



Working together to be the best that we can be.

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome to the Spring update from the team of governors. We have been busy behind the scenes working with Mrs Ellis and Mrs Richards to ensure the children have the very best education and school experiences that it is possible to provide.

The additional activities that are on offer to the children in addition to the curriculum are exciting to hear about in our governor meetings. We are sure your children are likewise happy and enjoying all the inspiring learning that is taking place.

Part of our role as governors is to monitor the different areas of the curriculum to ensure they not only meet the requirements of the national curriculum but that they spark the children's interest and are memorable. We have been busy meeting with the teachers who lead the different curriculum areas, groups of children and Olivia Kelly who is the SEA (Senior Education Advisor) for School Improvement in order that we monitor some of the areas of the curriculum. Some of the recent monitoring has been Art, Design Technology and Maths. It is always a highlight of the visit when we get the chance to talk to some of your wonderful children.

Art is led by Kathryn Askew

Design Technology is led by Rachel Thompson

Maths is led by Rachel Thompson

The curriculum subject coordinators have worked very hard to develop each of these areas of learning. We were very impressed with the developments they have made as was the school improvement advisor.

March 2023

**Goldsbrough
Sicklinghall Federation**



Cerys Townend (Co-Chair)

Jenny Mills (Parent Governor)

Alastair Morley (Parent Governor)

Jules Clegg

Samantha Parkin

Reverend Stroma McDermott

Valerie Wilson

Catherine Richards (Staff Governor)

Ways in which you can help your children remember their learning.

- Discuss what they have learnt each day, asking your child to explain different aspects in detail. (By recounting learning and saying it out loud often helps children remember and embed what they have learnt)
- Show lots of interest in what your child is saying to you. If you don't quite understand what they mean and they have tried to explain it, still give your child praise and encouragement.
- Ask your child to teach you. (It is the repeating and recalling of old information that helps to move it from the short-term memory to the long-term memory.)
- Make connections to other things that are familiar to your family as this helps with forming and retrieving long-term memory. It also helps with working memory, which is what we use to hold and compare new and old memories.
- Drawing or making diagrams of learning also helps children to remember what they have learnt.

Safeguarding in the curriculum

Safeguarding refers to so many aspects of school life; it is essential that the environment and all procedures in school ensure children are kept safe. It is through the curriculum that every member of staff supports children in their understanding of how they keep themselves safe and what to do if they feel uncomfortable in any given situation.

Safeguarding in school is approached in two ways:

1st – The planned lessons generally taught through PSHE, although there are opportunities in other subjects for the children to learn about safeguarding.

2nd - The ethos of the school, based on the school values and learning for life. This can be taught through assemblies, through focus weeks or a range of activities.

These are some examples of focus activities where the children are learning to keep themselves safe:

- The mini-medics course for Y5 and Y6 and including basic first aid as part of P.E lessons
- Fire awareness and identifying risk in the home (including visits from the local fire service)
- Online safety sessions and safer internet day - including a visit from a local police officer
- The outdoor learning workshops (e.g. den building) which encourages children to assess their own risks.
- Health week which invites professionals in to talk about healthy lifestyles, including a dental workshop.
- Poolside and water safety through swimming lessons for Y3 and Y4
- An awareness of the harmful effects of drugs is strengthened by the workshops delivered by the NSPCC 'Crucial crew' team.
- Enterprise Project - teaching financial sense and awareness.
- Golden Mile - instilling the importance of physical health as the children work up to 5 Miles, 1/2 and Full Marathon
- Neurodiversity week - celebrating difference.

In addition to the focus activities there are also many books throughout school that challenge stereotypes linked to curriculum topics e.g 'Pink is for Boys', 'And Tango Makes Three'. There are also worry boxes in each classroom (where the children can write their worries without anyone else seeing they have posted a worry. The teacher will discuss those worries with the child at a discrete and opportune moment)

It is through this vital teaching that the school endeavours to ensure the children become model citizens and have a good understanding of how to keep themselves safe from potential risk.

Safeguarding updates:

In order to maintain a safe environment for the children and staff, the school must treat all visitors with respect **and** a professional level of caution. This means they must act with the same vigilance for families and known members of the community as they do with unknown visitors; all school staff are required to have the understanding that 'it could happen in one of our schools'. **Please do not be offended if you are required to wait outside whilst your child is being collected from the classroom when it is outside of the usual time pick up time.**

School staff must Safeguard children at all times, especially when the villages become busy during drop off and collection. **We politely ask for your help by ensuring that children are always supervised by adults around cars / car parking areas and making the children aware of where the safe points are when crossing a road.**

Did you know? Your child's class page is updated weekly on the school website. Examples of the work they have been doing in class is included in the updates. Have a look; there is some fabulous work taking place.

www.sicklinghallprimary.co.uk

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<https://www.goldsboroughprimary.co.uk>

The governors are very thankful to Mrs Ellis, Mrs Richards and all the teaching and non-teaching staff for all the hard work they do in school. The children for are certainly thriving under their care. We are also thankful to all the parents and carers for the wonderful children that they send to our school. The time you invest in your children's wellbeing and safety certainly helps them to become the great citizens that they are showing themselves to be.