

The Whartons' Newsletter

5th July 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

The beginning of this last half term in school has been busy and exciting with lots of trips and events for the children. It has been lovely to welcome parents into school too, from our new reception parents and children to many families on sports day this week. With all the national tests finished and some fabulous weather the children have enjoyed learning in the outdoors across the curriculum.

Also the weather was very kind for our great playground street party for the Jubilee and the Carnival!



Assembly Themes

The assembly focus for this half term has been all about Changes and matches the focus of our PSHE Jigsaw lessons. We considered what has made us proud and how we would like to improve both personally and across school as we look towards the end of one school year and an approaching new year.

Well done to all our certificate winners this half term. It is lovely to see the examples of your hard work on our Mathematician and Writer of the week boards as well as celebrate the children's many achievements both in school and out of school on our new PE achievements board

Youth Social Action Projects

All classes have been working together on their projects this half term. It has been amazing to see just how engaged and enthusiastic all the children have been to support their chosen charity or groups.

I am sure many of you will have had requests for donations or notice of sales the children are organising. It is clear to see from the children's engagement that the focus on raising children's self-belief and self-esteem is having a positive impact.

In Year 3. As part of our Youth Social Action plan, we are supporting the local charity Prickly Pigs. Prickly pigs are a charity that support hedgehogs in need in Otley. Over the past 20 years, hedgehog population has plummeted by as much as 50% (People's Trust for Endangered Species). Prickly Pigs Hedgehog Rescue, are hoping to give hedgehogs a helping hand by not only taking in sick, injured or orphaned hedgehogs but also raising the public's awareness of the plight of Britain's much loved hedgehogs and provide practical tips on how they can make their gardens hedgehog friendly.

To help we have decided to collect wet dog or cat food to deliver to Prickly Pigs. If you can help please deliver your donations of wet cat and dog food to the Year 3 classroom. All donations need to be given by 15th July 2022.

Many thanks, Year 3,

Article written by Marty. Sian, Max and Arvin

Moderation and Best Practice Sharing

The teachers have enjoyed the opportunity to work collaboratively again face to face with our cluster school colleagues.

The year 6, year 2 and reception teachers met together this half term with teachers from our family of schools to moderate writing in their year groups. This is an opportunity to share best practice and ideas in order to further support children's learning and achievements.

Many subject leaders have also benefitted from engaging with subject network meetings through our membership of the Red Kite Teaching Alliance. They have analysed and audited our teaching and learning strategies at The Whartons, shared some of the great work our children do and then brought back new approaches to try.

- Carnival
- Year 5 visit PHGS
- Trips

Carnival

With the return of the carnival after a two year hiatus it was wonderful to be part of this community event.

The theme this year for The Whartons walking float was 'A love of reading'. All the classes chose their favourite class novel or story book. Children and parents dressed up as book characters and made quite a spectacle as they paraded through Otley. A huge thank you to parents for creating costumes and for turning up in force to help supervise the parade. Although we didn't win this year we all had a great time. Lets get our thinking caps on for next year's theme



The first lesson of the day was science. We mixed alkalines and acids into indicator, which was purple, filtered red cabbage water. We used soap, lemon juice, toothpaste and vinegar to see what colour it would turn the universal indicator: pink, green or white. We also used sodium hydroxide as an alkaline and hydrochloric acid.

After that, we did drama with warm-ups, (different beans), then we got into groups and acted road safety for an alien using only our bodies. Then we retold the story of Humpty Dumpty.

The next lesson was tech. The game was called tomato squash: you had to make a basket to carry tomatoes down a mountainside and across a river. We only had paper straws, tape, paperclips, paper and string.

Lunch was amazing – I had a jacket potato with beans and cheese and I had vegetable korma with rice. We all got a delicious muffin!

We all really enjoyed the day, having a new experience in a new school (and finding out where the toilets are).

By Evie and Alex B

Tennis Tournaments to Stone Age Experiences

There have been many trip opportunities over the last few weeks across different year groups.

On Friday we went to Ilkley Tennis Club on a bus to go and watch, then play tennis, we all did different things and the activities were great. We were all really excited to play tennis on proper courts. We watched professional tennis being played and all of the year 4 children loved trying to get autographs. It was really exciting to be at the Tennis for a reason. We got to meet new people. From Abby in year 4

Year 3 went back to the Stone Ages at Herd Farm

Yr3 took part in Warrior Training to prepare them for their walk through a Pre-historic camp to an Iron-age camp. They then looked at various different artifacts from these times with an archeologist. They finished the day helping to build and then enjoy an iron age fire. It was a really enjoyable day.

Reception Children Hunt for Bears on a Trip to Nell Bank

The children went on a bear hunt through the forest, looking closely for signs and finding a very furry bear! They made mini dens for their bears. They tried pond dipping and found a newt. Explored the sounds of the giant, outdoor Instruments. They listened and responded to questions brilliantly. What a fantastic day they had...and they weren't scared



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- Great Fire of London Day
- Sports Day
- Diary Dates

Diary Dates

Mon 11th July-Reception's Social Action Toy Sale-Front Playground 3.15pm
Weds 13th-Fri 15th July-Yr6 Transition Day
Fri 15th July-Year 2 Trip to Meanwood Valley
Mon 18th July-Yr1 Trip to Harlow Carr
Tues 19th July-Yr6 Production
Thurs 21st July-Yr6 Bowling Trip
Fri 22nd July-Yr6 Leavers Assembly 2.15pm
Mon 25th July-Whole School Den Building
Mon 25th July-School Closes for summer holidays
Tues 6th Sept-School Reopens

Year 6 and Year 2 Re-enact The Great Fire of London

Year 2 and Year 6 children spent an exciting day in the company of history experts from Leeds Artforms team.

The children in Y2 have been studying The Great Fire of London through their History topic work and Year 6 children were revisiting a previously studied time in history. The visit was a fantastic experience to consolidate and bring learning to life. The children worked alongside their visitors to construct Tudor houses using illustrations as secondary sources of evidence to guide their designs. They discussed everyday life in Tudor times and considered how London streets were constructed, including building materials, street layout and usage.

All the houses were laid out to replicate maps of the city from the period, the children were pleased with the reconstruction. However, after a fun session on fire lighting techniques using a stone and flint, it was time to see how the fire spread so quickly through the flammable houses built so close together. The adults lit the fire at one end of the street and the children watched the flames travel, from a safe distance of course.



Sports Day

This week we were excited to host our first sports day for two years and invited parents along to share a lovely afternoon in the relative sunshine.

The year 6 children had spent several weeks planning and organising the carousel of sporting activities in groups. They devised games and races which challenged different sporting disciplines such as football skills, throwing abilities, agility, balance and of course speed.

They then designed the games, sourced the resources and equipment and built their courses.

In order that the sessions ran smoothly, the Y6 children took classes out onto the field in the week running up to sports day to coach the children in how to tackle each course. They did a little teaching in techniques and approaches.

The day ran like a well-oiled machine. All the children had great fun and I hope parents and families enjoyed the event too. I am so proud of all the children.

Thanks too to Mr Hampson and Mrs Gomes for supporting the y6 children



A final Note:

As we move into the last few weeks of term please remember the weather can change very quickly so rain coats and suntan lotion will probably be needed. I hope everyone has a good week *Julia Dickson*