



# Nun Monkton Foundation Primary School

*"Be curious, be brave, believe"*



Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of the spring term, it is good to reflect on the successes of the last six weeks. As always, the children have been very busy, learning and improving their understanding and having lots of fun along the way. One thing I really enjoy is asking children to look back in their Literacy books and compare their first piece of work from September with the piece of work they have just done and see the improvement! Lots of very positive progress has been made in all the subject areas we've studied this half term.

Our Unicorn class performed a very enthusiastic 'Dinosaur dance' at an inter school competition a couple of weeks ago and enjoyed a visit from ewe with her lambs as part of their science learning. They have celebrated pancake day, world book day and an ice cream event in amongst their other curriculum learning. Griffin and Phoenix classes enjoyed a day in Paris last week. Well, actually we role played travel on a Eurostar to Paris (first class tickets obviously), visiting French cafes, finding out about landmarks and French culture along the way. The main purpose was in fact not just to eat some typical French food (although that did feature a lot) but to practise speaking the French that they have been leaning since September. Whether it was identifying colours in French during our trip to the Louvre (aka Phoenix classroom) or buying produit from the pet shop or Boulangerie in French, ordering food from a French waiter or even getting through Year 5 pupils being very thorough Customs and Eurostar staff, all the children showed great enthusiasm for using their French vocabulary. They also found out a lot under Pierre Pig's guidance and read a copy of 'Le Pigeron' newspaper to find out more about France. Apparently, the only disappointment was that they didn't try eating snails...

Our Year 3 – 6 pupils have continued with learning the violin and singing tuition. They went to sing at a short Mothering Sunday service in York Minster at the end of March, alongside two other schools. All our pupils were superb in their singing and behaviour. It is always great to have praise from someone outside our school so I wanted to share with you what York Minster's Singing lead and staff who were at the service wrote to me after that Minster service:

*"The KS2 group has continued to be an absolute pleasure to work with this term, maintaining their incredible focus, curiosity, and enthusiasm for singing. Their dedication and engagement in every session have been outstanding, and they consistently rise to every challenge presented to them.*

*Their performance at the Minster for the Mothering Sunday-themed service was outstanding. They sang beautifully, demonstrating both musicality and confidence, and their behaviour in and around the venue was exemplary. The soloists performed with great confidence and musicality, adding an extra dimension to the group's already impressive sound. They should all be incredibly proud of everything they have achieved this term! Their ability to work together as a cohesive group remains inspiring, and*

*it has been exciting to see some children's musical talents suddenly shine through."* Well done to all those pupils for representing the school so brilliantly!

Also attached to this email you will find an update from Mr Crooks who leads our PE sessions, which tells you about what all the pupils have been learning in PE this term. There is also our monthly online safety newsletter attached, which we hope you will find useful in helping to keep children safe on line.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for all your support for the school and the staff for all their hard work this half term. Next half term there are some anomalies to look out for, such as the fact children return to school on the **Wednesday** (23<sup>rd</sup> April) in the first week back and then there is a bank holiday Monday in the third week of term (5<sup>th</sup> May). We will also be going to **forest on TUESDAYS** next half term (with the first session being on Tues 29<sup>th</sup> April) so please could children come in their Forest kit on TUESDAYS instead of Mondays from then. PE will continue to be on Fridays.

There is a list for your calendar of some things happening in the summer term (but tat will be updated next term). Please note that we will be holding Parent Evening appointments on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May, where we look forward to seeing you and having opportunity to talk about your child's learning.

Finally, I do hope that the children enjoy a well-deserved holiday over the Easter break and we look forward to seeing them back in school on WEDNESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

With every best wish

*Angela*

Angela Mitchell  
Headteacher

### **HEADLICE**

One of the best ways to prevent the spread of headlice is if everyone in the school community can check their child's hair at the same time and deal with any headlice if they are there. That way everyone is clear of them at the same time and hopefully there are no headlice to be passed around. **So, please could we ask that everyone checks their child's hair on first weekend of each month (Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sun 4<sup>th</sup> **May** is the next one!).**

If you do find headlice or eggs please treat your child, but note that the **whole household, (not just the child)** needs to be treated to prevent the headlice from re-occurring.

Thank you for your help with this

### **LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME**

A reminder following previous information on newsletters, that every pupil should be in school every day of every term, unless they are too ill to attend. If your child needs to be absent for an 'exceptional' reason, then you need to apply to the Headteacher for permission to do that.

In the very rare cases that might be needed, a form is available from Ms Hirons in the school office and should usually be completed at least 4 weeks before the requested absence.

As I have explained previously in newsletters Headteachers **cannot give permission for holidays during term time**. Nationally and in our Local Education Authority, parents who do take their children out of school for an authorised reason are liable to be fined by the Local Authority (for each child and each parent).

Please, please can you book routine dental appointments in the school holidays or after the end of the school day, so that your child is not missing important learning during school hours.



**DID YOU KNOW? A two week holiday in term time means that the highest attendance you can achieve is 94.7%**

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Date	Time	Event	Who for/ Details
Wed 23/4	0900	Term starts for pupils	All pupils
Mon 5/5/25	All day	Bank Holiday Monday	All pupils
Wed 7/5/25	morning	Multi skills tournament	Unicorn Class
Wed 7/5/25	3.45 – 6pm	Parents' Evening appointments	Parents of all pupils
Sat 28 <sup>th</sup> June	From 12 noon	June Feast Day - all pupils will be taking part in the Maypole and country Dancing part of the day's events	All pupils