

Dear Parents/carers,

What a year it has been! We have had multiple lockdowns, hundreds of children self-isolating and the trials and tribulations of remote learning for weeks on end. Throughout it all the children have been magnificent. They remained upbeat and enthusiastic and keen to learn through the ever-changing year we have had. Our buildings that stood empty for months last year and in the Spring have begun to feel like a school again, resounding with the buzz and excitement of learning. Things will only get better from here!

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you, as parents and carers, for your constant support over this year. We have had to make difficult decisions this year, often at very short notice and your support has made these tricky situations much more straightforward.



I am also extremely grateful to our fantastic team of staff; cleaners, cooks, office staff, lunchtime supervisors, teaching assistants and teachers. It takes a team of committed professionals to make a school as great as ours, and they have blown me away this year. Their dedication to helping each child achieve their full potential is humbling and inspiring in equal measure. Every single member of staff has taken on extra burdens this year in order to meet the challenge of the pandemic. I am very lucky to work alongside them.

July is also a time to say goodbye, and we are saying a fond farewell to Miss Slocombe and Mrs Young, who have both worked wonders at completely different ends of the school. Mrs Young has been a huge help in our Nursery over the Summer term, supporting our very youngest children in their first months at school. Miss Slocombe has supported children in Year 5/6 through many lockdowns and remote-learning challenges!

It's also time to say goodbye to our Year 6s. I am so glad they were able to come back to school for the very last day of term. They have faced the challenges of the pandemic with resilience and determination and I know they will love their time at secondary school.





Site improvements

Over the Summer we are continuing to invest in our school buildings and playground. This year we are:

- Improving access across the site by installing new steps on the playground and widening existing ones
- Renovating toilets in Key Stage 1 and creating a new 1st aid room
- Refurbishing and renovating the ground floor of the Key stage 2 building including
 - Entrance and Year 3/4 cloakroom
 - Year 3/4 classroom
 - Dining hall
- Creating our new Community Hub and Grocery

September plans

We hope to be back to normality in September, this means that:

- Children and staff will no longer be in bubbles
- All children will have an 8:45am-3:15pm school day
- All children and parents will come onto the site through the EYFS gates and on to the top playground, where they will line up with their teachers and walk into school. Parents will collect children from the same playground at the end of the day

All of this is subject to change, depending on government guidance. I will write to all families before the start of term to confirm or update our plans



The Autumn term begins on Wednesday 8th September

- For the first week back only, Reception should come to school for 9am. The entrance will be quieter at this point and it will be a calmer start for our newest children.
- Nursery children start on Monday 13th September

I wish you all the most wonderful holiday and hope that you all have the chance to rest and recuperate with family and loved ones.

My very best wishes,

Mr Mold



Summer Reading Challenge

Children can once again sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge at their local library during the holidays. This year the theme is Wild World Heroes and is all about nature and looking after the planet.

The challenge is to read 6 library books of their choice and collect special stickers and other prizes along the way – everyone who finishes will receive a limited edition Wild World Heroes medal and a certificate. Any child aged 4 to 11 can join in and the challenge runs from Sat 10th July until Sat 11th Sept.

There will also be a fantastic programme of online activities to go with the challenge – whilst there will be some pre-recorded activities available on the @nycclibraries Facebook page, many of the activities will require bookings to be made via Eventbrite- <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/north-yorkshire-libraries-32465924701>

Some libraries may be able to have events in the library, depending on Covid restrictions – just ask at your local branch.

Support over the Summer

The NHS have worked with Disney and Marvel to create these fun games to play at home to keep the children active over the holidays

<https://www.nhs.uk/10-minute-shake-up/shake-ups>

Compass have resources to support parents, carers and children to talk about mental health.

<https://www.compass-uk.org/help-and-support/young-people/>

<https://www.compass-uk.org/help-and-support/parents-carers/>