



# Skelton

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

**BELONG - BELIEVE - ACHIEVE**

### **Newsletter - Friday 15th November 2024**

#### **A message from Mr Watson and Ms El Oakley**

Welcome back to school! We hope you had a restful half term. Our wonderful staff have warmly welcomed children back to school and we have been so impressed with the excellent attitudes to learning we have seen over the last fortnight. This week has been very busy! We have had Remembrance Day, and it has been Anti Bullying Week so we have seen some excellent odd sock combinations as well as children consistently choosing to show respect every day. We raised money for Children in Need on Thursday - a grand total of 157.80 - through our non-uniform day, our bake sale and a wonderful student selling hama beads to help us raise even more money.

Our playground leaders have been a very popular presence on the playground in recent weeks. They consistently model kindness, teamwork and respect to our younger pupils and they have the best ideas for games!



#### **Beyond the classroom**

We have received some beautiful examples of homework already. We have had a gorgeous painting showing the characteristics of autumn, some beautiful art hearts, some seriously Extreme Reading and even more lovely artwork to commemorate Remembrance Day. Please keep them coming - we love to see your amazing work!

## We have been learning...



### **Ducklings**

In maths, Ducklings recreated the story "We're Going on a Bear Hunt!" using props to practise using positional language and sequencing. Our topic has been space and light. We made junk model rockets, explored the difference between the day and night sky and had our own picnic on the moon after reading Whatever Next!



### **Robins**

Robins have been learning all about circles and triangles in Maths. We sorted the shapes, noticing how many sides they had and also looked at how many circles and triangles they could spot in Kandinsky's artwork. We went on a shape hunt and created their own circles and triangles using natural objects!



### **Woodpeckers**

We have been creating some phenomenal box looms as we begin our Art unit. Thank you for donating your old shoe boxes to help us. We cannot wait to share our Woven Wonders with you!



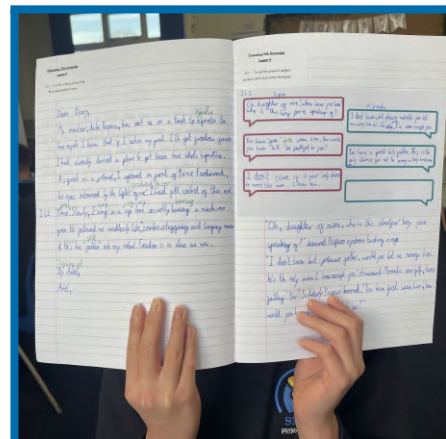
### **Owls**

Owls travelled back in time this week! We had a brilliant time on our Woodland Adventure Day, which complemented our learning about life in Stone Age Britain. We completed some hunting games to mimic how Stone Age hunters would have found food, whittled a bow and arrow from some hazel whips and finished the day with a hot chocolate and toasted marshmallows.



## Kingfishers

Kingfishers are dipping their toe into the classics: we have begun the Tempest in their writing lessons, and the Iliad in reading. We have written some fabulous diary entries from Ariel's point of view!



## Key messages and reminders

### Reception Stay and Play: Wednesday 20th November @ 4-5pm Robins Classroom

Please share information about our first Stay and Play next week with any friends or family who have a child starting Reception in 2025. Our fabulous staff cannot wait to welcome everyone to our beautiful setting.

### Nativity Costumes

We have started our nativity rehearsals and we are looking for some costumes! If you have any spare props or costumes at home that are able to be used for the following roles, we would greatly appreciate any donations or temporary loans.

- 1 camel
- 1 sheep
- 3 shepherds
- 5 stars

### Staffing update

We are sad to announce that Mrs. Waterfall-Smith will be leaving Skelton at the end of this term. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs.

Waterfall-Smith for all her contributions to the school over the past three and half years. Mrs.

Waterfall-Smith would like to say: "It has been a wonderful three and a half years and I have enjoyed getting to know all the children and their families." We wish Mrs. Waterfall-Smith all the best.

The post has been advertised and we will inform you as soon as an appointment has been made. We look forward to welcoming a new member to our team in January.

## New Starters 2025/26 Stay & Play

WEDNESDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 4-5PM

Do you have a child starting Reception in 2025?  
Come for a look around our very special Early Years setting and meet our amazing team!



EVERYBODY'S WELCOME

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

Skelton Primary School  
Skelton, York YO30 1YB



## Uniform

Please familiarise yourself with our uniform expectations. We have high expectations of uniform because it contributes to a sense of belonging, gives a common purpose, fosters a feeling of pride and reduces 'fashion competition' between children. All children should wear school uniform. All uniform should be **named and labelled**. Please see the expected uniform below.

### Bottoms:

- Black or grey trousers (not jogging bottoms) or shorts
- Black or grey skirt, pinafore dress or blue gingham dress.

### Tops:

- Plain, or embroidered with a logo, sky blue or white polo shirt or plain white button shirt.
- Navy jumper or cardigan with or without logo.

### Footwear:

- Low-heeled dark coloured shoes or dark coloured trainers.
- PE
- Trainers
- A plain white polo shirt or T-shirt should be worn with plain dark shorts in summer.
- In winter plain tracksuits may be worn.

## Christmas Card Challenge

We have entered into a Christmas Card challenge! The winning school will get a live pantomime performance in school. If you would like a weekend challenge, the cards will be collected next Thursday 21.11.24.

## Attendance

We're thrilled to share that 41 children have received a Headteacher Hot Chocolate in celebration of their 100% attendance last half term.

## Parent Governor Vacancies

We currently have two parent governor vacancies on our governing body. We would greatly appreciate parental voice from Skelton on our governing body. If you are interested in finding out more, please speak to either Mr. Watson or Ms. El Oakley to enquire about applying. The vacancies will be advertised via MyNewTerm shortly and we will send out the link to the application via text message.



## Important dates for your diary

Please refer to the newsletter 25.10.24 for the dates for the academic year.

**Monday 18th November** - EYFS Police Visit

**Wednesday 20th November** - Reception New Starters Stay and Play. *Please inform friends and family members who have pupils starting Reception in 2025!*

**Tuesday 26th November** - Maths Parent Workshops. KS1: 15:15 - 15:45, KS2: 15:45 - 16:15

**Monday 2nd December** - Decoration Day, EYFS and KS1 Parent/ Carer Christmas Crafternoon 14:00 - 15:10

**Wednesday 4th December** - EYFS-Y6 Festive Film Night 15:15 - 17:15

**Tuesday 10th December** - KS1 Super Storytimes: cultivating a love of reading at home

**Wednesday 11th December** - EYFS/ KS1 Nativity 14:15 Hall

**Thursday 12th December** - EYFS/ KS1 Nativity 14:15 Hall

Christmas Jumper Day (Fundraising for Save the Children). Come to school in a Christmas jumper! Donations to Save the Children are welcomed.

**Friday 13th December (date TBC)** - Mental Elf Festive Fun Run - We will be doing a Festive Elf Fun Run around the school grounds. Pupils will be looking for sponsorship and all money raised will go towards St. Leonard's Hospice. There will be a snow cannon! *N.B We are currently waiting to confirm this date. If the dates changes, we will let you know.*

**Friday 13th December** - Christmas Dinner Day

**Thursday 17th December** - Christmas Fair 15:30 - 16:15 Hall

**Thursday 19th December** - Last day of term