

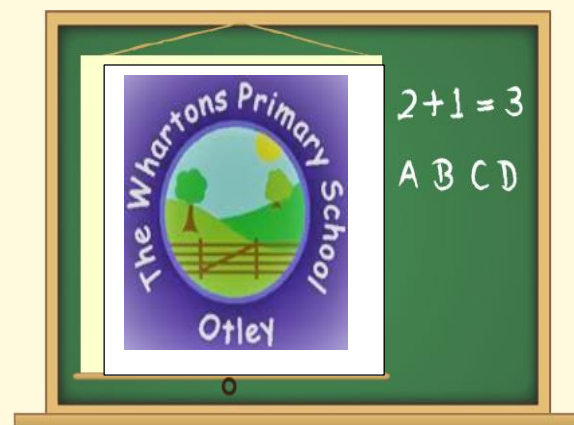
The Whartons' Newsletter

20th September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is lovely to welcome everyone back after the summer break, especially our new Reception children who have settled so well into school over the last two weeks. The Year 6 'buddies' have done a fantastic job of supporting the Reception staff and helping the new children during lunchtime to navigate the dining hall and making friends out in the playground.

All the children have been working hard in their new classes and enjoying new learning opportunities. Make sure to take a look at the class pages on the website and find out what the children are learning this term.



Assembly Themes

During our assemblies we have been considering new beginnings and revisiting how we ensure our school is a welcoming place for new children, parents and staff. The children would like to install colourful 'Welcome' signs in different languages and pledge to always welcome visitors and friends with a friendly smile, making sure we support each other. We have taken the time to consider the ingredients for a successful, happy, 'show stopper' school; Great British Bake Off style. The children compiled a recipe which included trying our best, supporting each other and respecting our school and everyone in it.

Well done to our 'Best I Can Be' certificate winners who shared their work or great learning behaviours with the school in Friday Assemblies. Their work will be displayed on our writer and mathematician of the week display boards

Reception – Haven't been to Assembly yet

Year 1 – Freddie W, Oscar B, Annabel H & Niamh Q

Year 2 – Jasper W, Levan B, Lilly W & Sophie T

Year 3 – Whole Class

Year 4 – Charlotte B, Elijah M, Lucy P & Matilda W

Year 5 – Lily C, Joshua L, Reehma W & Matthew T

Year 6 – Austin D, Seren J-G, William P & Evie C

Parents Association (PA)

I attended the PA's AGM last week; it was great to welcome new faces and to hear about the fabulous range of activities planned for the coming year. Financial support from the PA enables school to extend or enhance many of the learning opportunities for your children, they are also great social events. Please look out for notices and newsletters outlining how you can get involved.

Golden Time

The Y6 pupils have been hard at work planning a wide range of exciting Golden Time activities for the children to select from during their earned Friday Golden Time. They have organized 9 groups of enrichment activities including outdoors, sports, art and drama, to name but a few. The children have planned a sequence of activities and experiences which a partner member of staff will support them to deliver. We have also enlisted the help of our new sports coach Henry from Inspiration Tree to facilitate the sports club. I look forward to sharing some of the sessions with you over the coming term...well done Y6.

- **School Development Plan 2019-20**
- **Collaboration with Red Kite Teaching Alliance**
- **Playground Development**

School Development Plan

Some of the new focus areas of school development this year are:

Curriculum enhancement which is based on current research;

A focus on attendance and punctuality;

Continuing to build a restorative practice approach to all aspects of school life;

Develop pupil's role in the school leadership;

Building understanding and effective approaches to support children with complex needs;

Develop a wide and rich set of experiences which develop pupils characters throughout their journey through The Whartons;

Nurture, develop and strengthen children's talents and interests;

Continuing to build an understanding of diversity;

Strengthen and develop The Whartons workforce through continual professional development.

It has been great to welcome our two new Red Kite Trainee Teachers for this year. Miss Honayoonpoor will be working alongside teachers and support staff in the Reception classroom and Mr McKinney will be working alongside the team in Year 4.

Both of the students have thrown themselves into classroom life and are keen to learn from Whartons' staff. They will be completing the teaching element of their placement a little later in the term when they have got to know the children and attended training with their peers at other Alliance schools and at The University of Leeds.

Later this term colleagues from the RKA will be visiting school to carry out a peer review. This will support staff at all stages to recognize what is already great practice and to identify areas to enhance.

As a partner Headteacher I will then be visiting another partner school from the Alliance in January and working with the school Improvement Adviser from Red Kite to conduct a peer review there. This cycle and practice of reviewing each other's schools is a great way to continually improve provision and practices.

School Playground

You may have noticed over the summer holidays an exciting new piece of playground equipment has been installed in the front playground. The Spinner has been a great hit with the children and we can't thank Joseph's dad enough(Y1), he not only donated The Spinner free of charge but also gave freely of his time to install the new equipment.

Last year the School Councillors, after canvassing opinion from their class mates, decided they would like to enhance the outdoor play equipment and have been working with Mr Hampson to identify what sort of playground markings and new equipment they would like. The new Spinner is a great start and they will be reporting progress updates during the year.

At the end of last term Mr Hampson and Mr Fisk also visited Thorner Primary School, who have developed exemplary practice in outdoor learning. Learning in the outdoors is a driver for our curriculum. We will be considering how to further develop the opportunities for meaningful outdoor learning in light of Mr Hampson and Mr Fisk's research.



This page >>>

- *Road Safety*
- *Music across school*
- *Diary Dates*

Diary Dates

Monday 23rd Sept-Individual School Photos

Monday 23rd Sept-Yr 2 Bun Sale

Tuesday 24th Sept-Yr 4 Road Safety Training

Monday 30th Sept-Yr1 Phonics Evening

Tuesday 1st Oct-KS2 SATS Meeting

Tuesday 1st Oct-Poetry Day

Friday 4th Oct-PA Quiz Night

Monday 7th Oct-Reception New Parents Meeting 6pm

Tuesday 15th Oct-Parents Eve-3.30-7pm

Thursday 17th Oct-Parents Eve-3.30pm-5.30pm

Thursday 17th Oct-Harvest Festival

Friday 18th Oct-Training Day

Pedestrian Training

Children from across year groups 1.2 & 4 have received some important lessons in keeping themselves safe near the roads and learning how to use all their senses and attention when crossing the road.

Amber from The Leeds Road Safety Team visited school and took the children, plus their teachers out in to the estate around school to discuss how safely to walk along the pavements & how to cross the roads safely. They also looked at what hazards to look out for, such as bins on the pavement, cars coming out of driveways, parked cars on the pavement, overhanging bushes and many other things the children and adults probably have never even considered.



Music Across School

This year we will be building on the children's musical experiences and opportunities to develop their creativity in music and learn how to play a musical instrument.

Over the last couple of years Mr Williamson has introduced the whole class teaching of Ukuleles in Year 4 to build on their recorder instrument lessons in Y3. This year, with the financial support of the Parents Association Mr Williamson has purchased a class set of Ocarinas for Y2 and keyboards for Y5.

To enhance the children's musical experiences and learning journey, Reception teachers have introduced musical chime bars in to the outdoor area for the children to explore and whilst their teachers are out of class for PPA time I have secured music lessons from an external company called Junior Jam.

Miss Bailey will be teaching music based activities.



A final Note:

The first Parent Association event is a quiz night on 4th October, make sure you rally a team together and join us for a fun evening.

Julia Dickson