

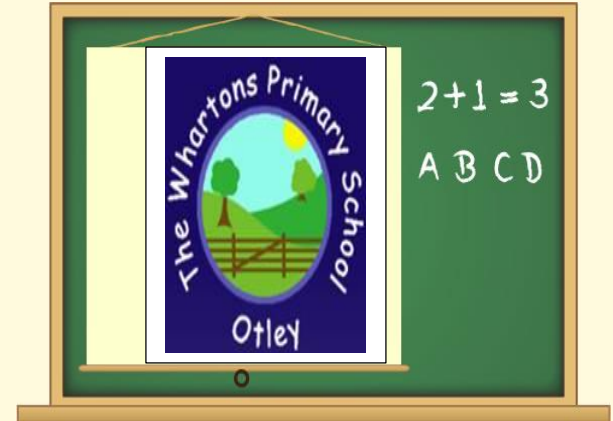
The Whartons' Newsletter

25th July 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,
What a fabulous final couple of weeks it has been at school.

The Year 6 treated the whole school to a brilliant production which took the audience through a whistle stop tour of their journey of learning and experiences at The Whartons. There were jokes, songs and poignant moments. We are so proud of all the children and wish them all the best for the future in secondary school.

There was also a fond farewell to Mrs Smith from the office who has supported Mrs Mitchell for almost two years. We wish her luck in her future ventures.



Assembly Themes

As part of our class assemblies this term the children have been working on their Youth Social Action projects with their classmates. The children have worked collaboratively and created such impressive approaches and secured great outcomes and impacts for their chosen focus recipients. Through talking to the children it has been a joy to hear how it has made them feel personally and collectively proud. More details will follow in the rest of this newsletter.

Year 4 raise awareness

During their youth social action (YSA) assemblies this term the Y4 children held class discussions around the children's concerns, and about how they could do their bit to help.

The children voted to focus their YSA project on climate change. They wanted to raise awareness of the issues but also the possible small-scale solutions which everyone in the community could get behind.

The children carried out research and in groups created posters designed to raise awareness. Their posters were shared within school via an assembly and will also be put up around Otley for the local community. Fabulous job Y4



Year 3's YSA Project

Year 3 children were so taken with our hedgehog visitors earlier this term and how the Prickly Pigs charity enabled so many hedgehogs to survive. Our lovely garden visitors have been on the decline in recent years and need all the support they can get. They decided that the volunteers needed a helping hand to keep up their great work. The children thought about how they could help; writing letters to our Whartons Community asking for donations of cat and dog food for the charity. They collected lots of tins and were proud to present their donations to Diane and a couple of prickly visitors last week. They had lots of questions about how they could continue to 'do their bit' at home.



- Year 2 trip
- Year 5 YSA Project
- Rec and KS1 support local charities

Year 5 make their own sweet treats

Year 5 children decided they wanted to support the great work that the RSPA charity do to rescue and 'nurse' abandoned and sick animals back to health.

They decided to make some delicious cakes and sweet treats, organise a cake sale and donate the proceeds to the local branch of the RSPCA. Such a team effort and child led from start to finish. They raised a very welcome £70. All the children were proud of themselves and learned many new skills.



Year 2 children enjoy a trip to Meanwood Urban Farm

As a finale to their science work this term on habitats the Y2 children enjoyed a fabulous trip to Meanwood farm last week.

The children had a great day in the outdoors amongst the plants and animals.

They went on a bug hunt and had great fun learning how to use 'pooters', which are a clever little device to facilitate sucking up insects and creepy crawlies into an observation jar. They were fascinated in the vast variety of insects they found in a small area.

Another highlight of the trip was pond dipping where again the children were amazed at all the different creatures they found in the pond.

As always the children were incredibly well behaved, Mr Williamson was so proud.



Reception and KS1 Children Support Local Community through their YSA

The process of each class's Youth Social Action Project took the children on a journey. They shared ideas about who they would like to help in the community from local to global. They presented ideas to their peers and voted on the most appropriate cause which the majority felt excited about. They then spent several weeks planning the best approaches; the 'what' and the 'how'.

All the children worked in teams on different aspects of the project, coming together to deliver their plans. Not only did the children build practical skills but also developed their ability to negotiate and realised their own crucial part in the whole process. I talked to the children from each class, asking them how the project made them feel, all answered 'happy' and 'proud'. When I asked some of the youngest children how the project had helped them, I was moved when many children told me they had been shy but after the project they felt they were more brave and would feel more confident to share their ideas and talk to others, including adults in the future. I am so proud of all the children have achieved.

Reception children decided they would like to support the Otley babies charity, by raising money so the charity can buy nappies, formula milk etc. for families with babies in the local area. They held a toy sale and raised over £100. **Year 1** children voted to support the PDSA charity who help sick pets. They planned book and bun sales for a whole week where all children helped man stalls, they wrote persuasive letters to parents for donations and created posters to advertise their events. What fabulous work! **Year 2** children decided that they wanted to boost community spirits and spread happiness. They painted happiness pebbles which they have distributed around Otley. We hope you find one and it lifts your day!



This page >>>

- Yr1 Trip to Harlow Carr
- Den Building Day
- Diary Dates

Diary Dates

Monday 25th July-

School Closes for
Summer Break

Monday 5th

September-Training
Day

Monday 6th

September-School
Reopens

Year 1 Children explore plants at RHS Harlow Carr

With a few adjustments to their school trip Y1 children set off for Harlow Carr last week at the start of a national heatwave.

Fortunately, Mrs Dowell and Miss Dalzell liaised with the organisers of the day and timings were adjusted to ensure the children were safely back at school for the increasingly hot afternoon.

The children participated in a workshop in the education centre all about how plants grow and what they need to thrive. They then went to the shaded woodland area, out of the sun, to explore.

The children took bark rubbings, used keys to identify the wide variety of tree leaves and even used string to measure and compare the circumference of the different tree species.

Despite the heat the children had a fabulous time at the centre which is rich in plant diversity.



Den Building Day

We had a great return to pre pandemic end of year whole school enrichment experience today with our amazing Den Building Day.

Chris ran an action-packed day on the school field where all the children worked in mixed aged groups to design and build their team a den. They had to consider how to use the materials that were available to construct a den which would fit their whole group inside. The dens needed to be sturdy and above all waterproof enough to stand the end of day bucket of water test!! Older children supporting the younger members of the team.

It was a joy to watch the older children patiently demonstrating and modelling the skills needed to build the structure. All the children worked incredibly together. The children's growing confidence and sense of achievement was evident throughout the day.

Great fun was had by all. What a lovely end to the year and start to the summer holidays. Well done children (and staff who also had a great time).



A final Note:

Have an amazing summer holiday and a well-earned break from school work. We look forward to hearing all about your adventures when we meet again on 6th September. *Julia Dickson*