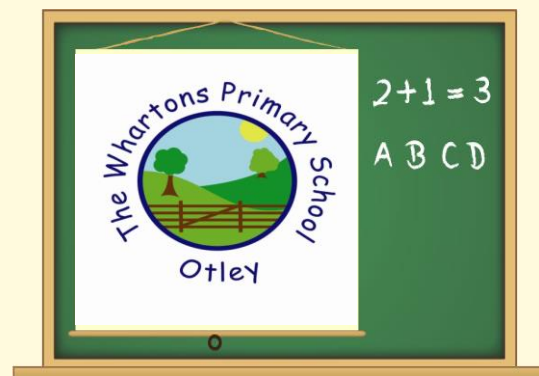


The Whartons' Fortnightly Newsletter

22nd June 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another year I would like to thank all the children, parents, governors and staff for their hard work and commitment. It has been a pleasure to watch the children grow and learn since September, through the many exciting events and creative projects. I wish everyone a restful break with plenty of sunshine and adventures and look forward to welcoming you all back in September for another exciting and action packed year.



Assembly Themes

Congratulations to all those children who received merit badges this term, there were too many to name individually but special congratulations must go to those that received Gold Merit badges:

Joe and Ethan from Yr5 & Marli, Jai, Freya, Taylor-Jai, Ewan & Rebekah from Yr6

Well Done to all

The Harry Buckley Award For Creativity

Congratulations to Oscar, Y6 and Theo Y5 who have been awarded Harry's Creativity shield for this term. The award was presented by Harry's brother Callum.



Good Bye and Thank You

It is always with mixed feelings that we wish a fond farewell to all the Y6 children at the end of the summer term.

It has been a real pleasure watching this year's pupils grow and mature in to exemplary young people who are now ready to spread their wings and move on to the next step in their learning journey. Transition for the children has been robust this year with an extended period of time with their new forms in their new school. We wish all the children luck and thank them for all their hard work and commitment this year. They have risen to their Y6 responsibilities & have been vital to the smooth running as the school; they really excelled themselves at the sports day this year.

It is also with sadness that we bid farewell to Julie Cameron-Young as she retires from her role as Chair of Governors. Mrs Cameron-Young has been a governor at The Whartons for 8 years, whilst her children moved through the school and beyond, and Chair of Governors for the last 5 years. In a good bye assembly Mrs Cameron-Young told the children how much she had enjoyed her involvement in the school, how proud she was to have lead the Governors and what wonderful, caring and friendly children and staff made up the school community. Mrs Cameron-Young supported myself and the whole school through our journey of improvement in recent years and I can't thank her enough for her relentless positivity, hard work, keen challenge and unwavering belief in our school community. Good luck in the future Julie.

After School Club also bids a fond farewell to Anne Milner who has supported children over the last 5 years. Thank you for all your hard work Anne and enjoy your retirement. I am sure Anne will be popping back from time to time to help Carly out.

- **Helper's Tea Party**
- **Parking Project**
- **'Whartons Fest'**

Parking Issues

Unfortunately I had a visit last week from one of our neighbours who was quite upset by some of the inconsiderate parking around the houses along The Whartons.

I would like to ask parents to avoid parking in front of driveways or in positions which make it difficult for residents to get their cars in and out of their properties.

In September, especially when the weather is still kind, it would be beneficial to adopt a 'park and stride' approach to pick up and drop off times so as to spread the car parking across a wider area and avoid congestion.

The walking bus is an excellent way to encourage exercise and social interaction for children whilst reducing the number of vehicles near the school gates. I have attached an information leaflet about the walking bus to this newsletter and thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Helper's Tea Party

It was time again for a civilized afternoon of tea and scones last week. We invited all the parents and friends of the school, who have worked so hard to support the children through such a wide range of activities this year.

Mrs Mitchell organized the cream teas, helped by Freya Mellor, a sixth form student from PHGS who had spent the week with us on work experience.

Our guests were treated to a range of musical performances from violins and flutes to brass and guitars. Mr Williamson and Y4 children finished off the afternoon with a fabulous couple of numbers on the ukuleles.

It is impossible to explain fully the positive impact volunteers have on all aspects of school life. Without the support of our volunteers we would not be able to purchase exciting resources, run trips or take part in community events. Our volunteers are also invaluable in supporting learning on a day to day basis. I would like to Thank You all again for being so generous with your free time especially if you did not manage to make it to the tea party this time.

Have a great summer break and we hope to see you back again in September.

'Whartons Fest'

The Parents Association introduced a new event to the school calendar last week with a festival feel. 'Whartons Fest' was a new venture to replace the traditional summer fair.

The weather really made the event, and it was lovely to see so many families enjoying a relaxing afternoon in the sunshine.

There were a range of activities to keep everyone entertained from an arts and crafts stall, face painting and tattoos to the judging of a cake baking competition by our own School Cook, Helen Marshall and her able assistant Mrs Marshall. The cakes were then auctioned off to the highest bidder. The organisers, led by Lou Etherington and Elle Bowman, had incorporated a barbeque and bar. There were impromptu games for the children and a safe area of lego, and water play for the youngest family members. During the afternoon Mr Wainright was a DJ in residence and a real highlight to the afternoon was a fabulous 'set' from the Otley Ukulele Band; many of the children brought along their own instruments and joined in. It was an amazing afternoon and I thank the parents for all their hard work and staff for manning the stalls. I hope this will become a regular fixture.



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- Mayor's Visit
- Reception Assembly
- Diary Dates

Diary Dates

Tuesday 24th July-School Closes for Summer

Monday 3rd Sept-Training Day

Tuesday 4th September-School Reopens

Friday 21st Sept-Individual School Photos

Friday 5th Oct-Training Day

Friday 26th Oct-School Closes For Half Term

Monday 5th Nov-School Reopens

Mayor's Visit

Last week we were delighted to welcome the Mayor of Otley Cllr Mary Vickers who visited school, concluding her visit by joining us for our assembly.

The Mayor explained to the children her role as the principle citizen of Otley. She talked to the children about some of the official duties she carries out in her role and shared with them, as a former nursery teacher, one of her favourite parts of her job was visiting and talking to children in schools.

The children asked some really insightful questions and were intrigued to learn about how mayors are elected, the history of Otley's Town Mayors and the symbolism of the Mayoral chains.

Cllr Vickers finished the assembly by thanking the children for their questions and promising to return and spend a little more time with classes exploring the Mayor's role within civic life.



Reception Assembly

The last class assembly of the year was held by our Reception children and was a great way to finish the year.

It was a pleasure to watch our youngest children as they shared with the school, and their parents, all of their learning from across the year. The children engaged their audience with songs, art work, stories and writing. It was incredible to find out just how much they had learnt during their time in reception and I was so proud of their confidence when performing and speaking in front of a filled hall.

All of the children's learning is set in contexts which are driven by them. This year the children have been fascinated with growing and making things. They shared with the audience one of their favourite stories of the Little Red Hen who planted, tended and harvested corn before making it in to bread. The children have been growing their own plants and followed up on the story by making their own bread. There was even a song to remind everyone the stages in bread making.

A final Note:

Have a great holiday everyone and please remember that from September school dinners will need to be paid for in advance. Many thanks.

Julia Dickson