



## Newsletter Number 8 January 2023

Dear parents,

Welcome back to our new term. We are excited for the term ahead and because classroom management routines and expectations of pupil behaviour are high, children are already focussed on our new learning. Following a successful Autumn Term launch, our Young Leaders programme has been updated and begins again next week. There is already good news for our school and other bits of information to share, so read on.

### **Film club**

We have another series of three films to view at this half term KS2 Film Club. They are :

- SING - Thursday 19th January
- Trolls - Thursday 26th January
- Moana - Thursday 2nd February

Parents can book places using <https://pophsit.schoolcloud.co.uk/> . The club runs from 3.15pm - 5.00pm. Children are invited to bring a snack and a drink, but no sweets, fizzy drinks or nuts/seeds.

### **How is my child doing in school?**

Throughout the year we provide a range of opportunities to let families know how their child is doing in school.

During the week beginning 6th February, we will be holding the **Virtual Parents Evenings**. Parents can book a slot of 10 minutes to talk to their child's class teacher online, and even add a partner from a different location, so you can all be on the call together. I must warn you that the timing is brutal and although a timing warning is given, the meeting ends abruptly. Slots can be booked from Monday 23rd January using this link <https://pophsit.schoolcloud.co.uk/>. If you have any issues, please contact the school office.

### **Is my child happy at school?**

Some children absolutely love school and thrive on the learning and social opportunities that it presents. Some children prefer the sanctuary of home, where they find comfort in family and the things around them - this is all very typical. However, there may be a time when your child feels unsure, frightened or is struggling with an aspect of home or school life, making coming to school an unhappy time. When this happens, it is important to know that we have an entire team that can help.

Your first point of call is of course your child's Class Teacher. The Class Teacher will listen to your concerns and by working in partnership with him/her, the situation can be improved.

Sometimes, a situation may need further action or support, which can be arranged by Mrs Mitchinson, in her role as Vice Principal responsible for Safeguarding and Pastoral Care. According to need, Mrs Mitchinson can speak to a range of professionals and coordinate support from both internal and external partners. We understand that if a child is unhappy, they won't thrive and so we are always here to listen to your concerns.

As part of our Virtual Parents Evening, we encourage families to mention any emotional concerns that they may have to the teachers. If parents feel that concerns require something more than a conversation with the class teacher, they can book a slot with Mrs Mitchinson. These slots can be booked in the same way as the Teacher appointments.

### **Sports round up**

Last term we were so pleased with the Year 5 / 6 Football Team, when they won the League title in York. This week, the team also won the York Schools Competition overall and so next week will represent York, in the North of England Tournament - what an achievement! I'm sure that you will join me in wishing the team the very best of luck.

### **Foil art competition**

Just a quick reminder that the Christmas recycling foil competition is still open. Children are invited to create a Christmas poster using whatever art resources they like, but it must use some form of aluminium foil. The competition is to raise awareness of the new kerbside collection service within the city. There are prizes for the winner and the school. The eco-team will be reminding children of the competition next week as the closing date in school is 27th January. Please ensure that your child's name and class is on the back of the art. So what are you waiting for? Let's get creative!

### **Young Voices**

Our 90 strong Young Voices Choir have been practising twice a week in preparation for their arena concert on February 10th. I am so pleased with their commitment and enthusiasm and would like to thank the families for supporting this amazing event - it really is something to be part of and I encourage all pupils in KS2 to experience it at least once. I look forward to sharing images of the event with you all very soon.

### **Moaning corner!**

Hair - could parents please ensure that once a child's hair is long enough to be tied back, it is. This is for health and safety reasons linked to head lice, P.E and play.

P.E. Kit - P.E kit is a plain white T Shirt and black shorts. Pupils also require a plain black tracksuit and trainers for outside games. Please ensure that your child has it in school at all times.

School shoes - please be aware that doc martin boots or similar are not appropriate for school.

Bikes and scooters - Children and parents should walk scooters and bikes on and off the school premises. Children under school age are included in this request. There are far too many people on the playgrounds when pupils are arriving or leaving school, which makes it dangerous.