



Skelton
PRIMARY SCHOOL

BELONG - BELIEVE - ACHIEVE

Newsletter - Friday 31st January 2025



It's been another busy fortnight at Skelton - we have had paper dragons and beanstalk-enabled giants roaming the halls! Our editors have been busy with their clipboards on the playground, interviewing their classmates for the latest learning news. We're looking forward to some exciting visitors and school events coming up - from pizza to Shakespeare to disco balls! Please check our key messages for an update staffing and PE kits/ days, as well as a message from our new Friends of Skelton.

Have a fabulous weekend!

Ms El Oakley

A note from the Editors-in-Chief

We had our second editorial board meeting and made some decisions on the layout of the newsletter. We hope you like our new logo! We decided on what questions to ask our friends for our class interviews this week. We had clipboards and we interviewed at breaktimes!

We have also started 'The Skelton Spotlight', where we interview a member of staff each week! We hope you enjoy reading it.

T and A

Dispatches from Robins

What are you looking forward to?

To try more Chinese New Year food! The disco!! I'm looking forward to learning new Special Friends sounds. We are learning 'sh' today. I'm looking forward to learning new Makaton for my friend!

What is your favourite thing to learn about?

"Different things in Maths!" "I want to learn to count up to 100!" I enjoy learning Phonics!"

What have you been up to over the last two weeks? What's new?



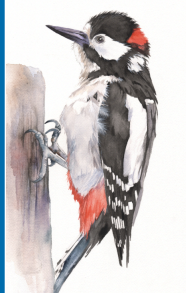
We have learned about Chinese New Year! I really want to try eating noodles with chopsticks! We made a snake. We have been finding out about different traditional tales - we have made houses and pigs for the Three Little Pigs, and this week it is Jack and the Beanstalk!

Tell us a hilarious, cool, or silly thing that has happened this week.

We tried noodles for Chinese New Year! We built ball shooters in the water tray! We put too much on it and one of the legs collapsed - I'm such a silly boy!

It is Chinese New Year this week! What Chinese zodiac animals do you have in your class?

I'm the year of the pig! We also have rats!



Dispatches from Woodpeckers

What are you looking forward to?

A and H are looking forward to Pizza Express next week and L is looking forward to the disco!

What is your favourite subject at the moment? Why?

People said: art, maths, history, phonics and science. The reasons were: "because I love painting with my favourite colours!" "because I get to learn about the past!" "because I get to learn more about animals!"

What have you been up to over the last two weeks? What's new?

"Learning about money!" "Learning multiplication and division!" "Number bonds to 20." "We have a KS1 colouring club with Mrs Hunter!"

Tell us a hilarious, cool, or silly thing that has happened this week.

"Yesterday, a giant came!" (Editorial note: Woodpeckers have been learning about Jim and the Beanstalk and many mysterious things have been happening...)

It is Chinese New Year this week! What Chinese zodiac animals do you have in your class?

Pig and dog!

Dispatches from Owls

What are you looking forward to?

Swimming and football! We have a football match this Friday!

What is your favourite subject at the moment? Why?

"Maths!" "Art!" "I like being creative." "I like finding the solutions to tricky problems!"

What have you been up to over the last two weeks? What's new?

We have been writing up a piece of work about The Pied Piper of Hamelin!

Tell us a hilarious, cool, or silly thing that has happened this week.

Mr. Barker has been teaching us some Icelandic!

It is Chinese New Year this week! What Chinese zodiac animals do you have in your class?

Rooster!





Dispatches from Kingfishers

What are you looking forward to?

J: More difficult maths! T: School trips! K: "I'm excited for the Tempest at the theatre soon!"

What is your favourite subject at the moment? Why?

Maths, maths, maths - and history! "I enjoy numbers!" "It's interesting to see how history compares to modern life."

What have you been up to over the last two weeks? What's new?

We made paper snakes for Chinese New Year! We had the police visit us to teach us about standing up to hate crimes.

Tell us a hilarious, cool, or silly thing that has happened this week.

Making PANTS for Pantosaurus was super fun!

It is Chinese New Year this week! What Chinese zodiac animals do you have in your class?

"A snake!" "A horse... neeeeeigh!!"

The Skelton Spotlight

Each newsletter we are going to interview a member of staff! Our first victim was...

What's your name? Mrs Crump!

How long have you worked at Skelton? 9 years!

Who was the first member of staff you met? Mrs Chaplin.

When did you join Skelton? January 2019.

What was your favourite book when you were little? Peace at Last.

What's your favourite movie? Matilda the Musical.

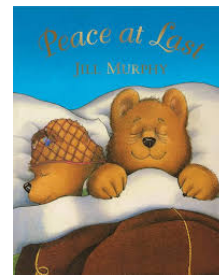
What's your favourite food? Cookie dough and ice cream.

What did you want to be when you grew up? A teacher!

What's your secret talent? Diablo.

What's your favourite nail design? Chipped, covered in playdough and paint!

Why did you want to work at Skelton? All the children and families are so lovely.



Where's your favourite place? The Lake District because I love the scenery.

What do you like to do to relax? Falling asleep! I love a nap.

Looking ahead: key messages and reminders

Staffing Update

We are thrilled to announce that our recent round of recruitment for the new half of the Woodpeckers team was successful. Our newest member of Team Skelton will join us at the beginning of Summer term (22nd April 2025). Handover days will be facilitated towards the end of Spring 2 and we will be in touch with further information as soon as we are able to do so.

In the meantime, Miss Darvill will teach Woodpeckers class on Mondays and Tuesdays for Spring 2 as Mrs Hunter moves to her new role in Robins. Mrs Hunter will teach Robins on 7th February to begin the transition. In the event of any further teacher absence in Woodpeckers, Miss Darvill will be our first port of call in order to ensure consistency for the class. Mr Barker will also provide consistency for Owls class.

Woodpeckers: lost property

We have a significant amount of clothing that is nameless. We will place age-appropriate clothing for Woodpeckers in the Reception area at collection time on Tuesday 4th February. Any unclaimed clothing will then be washed and kept as spares. Please ensure you write your child's name on the inside label of your child's clothing.

PE Kit

In order to increase the amount of time that pupils spend on PE, and to ensure that pupils are not concerned about forgetting their kit, we will be implementing the expectation that pupils attend school dressed in their PE kit on their PE days. In order to maintain a sense of community, pupils will be expected to wear their Skelton logo jumper or cardigan on top of their PE kit.

Pupils will wear:

- Trainers for outdoor PE
- Plimsolls for indoor PE
- A **plain white** polo shirt or T-shirt should be worn with **plain black, dark grey or dark blue** shorts in summer. In winter, **plain** tracksuit bottoms may be worn.

A message from Friends of Skelton

We are excited to introduce Friends of Skelton, a newly formed PTFA dedicated to supporting our school community. Our aim is to raise funds and organise fun events for the children, helping to enhance their school experience. We are also in the process of registering as a charity to make our efforts even more impactful!

A quick reminder that the Valentine's disco is coming up soon! Please make sure to return your slips as soon as possible so we can finalise numbers. It's set to be a fantastic event, and we don't want anyone to miss out! We are always looking for more volunteers to join Friends of Skelton. Whether you can spare a little time or a lot, your help would be hugely appreciated. If you're interested, please get in touch—we'd love to have you on board! Look out for our regular updates in the newsletter—we'll keep you informed about upcoming events, fundraising efforts, and ways you can get involved. If you would like to be involved in running events at the school, you will need to go through a volunteer application with the school in order to obtain a DBS. Please speak to Miss Chaplin for more information regarding this. However, you can still support the PTA without going through the volunteer process!

Thank you for your support!

Dates for your diary		
Spring Term		
Date	Focus	Time and place
w/c 3rd February 2025	Children's Mental Health Week	5 Ways to Wellbeing - to be launched by School Council
Tuesday 4th February 2025	Phonics Workshop: Preparing for the Phonics Screening Check	n/a
Tuesday 4th February 2025	Pizza Express Trip	York City Centre
Thursday 6th February 2025	Virtual Robotics Morning 5/6	Hall
Tuesday 11th February 2025	Safer Internet Day	Plans TBC
Tuesday 11th February 2025	Jews in York Speaker Visit	EYFS, KS1 and UKS2
Thursday 13th February 2025	Valentines Disco	3:20 - 4:20 EYFS and KS1 4:30 - 5:30 UKS2
Friday 14th February 2025	Last day of half term Non-Uniform - Charity Fundraising	School Council to decide charity of choice
w/c 17th February Half Term		
Tuesday 25th February 2025	Kingfishers The Tempest RSC York Theatre Royal	Morning, York Theatre Royal
Thursday 6th March 2025	World Book Day	Plans TBC
w/c 10th March 2025	British Science Week	Plans TBC
Friday 14th March 2025	Red Nose Day	Plans TBC
Friday 4th April 2025	Last day of school Non uniform day - charity fundraising	Charity to be decided by school council
Easter Holidays		
Monday 21st April 2025	Back to School	n/a