



Newsletter Friday 2nd February 2018

Dear Parents & Carers,

Spring is on the way! There are lots of snowdrops around, tulips and daffodils are beginning to come up and the nights are getting lighter - finally! We've had a busy couple of weeks at school so we are all looking forward to half term next Friday.

UFS trip to Metcalfe Farms

The children in Mrs Dales' class enjoyed an exciting afternoon at Washfold Farm yesterday and saw lots of cows, calves and farm machinery. We had a very good tour guide who was very impressed with the children's knowledge about some of the equipment they have. As usual, the children represented our school perfectly. We would like to thank Metcalfe Farms for their warm welcome and generosity.

Year 4 visit the Dales Countryside Museum



On Wednesday morning year 4 travelled to Hawes to take part in a drama project with North Country Theatre and the

Dales Museum, called A Rich Seam. It's all about lead mining. We will be having weekly workshops in school with the actors and then return to Hawes in March for a performance with Hawes Primary School and Arkengarthdale Primary School. The children enjoyed learning about lead mining and drama techniques, and worked hard to make friends with children from the other schools. We will look forward to seeing the children's artistic talents.

Social Media Event – Tuesday 6th February

The Wensleydale School are hosting an information evening for parents of primary and secondary children on Tuesday at 6.30pm. The presentation by North Yorkshire Police will explain how and why children use social media and how to keep them safe. *Children are welcome but please be aware that some of the content is hard hitting and may not be suitable for younger children.*

Pupil Premium – are you eligible?

Pupil Premium is an additional amount of funding allocated to schools by the government to support the learning and progress of children in receipt of free school meals, those looked after by the local authority or those whose parent/s serve in the armed forces.

If you feel you might qualify from the list above, you can help us by asking us for an advice leaflet regarding entitlement to Free School Meals or letting us know in your enrolment form about whether your child is looked after or whether a parent is a serving member of the armed forces.

NB: Free School Meals is not the same as the Universal Entitlement Free School Meal given to every child in EYFS and Key Stage 1.

It has been brought to our attention that some parents have been using social networking sites to raise concerns about school. If there is anything that you would like to discuss, then please come into school to see us as most problems can be resolved more quickly this way. The most recent concern is regarding children becoming muddy at playtime. We would like to reassure that all playtimes are adequately supervised but where the playgrounds meet

the field and other areas, mud occurs. As you know, some children are mud magnets and, although they are reminded to avoid it, sometimes muddy shoes are unavoidable and we always do our best to ensure that the children are outside whenever possible. We are currently planning improvements to the KS1 playground which should reduce this. In the meantime, if this continues to be a concern, then please send your child in with a change of outdoor footwear. Thank you.

Diary Dates

Friday 9 th Feb	Break up for half term
Mon 19 th Feb	Children back to school
Fri 23 rd Feb	School Disco
Thurs 1 st March	World Book Day
Friday 16 th Mar	Termly reports to parents
w/b 19 th Mar	Parents' Evenings
Tues 27 th Mar	EYFS Easter Performance