

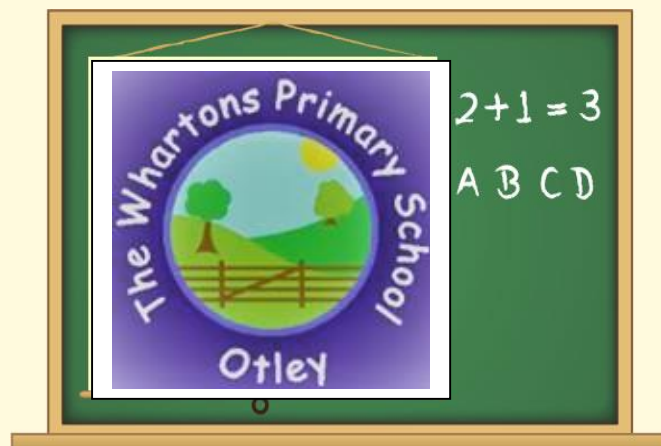
The Whartons' Fortnightly Newsletter

18th January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back and Happy New Year to everyone.

The children arrived back on Tuesday last week rested, excited and eager to catch up with friends. There was a great atmosphere of focus and hard work. The children have already thrown themselves in to their new themes for this term; remember to visit the class webpages to find out what areas of the curriculum the children will be exploring this term and how you can support them at home.



Assembly Themes

Our assembly focus for this half term is Goals and Dreams. We will be exploring with the children how we can identify personal, school and more global goals and dreams, and work towards these. I shared with the children the United Nations global goals for 2030 with the children this week by discussing the World's Largest Lesson video (you can access this on line if you would like to watch it again with your children)

Well done to our 'Best I Can Be' certificate winners who shared their work or great learning behaviours with the school in Friday Assemblies.

Reception – Joseph T

Year 1 – Levan B & Pearl B

Year 2 – Harry B

Year 3 – Lucy P & Noah R

Year 4 – Ruby C-H & William G

Year 5 – Ellie W, Austin D, Oliver H

Year 6 – Finley D & Emma L

School Meals Questionnaire

Many thanks to all those families who took the time to complete the school menu questionnaire from the kitchen team.

Following an analysis of responses, the cooks have adjusted some of the choices which will be available to the children through the new menus in February. Leeds Catering and our kitchen staff are keen to take children's ideas and opinions on board in order to design a menu, which appeals to the majority.

I am always pleased to receive comments on the menu or food in general which I share with the Catering manager during our termly catch up meetings.

Family of Schools Joint Training Day

Whilst the children were enjoying their last day of the Christmas holidays the teachers from all of the primary schools across our cluster were having a productive and collaborative introduction to the new term down at PHGS.

Every January the Pool, Bramhope and Otley schools join together for their training day. During the day they share good practice and develop action plans which improve learning for all children across the cluster.

This year, for part of the day, teachers met in their year groups to share teaching approaches and successful strategies. They discussed how learning environments could support children's learning and independence. To enable teachers to share good ideas, each of the year group teams met at different schools; we hosted EYFS and Y2 teachers from the cluster. Each teacher brought photographs of their own classroom environments to explore resources and displays and identified future opportunities to work together collaboratively. It was helpful for the teachers to identify common areas, which they would like to develop and improve. This has led to planned visits to each other's schools later in the year.

This page >>>

- *New Y4 PE Unit*
- *Youth Activity Fund*
- *Diary Dates*
- *Final Note*

Diary Dates

Tuesday 22nd Jan-Yr5 being visited by the Fire Service

Tuesday 22nd Jan-Yr 1 Bun Sale

W/C Monday 4th Feb-Yr 6

Residential Week

Monday 11th Feb-PTA Meeting-7.15pm

Friday 15th Feb-School Closes for Half Term

Monday 25th Feb-School Reopens

Thursday 28th March-Yr 4 Skipping Event at Trinity

Friday 1st March-School Disco

Thursday 7th March-World Book Day

New Y4 PE Unit

With the start of a new half term it was time last week for Katie Fenton-Green (our PE teacher from PHGS) to change her focus year group.

Mrs Fenton Green will be working with our Y4 children this half term, which is the same for all schools in the cluster. This term's focus unit of learning is the sport of Hand Ball.

I was fortunate enough to be covering in Y4 on Monday afternoon when they have their PE lesson with Mrs Fenton-Green. It was fascinating to watch the video clips which she showed the children in order to help them understand some of the rules of the game, both men and women's, and to begin to pick out the key skills needed to master the sport.

When the children moved into the hall to engage in their practical lesson Mrs Fenton-Green supported the children to develop small key skills of passing, catching and throwing whilst working as a team and often at speed. She built the children's confidence and encouraged them to use collaboration and team work.

At the end of this half term's unit Y4 children will take part in a Handball festival event at PHGS with the other Cluster Schools Year 4 children.

'Youth Activity Fund' Planning Exercise

As part of the Leeds City Council's Young Peoples Consultation event all KS2 children have engaged in a group planning activity. As the council will be allocating £50,000 of funding to cover projects around the city which enhance what they offer for young people, they wanted to consult with children from across all areas of the city to share their wishes and ideas for the funding.

On Tuesday afternoon Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 worked in groups to allocate the money following in depth discussions and voting.

In order to make reasoned judgements and choices the children were supplied with replica money in the denominations of £500 notes. They were also supplied with possible activities, events and equipment with relative costs and gains for each idea.

The children had to work collaboratively, consider a range of information, vote and rank their preferences being mindful of value for money and mass appeal.

They were engaged in some complex calculations, having to consider proportions, percentages and decimals. The children thoroughly enjoyed the task and were motivated by the real life aspect of their deliberations. We will present their findings at the city event later in February.



A final Note:

Have a great weekend!

Julia Dickson