



1st April 2022

Dear Parents and carers,

As Easter is a little later than normal this year we have one more week to go in North Yorkshire whereas my colleagues in Leeds finish today. We are working on Spring and Easter themes around the school as we prepare for the summer ahead.

Staffing

It really should not be something to celebrate, but on Tuesday this week we had our first day of no class closures for some time. Another improvement in the week with the least number of closures for months which shows we are getting there. If your child's class was not closed this week you might expect one next week, but I am hoping for some more cover to tide us over to Easter. I have recruited another TA after Easter so all being well we are getting through this. I can only apologise and thank you for your patience and ask you to trust me in how hard we have worked to fix this since the change in Leadership.

One staffing update is Georgina Lambley has joined us as the permanent TA in Green 6.

Snow and school closures

On Thursday, we did have a bit of snow up on Forest Moor, but we did remain open. I know some of the taxi firms decided not to run and I would expect them to inform you directly. I have spoken with North Yorkshire transport about this if they didn't. My philosophy is to try to remain safely open whenever possible. Not always an easy decision for a Head but if you don't hear otherwise; do assume we are open.



Safeguarding of your children in school - Medication

We have had a couple of instances of students bringing non-prescribed medication such as travel sickness medication or paracetamol on site. Please can I remind parents that these should not come on to school site as they cannot be monitored and could be dangerous if they got into the hands of other students. Prescribed medication for students can be arranged if required. Do contact the office if this is necessary.

Arbor App

A letter has now been sent out introducing the new Arbor App as the parent pay method is now closed down. If you download the app it will help you to access information and in making payments to school. If you need more details or help please contact the office.

New school timetable & curriculum

As part of our need to make changes in school I also would like to inform you that we are changing the school timetable and aspects of the curriculum from Easter. It is unusual to make such changes mid-year but it was necessary to introduce a specialist curriculum rather than one that felt too mainstream. It will have little effect on year 11 who finish in June but for

Menwith Hill Road
Darley
Harrogate
North Yorkshire
HG3 2RA



Tel: 01423 779232
forestmoor.n-yorks.sch.uk
Associate Principal: Steve Tighe
Enquiries: Gemma Ashton

the rest of the school it will be more practical in its nature and more suitable for the needs of our students. More details to follow.

I want to finish this week with a message I received from a member of staff who was working with one of our newer students.

'He said he was so happy to be in school on arriving today. He has shared the stages of his transition, being 1:1 in a classroom last academic year, integrating into class with 3 other pupils in September, to now a class of 6 since February. He felt he belonged somewhere for the first time.' As I said to the staff, it's why we do this job.

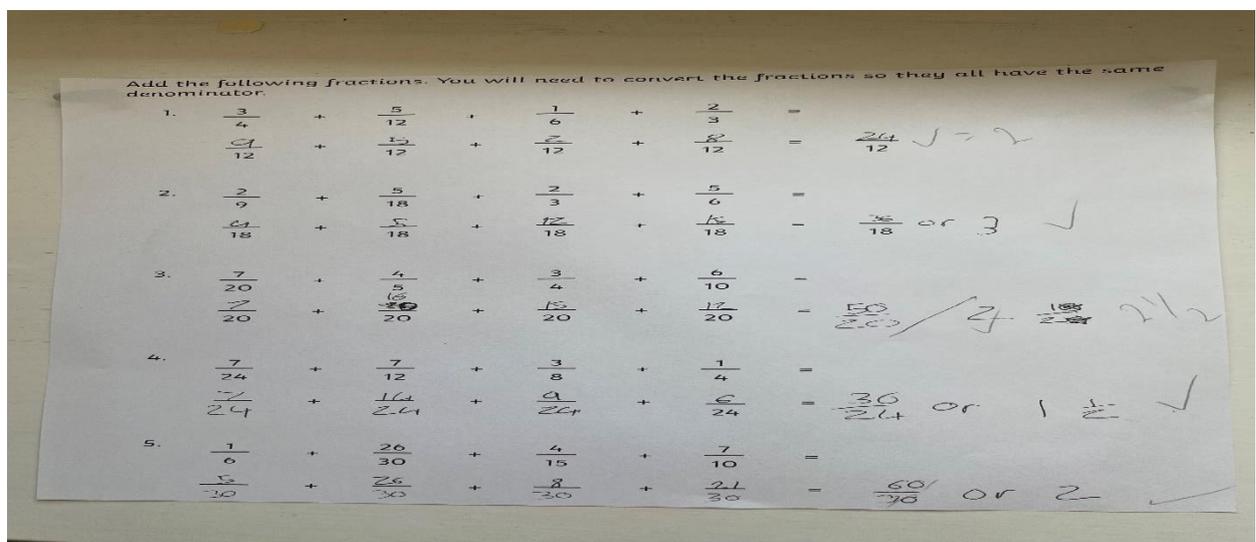
As always, if you have any comments about Forest Moor and our journey this year, do feel free to get in touch.

Yours faithfully



Steve Tighe
Associate Principal

Pictures this week is some great maths work from Green 6 and baking examples from Tyler and Oli in Green 1.



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