



## Weekly Bulletin 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023

25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Maths Evening for parents 5.30pm
1 <sup>st</sup>	Learning together afternoon – Maths & books
7 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Sharow Parent consultations
8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Skelton Parent consultations
10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	School closes for half term at 3.15pm
20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	School reopens after half term

### Flourish Awards

Children who have been recognised as flourishing this week:-

Taylor For being an excellent role model this week.

Oakley For being kind and cutting up Teo's sausages at lunchtime without being asked.

### Uniform Giveaway

On Wednesday 18th January there will be a uniform giveaway at the end of the school day. If your child attended 3.15 Club, they will still be out when you collect.

Any preloved uniform can be handed into the school office to be added to the collection.

### Items in School

Please can we ask that children do not bring any items into school such as Pokemon cards and toys etc, as these may get damaged or lost.

### Maths Evening

Federation parents are invited to come along to Sharow School on Wednesday 25th January at 5.30pm to learn more about how you can support your child with their maths learning.

### Parent Consultations

Parent consultations will be taking place on the above dates in February. Bookings will be available next week.

### Change to Menu

There will be a change to the menu on Thursday 19th January. The lunch option will now be:

Chicken Burger in a Homemade Bread Bun

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Sticky Toffee Pudding & Custard

### Music Lessons

Christine Gower-Smith kindly came into school on Wednesday to play music to Years 1-6. If anyone would be interested in piano, flute or singing lessons during the school day, please contact her directly on 07739 517694 or christine.gowersmith@gmail.com.

### What is retrieval practice?

In school, we use retrieval practice to help children to know more and secure it in their long-term memory. In our school, we often call these knowledge checks.

Retrieval practice is a technique where children recall what they have learnt. In simple terms, while we focus a lot of our time helping children get knowledge into their heads, retrieval practice is all about getting that knowledge back out there - strengthening retention and encouraging young learners to actively engage with, examine, and use what they have learnt.

For example, children may spend a period of time learning all about the solar system. To do this, they may listen to their teacher, look up information in textbooks, and make notes. While this is indeed an effective way to begin learning, research has shown that retrieval practice is the best way to help consolidate children's learning and help them retain what they have learnt on a long-term basis. Therefore, it is a powerful revision method.

So, in this instance, after a child has done their initial learning about the solar system, one way to use the retrieval practice method would be to ask the child a question, such as 'Can you name a planet in our solar system?'. The child would then need to retrieve this information without looking at their notes.

It's important to note that retrieval practice, by definition, focuses on boosting learning and should be distinguished from tools such as examinations which, despite using retrieval, aim to assess learning.

### **Mystery Reader Competition**



### **Mystery reader is back!**

It is simple and fun to do...

Choose a cunning disguise - or simply have your back to the camera. Read/ recite your favourite part of a story or poem, film it and then send it to [admin@sharow.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@sharow.n-yorks.sch.uk) with the subject as 'mystery reader'.

Any child that takes part will receive a certificate and will be entered into a prize draw for a special gift from **Iron Biby** himself and a £10 Little Ripon Bookshop voucher. All children can enter, from nursery to Year 6, and the winner will be announced on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March.

## **Safeguarding**

### **Child Safety and the Metaverse**

Christmas has now come to a close and a new year has begun. As pupils and staff return to school, the annual playground inquisition will begin. Among their peer group young people will begin to discuss what they got for Christmas. For many the answer will almost certainly be 'a Fortnite battle pass, a new PC, a PlayStation 5 etc'. All devices which allow both unfettered access to the internet and expose children to voice chat, text chat and photo sharing with complete strangers. This year presents an acceleration of vulnerability window as, VR headsets, connected to Facebook's Metaverse have been released onto the marketplace. The Metaverse seeks to link users to the internet as a Virtual Entity through the use of Virtual Reality Headsets. This amplifies the danger children are exposed to online. To help you understand this new, fast changing issue the NSPCC has published a guide to both the Metaverse and VR headsets. To find out more please follow the link:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/about-us/news-opinion/2022/christmas-vr-safety-advice-for-parents-metaverse/>

We have had a recommendation for the below performance if you are looking for ideas for February half term. It is an absolute delight! Reasonably priced tickets, beautiful ballet and a very relaxed atmosphere. Click [here](#) for more information.