



Respect – Responsibility - Resilience – Kindness – Teamwork

Mrs Thirkill's Blog 9.1.26



Good afternoon,

I hope everybody had a wonderful Christmas and New Year holiday.

Thankfully we have avoided the snow this week and we have had a great week back at our learning. If we are affected by snow or ice in the coming weeks, we will inform you of any closures, as soon as we can. We will aim to inform parents by 7.00am and will do so via ParentApp and Class Dojo. Let's hope that any snow doesn't bring any barriers to learning.

Our Autumn data and analysis of progress showed that pupils continue to make good progress in our school. We still see that children who are supported at home with their reading and other home learning, often make accelerated progress, beyond their peers. Please continue to support your children at home. 10/15 minutes of daily reading to an adult can make a huge difference. For our Year 6 pupils, please support your children with LBQ and CGP. I have explained many times before there is a significant correlation between success in primary school and long-term career success and earning.

Please make sure your children have everything they need to stay warm and dry in this very cold and icy weather. All children need coats, hats, scarves and gloves. On forest school days, children must have warm clothing, a waterproof and warm coat and wellies. Our children love the forest but too often, Mr Blake is unable to take children or must spend ages searching for items to ensure that children can go.

We've got 2 of our residential coming up in March. Year 6 to Windermere and Year 5 to Buckden House. Please ensure you have kept up to date with payments. Our residential offer fantastic life experiences for our children and they are very carefully looked after, during their time away with us. We hope to be able to take every child on residential but if you choose for your child not to go, please speak to Miss Mellor in the office. Any children not attending will attend school as normal please on the days of the visit.

Years 3 and 4 will be visiting The National Media museum in Bradford next week. Please ensure children are suitably dressed in school uniform and that they have a packed lunch with them.

I would like to once again thank our wonderful PTA for the support they continue to provide to our school. In December they heavily subsidised the Stump Cross Caverns trip, they paid for the reindeer to visit. They provided presents for children and they continue to support us in many other ways. If you feel you could support our wonderful and welcoming team, please contact friendsofhoylecourt@gmail.com

Safeguarding

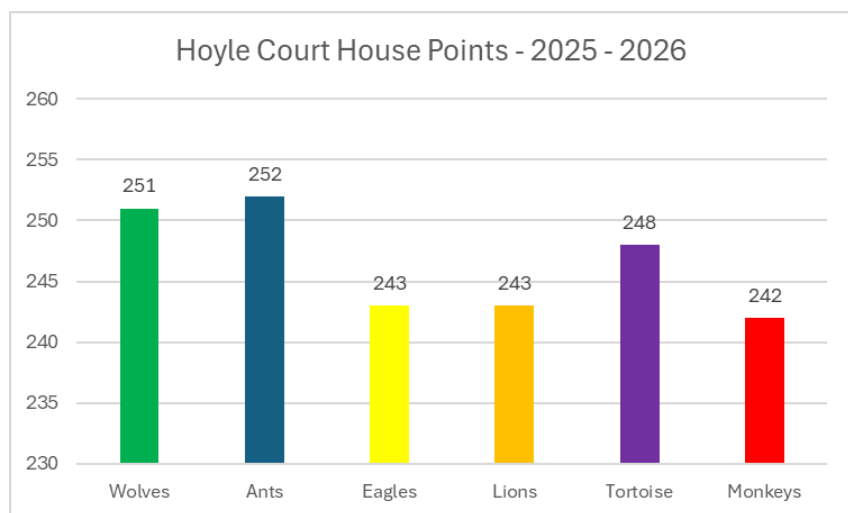
If you ever feel worried about a child in school, please ensure that this is reported to one of our safeguarding leads. I feel that as a school community we all share a responsibility to keep children safe.

Online platforms continue to pose a danger to our children. Please supervise your children if they are communicating online and ensure that they don't have access to any platforms which are not age appropriate. Roblox must be used with caution as it has a messaging feature with disappearing messages which could potentially be dangerous.

Official Age Limits for Popular Platforms:

- Roblox: 7+
- Facebook/Instagram: 13+
- TikTok: 13+ (with extra restrictions for under 16)
- Snapchat: 13+
- YouTube: 13+ (YouTube Kids available for younger children)
- WhatsApp: 13+

Each house continues to work hard to climb the leaderboard, see below for current house points!



Attendance

Over the past 12 months our school attendance has improved significantly overall. Please continue to value school in the same way and aim to get your children to school every day. Great attendance and punctuality help to build your child's work ethic for the future. We notice a direct negative impact on progress and outcomes for those children who are regularly absent or late.

Target 96%	Owls	Beech	Aspen	Sycamore	Ash	Hazel	Birch	Willow	Rowan	Oak	Maple
95.8	96.0	99.1	92.8	98.3	97.3	95.7	98.4	94.0	95.7	87.6	94.8

Lateness has been poor this week. Some of this may be due to the icy conditions however we are finding that much of this lateness is stemming from a small number of families who are frequently late. I hope we can support those families to get their children to school on time.

Word of the week – Punctuality

Have a great weekend.

Mrs Thirkill

