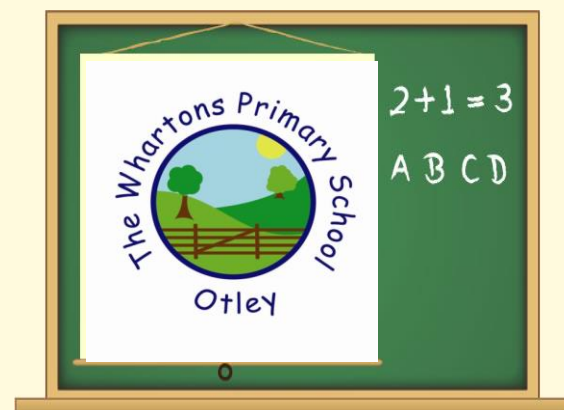


The Whartons Fortnightly Newsletter

4th July 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are well and truly in to summer now with all the changes in weather that brings. Please can you send your children with rain coats as it can so quickly turn wet and chilly but remember to apply suntan lotion as when the sun comes out it is very strong. Along with the summery weather there has been an increase in the size of some of the girls' headwear over the last two weeks. Could I remind you that a modest headband/scrunchie is school attire and not large bows, please keep the Jo Jo Bows for parties. Many thanks.



Assembly Themes

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

Reception – Eva M & Athene F Year 1 – Matilda W & Lucy P Year 2 – James M & William L

Year 3 – Were Swimming Year 4 – All Of Year 4 Year 5 – Harry C, Lilly C & Freya R Yr 6 – Michael C & Joseph F

School Council Focus on Lunchtime

The members of the school council have not been resting on their laurels since finishing the revamp of the school library earlier last term. They have now moved on to their next focus, which was to improve an aspect of school life. The councilors decided that the dining experience at school could be improved and set out to find what children enjoyed about lunchtime, and what they thought could be introduced.

Happily, the top of the list of things about lunchtime which children liked was the friendly and helpful lunchtime supervisors among many other aspects. There were suggestions for improvements which ranged from butterflies in the dining room to mood music.

The council decided on a few key changes and put together a powerpoint presentation which they shared in assembly with the whole school. I am particularly excited about the 'Table of Honour'. Watch this space for more information as plans and procedures emerge.

Year 6 Ambassador Programme

Some children were selected to go to Prince Henry's Grammar School on Thursday mornings for the last few weeks to represent our school at the ambassadors' programme. As part of the programme, they got to meet the teachers, have a tour round the school (including map reading) to learn where the different areas are, and they got to meet some of the other children who will be their classmates next year. The idea of this ambassador programme is so that these children can then feed back to the rest of their class so they know what the school is like and can alleviate any worries about the day-to-day practicalities of getting around a new, bigger school. Also it means when Year 6 have their transition day next week, the ambassadors will be able to support and guide finding their way around. The children are looking forward to their new school.

- Autism Assembly
- Y5 and Y6 Tennis Experience
- Reception Assembly

Equality & Diversity Charter Celebration

Representatives from Year 5 and 6, alongside governors, parents and staff were privileged to take part in a cluster celebration event at Otley Courthouse on Friday afternoon last week.

The reason for this finale event was a showcase of work from each of the 8 schools in the cluster around diversity and equality.

All of the headteachers signed a cluster agreement 'Charter' which pledges to ensure that everyone in the collective school communities is treated with respect as an individual. That diversity is celebrated and prejudice in any form is challenged.

Each of the schools had taken a different aspect of diversity and equality and had been finding out in depth about their particular area. The Whartons chose to explore Autism and share the challenges and misconceptions around this. Children from each of the other schools presented on a wide range of issues from cultural diversity to sexism and ageism.

There were speeches from the MP Alex Sobel and Mayor of Otley, Nigel Francis, the press were there to capture key moments. The children used poetry, drama, music and powerpoint presentations to share their messages.

At the close of the event all the Headteachers signed the Charter on behalf of their schools and it was presented and accepted by the Mayor.



Y5 and Y6 Tennis Experience

Last Tuesday, Year 5 and Year 6 went to the AEGON Tennis Tour at the Ilkley Lawn Tennis Club.

All the children had a fantastic, action –filled time. They watched some professional level tennis, received an hour of professional tennis coaching on a one to seven basis and even watched the top seed play on Court 1!

As always, the children represented our school really well.



Reception Assembly

On Thursday last week, we all enjoyed watching the Early Years class assembly.

They started by acting out and telling the story of The Hungry Caterpillar and moved on to tell us about their fantastic visit to Tropical World.

The children shared some lovely work about their visit, including some beautiful paintings and diagrams and some amazing writing.

There was also some graceful butterfly dancing with the children wearing fabric wings. They finished with sharing a song about the life cycle of a caterpillar, which had some of the rest of the school (and some parents) joining in with the actions.



This page >>>

- *Y4 Trip to Nell Bank*
- *Diary Dates*
- *Carnival Success*

Diary Dates

Friday 30th June - Summer Disco

Monday 3rd July - Year 5 High School Experience Day at PHGS

Tues 11th July - Parent Helpers Tea Party (Afternoon)

Wednesday 12th July - New Starters Stay & Play Session

Friday 14th July - Sports Day

Wednesday 19th July - Year 6 Production at 6:30pm

Sat 22nd July - 'WHARTONSFEST' Summer Fun Day!

Tuesday 25th July - Whole School Trip to Kirkstall Abbey and Museum

Wednesday 26th July - Year 6 Leavers Assembly at 2pm

Monday 4th September - School Closed (Teacher Training Day)

Year 4 trip to Nell Bank

Year 4 took a trip to Nell Bank Centre in Ilkley last week on one of those beautiful, sunny days – where have they gone? It was an action-packed day which started with orienteering, followed by pond dipping, and then by den building. After all of that, there was still time for the children to do some actual fire starting from scratch, using flint and steel!

The adults at the centre were “dazzled” by the children’s brilliant behaviour and that the children, no matter what the activity, always showed great teamwork.

They did manage to fit in some time at the adventure playground before coming back to school at the end of the day. Well done Year 4 and a big thank you as always to the parent helpers who went with us.



Carnival- 1977

What an amazing Carnival procession again this year through the streets of Otley, although I did have to watch on Twitter as I was not too well on the day. The array of floats, both walking and driven, were fabulous as always and the weather was superb. The children, staff and parents looked incredible dressed up as aspects of 1977. There were disco outfits which took me back to my youth (I was only 10/11 though in 1977); characters from popular films such as Star Wars; there were children dressed as toys from the era (who remembers Simon and Spell and Say?); some children were having great fun on 'Chopper bikes and skateboards and there were a fabulous array of 'Big Hair' do's (move over Farrah Fawset, here come Mrs Dowell and Mrs Foley). I would like to say a huge thank you to the small band of parents who spent many hours organizing and making costumes ; Mrs Johnson, Mrs Bowman, Mrs Etherington and Mrs Smith. All the effort was worth it as we won first prize for the walking School Float. Thanks to the children, parents and staff who took part too.



A final Note:

Have a lovely weekend *Julia Dickson (Head Teacher)*