

Topcliffe C of E Academy

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Growing, believing, achieving together

Dear all,

Welcome back from a super sunny break. The children and staff have come back with loads of energy and have slipped into their new routines as if they were never away. I have been very impressed this week with how well the children have maintained their high standard of handwriting and presentation. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the children who have been chosen to demonstrate the high standard we expect at Topcliffe CofE Academy in presentation and who have had their work used on the front of our Writing and Maths books. Congratulations to ex-pupils Charles Peters, Tristan Port and to current pupils Scarlet Tennant, Lewis Murray and Oliver Robertson. It is a huge honour to have your work referred to for a high standard by all children throughout the year.

A huge welcome to our new starters this week who have come into school very settled, independent and happy. They are so settled they have almost done our Year 6 buddies out of a job! However the Year 6 buddies are enjoying the chance to get to know them well and support them at playtimes and lunch times. Well done Year 6 buddies.

Some general information for parents is that we have collective worship every morning and then on a Friday we have a shared good new collective worship where we welcome parents of the class who are sharing what they have done that week. Please see diary dates at the end of the newsletter. We also send home a newsletter fortnightly, update our website regularly with information for parents and use our text to parents service to keep you informed of what is happening in the academy. Future newsletters will only be available via email and on the website unless a hard copy is individually requested. Please ensure that you have passed your email address details on to Mrs Hartley in the academy office. Alongside this every parent can access Marvellous Me which is an app we use to show you what your child is learning about in school. New starter parents will be set up with this soon. A class letter will also be coming out early next week explaining what they are up to with topics and timetables.

Before and After School Club

Our Before and After School Club has got off to a flying start this week and the children have enjoyed creating a homely space where they can relax, play games, enjoy the great outdoors and learn new skills (weaving being very popular)! The name that has been chosen is **The Tree House** to keep with the theme of trees with our class names. Although we can sign your children up on an ad-hoc basis, a lot of places are already being taken by people who have committed to set days. We are going to trial a film club theme on a Friday after school starting next week. We have joined 'Into Film' who provide us with a range of films suitable for children of this age range. Next Friday's film will be **Despicable Me 3** and the snack will be hotdogs, salad sticks and popcorn. If your child wants to attend the club on Friday after school but does not want to watch a film there are plenty of other activities to keep them happy.

Academy Day

Reminder of timings for the academy day: gate opens at 8.30am (if you need to drop your child earlier than this please book in to The Tree House), official start time 8.45am and at that point the children start their first maths session of the day. At 9.10am we have shared collective worship (assembly) and then follow this with our other lessons. We encourage children to have fruit at playtime (Seedlings, Willow and Ash class this is provided by the government) and older ones we encourage to bring their own. The time between 8.30am and 8.45am is used to welcome the children, complete the register and pick up on any misconceptions your child may have had in their previous days work. It is therefore important that your child arrives to school on time so that they do not miss any valuable learning time.

Uniform

It has been good to see all children coming back looking so smart and tidy to start the new academic year. Please refer to the uniform guidance attached to check your child has everything they need.

Governors

We are looking for a parent governor and will be sending out the information about this early next week. If you are interested in this post please either fill in the forms that will come out next week or contact Mrs Hartley in the academy office. We are looking for someone who can bring some time, energy and skills to our Local Governing Board.



Lunch

Lunch menus can be found on our website, www.topcliffeacadme.org. Please see below for "Choosy Tuesday" menu choices. Each class will be given the opportunity to choose and vote for their favourites and these will be posted on the newsletter in the 'Messages from the kitchen' section.

Messages from the Kitchen

"Choosy Tuesdays" are back on the menu.

Each class will take their turn to choose their favourite school lunch and this will replace the printed menu for this term. Mrs Hemingway, our school cook has chosen the changes for the first 3 Tuesdays.

Tuesday, 11th September 2018

Chicken sausages, potato wedges, vegetables and gravy. Custard cookies.

Tuesday, 18th September 2018

Meatballs in gravy served on a bed of rice or roast potatoes, medley of vegetables. Selection of tray bakes/biscuits.

*Jacket potatoes and fresh fruit/yoghurt always available as an alternative choice.

Dates for your Diary (These can also be found down the left-hand side of our website)

September

- 13th - Mrs Hanson music lessons start.
- 14th - Maple Class sharing in Collective Worship.
- 20th - KS1 Fun Run at All Saints/Sowerby, 10am - 12pm.
- 21st - Silver Birch Sharing in Collective Worship.
- 21st - France residential trip meeting - 2.30 - 3.30pm children meet, 3.30pm - copy all documents, 4 - 5pm parent meeting.
- 24th - Open Afternoon for new starters Sept 2019, 4pm.
- 25th - Judo taster sessions for whole school.
- 28th - Ash Class sharing in Collective Worship.
- 28th - France residential trip pupil language prep.

October

- 2nd - Parent Conversation Meetings, 1 - 5pm.
- 3rd - Parent Conversation Meetings, 3 - 6.30pm.
- 5th - Harvest Service at St Columba's Church, 2pm.
- 12th - Willow Class sharing in Collective Worship.
- 12th - School Disco, 6 - 7.30pm.
- 17th - 19th - France residential trip.
- 18th - Year 5/6 Tag Rugby Competition at Thirsk School & Sixth Form College.
- 19th - Music/Singing Collective Worship.
- 25th - Year 5/6 Girls Football Competition at Thirsk School & Sixth Form College.
- 26th - Whole School sharing in Collective Worship.
- 26th - School closes for half term at 3.15pm.

November

- 7th - Year 5/6 Football Competition at Thirsk School & Sixth Form College.
- 8th - Year Reception - Year 5 Influenza Vaccinations.
- 9th - NSPCC workshop. Parents invited to workshop 2.30 - 3.15pm.
- 13th - NSPCC Year 5/6 workshop.
- 20th - Pupil individual school photographs (consent required).

December

- 10th - Year 5/6 Swimming Competition at Thirsk Swimming Pool.
- 12th - EYFS & KS1 Nativity Performance at 2pm.
- 13th - EYFS & KS1 Nativity Performance at 6pm.
- 13th - Year 5/6 Sportshall Athletics Competition at Thirsk School & Sixth Form College.
- 19th - Christmas Carol Service at St Columba's Church, 2pm.
- 20th - School Christmas Lunch.
- 21st - School closes for Christmas at 2pm.

Future Key Dates

- 11th April - Topcliffe's Got Talent, 1pm.
- 7th June - School Sports Day, 1.30pm.
- 19th June - KS2 Production Performance, 2pm & 6pm.
- W/C 1st July - Year 6 Induction Week at Thirsk School & Sixth Form College.
- 19th July - End of Year Celebration Service at St Columba's Church, 10am.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Abigail Clay
Headteacher