



# The Dales Class Newsletter

Working together to

**inspire nurture empower**

Autumn2-2025

## Welcome Back & Updates

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful half term break and are ready to enjoy lots of exciting activities. If you need to inform us on any updates, please contact us via phone call, email or the school diary.

Each week we will share with you a sample of photographs and diary messages of activities that your young person has particularly enjoyed and has been engaged with through the EFL app. Please feel free to add any photographs from home activities if you wish to share them on our EFL, too, so that we can share them with their class peers during our chat and share sessions in school. If you experience any problems accessing EFL, please let us know. If you have any other queries, please contact any member of the class team. Regular school updates will be shared on the whole school newsletter. Please keep a look out for a text link to these. Thank you.

## Key Concepts and Skills

This half term, we're excited to delve into our branch curriculum, which focuses on four key areas: Health & Wellbeing, Communication, Community & Friendships, Creativity, Contributions & Choices, and Skills for Life. All the students will have the opportunity to visit The National Arboretum as part of our learning based on Wartime Christmas. Students will engage in a series of captivating activities, detailed on the second page of this newsletter. If you would like further insights or have any questions about the curriculum, please don't hesitate to contact us.

We will continue to support their understanding of these changes, presenting an excellent opportunity to advance our Personalised Learning Goals (PLG's).

## Reminders / additional information

If it is appropriate for your child to have snack, please use Arbor Pay to pay for it. We have a range of snack options, including yoghurts, crisps, biscuits and juice.

This half term our hydro days are **Wednesday morning & Thursday afternoon** but please send in your child's kit at the beginning of the week as we may take them in whenever there is a space. Please include a costume/trunks, 2 towels and some body wash/shampoo.

Please remember to send in spare clothes for your child each day, thank you.



# Home Learning Curriculum Ideas

## Skills For Life



This half term, our students will be developing important Skills for Life through a range of engaging and practical activities. They will enjoy time in our school library, fostering a love of reading and building their independence in choosing books. Students will also take part in running the school tuck shop, helping them to practise communication and teamwork. To support fine motor skills and coordination, they will join in with dough disco sessions, and they will experience the joy of storytelling through sensory stories, designed to stimulate imagination and encourage participation. Together, these activities will help our learners gain confidence and independence, while building skills that will support them both in school and beyond.

## Health & Wellbeing



As part of our therapy programs—including sensory, visual, hearing, occupational, and physiotherapy—students will take part in a variety of activities linked to our current topic. These engaging sessions will support their development in a fun and meaningful way.

Additionally, our weekly PE MATP lessons will give all students the opportunity to become athletes! They will engage in a range of sports activities designed to challenge both their gross and fine motor skills, all while being encouraged and cheered on by their peers.



## Communication Community and Friendship



In our **CCF** sessions, students will embark on a powerful journey back in time to discover what Christmas was like during World War II. Through a rich sensory experience, they will explore the sights, sounds, and emotions of a Wartime Christmas, gaining a deeper understanding of how families celebrated the festive season under the shadow of The Blitz.

This will be supported by each student having the opportunity to visit The National Arboretum in Burton-on-Trent to reinforce this knowledge.

## PSHE



This term in PSHE, students will be exploring important themes around managing pressure, understanding respectful relationships, and recognising the impact of kindness and unkindness. Through thoughtful discussions, role-play, and reflective activities, they will be encouraged to develop strategies to cope with everyday pressures and learned how to support themselves and others in challenging situations.



## Creativity, Contributions & Choices



In our Creativity, Contribution and Choices sessions, students will be getting wonderfully creative in preparation for the upcoming School Christmas Fair! In a burst of colour and festive cheer, they will be busy designing and making beautiful tie-dye Christmas stockings and napkins, which will be available for sale at the fair. Each piece is unique, showcasing the students' artistic flair and teamwork. In addition to their fair preparations, students will also be engaging with current events through creative activities and handmade Christmas decorations, lovingly crafted for our class tree.

## Ideas for Home Learning



We encourage your continued support in promotion of our class-based learning activities at home. Here are a few suggestions:

- Make Christmas decorations to display in your home.
- When out shopping, look and feel different Christmas decorations.
- Read books both fiction and non-fiction about World War II.

You can share these experiences with us through the EFL Family App. It would be wonderful to see or read about your child's engagement in these activities.