

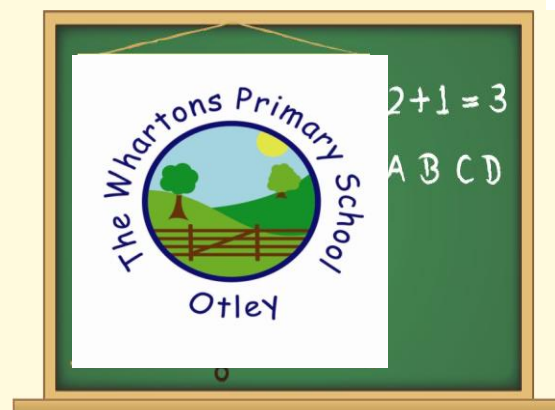
The Whartons Fortnightly Newsletter

11th October 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have to open with a plea this week. Whilst visiting some of our extra curricula clubs last week I was concerned by the low numbers of children who are attending pop choir at the present time. Mr Williamson and Mrs Dowell have really built up a great choir over the last couple of years and we have been able to extend the number of events we can perform at due to that.

Unfortunately, at the present time there may not be enough choir members to credibly perform at some of the local Christmas events; such as the Victorian Fayre. Please could you rally your children to join if they love singing.



Assembly Themes

We have started a new whole school PSHCE focus 'Celebrating Differences' this half term both in lessons and through assemblies. Last week we explored the festival of Divali and traditions which surround the celebration for Hindus. We have been considering how our similarities and differences as individuals and groups are what make our community interesting. The following children received certificates for using their supportive approach to others.

Well done to :

Rec: Erin W & Gracie A Yr 1 : Oliver H & Lucy P Yr 2: Callum B & Lottie S

Yr 3 : Solomon B & Gracie C Yr 4: Charlotte C & Joe W Yr 5 : Anouk B & Marli T Yr6 : Maisy H & Joseph F

Welcome

We bid a sad farewell to Kathryn Gibson at the end of last half term. Kathryn had worked at The Whartons for the last four years in the office and was a great support to Mrs Dolphin and the smooth running of the office. Although we will miss her we all wish her luck in her new venture, as she relaunches her beauty therapy business.

We have welcomed a new member of office staff this week who has taken over Mrs Gibson's role. You may have already met her at the office window or in fact know her already; Mrs Rigby is parent to Freya in year 5.

There was another new arrival over the half term. Mr Young's wife gave birth to their first child; Rory Young. We want to congratulate Mr and Mrs Young and wish them all the best as they enjoy some time as a family during Mr Young's paternity leave. We can't wait to see Rory and hope he pays us a visit soon.

Open Days

I always feel very proud whenever I show new people around school. The two recent open days were a perfect opportunity to tell our visitors about the wonderful work of our children.

As always the children were exemplary in their approaches to all aspects of school. In every classroom we visited the children were keen to talk about their learning and everyone was impressed at the positive attitudes, hard work and polite pupils at The Whartons.



- Captain Tiddles
- Red Kite Teaching Alliance
- Toys Theme Day

Captain Tiddles

Last week was a sad time in Year 5 as we had to say goodbye to our treasured pet Captain Tiddles, who has been in Y5 for 3 years. We buried him in the wildlife area and gave him a good send off, but he will be sadly missed. Please look out for him if you are visiting the wildlife area anytime soon.



Red Kite Teaching Alliance

Learning partnerships are a powerful way to continually improve practices in school, refining strategies and approaches. The Red Kite Teaching Alliance is an organization of schools from around Leeds and North Yorkshire who work together to share good practice and improve teaching and learning for pupils across all its member schools.

This term many of our subject leaders will be engaging with colleagues in the Alliance through newly formed Collaborative Learning Groups (CLGs). Each group considers how to improve approaches to teaching through improved marking and feedback and effective assessment.

Mrs Dowell will be sharing good practice in the use of ipads with computing leaders; Mr Hampson is exploring how to engage children in mastery of mathematical concepts through discussions at a maths leaders group and Mrs Gomes will be working with other assessment leaders to compare the best procedures for gathering assessments and using these to inform next steps in children's learning.

Toys Theme Day

It is important for children to develop their writing abilities for a range of purposes and learn to tailor their writing for different audiences. In order to support children's writing, set writing in a context and stimulate children's imagination we have decided to hold a 'wow' day each half term.

This half term Mrs Matthews organized a toys day; designed to spark children's interest and provide a context for talking and writing about toys. Children enjoyed talking about their favourite toys, different styles of toys and how toys have changed across the decades.

Children and staff were encouraged to bring their most loved toys in to school and the day began with an assembly where the children tried to guess which toy belonged to which teacher. It was fascinating to see the range of toys teachers brought in and the children were surprised to see that some of the more traditional toys have lasted the test of time such as farm sets, puppets, action figures, dolls and musical instruments. Although they were bemused by the absence of anything electronic!

It was fascinating to listen to the philosophical discussions in classes which considered which toys were best and whether there should be toys which are designed specifically for boys or girls. The children wrote some lovely pieces of information texts about their own toys; describing how they could be played with.



This page >>>

- *Pumpkin Disco*
- *Year 6 Assembly*
- *Date for your diary*

Diary Dates

Saturday 12th Nov - Otley Science Fair-
Otley Courthouse.

Wednesday 16th Nov-Yr 2 Assembly
9.15am

Friday 18th Nov-Training Day

Saturday 26th Nov-Xmas Fayre-2pm-
4pm

Tuesday 29th Nov—EYFS Open
Morning Phonics Workshop-9am-
10.30am

Wednesday 30th Nov-Yr6 Trip To Eden
Camp

Sunday 4th Dec-Otley Victorian Fayre

Weds 14th Dec-KS1 Xmas Production

Thursday 15th Dec-KS2 Xmas
Production

Friday 16th Dec-Party Day

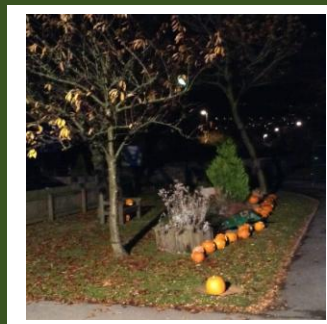
Friday 16th Dec-School Closes for Xmas

Pumpkin Disco

A huge thank you to all the new, and experienced Parent's Association members who organized the Pumpkin Disco last Friday, and to the parents who joined their children at the disco. Without your support these social events, which the children enjoy so much, wouldn't be possible.

The first disco of the year was a great success, the children had a wonderful time dancing with their friends, dressed in all their finery!

It was quite awe inspiring to see a procession of children walking up to the doors, in costumes, through the beautifully carved and lit avenue of pumpkins. Well done to all those children, and parents, who created the fabulous pumpkin lanterns. During both discos the DJ was great fun and hit the right note with a mixture of organized dancing games and great tunes. Even the adults, including myself, joined in with the conga and a little 'superman' action. The disco was a super way to cheer up a dark autumn evening.



Year 6 Assembly

Written by: Isobel W and Lola M-D

In our year 6 assembly we talked about lots of different aspects we have covered within our first term.

We told parents all about the work we have covered in Art, Science, L2L(learning to learn), English, Maths and many more. We all made posters with all our best work and presented them to everyone in the school. We showcased our learning in art where we have been finding out about L.S lowery and his famous paintings. In PE we have been focusing on Olympic sports such as jumping, running and throwing; three volunteers Izzy, Michael and Alfie came up and showed us how you do types of jumps called triple jump and long jump. We discussed Learning to Learn in our assembly and three volunteers read out pieces of their best work. After L2L maths came up and Jack, Gustav and Rory did a maths problem on the board. In science our teacher has been Mrs. Thompson and we have been making a festive model. We shared our learning around the world and talked about WW2 and the Alliance.

A final Note: Remember we have a training day on 18th November, a week on Friday, and school will be closed so enjoy a long weekend, maybe in the snow!

Julia Dickson (Head Teacher)