



**GOATHLAND  
PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**  
*Believe you can  
Together we will*



9<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Dear Parents,

It has been a beautifully Christmassy week at Goathland. Thank you to the children for their lovely performance in church on Tuesday: "Hey, Ewe!" was a great success, with excellent speaking and singing from all. We have enjoyed Christmas crafts, a lovely dinner, party games and even building igloos in the snow – we couldn't ask for more! Thank you to all the staff for making it really special for the children. We have more treats to come next week and are very grateful to our 200 Club for the funds they have raised towards our festive activities.



### End of the day collection routine

**We have been reviewing our safety routines and from Monday would like to ask all families to come in through the school gate at the end of the day to collect children from the door. This will avoid handing over on the side of the road and will also make it easier for staff to talk to parents at the end of the day.**



Thank you for your support with keeping all our children safe.

### **"Strep A" and Scarlet Fever**

We have no cases reported in school at the moment, but ask all families to be vigilant for symptoms of these illnesses which you will have seen in the news over the last couple of weeks.

You have received a letter by email with information about symptoms and treatment of scarlet fever.

## Diary Dates

13<sup>th</sup> December – A Walk in Bethlehem. Whitby

15<sup>th</sup> December – Whole School Ice-skating Trip to York

16<sup>th</sup> December – 2.00 pm Crib Service at St Mary's and Break-Up for Christmas

4<sup>th</sup> December – Return to School

10<sup>th</sup> January – Weekly Swimming begins



## “Strep A”

There are lots of viruses that cause sore throats, colds and coughs circulating, especially over winter. These usually resolve without needing any special medical treatment or medicines. However, children can occasionally develop a bacterial infection on top of a virus and that can make them more unwell.

One of these bacteria is called Group A Strep (GAS). You may have heard this in the news as it has been found in some children who have become very sick, very quickly. Fortunately, this is still rare.

There is much more GAS around this winter than in recent years, causing a lot of children to be unwell. We think this is because there is much more mixing now and these bugs are new to many young children, so they are more likely to catch and spread them.

GAS usually causes a mild illness with fever and a sore throat (Strep throat) but not a runny nose or too much of a cough. Your child may be poorly for a few days but will usually recover. Antibiotics may help them recover quicker.

Signs that suggest your child might have Strep throat are:

- Fever within the last 24 hours
- White spots at the back of their throat (pus on their tonsils)
- Very large or red tonsils
- Sore (tender) lumps under their chin
- If they have become poorly quickly over the past couple of days
- No cough or runny nose

If you are concerned that your child might have these contact your GP or NHS 111 for advice.

What is school doing?

We have a new risk assessment from NYCC which we are following. This is very similar to the one we have for Covid, so we already have precautions in place for handwashing, ventilation and good respiratory hygiene (catch it - bin it - kill it)

Should my child come to school if they are ill?

As with Covid, if your child has a high temperature or is genuinely too unwell to come to school, they should stay at home. Take medical advice as above if you think your child has signs of strep throat or scarlet fever. Children and adults diagnosed with strep throat or scarlet fever should not return to school until at least 24 hours after starting treatment with an appropriate antibiotic.

\*\*\*Please notify school if you think that your child may have symptoms of scarlet fever\*\*\*

Safeguarding at Goathland School



Safeguarding is everyone's business and we want you to feel confident about reporting any concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing, even if:

- You are not sure
- It is not your child
- Your concern is very small

You can talk to any member of staff in school in complete confidence, but the official Designated Safeguarding Lead is Headteacher Mrs Lisa Armstrong, who can be contacted in person, by phone on 01947 896230 or confidentially on [headteacher@goathland.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@goathland.n-yorks.sch.uk). The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead Mrs Vickie Bordoli, who can be contacted by phone or in person or confidentially on [v.bordoli@goathland.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:v.bordoli@goathland.n-yorks.sch.uk).

## Base 1

Base 1 really enjoyed meeting the barn owl, hedgehog, python and tarantula from Kirkleatham Owl Sanctuary last week. All the children were very sensible around them and learnt a lot of interesting facts!



In Literacy we enjoyed Stickman and wrote some lovely sentences with adjectives. The children are also beginning to extend their sentences by using 'because' and 'and'. These final weeks will be spent reading the Christmas Story and looking at story features.

In Year 1 Maths we have moved onto Shape work and Reception children have been consolidating their place value skills. All children are trying to apply their knowledge and skills to different activities.

In Phonics all children are trying hard learning their sounds, thank you for all your support at home. It has been wonderful to see our younger children beginning to 'blend' independently.

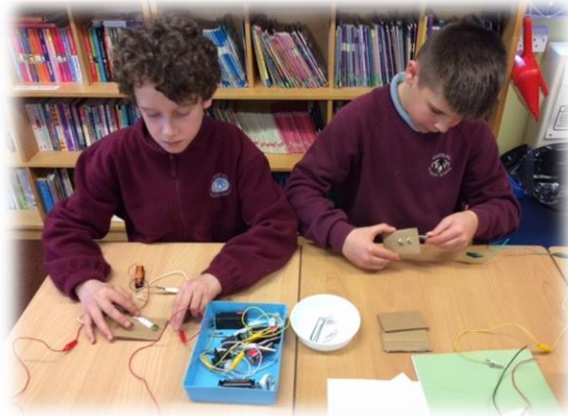
Castles have been sent home, the children really enjoyed making these and the children used our new role play characters at school to enjoy playing with their own creations.

We are looking forward to more festive treats next week!



## Base 2

In Literacy we have been revising word classes and using precise verbs to describe characters' actions. The children then used this and all they have learnt this term about detailed narratives and dialogue to write imaginative letters about seeing and talking to a Borrower in their own homes.



In Science, the children thought about how we use electrical switches, then built and tested a variety of switches within their own circuits. They also learnt about currents, voltage and resistance and set up

tests to investigate the effect of wire length and width on the flow of electricity. Alongside this, they also learnt how to use scientific symbols to draw circuit diagrams with different types of components to record their results.



The children are making progress with their coding skills in Computing. Year 3 can now combine start and input events to create programs using precise instructions. Year 4 are continuing to learn how to make things happen in a sequence to create simple animations and Year 5 are becoming more skilled at using variables and creating their own simple games.

## P.E.

The children thoroughly enjoyed their last few P.E. sessions at the Village Hall. They have all been challenging themselves to jump on, off and over the gym tables, becoming more confident and skilled each week. They have also been improving their floor skills with lots of forward and backwards rolls and even a few attempts at cartwheels and round offs.

Base 2 also took part in an all-inclusive dodgeball session last Friday afternoon and played very sportingly, so well done to them.

## Whole School.

Practising the Christmas Nativity was quite a focus during the last two weeks, but Mrs Bordoli thinks it was well worth it. Performing in front of a crowd can be quite nerve-racking but everyone did their best and Mrs Bordoli is very, very proud of all the children and knows their parents will be too. As ever, a huge thank you to all those who helped the children learn their lines and adjusted costumes etc.

The Christmas lunch and party on Thursday afternoon gave the children the opportunity to relax and have some Christmas fun together. On occasions like that, they are very much like one big happy, slightly chaotic, family so it was a lovely afternoon.

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – We will be taking the whole school to a ‘Walk through Bethlehem’ at West Cliff Church, Whitby next Tuesday.** The children will leave at 11.45 am and return at 3.15 pm. Please make sure children are wearing school uniform and they must have with them a small ruck sack and a bottle of water. Mrs Brown will provide a packed lunch.

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December – ICE-SKATING** – We will be leaving school at 9.00 am to travel to the Designer Outlet, York for ice-skating, hot chocolate and cookies. Mrs Brown will also provide our packed lunch. Please make sure your children wear warm waterproof clothing and have with them gloves and a hat (school jumpers/ fleece please). They will also need a small rucksack and a water bottle. Families are welcome to join us on the ice. Please pay at the kiosk on arrival.

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December** – Please meet us in Church at 2.00 pm for our Crib and Carol Service. If you're unable to make the service please let a member of staff know.

Thank you.

*Goathland Primary School Staff*

