

The Whartons' Fortnightly Newsletter

22nd June 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an exciting couple of weeks in school. Many classes have been on their class trips, there has even been some dragon hunting in Farnley Woods!

We have welcomed a range of visitors to school over the last two weeks including Prince Henry's students and a representative from the Wharfedale Nature Society, who donated a copy of a beautifully illustrated book 'The Lost Words'. The book aims to reintroduce little used vocabulary, which describes the natural world into children's everyday language. Debbie shared a few passages from the book with the children and it has been placed in the entrance hall for children to access. Many thanks to the Wharfedale Nature Society for their kind donation.



Assembly Themes

Congratulations to those children who received certificates for using their Learning to Learn skills and a Growth Mindset this week.

Reception - Lucas B & Harkiran S

Year 1 - Kristina S & Ebony P

Year 2 - Oriah N & Una JC

Year 3 - Thomas H & Matthew T

Year 4 - William P & Seren J

Year 5 - Evan A & Theo P

Year 6 - Everyone

Y6 ART TRIP TO PHGS

As part of Y6's transition programme the class were invited to spend a morning in the Art Department at PHGS last week.

They thoroughly enjoyed exploring their creativity with the support of the art teachers and a wide range of materials, tools and techniques.

The children decided they would like to create a collective montage of letters to spell out Whartons and in the process considered subtle artistic techniques to add depth and definition to their letters.



Visiting Students

We were fortunate this term to have two sets of student visitors from PHGS who came to work with our children across school. For their own development, students from Y10 and Y12 spend a few sessions working in classes to support children's learning.

Firstly, ten Y10 students engaged with classes from across school for an afternoon supporting children's learning in a range of different areas. The students had been given a choice of year groups and learning situations. They matched their skills to the learning activities Wharton's children were carrying out. There were students supporting in art sessions, some supported children in their French and others with reading and writing. We are very grateful to the students for giving up their time to support our younger children.

We were also lucky enough to have a visit from a group of sixth form Geography students who led a lesson in Y4 geography lesson involving a wide range of field study skills outside the classroom. They were brilliant and the children learned lots.



- **Parents Association**
- **Middle leaders Project**
- **Carnival**

Health Week and the 'Screen Free' Challenge

The week beginning the 2nd of July will be health week at The Whartons. As part of this we will be taking part in lots of 'MindMate' sessions aimed at promoting positive mental health as well as getting physical throughout the week. Children will come off their normal timetable for this week to take part in some exciting sessions such as some healthy food workshops and to participate in Sports Day on Friday.

We will also be setting a whole school challenge which will come home with your child on Friday 29th June. The challenge is for your child, and the whole family as much as possible, to be 'screen free' for a week and thus to come up with some new activities that could be done instead in their free time. We will then share children's progress at the end of health week and award some prizes for the most creative and successful participants!

Middle Leaders Collaboration

We are very fortunate to work so closely with our cluster of primary schools across Otley, Pool and Bramhope; sharing good practice and learning from each other.

Over the last term some of the middle leaders from across all our schools have been working together on a project to improve their leadership skills and positively impact on raising the standards of teaching and learning in their individual subject areas.

The teachers involved have engaged in coaching partnerships, joint action planning and reciprocal visits to partner schools. Each leader had their own focus, in the case of the Whartons Mrs Dowell has been improving computing across school, Mrs Manderville has developed sketchbooks to raise standards in art and Miss Stewart has introduced a new structured approach to teaching DT consistently across all classes.

To celebrate the end of the project Headteachers and Governors from each school were invited to a presentation afternoon where the leaders shared their projects, successes, impacts and next steps.

The collaboration was so successful we will be extending it to other teachers in future years. Well done to all the staff involved, including Mr Hampson who worked with other senior leaders and our school improvement adviser Trish Lowson to facilitate the project.

Carnival

It was Carnival time again on Saturday last week and the weather was kind! The atmosphere on the day was exciting as usual. It is always so special being part of such a vibrant community event. The school council decided on the theme for our walking float this year and parents helped too, with the catchy slogan 'Planet Protectors'. The children are passionate about looking after their environment and can talk enthusiastically about the importance of recycling, saving electricity and developing alternative energy sources to reduce pollution. After the initial ideas from the children, a parents' carnival committee got to work shaping the ideas into a cohesive theme. They worked tirelessly to make props and costumes and to organise a stunning format, which wowed the judges. **We were awarded overall winner** and presented with a trophy and certificate by Lily Cullen in her official role as Carnival Queen. I cannot thank the children and parents enough for their hard work and giving so generously of their time. Everyone looked amazing, even with pants on top of their super hero trousers.



- Online Safety
- Y1 Hesketh Farm Trip
- Diary Dates

Diary Dates

Friday 22nd June - School Closed (Training Day)
Tuesday 26th June - New Parents Children 'Stay & Play' 2:15pm - 3:00pm
Thursday 28th June - Whole School Experience PHGS
Friday 29th June - Summer Disco
Thursday 5th July - New Parents Children 'Stay & Play' Lunch
Friday 6th July - Sports Day
Monday 9th July - PTA Meeting 7:30pm
Tuesday 10th July - Reception Bun Sale
Tuesday 10th July - New Parents Children 'Stay & Play' 2:15pm - 3:00pm
Tuesday 10th July - Parent Helper Tea Party
Wednesday 11th July - Y2 Class Assembly
Thursday 12th July - Reception Family Picnic 2pm
Friday 13th July - Special Lunch 'Summer Picnic'
Saturday 14th July - Whartonsfest 11am - 3pm
Wednesday 18th July - Reception Class Assembly
Tuesday 24th July - Casual Day, bring £1
Wednesday 25th July - School Closed (Training Day)

Online Safety

Online safety is a key aspect of what we teach children today about living in the modern world. As parents and carers, the online world of social media and gaming can cause much worry when thinking about how to keep our children safe.

Our website contains a whole page dedicated to resources to promote online safety and is updated whenever new advice or helpful guidance is shared with us through the Leeds Safeguarding Team.

Please be aware of some new items which have recently been added which are parent guides for ensuring safety during online gaming and the use of consoles.

The page can be found at
<http://www.whartonsprimary.co.uk>
under the Parent Information
tab and Online Safety.



Reception Children Visit Hesketh Farm

"Last Thursday, Reception Butterfly class had their school trip to Hesketh Farm Park at Bolton Abbey. It was an extremely windy day, but we still had a fantastic time. The children were so busy with activities that the wind didn't stop us. We went on a tractor ride first, then a walk in the paddock with the animals. We mixed milk to feed the baby lambs. We collected eggs and held some very cute little chicks. Then we finished by cuddling and brushing the guinea pigs. Thank you to the parents who came with us. We hope you had a fun day too."



A final Note:

I hope you enjoy an extended weekend.

Julia Dickson