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Headteacher: Mr. C. Gibson

7<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

And as if by magic, it is suddenly February and we have only two weeks left until the half term break. Furthermore, if my maths skills serve me right, we have now just edged past the 'halfway point' of the academic year. The mornings are getting lighter, the afternoons are gradually stretching out. All is good with the world! That said, we still have a vast number of activities to look forward to during the second half of the year!

#### Year Four Sports!

Prior Pursglove played host to our Year Four children yesterday as they participated in a morning centred around 'net and wall' games along with two other schools. It was what we might call a 'full-on' morning with non-stop activities which I know the children thoroughly enjoyed. Coupled with their walk to and from the venue, I would certainly say they had a pretty active day! Everybody participated with obvious enthusiasm. Well done to all!

#### NSPCC Number Day

Many thanks to everybody who supported the NSPCC today by wearing non-uniform and donating a pound for the pleasure of doing so! As I am sure you will agree, the NSPCC provides invaluable support for children (and indeed families and schools) and are reliant on charitable donations to be able to carry out their terrific work. I have attached a link below should anybody wish to find out a bit more about what your donations will be supporting:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/support-us/charity-fundraising/schools-fundraising-ideas/number-day/>

#### Children's Mental Health Week

We have spoken to the children this week about Children's Mental Health Week which has been taking place since Monday. Perhaps this is a timely moment to remind you all of the support networks we have in place within school for children who are having challenges with their emotional well-being. We work with two outside agencies who provide counselling for children who we feel would benefit from this service. We also have within our staff 'Thrive' practitioners who work with individuals and small groups of children to provide some support. As well as this, there are also the 'wellbeing clubs' held on Friday lunchtimes where children can come inside and participate in a range of activities. And, of course, we all as a collective staff know the children well and are 'tuned in' to identify any changes in behaviour which may indicate any upset or concerns being experienced by our young people allowing us to respond accordingly and supportively.

#### Safer Internet Day

A topic that seems to be more relevant by the day, Safer Internet Day is this coming Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February with a theme which is highly appropriate for children and adults alike: 'Too Good to be True: Protecting Yourself and Others From Scams Online'. Obviously, as a school, we do not wait for this day to remind our children about the benefits and challenges the internet provides but we will, of course, use Tuesday as an additional reminder.....

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2025>

#### EYFS Topic....

Also next Tuesday, we have Kirkleatham Owl Centre coming to visit the children in EYFS to support the children with their 'Night and Day' topic, talking about animals that thrive either by day or by night (or, as Elliot in Nursery correctly pointed out to me, animals which are nocturnal or diurnal. Thanks Elliot and, once again, apologies for my poor use of appropriate terminology!).

And Finally.....

I think that's about it for this week and for those of you disappointed with my lack of any form of meteorological reference this week, I can only apologise...!

As always, wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

Yours Sincerely

*C. Gibson*

Mr C Gibson