



Barlow C of E Primary School
Park Road
Barlow
Selby
YO8 8ES

One family, branching out together

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Dear Parents/Carers,

February is nearly upon us and it is lovely to hear the sounds of the birds waking up towards spring, as the children play outside during break and lunchtimes. We have another busy schedule in school leading up to half-term which we hope to share with you through the newsletters in the coming weeks.



Welcomes

We give a warm welcome to Sam and Tyler who are new to the village and joined us on Monday in Class 2 and 3. The children have helped them settle into their new school life. Please extend a warm Barlow welcome to their Mum if you see her out and about in the playground.

North Yorkshire County Council Debating Competition

On Tuesday 10th March, our federation schools have been invited to participate in a debating competition which will take place at Selby District Council Chambers from 10.00am until 12.00pm. The children will join other invited teams from primary schools in North Yorkshire. Transport has been arranged to take the children from each school by coach to and from the event. The teams will consist of 6 Year 5/6 children who will choose a subject to debate from the following choices:-

- Should mobile phones be allowed in school?
- Does the internet do more harm than good?
- Can we have an impact on Climate Change?

We look forward to hearing how our children get on and hope that it is a peaceful debate.

Class 2 Selby College Coaching Sessions

On Tuesday 21st January Mrs Hall arranged for our Class 2 and 3 children to attend Selby College for a PE session, to enable Selby College sports students to coach them. The children worked on ball skills and also took part in team games together and their behaviour was impeccable throughout. The morning was greatly enjoyed by all and the children cannot wait to go back again for the next session which will be on Tuesday 11th February. The children will need to arrive wearing their PE kits and they will need a full water bottle, coat and bring their school uniform in a bag to change into afterwards.



JRSO News

On Tuesday 21st January, our Junior Road Safety Officers Elizabeth and Leighton, spent the morning **monitoring drivers and measuring their speed radar devices.**

The year five pupils teamed up with North Yorkshire Traffic Police and Selby Central Community Engagement Forum (CEF) speed watch team, who started working in the village and in Brayton last year.

Elizabeth and Leighton recorded how many vehicles went past the school, their details, their speed, and also got the opportunity to use the camera in the back of the police safety camera van.

Jamie Smith from North Yorkshire Police Traffic Bureau said: "It's great to see the JRSOs so passionate about road safety for their school and their village. Thank you to both the JRSOs that attended today alongside members from the local community speed watch and members of staff from the school.

During the session, we captured zero offences which is a brilliant result and shows that the presence of those who are monitoring the speed limit is effective. The children then had the opportunity to have a look around one of our safety camera vans and gain a greater understanding of to how they work for them to pass on this information to others."

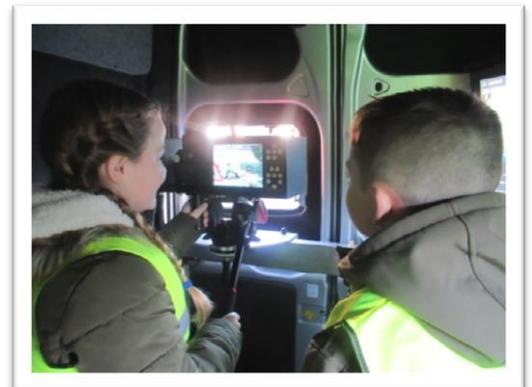
Selby Central CEF project manager Anthony Wray explained that any motorists caught during a community speedwatch are sent a warning letter by the police, and if they are caught three times, action can be taken. To educate their peers on road safety, Elizabeth and Leighton will be speaking in an assembly about their speedwatch, which are being conducted by 78 teams across North Yorkshire.

Mrs Collins accompanied the children and said: "As part of the JRSO scheme, we thought it would be a fantastic opportunity to meet with Selby Central CEF and the North Yorkshire Traffic Police. It is extremely important to teach the children about all aspects of road safety and this meeting has provided them with a fantastic opportunity to gain a deeper understanding and a chance to operate the equipment. The children will follow up this meeting with a whole school assembly to pass on the valuable information they gather from today."

Elizabeth said 'The police came to see me and the other JRSO, Leighton to talk about road safety and they let us use the speed gun and go inside the van. In the van was a motorbike camera and a speed gun but this one was different because it was bigger and better. We had an amazing morning.

Leighton said 'I enjoyed it when we used the speed gun and when I had a look inside the police van. Using the speed gun in the van was great fun.'

We are sure that everyone will agree that Elizabeth and Leighton make fantastic JRSOs and ambassadors for our school.



Swimming Lessons

A thank you to all parents and carers who have paid for swimming lessons so far, so just a gentle reminder that a voluntary contribution of £5 is asked per child, per session and is available to pay on ParentPay, either weekly or in full.

School Dinners

If you need to change your menu choice from the choice that you have submitted on your menu form, please inform Mrs Briggs by telephone, email or in person by 10am in the morning. Dinners orders are placed from the menu sheets that parents/carers have submitted at the beginning of each term; any changes to the menu choice that are not notified by 10am, which involve a meal being booked which is not then taken, will be charged at £2.60 which is the cost of a school meal. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding in ensuring that our system works as efficiently as possible.

Leavers' Hoodies

It has become very popular for Year 6 children to wear leavers' hoodies, so bearing this in mind we have teamed up with Classroom Clothing to provide hoodies, federation wide, for our Year 6 children and also the Year 5 children who will be attending the French residential, so that they can be ordered and ready to wear during the trip (Year 5 children who are not attending the residential will have a chance to purchase hoodies next year). Look out for a letter coming home with the full details of the hoodie sizes, prices and colours available, so that you can place your order. The hoodies will be available to purchase through ParentPay.

Wanted! Sports and Afterschool Activity Details

Mrs Hall has asked that if your children attend any clubs or activities after school, if you could please pass on the details to Mrs Briggs. A list can be compiled and given to other parents and carers, so they can allow their children the opportunity to join such clubs and activities. The details supplied can be of sports clubs and activities or Brownies, Cubs, etc.

Yorkshire Air Ambulance

On Friday 31st January, during her forest school teaching sessions involving every class, Mrs Hall will be teaching the children how to use a Kelly Kettle in a safe environment. A **Kelly Kettle** is an invention that dates from the 1890s and provides a fast way to boil water using only a small amount of combustible material, such as twigs, dried grass, or pine cones. It works like a chimney. A fire is lit in the base, and the hot flames travel up the chimney. Mrs Hall will be making hot chocolate for the children to raise money for the Yorkshire Air Ambulance at a cost of £1 per cup which will be available to pay on ParentPay. Who knows, maybe campfire songs will be sung also?

The forest school approach demands that the outside space is not seen as merely a place where children go to burn off energy. The divide between indoors and outdoors is broken and children learn in and from nature. They are given freedom to direct their own learning and enter into a certain amount of 'risky-play'. This in turn increases their sense of engagement and motivation. The rich variety of activities on offer and the sense of independence can have very positive effects on a child's intellectual, cognitive, physical and emotional development. It can help to build a child's self-esteem and confidence whilst also providing a springboard for numerous academic pursuits touching upon every area of learning.

New School Websites

Please take a look at Chapel Haddlesey's new website, for a flavour of what our Barlow website will shortly look like: <http://www.chapelhaddleseyschool.org.uk/> Barlow school website will be launched on Friday 14th February.



Afterschool Clubs

On a Monday night, Mrs Janet Smith runs Cookery Club and has reached her limit for attendees due to the hands-on nature of the club. The children are taught a range of preparation and cookery skills from baking scones to making teatime meals such as bolognese and they have the treat of taking home their finished wares to share with their families.

We have had 17 children sign up for Computer Club with Mrs Collins which runs on a Thursday evening until 4.30pm. It is fantastic that we have so many children attend but we have now reached the limit, so cannot accept any more attendees unfortunately.

Film Club on a Tuesday night is popular but we still have places available, so please contact Mrs Briggs to book a place.

Mrs Hall runs Construction Club on a Friday night and has been helping the children with their lego and construction type building materials. Further plans are afoot for the children to make fat-ball bird feeders and bird houses which will be set up in the school grounds, so the children can watch the birds and spot the different species. So, if you have any old binoculars that you may have gathering dust at home please send them into school, as they will be gratefully received.

Sensitive Ears

Please be mindful, when you are having adult discussions at home or in the playground, that children have sensitive ears. If you would not like your conversations to be repeated to other children, staff or parents or carers then please be careful that children are not within earshot, or present when you are having adult discussions.



Facebook and Social Media General Update

Most people take part in online activities and social media these days - it's fun, interesting and keeps us connected when used appropriately and sensitively. As a school, we request that, when using social media, parents and carers use common sense and some sensitivity when discussing school life online.

Please **'Think before you post'** - we ask that whether public or private, social media should not be used to fuel campaigns and voice complaints against school, staff, parents and carers or children.

If you have any queries, niggles or worries at all regarding any aspect of school life, please speak to your child's class teacher in confidence or arrange an appointment with them via Mrs Briggs. We are happy to discuss your concerns and work mutually together with our staff towards a satisfactory solution.

If you then feel that all avenues have been explored but you still have not found a suitable solution then please feel free to refer to our official Complaints Procedure, available from school or the website.

Yours sincerely

Mrs F Lofthouse
Head of School



Diary Dates

Friday 31 st January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yorkshire Air Ambulance – Hot Chocolate with Mrs Hall – All School
Tuesday 11 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class 2/3 – Selby College Coaching - 9.00am - 10.30am
Friday 14 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-Uniform Day – Melanoma UK – supported by Welsh family (wear orange)
Friday 14 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barlow NEW School Website Launch
Friday 14 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Break up for Half-Term
Monday 24 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Back to school
Wednesday 11 th , 18 th , 25 th March, 1 st April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swimming Lessons Block 2 – Years 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 – Abbey Leisure Centre
Thursday 5 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Book Day – Theme ‘Performance Poetry’ – details to be confirmed
Tuesday 10 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 5/6 Federation Teams – Debating Competition at Selby District Council Chambers – 10.00 – 12.00pm
Monday 16 th – 20 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 5/6 Federation residential trip to Chateau du Tertre, Normandy
Wednesday 1st April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter Lunch
Tuesday 24 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mothers’ Day Lunch - Mothers welcome
Monday 30 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter Service at St Wilf’s - all welcome – 2.30pm
Friday 3 rd April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Break up for Easter
Tuesday 21 st April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Back to school
Thursday 7 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VE Day Anniversary Lunch - Grandparents invited
Friday 8 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May Day holiday – revised date
Friday 22 nd May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Break up for half term
Monday 1 st June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Back to school
Tuesday 23 rd June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fathers’ Day Lunch - Fathers invited
Friday 17 th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leavers’ Lunch - picnic, Parents/Carers invited
Friday 17 th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Break up for Summer

New dates added

