

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to all of our OPAG community. We hope you had an enjoyable festive break and feel refreshed and ready for a new term. I am incredibly pleased to report that your children have settled back into the routine well and are working very hard, thoroughly enjoying the quality learning experiences that their new topics bring.

The curriculum topics this half term are as follows:

- EYFS – Where The Wild Things Are
- Y1- Animals
- Y2/3 - Romans
- Y3/4- Romans
- Y5- Tudors
- Y6- WW2

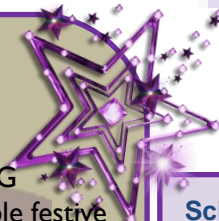
Your children becoming 'leaders of their own learning' and being an integral part of shaping the future of the school is something we do well at OPAG. This year we are focusing on their personal development further by forming a Pupil Senior Leadership Team with representatives from **School Parliament, Reading Leaders, Mental Health and Wellbeing Champions and Community Champions**. Their first task was to meet with Rt Hon Julian Smith today! They expertly explained their roles and how they have had impact in all of their key areas not only in the Academy but in their communities: locally, nationally and globally! They will now develop this further by continuing to lead assemblies, pupil working parties and many other pupil-led initiatives.

In order to keep our children healthy and happy, please could you support us by ensuring that, if your child brings a packed lunch or break time snack, it constitutes a healthy. Please do not send sweets, fizzy drinks (we are a water-only school) chocolate bars or multiple bags of crisps. We teach our children that a balanced diet is an integral part of keeping ourselves healthy and being able to learn.

Thank you greatly for all of the recent positive Ofsted Parent View responses and posts on local social media. It does not go unnoticed so keep them coming!



Miss Victoria Kirkman
Academy Principal



Newsletter Spring 1
2020

School Parliament

School parliament have been extremely busy recently! They have welcomed residents from the local community for afternoon tea and residents from local care homes to our wonderful Christmas Nativity. They also supported a worthwhile charity, 'Scuba Diving For All' by being helpful elves at Santa's Grotto. SP have even assisted our caretaker to ensure all our safety lights are working! Future projects include; creating a book of playground games and an exercise circuit to be painted on the school playground as part of our 10 year legacy project. We are also looking forward to our Uniformed Services event on the 14th Feb and welcoming our MP, Rt Hon Julian Smith. Our next summit meeting with Mr Wilson will focus on Energy Saving and we are looking forward to hearing all about it.



Our Year 6 children have earned their certificates from St John's Ambulance to recognise that they have met the KS2 National Curriculum First Aid requirements! We are incredibly proud of their achievements and how maturely they responded to learning these vital life skills.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Mrs Dunn and Mrs Sutton have been running an exciting club for our **Wellbeing Ambassadors**. Last month they entered a Christmas card competition run by Compass Buzz. The children designed a Christmas card based on the 5 ways of wellbeing and we won! Compass Buzz will be visiting school this month to present us with some fabulous wellbeing books. Mrs Sutton and Mrs Dunn have also been invited to attend the Compass Buzz Champions training event! Our school **is the only primary school in North Yorkshire** to attend this prestigious event.



Author Visit

On the 28th January, we have a visit from a Nationally acclaimed author, David Lawrence who is renowned for his popular 'Bradley Baker' adventure books. During his visit, David will lead an assembly sharing how he was inspired to become an author and showcasing some of his stories. On the 30th January some of David's books will be available to purchase in school and we have set time aside for David to personally sign copies. Our fantastic **Reading Ambassadors** will be helping David set up his showcase assembly and will be available to answer any questions.



Uniform

Please support us in ensuring our robust policy is followed. Your child will be given spare uniform/shoes to wear should they not be in correct attire. Can we please remind you that Ugg/Ugg style boots are not permitted as they pose a health and safety risk for your child. Please ensure you label every item of your child's uniform and PE kit.



Twitter is a great way to see the wonderful things your child is taking part in at school. Our address is:

@OPA_Greystone

Please ensure that if you want your child on Twitter that you complete the form.



ParentPay – It is vital your child/children's accounts are kept in credit at all times. Please ensure you check your ParentPay account regularly to avoid any outstanding debt which will be actioned by our finance department.



Parent View – please share your positive responses on the Ofsted Parent View website. THANK YOU!
www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk

Dates for Spring 2

Author Visit – 28/30.01.20
 Pupil violin concert (time tbc) - 03.02.20
 Uniformed Services Afternoon Tea – 14.02.20 (2pm)
 Half Term – 14.02.20
 World Book Day – 05.03.20
 Sport Relief – 09.03.20
 Big Sing at Ripon Cathedral – 11.03.20 (1pm)
 End of Term - 03.04.20

Statutory Assessment Dates:

Wc: 23.03.20 – Y4 Multiplication Tables Check
 01.05.20 – KS1 tests commence (throughout month of May)
 11.05.20 – KS2 SATs Week (Mon – SPAG/Tue – Reading/Wed – Maths 1 and 2/Thus – Maths 3/Fri – Writing non-stat)
 08.06.20 – Y1 Phonics Assessment Week

