

# The Whartons' Newsletter

## 18th February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well another half term has flown by and as always there has been lots of exciting events and visitors alongside hard work and learning.

The children have helped this half term to reassess our vision for the school and renew the pledges we will all make to ensure our school reaches its mission of Excellence, Enjoyment and Achievement for all. Please see our updated vision, mission and values PowerPoint on the website.



## Assembly Themes

We have had some exciting assemblies over the last half term. This included a visit from Lucy at the young carers organisation who explained to the children about the role of young carers and the support that is available to them; and also had a visit from Barnados who talked about positive identities and celebrating differences.

Our year 6 children lead assemblies for Upper KS2 explaining the positives and drawbacks of social media and how to use each platform responsibly; and Mrs Manderville has scheduled assemblies to talk about safer internet usage to both KS1 & KS2 which will take place during the first week after the half term break.

Well done to Rec: Lenny M & Nimrat C, Yr1: Teddy M & Lucy W, Yr2: Stevie M & Fateh C, Yr3: were swimming, Yr4: Harkiran S & Alex S, Yr5: Tommy R & Gracie A, Yr6: Tristan W & Ella T who all received certificates.

## Welcome to new members of staff

As Miss Milner leaves school and WASC for new adventures we have been fortunate to secure two great replacements for her roles.

Firstly Miss Danni Beattie has taken over as WASC Manager. She has been working closely with Miss Milner over the last couple of weeks to ensure a smooth transition and has been made to feel very welcomed by the rest of the team.

Danni is a qualified teacher and looking forward to her new role and liaising with teachers in school to ensure continuity of care.

Miss Milner will be returning to her role of Learning Mentor next



year. We have been fortunate to secure a fantastic new member of staff to cover her maternity. Miss Green has a wealth of experience working with individual and small groups of children to support their learning. I know all our children and families will make her feel very welcome.

## Good Luck Miss Milner

At the end of the week Miss Milner will be starting her maternity leave with her second baby due in March.

We are all very excited for Miss Milner and wish her a restful time with her son Cody before his new baby brother or sister arrives. We look forwards to welcoming Miss Milner back to her role as Learning Mentor later on in the new academic year.

Sadly, Miss Milner will not be returning to her role as Whartons After School Club Manager. With two children to look after continuing both her roles would be a little too challenging.

I know the children at WASC will miss Carly but will still get to see her around school when she returns. Thank you so much for all the lovely messages.

- **Singing performances in Y3**
- **Collaborative writing in Y6**
- **A Big Thank You**

## A Big Thank You To Waitrose

Keeping school and stakeholders safe over the last few years has become a priority in school over the last 18 months. Mr Reynard and his team have done the most brilliant job in keeping school clean and germ free, with very few in school transfer of COVID cases.

However this is unfortunately quite an expensive business with extra supplies in soap, paper towels, anti-viral sprays and hand sanitiser needed to keep germs at bay.



We were thrilled when a grandparent, Mrs Bannister, came and donated some surplus hand sanitiser from Waitrose. We really appreciate this kind gesture.

Thank you for thinking of us.



## *Y6 working together to create balanced arguments*

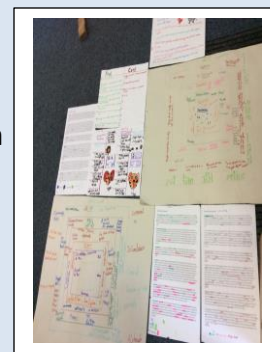
Year 6 have been developing their writing skills this week through studying how to construct a balanced argument.

The children worked collaboratively to consider the pros and cons of the focus subject area of zoos. There were many different considerations and apposing views. Discussion was rich and Mrs Gomes helped the children to back up their thoughts and ideas with reasoning and evidence.

Y6 then examined good examples of reasoned arguments and dismantled them in order to ascertain what made each example a well-constructed piece of persuasive writing.

The children then worked on gathering a range of language features which would eloquently convey their points of view.

The ability to write a supported balanced argument is a skill which will support children in their learning across the curriculum as they move on to secondary school. Well done Y6 you really showed a mature approach to this task.



## Singing, performing and recording in Y3

Year 3 had the very exciting opportunity to take part in a singing and performance event this week.

One of our parents, Mr Wainwright works in the creative industries and as part of his work he has written and designed a new video and story project installation which has been created for North of the Tyne, Under the Stars. This is a free outdoor festival of projection, magic and storytelling, inspired by local stories and landscapes from across Newcastle, Northumberland and North Tyneside.

The story is about the journey of children and animals. To add atmosphere, direction and meaning to the story Mr Wainwright needed a choir of children to sing the backdrop.

Of course, he knew just where to come. The children in Y3 have practiced the audio and Mr Hamilton came into school this week to support the children in their performance and to record their pieces. It was very exciting, and I am sure it will greatly enhance the experience for visitors to the installation in the North East over the half term holidays. Well done children and thank you to Mr Wainwright for the opportunity. Thanks too to all the parents for their permissions. Good luck with the venture Mr Wainwright; we are sure it will be amazing.



## This page >>>

- Class Instrument lessons
- Sporting Activities

## Diary Dates

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Feb-School  
Closes for Half Term.

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb- School  
Reopens.

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March KS1 &  
KS2 Online Safety  
Assemblies.

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March &  
Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March –  
Parents Evenings (by video  
call).

## Year 2 Class Instrument Lessons

As you are aware Mr Williamson as music leader has built up whole class instrument lessons in classes for Y2 through to Y5 with Y6 and Reception classes having external music teaching on percussion and singing.

Over the last year and a half whole class musical instrument lessons have been a little on and off with changing advice, particularly for 'blowing' instruments.

This half term however Y2 have started their whole class ocarina lessons with Mr Williamson. The children are having a fabulous time getting to grips with these little 'pipes', learning finger positioning and their first steps into learning musical notation.

I can't wait to hear them all together performing in a school assembly in the not too distant future.

Y3 have a lovely new set of class recorders to begin their music lessons, Y4 have also started their ukulele lessons and Y5 are enjoying keyboard lessons as a whole class. Good luck children, I am sure we have some budding musicians who will develop their expertise and passions over the next few years.



## Sporting activities

As the weather has improved over the last half term it has been good for children to get outside and enjoy some sporting activities, fixtures and events.

Earlier in the term Mr Hampson supported by parents took our cross-country team to the local qualifying cross country competition event. All the children did extremely well and really enjoyed the event. Some of the Y6 children and Charlie from Y4 qualified to compete in the Leeds Area final last week at Temple Newsam. The event was nerve wracking as our pupils were running against the best from across Leeds. I am so proud of their achievements as all managed very respectable times and positions. Well done to all those who took part at either stage.

Mr Hampson has also started an after-school football club and is hoping to organize some friendly inter-school competitions later in the year.

Prince Henry's Grammar School have set up an after-school netball club for cluster primary schools. The club will run from 4.30-5.30 every Tuesday by Mrs Fenton-Green starting from 1 March in term time. Please ask at the office for a flyer if you are interested.



## A final Note:

Thank you in anticipation of your donations to the Parents' Association for 'Breaking the Rules Day' at school today. We have all had great fun. Have a super half term break. *Julia Dickson*