

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2026



# Osmotherley Primary School

**Small school. Big family.**



Dear Parents and Carers,

October is already upon us, with half term not far away. We hope your children have really enjoyed the first few weeks of the school year. It has been wonderful to see our Reception children and new starters in KS2 settle so quickly into life at Osmotherley Primary School. Highlights of the last few weeks have been seeing the children make the most of the outdoor spaces in the September sunshine, hearing about our sports teams representing the school with pride at the cluster competitions and sharing in all the fantastic learning taking place in classrooms.

## **Sports Update**

KS1 had great fun at the multisport festival in September. Both of our hockey teams were proud to show off their medals from the U9 'Quicksticks' tournament and our girls' football team were delighted to return with medals last week, too. Well done to everyone for their efforts and for representing the school with determination, resilience and pride.

## **Morning Mile**

Now that morning routines are settled for children and staff, I am keen to restart the Morning Mile. This will be on Mondays and Fridays only. The first run this year will be on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October, weather permitting. It will start at 8.15 am, then Morning Mile children will come straight into school following the run. Please sign up by emailing the school office to give an indication of numbers.

## **Uniform Reminders**

If your child has their ears pierced, they may wear simple, plain stud earrings but they must be able to take these out for all PE lessons and sporting activities. Hoop earrings are not appropriate. Make up and nail



varnish should not be worn. Trainers should only be worn on P.E. days or when your child is attending a sports club in school.

### Attendance Matters



Our attendance in September was 96.8%, which is comfortably above the national average, but just below our target of 97%. At Osmotherley Primary School, we are proud of our strong attendance record, which is essential in helping pupils achieve their potential. Evidence shows that pupils with no absence are significantly more likely to achieve highly by Year 6 than those whose attendance falls below 90%. We know that all parents and carers want the very best for their children, which is why it is important that all pupils attend school whenever possible.

### Reporting Absence

Of course, there are occasions when children need to be absent due to illness or other unavoidable circumstances. If your child is absent, please contact the school - ideally prior to 9 am - on the first day of absence. Any parent or carer who has not reported an absence will be contacted by the school via telephone, email or text message.

### Digital Safety

Technology offers many exciting opportunities for children, but it is important that they use it safely. Please take time to talk regularly with your child about their online activity, check that games and apps are age-appropriate, and encourage them to tell a trusted adult if they see or hear anything online that worries them. Simple conversations at home can make a big difference to keeping children safe online.

[Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

### NSPCC – PANTS



This week, all classes have used the NSPCC PANTS resources when learning about keeping safe. We recommend a follow up at home with your child: [Talk PANTS: Conversation to help keep children safe | NSPCC](#)

### Healthy Snacks

If you are sending your child to school with a snack for break time, please send fruit, vegetables or other healthy snacks and avoid chocolate, sweets, crisps, cakes and cereal or cake bars.

As we are a **nut-free school**, snacks **must not contain nuts**. Thank you for your support with this important matter.



## Forest School – Upcoming Sessions (subject to change)

It has been great to see the children enjoying visits to The Applegarth and Cote Ghyll over the first half term. We are very fortunate to have these fantastic outside spaces on our doorstep and are keen to make the most of this before the turn of the year.

| Upcoming Forest School Sessions     |                      |            |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Date                                | Class                | Location   |
| Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> November | Reception/KS1 Acorns | Applegarth |
| Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> November  | LKS2 Saplings        | Cote Ghyll |
| Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November | Reception/KS1 Acorns | Applegarth |
| Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December  | Reception/KS1 Acorns | Applegarth |
| Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> December  | UKS2 Oaks            | Cote Ghyll |

## Communication with School

Positive communication between home and school helps us work together to support every child. For most **non-urgent matters**, we find that face-to-face conversations are often the most effective way to resolve queries. If you would like to discuss something in more detail, please arrange a meeting with your child's teacher. For **urgent matters**, such as difficulties with collection arrangements, please telephone the school office.

**Mrs Mansfield** will be in the office each morning from **8.30 am until 2.30 pm from Monday to Wednesday and 8.30 am to 12 pm on Thursdays and Fridays**. Arrangements are in place for urgent messages to be received at other times. If you need to share documents or contact school via email, please use: [osmotherley@ycatschools.co.uk](mailto:osmotherley@ycatschools.co.uk)

We aim to respond to emails within **48 working hours**. Emails received during evenings, weekends or school holidays will be responded to within 48 working hours of the start of the next working period.

## Friends of Osmotherley Primary School

We will be holding a Halloween Hair Day on the last Thursday of half term. Please bring £1 to school and make your child's hair as creative as you like. Proceeds will go to the Friends of Osmotherley Primary School and will be spent on making improvements to the school facilities and experience for our children.

## Half Term Celebration Assembly

Please note that the Celebration Assembly will start at 9 am on the last day of half term, rather than the previously advertised 3 pm – apologies for this change. Following this, Celebration Assemblies will start at 3 pm so that families are able to leave with their children at the end of the day.



## Extra-Curricular School Clubs – Next Half Term

Clubs have been increasingly popular so far, with numbers growing at all our clubs throughout the term. Families requiring wraparound childcare are also able to access the excellent provision offered by Osmotherley Pre-School, located next door to the school.

| DAY       | LUNCHTIME CLUB | DETAILS                                | AFTERSCHOOL CLUB            | DETAILS                                                                                                                           |
|-----------|----------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday    |                |                                        | Minecraft Club (Y1 to Y6)   | The very popular Minecraft Club will continue.                                                                                    |
| Tuesday   | Warhammer      | Run by one of our Y6 pupils.           | Board Games Club (Y1 to Y6) | Mr. Sellers will run the board game club. We have lots of classics and favourites but please feel free to bring a game from home. |
| Wednesday | Choir          | Mrs. Bridge will run the School Choir. | NO CLUBS                    |                                                                                                                                   |
| Thursday  |                |                                        | Y6 KS2 Tests Booster        | Mr. Sellers will work with the Year 6 children to build confidence in preparation for their KS2 Tests                             |
| Friday    |                |                                        | Art Club (Y1 to Y6)         | Ruth will return to run her very successful art group.                                                                            |

## Staff Training Day

Please note: School is closed for the children on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October due to a staff training day.

## Children's Clubs

Some of our amazing children have been organising, advertising, resourcing and providing fantastic breaktime and lunchtime clubs for their classmates to take part in. Well done to all those involved! We are very proud of you. Current clubs are listed below:

| DAY       | BREAKTIME                         | LUNCHTIME |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Monday    | Pokemon Club and Animal Club      |           |
| Tuesday   | Brain Club and Eco Club           |           |
| Wednesday | Doodle Club                       | Warhammer |
| Thursday  | Snack Club                        |           |
| Friday    | P.E. Lessons and Split Breaktimes |           |

## Safeguarding Statement

Yorkshire Collaborative Academy Trust and Osmotherley Primary School are committed to ensuring the safety and welfare of all our children. If you have any concerns, please contact one of our designated safeguarding leads (listed below). For significant and immediate concerns, please contact the police on 999. For concerns that are not immediate, please contact the North Yorkshire Council Emergency Duty Team: 0300 131 2 131



Yorkshire Collaborative Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales with company number 9668526. Registered Office: Bilton Grange Primary School, Bilton Lane, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG1 3BA.

**Designated Safeguarding Lead:** Mr Matthew Sellers      Tel: 01609 883329

**Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:** Mrs Sian James      Tel: 01423 502375

**Safeguarding Governor:** Mrs Rachel Ross Russell      Email: [rossrussell.osmotherley@ycatschools.co.uk](mailto:rossrussell.osmotherley@ycatschools.co.uk)

Have a lovely end to the week and enjoy the weekend. Please do come and speak to me or your child's teacher(s) if there is anything you need.

Yours sincerely,



Matthew Sellers

Head of School

