

# The Whartons' Fortnightly Newsletter

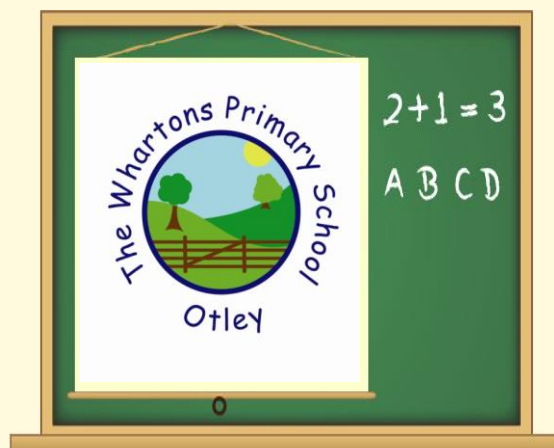
## 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a lovely couple of weeks of performances and children leading assemblies in school.

I am always impressed just how confidently our children approach public speaking/performing, which can be quite nerve-wracking occasions. They thoroughly enjoy sharing their ideas and talents with each other, parents and wider audiences. It is also a great skill to develop.

What a talented bunch they are!



## Assembly Themes

I was helped with my assemblies this week, by Gracie, Annie and Ellie from Year 4. The girls produced a PowerPoint and led an assembly on Healthy Me. They had researched all aspects of Healthy minds and bodies. They talked to other children about getting plenty of sleep, stretching their brains to keep them active and shared ideas on what makes a balanced diet. Thank you girls and well done.

Well done to all those children who received certificates for their hard work and focus over the last two weeks, despite the disruptions.

**Reception** - Charlie W & Mia B

**Year 1** - Esmee N & Charley F

**Year 2** - Matilda W & Brodie T

**Year 3** - Ruby CH & Kayce JC

**Year 4** - Katie C & Oliver M

**Year 5** - Monica G & Nathan M

**Year 6** - Ben E & Ewan F

## *Dress In Red Friday*

Last Friday, all the children dressed in Red and brought donations of a pound to support a great cause.

Each year the Children's Heart Surgery department at Leeds General Infirmary organize a 'Wear Red Day' day to raise awareness of the work they do and the importance of life saving Heart Surgery in Leeds.

Some of our families have benefited from the fabulous work that the heart team do in Leeds to keep their loved ones safe and well.

We want as a school to support the great work and pioneering work, ensuring it continues in to the future. Thank you for your donations, we raised a total £187.70.

## *Attendance Ambassadors*

Representatives from the School Council joined a team of ambassadors from across the Family of Schools last week, to share ideas and create a plan of action.

Mrs Warren, the Headteacher from Ashfield Primary, launched the new attendance ambassadors scheme in order to meet one of the objectives from the Otley, Pool and Bramhope Cluster action plan, which is to raise attendance across our family for all children.

It is important to help children develop a work ethic, minimise occasional days off school, and understand the importance and impact that missing lessons can have on their understanding and progress. The children plan to run competitions and design information posters and lead assemblies to get their message across.

- **Parent's Association**
- **Snow Inspired Writing**
- **Musical Extravaganza**

### Parent's Association

The small core of parents who are at the helm of the Parent's association had their monthly meeting earlier this week.

They are busy planning Rainbow Raffle events and a Quiz night, which will take place in May. The committee are also working with school to plan a grand opening of the outdoor classroom after the Easter holidays, so watch this space for more details.

The Mother's day stalls were a great success and the children really enjoyed choosing and buying their own gifts. I want to thank all those dedicated parents who put such a lot of time and effort in to creating opportunities that are great fun for the children and whole school community, whilst raising money for fabulous resources.

## *Snow inspired Writing*

During one of our recent snow days Year 5 children spent a morning in the outdoor classroom.

They used the sights, sounds and textures in the winter wonderland to create pieces of writing rich in language features and vocabulary. Here is a wonderful piece of writing from William Yr5

As I opened the door and stepped outside ...

I was greeted with a pearl white blanket of sugar, with a golden twinkle as the sun rose. People were throwing snowballs across the vast sea of whiteness. Icicles suspended from trees were glistening! Intricate snowflakes with unique patterns fluttered down as powdery snow crunched beneath my feet. Snow forts, delicately made, were being bombarded by snowballs as people shrieked with laughter! Branches had a beautiful white trim of pearl white snow, people were making snow angels and talking. Then the smell of hot chocolate invited me back to the warmth of my house.



## Family of Schools Musical Extravaganza

This Tuesday the Whartons' Choir joined choirs and orchestras from across all seven schools in our cluster to perform in a fabulous evening of music and singing at Yeadon Town Hall.

The choir, which has grown to a fantastic 39 were strong this year, they have been practicing hard over the last few weeks led by Mr Williamson and Mr Dowell.

It is such an exciting event in the year to practice and perform on a full sized stage in front of an audience of approximately 400 people. The children were confident and charismatic as always. They sang with passion and brought a tear to many a proud parent (and Headteacher's) eye.

Taking part in an event of this size really gave the children an opportunity to be part of a greater team where new friendships are made during some of the waiting times. It was wonderful to see children from across all the schools swaying and bopping away to the performances of other choirs. A real highlight of an evening, thanks to all the hard work from children and staff from across the cluster.



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## Diary Dates

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March** - Wildlife Area Clear Up 10-12pm  
**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March** - Yr4 Class Assembly  
**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March** - Draw for the Rainbow Raffle  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March - School Closes for Easter  
**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April** - School Reopens  
**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April** - PTA Meeting 7:30pm  
**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April** - Opening of the Outdoor Classroom  
**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April** - Yr1 & 2 Bun Sale  
**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May** - Reception Writing Open  
**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May** - Yr5 Class Assembly  
**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May** - PTA Quiz  
**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May** - PTA Meeting 7:30pm  
**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May** - Yr3 Herd Farm Trip  
**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May** - Yr4 Skipping Competition  
**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June** - Class Photos  
**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June** - Yr1 Class Assembly  
**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June** - Yr 4 Nell Bank Trip  
**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June** - PTA Meeting 7:30pm  
**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June** - Yr6 Bun Sale  
**Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> & Fri 15<sup>th</sup> June** - Father's Day Stall  
**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June** - Otley Carnival

## Year 3 Assembly

The children looked back at their top 10 moments of Year 3 so far.

The children created their own top ten presentation for their favourite events which included: African Voices day, outdoor learning with English, Stone Age to Iron Age topic and at number 1... Swimming and PE!

The children have clearly enjoyed all the varied things they have done so far in Year 3 and were very enthusiastic about their learning.

Some particularly memorable moments were the rocks and soils song (to remember different rock types), poetry inspired by our nature area, the individual time quiz (it was real-time pressure) and some cooking skills shown through some lovely Spanish tapas! Well done Year 3.



## History WOW Day

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March saw The Whartons become a real life 'Tardis' as classes went back in time to learn about a range of historical periods not usually covered within the school curriculum. From discovering all about the dinosaurs in Reception to finding out about the Great Plague in Year 6 and the birth of Buddha in Year 5, each class was fully immersed in their learning and it was wonderful to see such enjoyment and hear such great questioning and discussion from children. The day ended with a history quiz, hosted by our very own quiz master and history coordinator Mr Fisk. Children competed in their house teams with all teams showing an extensive and impressive knowledge of the history curriculum. Well done children!



**Inspiration Tree** are offering an exciting new multi-sports course during the second week of Easter at St Josephs School. Dates Mon 9<sup>th</sup>, Tues 10<sup>th</sup>, & Wed 11<sup>th</sup> April. As a special promotion this Easter they will be offering to Whartons pupils all three days for £35 for the 9am-3pm. The normal price is £48 for 3 days. If the extended day is required, then the additional fee can be added on. Further information please visit [www.inspiration-tree.com](http://www.inspiration-tree.com). When making a booking online or by text please use the special code of **Promo-SJ-SP01-3 Days**.

**A final Note:** I am looking forward to seeing many of you at school on Saturday morning for the 'Wildlife area' clear up. Bring wellies, warm clothes and lots of stamina!

Julia Dickson