

# The Whartons' Newsletter

## 25<sup>th</sup> October 2019

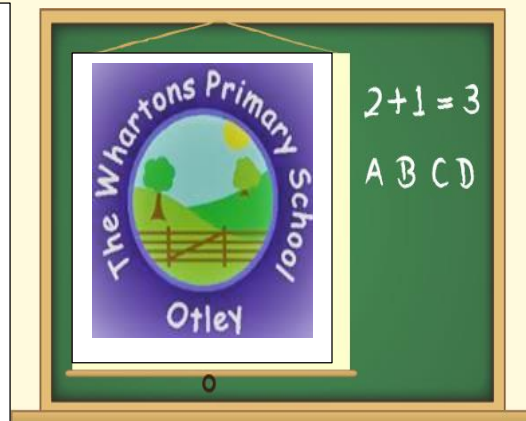
Dear Parents and Carers,

This first half term has flown by and the children have been working hard, settling in to exciting challenges and learning in their new year groups.

The first half term of the autumn in school has been lovely with lots of fabulous events and trips.

I want to say a huge thank you to the Parents' Association for the Quiz Night earlier in the term, with special mention to new members Mr Moody, Quiz Master Extraordinaire and Mr Bacon for their organisation.

I think we are all looking forward to our first holiday of the year and I hope you all have a chance for a good break whether at home or away.



## Assembly Themes

During assemblies over the last couple of weeks we have been talking about Black History month and considering many influential people from across the decades.

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** – Avleen S & Jackson F

**Year 1** – Sian D & Emma M

**Year 2** – Jake L, Alex S & Justin C

**Year 3** – The Whole Class

**Year 4** – Lucas B, Ella T, Charlotte M & Noah R

**Year 5** – James M & Archie W

**Year 6** – Ellie S-P & Lilly T

## Computer Training

Last Friday afternoon whilst the children had a break from school Julie from BT, led training for teachers on computational thinking.

BT sponsor a project called 'Barefoot Computing'. This is a free programme and tool kit of resources for teachers which can be used to weave computational thinking through the curriculum.

Ultimately building children's ability to construct logical chains of instructions, debug their sequences and write computer programs.

We can't wait to start using the resources to enhance our computing curriculum.

## Positive Identities Workshop

During our training day last week all teachers and teaching assistants enjoyed a very active and informative workshop led by Banardos. The training supported staff in considering how we can encourage children to embrace differences within our community in a positive way. We discussed how to tackle possible prejudices and how to enhance our Anti Bullying policy.

- **Reception PE**
- **Harvest Festival**
- **Divali Day**

### Harvest Festival

Last week the whole school walked down to Bridge Street Church for our annual Harvest Festival. Reverend Jason McCulloch and his team were as welcoming as ever and went out of their way to make the harvest a real pleasure. The children performed poems, songs and even shared their research in to harvest traditions from different countries. I would like to thank all the parents who helped supervise the children walking to and from the church, families who joined us to enjoy the celebration as well as parents' kind donations which will be distributed to local charities 'Caring for Life' and 'The Joanna Project'. It was a lovely community event



## *Reception Children Enjoy Active PE*

Whilst walking around school last week it was delightful to stumble across the Reception children in their 'Physical Activity' lesson.

The children were thoroughly enjoying experimenting with a range of PE equipment and learning more about how their bodies moved when they ran, jumped, rolled and slid along the apparatus.

Building a joy of activity, an understanding of the benefits of keeping fit and healthy, creativity, risk taking and collaboration through physical challenge is a key part of children's education and can impact positively on all aspects of children's learning.



## **Divali Day**

Our Religious Education (RE) Leader Mrs Matthews has been planning the progression of RE across the whole school curriculum. She asked teachers if they could identify a festival or celebration from the religion they are studying and explore the festival in depth with the children. Looking at the many elements of different festivals from the food, music, customs, dancing and stories supports children in understanding the "how and why" of different cultures, building understanding and encouraging tolerance and respect for the differences in our society.

Year 4 and Year 6 spent the day on Tuesday recreating a Divali festival. They booked out the hall and learnt how to dance, tried different foods, created rangoli patterns and shared what they learnt with other children. What a colourful and exciting day. If you visit school you will see in the corridors that all the subject leaders have created subject displays which chart the progression of key themes across the school in their subjects.



### ***This page >>>***

- Y4 Trip to the Egyptians
- Y6 Ruby Tournament
- Diary Dates

## **Diary Dates**

Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Oct-School Closes for Half Term

Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Nov-School Reopens

W/C Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Nov-Yr6 Bikeability Training and come to school on your bike week.

Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Nov-Open Day-Appts only

Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Nov-EYFS only Training Day

Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Nov-PTA Meeting

7.30pm

Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Nov-Glow Disco

Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Nov-Flu Vaccination Day

Sat 7<sup>th</sup> Dec-Xmas Favre

## **Y4 Study The Egyptians**

Year 4 went to Bagshaw Museum in Batley on Wednesday to study all things Egyptians which is their History topic this term.

We studied the Kingdom of Osiris and got to handle artifacts that were over 3000 years old including small drinking vessels which was amazing.

The children learnt the skills to be become archeologists, including digging to find treasure and then cleaning what they found with a small brush.

We even turned one of the children into a mummy!

It was a great day and as always, Year 4 were a credit to the school.



## **Y6 Rugby Tournament**

As part of their PE lessons this half term Y6 children and staff have been working with Mrs Fenton-Green, a PE leader from Prince Henry's. All the children have really enjoyed building their skills in hand eye coordination, strategic team game playing and touch tackling in this new sport.

As a finale to their programme of learning all the Y6 children from the family of schools met at Prince Henry's this morning for a friendly rugby tournament. The opportunity to put skills to the test in these friendly competitions is always great fun for the children. As always The Whartons pupils were impeccably behaved and showed team work.

Well done to everyone and thank you to Mrs Armitage for volunteering to join the children and staff for the tournament.



### ***A final Note:***

Don't forget our "Cycle To School" week from 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> November.

*Julia Dickson*