



# SLINGSBY C.P. SCHOOL NEWSLETTER Friday 28th September 2018

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

Head Teacher:  
Mrs Georgie Metcalfe  
BA HONS NPQH

## **Message from the Governing Body**

Dear Parents and Carers. May I offer you all a warm welcome at the start of our new academic year 2018/2019. We are truly blessed to belong to such a wonderful school family with dedicated and hardworking staff who all go above and beyond expectations for us all. Despite numbers increasing, our staff have maintained the caring, family ethos of which we are all so proud of here at Slingsby. Our School has gone from strength to strength under the determined leadership and resolve of our Head Teacher, Mrs Metcalfe. She has implemented robust review systems through external scrutiny and performance management of staff, resulting in rigour and robustness of her own evaluations. Her determination that the school, its staff, pupils and governors are the best that they can be has further increased. On behalf of the governing body I would like to thank each and every member of staff in school for their motivation, loyalty and unending desire to give our children the best education that they can possibly have.

The governing body meet regularly to hold the Head Teacher to account and one of the items on our agenda is always attendance. At the last meeting it was noted, from data required to be recorded by the DFE, that there has been an increase in a small proportion of children being absent on the last day of a term and the first day back. There is also evidence of a higher number of requests for holidays in term time, which is a concern and will be monitored. Whilst as a governing body we appreciate that in some circumstances it is unavoidable to take a holiday outside of the 13 weeks available, we ask that you consider carefully before requesting a holiday in term time.

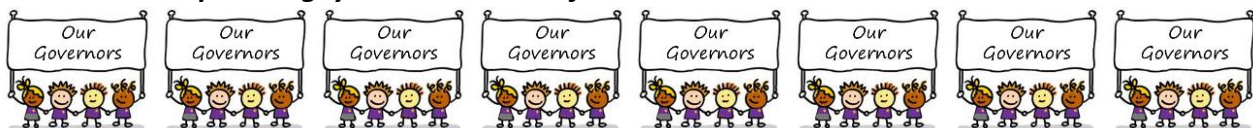
We have instructed Mrs Metcalfe to only authorise requests in exceptional circumstances as per the government guidelines as follows:

*There is no statutory criteria for exceptional circumstances but some of the following reasons may apply:*

- Service personnel returning from active deployment
- Where inflexibility of the parents' leave or working arrangement is part of the organisational or company policy. This would need to be evidenced by the production or confirmation from the organisation/company
- Where leave is recommended as part of a parents' or child's rehabilitation from medical or emotional problems. Evidence must be provided
- When a family needs to spend time together to support each other during or after a crisis

*Please note, holidays in term time are not an entitlement and a family holiday is not an exceptional circumstance. Head teachers must consider the individual circumstances of each case when making a decision on this matter. In the instance of a Penalty Notice being issued, the school office is obliged to inform the Local Authority via the Safeguarding Unit.*

We would like to thank parents for their continued support of our unique and very special school. The governors of Slingsby C P School are very excited to be working with school to continue to be the best that we can be. **Mrs Sophie Wigby-Ashurst- Chair of the Governors.**



## **School News**

- Mr Smith has started a training course to improve the development of PE in school.
- Mrs Jordan has completed her Educational Visits Leader refresher course.
- Mr Thompson, one of our new governors, has been in for a school visit this week.
- Mrs Rayner, school governor, completed a school visit last week.
- Jane Wright will start her new role as school cook on October 1<sup>st</sup>. We wish her all the best and are looking forward to the tasty meals she will prepare.



## Friends of Slingsby School (FOSS) AGM, Wednesday 24th October, 7pm at School

Your FOSS needs you!!! Please come along and hear about all the fabulous fundraisers we have held over the last year, how much money we have raised, what this has been spent on and elect a new committee. A number of our long established and committed members have now moved on and we are in need of more help to organise events and make decisions. We are currently a small group of very busy parents who understand the importance of raising funds to provide additional educational resources that could not otherwise be afforded due to school funding cuts. Unfortunately, without more committee members we might not be able to hold the larger fundraisers such as the Scarecrow Weekend and Duck Race as these require some organisation before the event. It's good to keep in mind that the fundraising work of FOSS benefits your child and all the children of the School so we all need to get behind it.

The role is not overly onerous or time consuming and we try to play to individual member's strengths. We usually form working groups for the bigger events and members are not expected to sit on more than one of these. Committee meetings are held on an ad hoc basis when needed and at a time and place to suit as many members as possible. Many discussions are held via email and democratic decisions made taking into account everyone's opinions. Being part of the committee really feels like being part of a community, with long lasting friendships being formed over the years and we generally find time to celebrate the successes of our fundraising as a group!!

Attached is the agenda for the FOSS AGM on the 24th October. We look forward to seeing you there!



## Reception to Year 5 Flu Vaccinations – Reminder

Online consent forms need to have been completed by the **end of this week** if you wish for your child to receive the flu vaccine in school.



## Policies and Up To Date Contact Details

Thank you to all those parents who have returned their consent forms and up to date contact details so far. Please can all remaining forms be returned to the school office by 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Unreturned forms will be recorded on our policy register.



## Superhero Day 4 October with an exciting Superhero lunch!

As mentioned last week, we are all going to be entering into the spirit of our Superhero theme day on **Thursday 4 October** where the children can come to school dressed up as their favourite Superhero (this is optional) and our wonderful cook will be preparing a special superhero lunch of Booming Bangers, Pow Potatoes, Batman Beans and Kapow Peas followed by Spiderman Sponge Cake and all served with a special Superhero sticker! This date has changed from October 1<sup>st</sup> to October 4<sup>th</sup>.



## Kitchen Maintenance

You all received a letter this week regarding the essential kitchen maintenance works being carried out on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October, when it will be packed lunches only. Thank you for completing and returning the packed lunch form. If forms have not been received by today, it will be assumed that your child is having a school packed lunch and will be charged accordingly as the food orders have been completed.



## Uniform

If parents have bought royal blue uniform, there is no need replace. Due to an office error made last academic year, school trends had listed the wrong colour on their website. However, please note that the colour is **NAVY** for any new items such as knitwear, book bags, PE bags and PE shorts.



## Malton Library

Malton Library is hosting its first ever Fun Palace on Saturday 6 October 10am to 12.30pm. There will be a whole host of activities for families to take part in, including slime making, skeleton building, Lego, Zentagle creations, paper folding and fizzy rainbows. All activities are free of charge and you can drop in anytime throughout the morning.



## ParentPay Accounts

Please can we remind parents to check your ParentPay accounts as debts are starting to rise. We advise and encourage parents to keep accounts in credit to prevent going into arrears. All meals and after school clubs should be paid in advance. **Non-payment will result in the NYCC debt collection service being activated.**



## Ukulele Night to raise money for the May Day Celebrations

An evening of fun and music for all ages will be held in Slingsby Village Hall on Saturday October 13<sup>th</sup> at 7pm featuring the Thornton-le-Dale Ukulele Band. Funds raised from this evening will support our children's opportunity to participate in the unique May Day celebrations. With your help, Slingsby, Fryton & South Holme CIC can keep this treasured village tradition alive.



## New Play Equipment on Slingsby Sports Field- Parents needed

*A big thank you to the few parents who turned out last Monday to hear about plans for the Sports Field and play area. We have been offered the chance to take over the old bowls club ground to create a safer, larger play area away from cars and with some great new kit. However, we need a few more Mums and Dads to step forward and get involved in a couple of meetings a year and a few afternoons of annual maintenance. Do you use the play area? Would you like better kit and facilities? Then do get in touch, even if you can only commit a very small amount of time or energy to the project. Otherwise, we will sadly miss this fantastic opportunity.* Geoff Brooks, Geoff Bishop, Kate Giles

(email [geoff4.bishop4@outlook.com](mailto:geoff4.bishop4@outlook.com) or [kate.giles@york.ac.uk](mailto:kate.giles@york.ac.uk))



## Castle Howard Halloween Half Term

Castle Howard are offering a Halloween experience 27<sup>th</sup> October to 4<sup>th</sup> November with a pirate and zombie theme. There will be trails and workshops and a daily battle. Flyers are in the school entrance.



## Still Wanted! Top Soil!

If anyone knows of any topsoil going spare please can we use it for school? Some areas of our grass are tired and worn out and we would like to re-seed but we need soil to do this. Please let us know. Thank you!



## Newsletter by email

As part of our ongoing efforts to make positive changes to help the environment and our efficiency in school, we would very much like to encourage everyone to receive our weekly newsletter by email as this generates a huge amount of paper usage each week. If you don't already and would be willing to receive the newsletter by email from September, please email Miss Hope and Mrs Massey in the office so they can add you to the mailing list at [admin@slingsby.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@slingsby.n-yorks.sch.uk).



## FOSS Halloween Party

Hopefully you've all seen the poster in the School entrance inviting you to the Friends of Slingsby School's Halloween Party on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October to be held at Slingsby Village Hall from 3.45pm to 5.30pm, but if not, this is a warm reminder that tickets are now on sale from the School Office for £3.50 each or £4.00 on the door. Along with spook-tastic music provided by DJ Frankensmith, and a hot dog and drink is included in the ticket price, you also have the chance to win prizes for the Best Dressed Fancy Dress Costume and Carved Pumpkin competition (£1.00 entry). We're also asking for any volunteers to help with setting up, at the event, or clearing up so if you have any time available, we'd love to hear from you either through our Friends of Slingsby C.P. School Facebook page or email us directly at [friendsofslingsbyschool@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:friendsofslingsbyschool@hotmail.co.uk). Be prepared to do The Time Warp again!



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



**Friends of Slingsby School (FOSS) Annual General Meeting  
Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at 7pm at School**

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of last AGM (these will be available at the meeting)
4. Chairman's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Election of Committee Members
7. Election of Chair
8. Election of Secretary
9. Election of Treasurer
10. Any other business.

A very short committee meeting will be held after the AGM to discuss forthcoming fundraisers.

**Parents' Forum is being held at 6pm on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October at School**