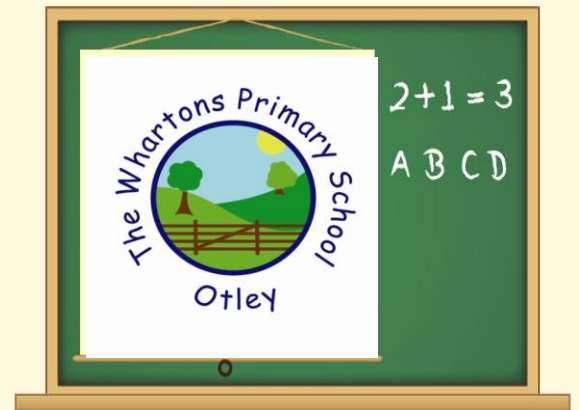


The Whartons Fortnightly Newsletter

16th June 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

The last half term of the school year is well underway and children have been working hard. There was great excitement this week as the Parents' Association ran their annual Father's Day stalls. All I can say is there are going to be lots of happy dads/grandads/uncles on Sunday when they open their gifts. Thanks so much to Laura Cook for organizing and her team of helpers, it is lovely for the children to be able to choose their own gifts.



Assembly Themes

Our new Jigsaw theme for this half term is 'Changes'. We have been considering some big changes that will be happening this term such as moving classes and teachers and for the Y6 children moving up to High school. Changes can be happy, sad and sometimes a little scary. It is good to talk about the changes that are worrying you but also to try and live a little more in the moment. We have been practicing mindfulness.

Well done to the following children who have received certificates this week for their great interactions with others :

Reception - Libby and Tom

Year 1 - Ella and Finlay

Year 2 - All, for great learning and behaviour

Year 3 - All and Lottie

Year 4 - All, for excellent behaviour & attitude on their trip to PHGS

Year 5 - All, for taking on all the Year 6 jobs whilst they were on their residential.

Swimming Lessons with Year 3

I had a real treat last Friday afternoon when I stepped in for Mr Young and accompanied the Year 3 children down to their weekly swimming lesson.

I was so impressed at how hard the children work and how well they focus on the instructions of their swimming teachers.

I led a small group who were focusing on perfecting their breast stroke and butterfly leg kicks. Thank you to Aiden, Molly, Gracie and William who were very patient with me and worked tirelessly for the whole session.

We finished off with a very splashy race across the pool and then the march back up the hill with Mr Reynard setting the pace.

What a fabulous afternoon of activity for all of us!

E- Safety

We talk often to the children about keeping themselves safe on line and knowing when to ask an adult for support if they see anything which might worry or upset them. Assemblies are used to explore with the children safe online practices.

If you are worried or need some advice as parents then O2 have set up O2 Gurus in stores. You can book an appointment with an O2 Guru through the NSPCC website www.nspcc.org.uk and visit them in your local O2 store where they will chat with you and your child about e-safety and setting parent controls. You can also get advice by ringing 0808 8005002.

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- Road Safety Quiz Night
- Diary Dates
- Y1 Hunt for Dragons

Diary Dates

Saturday 17th June - Otley Carnival
Tuesday 20th June - Year 6 Bun Sale
Wednesday 21st June - New Reception Evening for Parents 6:30-7:30pm
Thursday 22nd June - Reception Class Assembly
Friday 23rd June - Roller Racing Event
Friday 30th June - Summer Disco
Tues 11th July - Parent Helpers Tea Party (Afternoon)
Wednesday 12th July - New Starters Stay & Play Session
Friday 14th July - Sports Day
Sat 22nd July - 'WHARTONSFEST' Summer Fun Day!!
Wednesday 26th July - Year 6 Leavers Assembly

Road Safety Quiz

I spent an exciting evening yesterday with our Road Safety team at Otley Methodist Church.

Mrs Hughes and a mixed age team of KS2 children have been training with for the last few weeks covering all aspects of road safety information in preparation for annual the Otley and area road safety quiz.

Nine teams from the north west section of Leeds battled it out over three heat rounds with a raft of diverse and tough questions which tested their knowledge of the Highway and Green cross codes, road signing and complex statistical facts. Unfortunately, this year we did not win the Road Safety Quiz shield but a massive well done to Lois and Hannah (Y6), Alex (Y5), Monica (Y4) and Michael (Y3) for all their hard work and team cooperation. Thanks too to Mrs Hughes for being team coach. The children all received gift tokens for competing.



Year 1 Hunt for Dragons in Farnley Woods

On Wednesday 7th June, Year 1 started the day with a visit from two people from the Magical Creatures Conservation Society. They were investigating sightings of a wood dragon in Farnley Woods and needed the children's help.

The children were up for the challenge and became Dragon Detectives for the day!

They proved very good at their job as they discovered lots of evidence including a dragon footprint; a feeding station; a nest containing a golden dragon's egg and even a treasure hoard!



They then met Dr. Dee, the owner of the woods, and showed him their evidence. He was delighted that wood dragons had not been scared completely away by the noisy wood cutters there.

The afternoon ended with a naming ceremony for the baby dragon around a beautiful fire. It was a fantastic day and has provided an excellent stimulus for the children's work this half term on dragons and other magical creatures.



What a magical trip for Year 1! Thanks to the Magical Creatures Conservation Society.

A final Note:

I hope the sun shines on the carnival procession this Saturday and everyone has a great time. The risk assessments for all those 1970s platform shoes has taken Mrs Dowell quite a while!

More reports and photos in the next newsletter.

Julia Dickson (Head Teacher)