single-use plastic. The good news is that Halloween doesn't need to be perfectly plastic free to make a difference. Choosing one or two simple swaps can help cut down on plastic while keeping all the fun.

Here are five easy ideas to try.

1 Give costumes another life

When dressing up, many people start by looking at what they already have. Old clothes, sheets, hats, scarves and cardboard can all become part of a great costume. Swapping with friends, borrowing from family or finding something secondhand can also give an old favourite another night out. Sometimes the best costume is already hiding in the wardrobe!



2 Get creative with decorations

Halloween decorations are a great chance to make something rather than buy something new. Cardboard boxes can become bats and gravestones. Old sheets can turn into ghosts. Jars can become lanterns, while leaves, sticks and branches can add plenty of spooky atmosphere. Keeping decorations to use again next year makes the effort go even further.



3 Choose a reusable trick-or-treat bag

A plastic Halloween bucket isn't the only way to collect treats. Many families use a basket, reusable shopping bag or old pillowcase instead. Decorating a pillowcase or fabric bag together can even become part of the Halloween fun and something to bring out again next year.



4 Make treats less spooky for the planet

Individually wrapped sweets can add up to a lot of packaging in one night. Where options are available, choosing treats in paper, cardboard or foil can help reduce plastic packaging. For Halloween parties at home, homemade popcorn, biscuits, cupcakes or fruit can also be simple crowd-pleasers with less packaging. The aim isn't perfection. Choosing just one option with less plastic is still a worthwhile change.



5 Don't forget the pumpkin

Carving a pumpkin? There can be plenty more to enjoy after the face is finished. Pumpkin flesh can be used in soup, muffins, scones, curry or pasta sauce, while the seeds make an easy roasted snack. Anything left over can go into the compost.



Try tossing the seeds with:

- olive oil, smoked paprika and salt
- cinnamon and a little brown sugar
- chilli, lime zest and salt



Trying to reduce single use plastics is about **making practical,** achievable choices that work in everyday life. Small changes, like reusing a costume, making decorations from what's already at home or choosing a reusable trick-or-treat bag, can add up to a big difference.

This Halloween, choosing just one change is a great place to start.

Clubs



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FOSS Update

FOSS Halloween Party

Thanks to everyone who joined up for the Halloween party on Wednesday, it was great to see the children having lots of spooky fun! A special thank you to DJ Frankensmith for hosting and providing the disco and games. We'd also like to say thanks to our team of volunteers, we couldn't put on events like this without you.

FOSS Christmas Cards

Thank you to everyone who has returned their Christmas card design. These have been sent off to the supplier. Please keep an eye on your emails for further instructions on how to place your order.

EasyFundraising

You can support FOSS every time you shop online with the EasyFundraising app. Simply download the app and become a Friends of Slingsby School supporter. If you haven't signed up already please join as the school will get a £50 donation for every 10 new supporters who sign up before 1st November.

You can use the app to of your usual online shopping and FOSS will get a cash back donation at no extra cost to you!

Last year we raised £130 through EasyFundraising, it would be great to keep that figure rising.



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DATES FOR THE DIARY

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 4th November	Years 3 and 4 Football and Benchball – Malton Community Sports Centre
Monday 9th November	Class 2 Swimming commences
Tuesday 10th November	Year 6 Christmas Tree Decorating – Castle Howard
Tuesday 10th November	Parent Evening – Class 1 & 2
Wednesday 11th November	Whole School Remembrance Assembly - Chapel
Wednesday 11th November	Parent Evening – Class 1 & 2
Friday 13th November	Children in Need – NON-UNIFORM DAY. Sporty Spotty Circuits. Children to wear yellow, spotty or stripy. £1.00 donation per child
Friday 13th November	Meet FOSS, pre-loved uniform sale and Children in Need Bake Sale
Monday 16th November	Anti-Bullying Week – Wear Odd Socks to school day
Monday 16th November	Class 2 Swimming
Wednesday 18th November	Class 2 Flamingo Land Zoo Trip
Wednesday 18th November	Parent Evening – Class 3
Wednesday 19th November	Parent Evening – Class 3
Monday 23rd November	Class 2 Swimming
Wednesday 25th November	School Photographs
Monday 30th November	Class 2 Swimming
Friday 4 December	Whole School Pantomime Trip - Robin Hood & The Babes in the Wood

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DATES FOR THE DIARY (Continued)

Monday 7th December	Class 2 Swimming
Monday 7th December	A Magical Christmas Surprise
Wednesday 9th December	Chapel Christmas Activities – Whole School
Thursday 10th December	Whole School Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 14th December	Class 2 Swimming
Thursday 17th December	FOSS Christmas Party
Friday 18th 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

Community News



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