

North Lane, Wheldrake, York YO19 6BB Telephone 01904 553422 Email: wheldrake.school@york.gov.uk Executive Head: Miss Emma Miller Chair of Governors: Mr Dave Carpenter

3rd February 2025

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Over the past couple of weeks, I have thoroughly enjoyed spending time with the children both in their classrooms and at playtimes. There is a purposeful 'buzz' around the school and the children have a love of learning which is enabling them to grow in knowledge and confidence.

I have been into many lessons and reviewed teaching and learning. We are fortunate to have experienced, skilled teachers who bring the learning to life. The children in Reception have talked to me about people who help us and made some super models of ambulances, fire engines and police cars. Children in Year 1 have written their diary recounts in candlelight with quills, in true keeping of their topic 'The Great Fire of London'. The children in Year 2 have been architects and the structures they have designed and built are very impressive; using a range of different materials to ensure their models are fit for purpose.

In Year 3 the children have demonstrated super inference skills in their reading and you can see great progress in their handwriting with some children receiving their pen licences at the end of last week. Persuasive letter writing has been taught in Year 4, linked to their class book of The Iron Man. Children were using emotive language and rhetorical questions to strengthen their evidence and they did this with great success.

The children in Year 5 were tackling reasoning questions and effectively consolidating previous maths learning. The steps involved in solving these problems were articulated with clarity and confidence. Our Year 6 children are in the process of completing another round of practice SATS papers. They are showing more maturity, focus and determination alongside increased pace to ensure all questions are answered within the time limit.

We want all children to reach their full potential and appreciate the support that you also give at home.

I would like to share with you the focus of my next parent/carers session which is Pupil Enrichment and Parent Engagement. This drop in is on Thursday 13th February from 8.45am – 9.15am.

I am on residential this coming Wednesday to Friday with the Escrick Year 5 and 6 children but if you have any questions or comments, then please contact Mrs Butterfield who will forward messages to me and I will be in touch as soon as possible.

Yours Faithfully

Miss E E Miller