



SCARCLIFFE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Scarcliffe Primary School

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School Newsletter

Friday 23rd September 2022

Welcome back!

We are already three weeks in to the new term and it is amazing to see how well everyone has settled back in (or started their first year) at school!

Each month, a school newsletter is sent out which shares both news and some upcoming events. Please keep an eye out for them. The newsletters are also saved to the school website.

Good to be Green



I wanted to take the first newsletter as an opportunity to explain some of the key systems we have in school. As part of our behaviour management approach we use a system called Good to Be Green. Children start the day on a green card. The hope is that children remain on green for the whole day. However, we understand that children will make mistakes and that part of our role in school is to help children learn how to behave. Good to be Green is part of this process. If a child does make a mistake – in terms of their conduct or learning behaviour – staff might ask them to change the card to a 'Stop and think'. These cards are just an opportunity for children to stop and think about their behaviour so they can modify their choices. Getting a stop and think is not a huge deal – in fact, Ms Rich thinks I'd get at least one a day for singing at my desk! We do explain to the children that we expect mistakes and

not to worry too much if they get a 'stop and think' and would encourage you to reinforce this message.

We are aware that some children do get upset when they get a stop and think. While we don't want to upset children, we do need to have consequences in school to help children learn and if children didn't care when they got the consequence, the behaviour system would be ineffective. It is normal for children to quickly move back to green.

Last year, staff in Class 1 and 2 awarded a Dojo at the end of each day for staying on green all day. We reflected on this and felt this wasn't consistent with the message we were giving that mistakes are okay – as they weren't given the reward if they'd made a small mistake. As a result, we are no longer awarding points for staying on green.

In the event that a child continues to make unhealthy behaviour choices after a stop and think, they would move on to a warning and then a consequence card. These are issued quite rarely. When these are given, children have to spend some time discussing their choices – and possible better options – with their class teacher or with Mr Marsh.

Class Dojo Points



As well as being our key channel for communication, Class Dojo is also our main rewards system. Children are given Dojo points for positive behaviours. Once earned, Dojos are not removed. Teachers have spent time

with their classes explaining what they are going to give points for. Children have also had an input in to this. Once children get to 100 Dojos they receive a Bronze Award – badge and certificate. 200 dojos result in a Silver Award and 300 lead to Gold. If children manage to get 400 Dojos they are presented with their team colour badge.

Reflecting on last year, we have decided that Dojos were being awarded a little too easily and by the end of the year were losing their impact. We also found that some children were racing through the awards. This year, staff will need to be very impressed in order to award Dojos! We hope this means children will be even more proud when they are awarded.

I want to make it really clear that points are not awarded for being the 'best' at something. They are awarded for effort and behaviour. We reward work that we deem to have taken a considerable amount of effort for a particular pupil.

Rev. Judy

Earlier this term I was sad to hear that Rev. Judy has made the tough decision to leave Scarcliffe Church in pursuit of new adventures and challenges. Rev. Judy has been a massive supporter of our school – inviting us to sessions at the church, coming in to run assemblies and giving up her time to be part of the governing body. I wanted to take the opportunity to thank Rev. Judy (and her husband, Richard) for the support and I'm sure you'll join me in wishing them every happiness in the future.



Fire Service & Police

As part of their topic – People who Help Us – Class 1 have been lucky enough to have a visit from the police and fire service. Children had a brief presentation from both emergency services before being invited to sit in the fire engine and police car, trying on police uniform and even having the

chance to use the firefighters hose! We appreciate the time they took out of their busy days to visit us and I'm sure the children really enjoyed it!

PSHE Topic this term

This term our whole school PSHE topic is 'Being Me.' During this topic, children in lower school will learn: to recognise the way they are the same and different to other people; that everyone has their own strengths; what makes them special and unique. In upper school, they will learn: about diversity and discrimination; that their behaviour can affect other people; how to listen to people and respond respectfully.

School Council

Our School Council have already met to decide what they hope to achieve over the year. We have also arranged for a councillor from the District Council to visit them to explain what their role involves. Madison and Kai are currently gathering information from each school councillor about what their plans are and are aiming to send their own newsletter out soon. As part of Madison's speech to become president, she promised to bring back Dress Down Fridays (non-uniform days) on the last day of each term. These will resume at the end of this term. Please keep a look out for their newsletter which is coming soon.



Trips planning

As well as planning some great lessons and topics, teachers have met recently to plan an exciting programme of educational trips and visits. Trips are likely to include, Class 1 and 2 visiting Yorkshire Wildlife Park, Class 3 visiting the Sea Life Centre and Class 4 visiting the National Justice Museum and Eden Camp. Children in Year 4 to 6 will also be invited to take part in a two-night residential visit to Whitehall in Buxton! We aim to send out a summary of all trips and visits for each class by the end of this term.