



Statement of the week

"I try to love others as I love myself."

School Holidays 2015/16

It has come to my attention that parents have been discussing the 2015/16 holiday list and are concerned that they conflict with North Yorkshire Authority's holidays especially at Easter. I would like to inform you that I have not yet published the holiday list for 2015/16! The Leeds holiday list has been published but the school has not as yet! I am in fact having a meeting with Mr Pritchard (SJF) next Monday and one of the issues on the agenda will be holidays. We also have a full governing body meeting on the 4th February and holidays as always will be an agenda item and it is the governors who set the holidays. I am fully aware that parents have children at two schools and we would always try our very best to keep to the same holidays. I would like to emphasise though that we are a Leeds school and North Yorkshire Authority do not confer with the Leeds Authority about holidays so invariably there will be times when holidays do not match. As you know I would have the holiday list out by now and I hope to have that for you by half term

School music

I have sent a letter out to parents asking if they would like individual singing lessons to start again at school. These were provided by Mrs Southby in the past but she left in July. I have a new singing teacher available if there is sufficient interest. Please return an expression of interest form to school in order to check if it is feasible for these lessons to start again and so that I can negotiate a cost per lesson.

We are also going to start up the choir again with Mr Darling, a music teacher from Gateways School. He has great experience of running choirs and this will be every other Monday starting Monday 19th January 3.15-4.15. Initially this will be for Years 4, 5 and 6 but we will roll it out to Year 3 if there are any spaces. Please can you also return an expression of interest form to school?

The Mondays when Mr Darling is not taking choir Mrs Hodgkinson will still be taking her choir that includes Year 3 children to prepare for the Youth masses.

I hope that I have not confused you too much but if I have please ask me any morning before school when I am outside.

After School Sport

As you are aware I am passionate about sport and I will always try to look for a variety of activities that can enthuse our children and provide them with a more healthy and active lifestyle. Before Christmas the school provided handball free of charge to all key stage 2 children and the children seemed to enjoy the activity. I have put handball on now as a fee paying after school activity and there are only three registered on the course. I am keen to know if it is the cost or the activity that isn't generating interest as I will look to provide a different activity if it has proven not to be popular. Multi sports and dance after school clubs are very popular! In the summer term I will be putting tennis on the school curriculum and as an after school activity. We will also offer tennis as an after school club free of charge. This is intended to give as many children as possible an opportunity to participate.

We have also entered a tag rugby team into the Leeds and District Cup.

Reconciliation

Canon Nunan has asked if we can possibly move the date of Reconciliation from the 28th March at 11.30 to the 21st March still at 11.30. I have no problems with the change of date and I will confirm with Canon shortly. If there are any issues please could you contact me as soon as possible please?

We started the "I Belong" programme in school on Wednesday and will be continuing for the next 11 weeks to prepare for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Hopefully all the children will have their book for next week's lesson.

Wear Red Day

There have been a number of children in our school and parents who have been so grateful for the support that the British Heart Foundation has given to their families. This year we would like to support our families in our support for the "Wear Red Day". It doesn't matter if you go all out or just wear a hint of red on 6 February. The main thing is that you get involved and wear red to beat heart disease. I am thinking that we could have a cake sale or each family bring a small donation. I will ask the school council for their thoughts and let you know.

Change to Home Arrangements

Can we please remind you that change of arrangements should be reported to the Office by **10.30am**. As you will be aware there are several after school clubs and these are being delayed due to Teachers having so many queries at the end of the day when dismissing children.

Unfortunately, the Office is not fully operational due to current building works and the temporary relocation to the IT Suite, especially during the afternoons when many late calls and messages are received.