

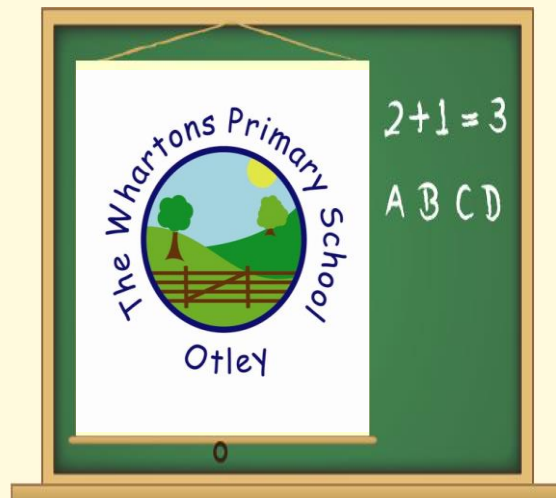
The Whartons' Fortnightly Newsletter

27th April 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back everyone. I hope everyone had a good break.

Last week, in an assembly, we sadly had to bid a fond farewell and say a huge thank you to Kirsty Bryant, one of our governors. Kirsty has been a governor for 10 years whilst both her children have grown up through the school. Kirsty's hard work and dedication have been invaluable through the last few years particularly. She has spent many hours of her spare time talking to children, collaborating on school development plans, monitoring progress and supporting staff especially myself. We will miss her very much but wish her well in the future. We hope she comes back and visit us soon!



Assembly Themes

This half term our focus is Relationships. Who helps us and who we can help. Well done to all those children who received certificates for their hard work and focus over the last two weeks.

Reception - Isla E

Year 1 - William H

Year 2 - Charlotte M & Lucy P

Year 3 - Thomas H & Zack F

Year 4 - Solomon B & Gracie C

Year 5 - Theo P & Lea E

Year 6 - Katie W & James W

Wild Life Area Clear Up

On the Saturday morning just before the holidays, a small band of volunteers answered the plea for help. The weather was kind and in two hours during the morning much was achieved.

Mr Reynard organised the group of parents, staff and children into working parties covering many different areas of the outdoor learning space.

The climbing frame area was weeded by Mrs Foley, Mr Reynard, Ebony, Lucia and Mrs Pearson; Mrs Bowman and Natalie got to work on the sensory planters; Mr Fisk turned his hand to reweaving one of the willow arches near the outdoor classroom; Mr Bowman, Mrs Revers and Michael turned over and cleared all the large planters in the pond area; Mr Dickson and Mr Pearson cleared the pond; I raked all the pathways and Mr Morritt, with Mrs Kettleborough trimmed and tidied all the willow arches plus offered his excellent professional advice all morning. Mrs Reynard made cakes and refreshments half way through the morning. One of the most impressive feats was the number of times Natalie and Michael filled wheelbarrows of waste and then filled the skip. Thank you so much to everyone for their hard work. It was a fun morning and the outdoor area looks fabulous. I look forward to doing it again later in the year. All welcome.

Carnival Plans

The school council spent some time before the holidays thinking about what theme they would like for our walking float entry to the carnival this year.

They have decided with pollution becoming a worrying issue and a need to raise awareness and action around recycling they would like this to be the theme for our parade this year.

A sub-committee of the school council who meet after school on Fridays are focusing on raising the green profile of school and will be working towards the 'Green Tree Awards' run by The Woodland Trust. One aspect of these awards are to raise awareness of actions such as recycling and so designing the parade around this theme is a great start.

- **Egg Decorating Competition**
- **Tag Rugby**
- **Y1 Visit**

Tag Rugby Competition

On Friday 20th April the Y5/6 Rugby team competed in the North Leeds Tag-Rugby festival at Otliensians.

The team played exceptionally well and were true ambassadors for the school.

After 5 hard matches I am delighted to say that The Whartons were the overall winners! Well done everyone!

Unfortunately, the Y6 players will be unable to attend the final as they are on residential but we are hoping to field a complete Y5 team to take up the Wharton's place.



Year 1 Visit Bridge Street Church

This Tuesday Year 1 visited Bridge Street Church as part of our RE topic on what it means to belong. The children have been learning about Christianity and the features of a church, both in and outside the building. The children really impressed the vicar with their excellent manners, infectious enthusiasm, and impressive knowledge. They enjoyed investigating the church grounds, sketching the stained glass windows and climbing up into the pulpit. They practised their English skills prior to the visit by writing questions to ask the vicar such as 'When did you decide you wanted to become a vicar?' and 'When was this church built?' We had a lovely morning and the children (and accompanying adults) really enjoyed learning in such a first-hand way. Many thanks to Ebony and Madelyn's mums for accompanying on the visit.



Easter Egg Decorating Competition

Although the Easter break is over it was amazing to come back to school last week to see such an array of creative and amusing decorated Easter Eggs. There were almost 40 entrants to the annual competition and the children had really let their imaginations run wild with their themes. On some of the projects, it was lovely to see how children and parents, or grandparents, had worked together. Whereas there were other creations which were solely the work of the children. All of the entries though were beautifully presented and obviously had taken hard work and perseverance. I hope all the children (and adults) enjoyed this holiday venture.

It was so difficult to judge that myself and Mrs Gomes decided all the children who entered deserved a small token for their efforts. We also chose winners and runners up in each age range for a prize which built on the creative theme.

Well done to the Rec winner and runner up: Charlie W & Ida J
KS1 winner and runner up: Oliver T & Finlay S
Lower KS2 winner and runner up: Millie F & Archie W
Upper KS2 winner and runner up: Nadia J & Josh K



- Y4 Assembly
- Outdoor Learning Day
- Diary Dates

Diary Dates

Monday 30th April - Multi Skills Trip

Tuesday 1st May - Reception Writing Open

Thursday 3rd May - Yr5 Class Assembly

Friday 4th May - Opening of the Outdoor Classroom

Friday 11th May - PTA Quiz

Monday 14th May - PTA Meeting 7:30pm

Friday 18th May - Yr3 Herd Farm Trip

Monday 21st May - Yr6 Residential

Wednesday 23rd May - Yr4 Skipping Competition Trip

Monday 4th June - Class Photos

Wednesday 6th June - Yr1 Class Assembly

Thursday 7th June - Yr4 Nell Bank Trip

Monday 11th June - PTA Meeting 7:30pm

Tuesday 12th June - Yr6 Bun Sale

Thurs 14th & Fri 15th June - Father's Day Stall

Saturday 16th June - Otley Carnival

Friday 22nd June - School Closed (Training Day)

Friday 29th July - Summer Disco

Wednesday 4th July - Reception Class Assembly

Friday 6th July - Sports Day

Monday 9th July - PTA Meeting 7:30pm

Year 4 Assembly

It was Year 4's turn to invite parents to their class assembly in the last week of term.

As usual, the children really wowed their parents and grandparents with the range and complexity of work they had covered over the year so far.

The children used the format of their class novel 'The Demon Head Master' in order to take their audience on a whistle stop tour of their learning in the classroom since September.

The acting brought the whole assembly to life and it was clear to see the enjoyment the children had gained from immersing themselves in the complex story of this novel. The children had been inspired to create brilliant pieces of writing, for a range of purposes, prompted by the story. The class also shared with the audience their love of music and performed as a whole class ukulele band. Some children explained other themed projects such as learning about Roman life. It is always a highlight in the year for children to

celebrate with the rest of school, and their parents/carers, all their hard work and achievements.

Thank you to Mr Williamson for helping the children organise their ideas and to all the adults who were able to join us.



Outdoor learning Day

Year 1 and 2 held their 'spring term trip' around our own school grounds just before the holidays. Sometimes small classes and the cost of coaches renders trips out a very expensive venture. With such great facilities on site, it can be just as much of an adventure to really explore the school grounds and link our learning with the outdoors. With this in mind the Y1 and Y2 teachers organised a great outdoors day with a visitor from Leeds Artforms 'Habitats for Life'.

We spent the morning or afternoon entirely in the nature area using all our senses to do lots of different activities that helped us learn about the animals that live in our nature area habitat. We hunted around trying to find as many different types of minibeast as we could. To help us experience what it is like to be an animal with a predominant sense of smell, we had to wear blindfolds and find our way around a rope trail; but on the way there were a range of scents on some of the trees which we had to try and identify, including rosemary, garlic and lavender. To understand about blending in with your environment, we had to try and spot some everyday and unusual objects that were hidden away in the foliage; some of them were quite hard to find! We finished our session by creating our own brand new minibeast out of clay and foraged materials, with the children having to justify why they were giving their animal that feature. They demonstrated a depth of understanding, clearly enjoyed the experience and we made really good use of our fantastic outdoor classroom.



A final Note: Please remember to buy your tickets for the quiz night on Friday 11th May. Last year was a great fun night out and a super fundraiser for the Parent's Association.

Julia Dickson