

Topcliffe C of E Academy

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Topcliffe, Thirsk,
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30th September 2019

TOPCLIFFE



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Growing, believing, achieving together

Dear Parents/Carers



It was great to see so many of you join us for a truly special assembly on Friday with our visiting author Saviour Pirotta. We had such a fabulous day with him and he really inspired the children with his stories, creativity and discussions about how to write great stories! He made it sound so easy! He helped get our reading focus this year off to a cracking start. With that in mind, I am pleased to announce that FOTS have kindly agreed to support the purchase of some more reading scheme books and we are going to have a big sort out of our home/school readers.



We know there are many old books that need recycling and many books that seem to have slipped into the wrong book bands – hopefully a more streamlined system will be coming up. We will also be putting on a curriculum event for parents to give you ideas and coaching on how best to support your children with their reading at home. Further information regarding this will be sent out in due course. If you have any reading scheme books at home that are in good condition and you are in a position to donate them to school, we would be very grateful.

FOTS

Thankyou to everyone in the FOTS family who helped raise funds for many extras last year at Topcliffe. FOTS enabled us to buy 16 kindles which are helping us deliver our computing curriculum but also supporting us with whole class novel time. Alongside this, they funded the purchase of class reading books and a pop up pantomime coming in at Christmas. This support for our budget is essential and we are extremely grateful for the team of parents that support us. It was also nice to see new members at the first meeting on Friday who have brought with them fresh energy and ideas to trial this coming year.

School Dinners

School dinner numbers have dropped this term and to help us understand why this might be, please could you complete the short survey attached to this letter and return to the academy office. We would also be interested to hear if there are any meal choices from previous years that your child would like to see return to the school menu. Thank you!

Parking

We are still having on-going problems with parking at school at the beginning and end of the day. Please can you ensure that you are considerate of others when parking your car, including local residents. Cars must not be parked on pavements or blocking pavement access. The school turning circle is strictly for dropping off only and cars must not be left unattended in that area. This is an emergency access and also used by the school bus and therefore should be kept clear. School staff do not have the capacity to police this and we are trusting that all parents and carers will help us ensure the safety of all children. Thank you in advance for your support on this matter.

I look forward to seeing you all during this weeks parent conversations (Year Reception to Year 6, Nursery conversations will be later in the year). During those conversations we will be revisiting any prior targets set last year or, for Reception, where they have baselined entering into school. I will also be around to talk to you and to offer you the chance to fill in a survey for our school. Your feedback is always appreciated.

The Tree House

'Outdoor Camping Experience'

Monday, 7th October 2019

£8.50 per child

3.15 – 5.30pm

Light tea included (hot dogs with salad)

To book your child's place, contact the academy office.



Dates for your Diary (These can also be found down on our website)

September

Tuesday, 24th – KS1 Fun Run at All Saints/Sowerby School.
Friday, 27th – Willow Class sharing in Collective Worship

October

Tuesday, 1st – Year 5/6 Schools Swim Gala at Thirsk Swimming Pool.
Wednesday, 2nd – Parent Conversation Meetings, 3.30 – 6pm.
Thursday, 3rd – Willow & Ash Class visit to St Columba’s Church.
Thursday, 3rd – Year 5/6 Football Competition at Thirsk School & Sixth Form College.
Thursday, 3rd – Parent Conversation Meetings, 1.15 – 5pm
Friday, 4th – Maple Class sharing in Collective Worship.
Tuesday, 8th – KS2 Cross Country Competition at Thirsk School & Sixth Form College.
Friday, 11th – Harvest Service at St Columba’s Church, 2pm.
Tuesday, 15th – Year 5/6 Girls Football Competition at Thirsk School & Sixth Form College.
Friday, 18th – Silver Birch Class sharing in Collective Worship.
Friday, 25th – ‘Big Sing’ in Collective Worship.
Friday, 25th – School closes for half term, 3.15pm.

November

Monday, 4th – School re-opens for 2nd half of Autumn Term.
Friday, 8th – Ash Class sharing in Collective Worship.
Monday, 11th – Richard Wilton from Music in Schools to meet with parents, 3.15pm.
Thursday, 14th – Year 5/6 Tag Rugby Competition at Thirsk School & Sixth Form College.
Friday, 15th – Willow Class sharing in Collective Worship.
Friday, 15th – FOTS meeting, venue TBC.
Thursday, 21st – Individual Pupil Photographs.
Friday, 22nd – Maple Class sharing in Collective Worship.
Friday 22nd – Willow & Ash Class visit to Ritz Cinema, Thirsk.
Friday, 22nd – Christmas Fair, 2pm.

Future Dates

Friday, 6th December – School Disco, 6 – 7.30pm.
Tuesday, 10th December – Year Reception, 1 & 2 Nativity Performance at 2pm & 6pm.
Wednesday, 18th December – Carol Service at St Columba’s Church, 2pm.
Tuesday, 14th January – KS2 Young Voices 2020 at FlyDSA Arena, Sheffield.
W/C Monday, 11th May – KS2 SATS Week.
W/C Monday, 18th May – Year 5/6 Residential Visit to East Barnby.
Friday, 19th June – Sports Day at 1.30pm.
Friday, 17th July – End of Year Celebration & Leavers Service at St Columba’s Church, 10am.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Abigail Clay
Headteacher

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School Meals Survey

- Does your child usually have a school dinner? Yes/No
- Does your child usually bring a packed lunch to school? Yes/No
- Do you feel that the new school dinner price of £2.46 is too expensive? Yes/No

My child would like to see the following meal choices return to the school menu:

1.
2.
3.
4.