



# TRACTOR TIMES

Spring Term  
Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February  
2018

Grassington CE (VC) Primary School  
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Dear Parents/Carers

This half term has gone very quickly and the children need their half term holiday next week. We look forward to them coming back to school on Monday 19th February. Can I ask that over the holiday you check that **all** your children's clothing is clearly labelled as we have several items at each of the sites which are nameless so can't be returned to their owners.

It was exciting to hear that the work Class 2 at Cracoe and Rylstone school have been doing with Dixons Music Primary School, Bradford, has been recognised as exemplary to the extent that the Department of Education want to see for themselves during Cracoe's visit to Dixons Music. This is recognition of the commitment of both the staff and pupils to this 'Linking' project. I'm sure more news about this will follow shortly.

Mrs Morton Lee  
Executive Headteacher

## Diary Dates

Please find below dates for activities this half term. Please make sure you check the list regularly each week on the Tractor Times.

We will send more details of specific events to the appropriate Year Groups during the course of the term.

### Regular Activities and Events

<b>Every Friday</b>	3.00pm Praise Assembly – All welcome
<b>Every Monday</b>	3.30-4.30 pm Federation Choir. Please let us know if your child would like to join in (KS2 children only).
<b>Thursdays from 25<sup>th</sup> January until May</b>	<b>3.45 -5 pm Year 6 SAT ATTACK Club</b>
<b>Monday 19 February</b>	<b>Back to school (hurrah!)</b>

## School to Home Communications

Please make sure you let us know if you change your email address.

## Reception Children – Change of Morning Arrival Arrangements

As all the Reception children have now properly settled in to the school routine they will now start school in the same way as all the other children from the first Monday after half-term (Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February) by arriving from 8.45 am and waiting with the other children in the playground until school starts at 8.55 am.

Please ensure that you do not drop your children off before 8.45 am as the staff are not able to supervise them until this time. Thank you.

### **Dark Skies Festival 2018**

Dark Skies Festival 2018 - Discover the wonders of the night skies above the Yorkshire Dales. Check out the amazing events including star and nocturnal animal trails, a lantern parade, subterranean adventures, rocket making workshops and spectacular planetarium shows. Full details are on [www.darks skies national parks.org.uk](http://www.darks skies national parks.org.uk)

### **WOOSH Club**

Can we remind everyone that Carly Metcalfe can be contacted on 07590 004975 or via [wooshclub@outlook.com](mailto:wooshclub@outlook.com). The cost is £15 per session from the end of school until 6 pm.

### **News from Class 3**

In English we have written our final drafts of our non-chronological reports on the workhouse, after doing our editing, peer assessment and self-assessment. They are pretty impressive pieces of writing and the children have worked hard to get the features of a successful text into their own work.

In Maths we have been dividing fractions by whole numbers and have moved on to finding equivalent decimal fractions. Dividing fractions method-

$$\frac{1}{2} \div 4 =$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{8} \text{ (flip the 2}^{\text{nd}} \text{ fraction, then follow the method for multiplying fractions)}$$

$$\text{Equivalent decimal fractions e.g. } \frac{1}{4} = 0.25 \quad \frac{1}{8} = 0.125$$

In Science we have been investigating separating materials. We mixed up iron filings, salt and sand and then worked out how we could separate them. We used a magnet to separate the iron filings, filter paper for the sand. We also have little pots of salt solution resting on radiators to evaporate the water, leaving behind the salt. It was probably one of our most successful investigations so far.

In Art and Topic we have looked at Aboriginal Art and have started our own designs today. They are looking quite dramatic.

### **HOMEWORK**

Please read at least 5 times in the week and do your Maths Mission and don't forget to do your Year 6 SAT attack homework for the half-term holiday.

Have a lovely half-term holiday together,  
Mrs Harrison

## News from Class 1

We have been learning about similes this week in Literacy, comparing one thing with something else. Year 1 have written a poem about the feelings of the owl babies in the story "*Owl Babies*" and have created some amazing similes.

In Maths the Reception children have been learning about the number 9. They have ordered the Numicon, played 'what's in the bag', to guess the numbers hidden and used 9 cubes to create different shapes. Year 1 have been comparing numbers and finding numbers that can be found between 2 numbers, i.e. *if 5 is the least and 9 is the most what numbers could come in between?*

In Science we have been sorting animal groups. We discussed mammals, reptiles, fish and birds. The children created a question to help them sort, for example *'does this animal have wings?'*

Today we learnt about Chinese New Year. We made a vegetable stir-fry. The children enjoyed preparing the vegetables and trying eating with chopsticks.

This half-term has flown past. Have a great week together and we will see you all soon.

## News from Class 2

This week Class 2 have been working really hard on their own poems using their simile, metaphor and onomatopoeia work. They have studied a certain Australian animal to then give clues about its looks, personality and the things it does. There have been some fabulous language choices and the children have really enjoyed showing their skills.

In Maths the Year 2 children have been using their 2, 5 and 10 times table to solve problems and their fluency is building well. Please continue to support them with this very important skill; just 5 minutes a day can make all the difference. The Year 3s and Year 4s have been getting to grips with the column method for multiplication. They showed great understanding of the numbers worth to help them unpick their sums and explain their processes.

In Science we have completed our properties of materials investigation and concentrated on creating a detailed write up so we have a great example to use for future experiments. The children thought carefully about how their findings help them to decide what materials can be used for in everyday life.

During the half term holidays I would like the children to conduct a piece of research about an artist of their choice. This may be of one from anywhere in the world. They can include facts, pictures, background history and any other interesting pieces of information.

Have a wonderful half term together,  
Mrs Steeples