

The Whartons' Newsletter

21st May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Finally, we seem to have seen off the worst of the winter weather which is a relief. Children have been able to play on the field for the first time in a long while. It has been lovely to see the children spreading out into all the available space.

After the latest easing of some restrictions, we are starting to think about booking visits and visitors again for later on in the summer term. Fingers crossed the road map stays on track. Unfortunately, it does not seem that we will be able to gather as a whole school, whether outdoors or indoors, before the end of term. Therefore, there will be no Whartons' Fest this year and we will not be able to invite parents to any events or productions on the grounds, so sports days will have to be for children in school only I am afraid. I hope that September brings more opportunities to get together again.



Assembly Themes

In assemblies over the last few weeks and up until half term we have been revisiting our 5Rs or Learning to Learn Skills. Last week we considered how utilizing Relationships can support our learning and this week we discussed Risk Taking as a learning skill which is sometime a challenging thing to do. However, as we discovered many a fabulous discovery or talent is due to learning from our mistakes.

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 – Elliot, Toby H, Harvey, Lucy W, Edith and Heidi **Year 1** – Zak, Stevie, Freya and Will M **Year 2** – Oscar, Lily-Mae, Emma and Grace **Year 3** – Nathaniel, Abby, Sophie and Frankie **Year 4** – Jacob, Gracie, Kristina and William **Year 5** – Tristan, Una, Matilda, Skye and Emily **Year 6** – Will J, Millie, Matthew and Sam C

Year 1 learn all about flowers

Year 1 children have been learning all about how plants grow as part of their science lessons this half term.

They used the knowledge they had acquired to plant their own sunflowers and will tend to them at home over the next few weeks. Using photographs and measurements they will chart the progress of their sunflowers, sharing this with the class via their Google classroom. The children have also created collage plants and labeled all the key parts of the plants and flowers. With such good knowledge I think we will see some budding gardeners.



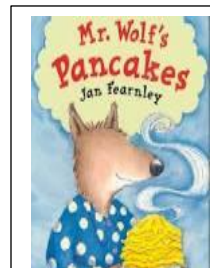
Book Talk Videos

Mr Fisk, our English leader, has set all the children in school a reading challenge. The children need to select their absolute favourite book/story to share with their classes.

The children must select a favourite book which might be a current favourite or could be something from when they were younger.

The children are tasked with reading out a section of their books and then explaining why they like the book so much.

This has been done in school by some classes and some classes have taken on the challenge as a homework project and uploaded videos of their story telling onto the Google classroom. Well done Edward who read a section from his favourite story Mr Wolf's Pancakes



- After School Clubs
- Online Safety
- Y5 Quilting

ACES After School Club

As I have previously mentioned, we have used government sports funding grants to employ sports coaches from ACES Education, who run maths based Tagtiv8 lessons with Y4 and Y5 on Thursday afternoons, as well as a lunchtime activity club for KS1.

Alongside the ACES coach we were excited to reinstate one of our extra-curricular activity clubs after school last Thursday.

The sports club will cover different sports with different year groups. There will be a focus on one class per half term.

The after-school club will be free of charge and we would encourage parents to take up the free place when it is their child's class turn.

This half term it is Y3's turn and they are trying out Tag Rugby.

It was great to see boys and girls enjoying an energetic session in the hall this week.

Keeping Safe Online

Miss Milner, our learning mentor, worked with a core group of Y6 children last week exploring how they might keep each other safe online.

Miss Milner supported the children to explore what possible dangers there maybe with online games and social media. They shared the platforms, games and Apps they used and discussed why each of them has a recommended minimum age.

The children also agreed what was an acceptable way to behave on social media and what would be unkind or dangerous.

With their shared message and newfound understanding the group of children planned and created a PowerPoint for all Y5 and Y6 children which they

presented live via Zoom to UKS2.

We are very proud of them. They did a fantastic job in shining a light for their peers on safe



Y5 Quilt

As part of their DT lessons this term Year 5 have been studying the African American Folk Artist Harriet Powers.

Harriet was born into slavery in Georgia in 1937. She used traditional appliqué techniques to make quilts. She created narrative quilts which depicted and recorded local legends, Bible stories, astronomical events and American history.

The children then chose their own story to design and make: The story the children captured in their quilt was that of the Chinese zodiac.

Here is the result - I wonder if Year 5 are able to retell the story of how the Chinese Zodiac was created using their quilt as a prompt?



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- Y4 Maths through PE lesson
- Art Competition

Diary Dates

Friday 28th May –
School breaks up for
half term.

Monday 7th June –
school reopens

Wednesday 14th July –
Friday 16th July
(provisional) – Y6
Transition days to PHGS

Thursday 15th July –
Great Fire of London
visitor to Y2 & Y3

Year 4 Children Have Fun Collecting Data

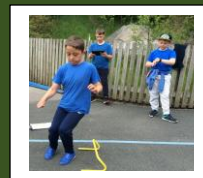
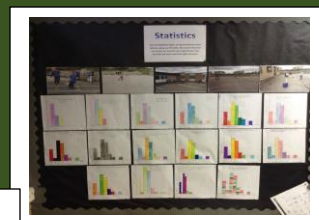
Year 4 children spent a fabulous and active Monday morning session on the back playground working in groups, performing a carousel of physical challenges. They timed themselves on short sprint shuttle runs, measured their collective and individual bean bag throwing distances and counted the number of side hurdles they could complete in a minute. The idea was to collect as much data as possible with which to measure fitness, dexterity and speed of tasks performed.

The children ensured they selected the correct measuring equipment for the job. Then expertly and accurately measured factors such as time taken, distance travelled or thrown, height/ length achieved.

It was very impressive to see just how well the children organised their group, with everyone engaged in their own area of responsibility from timekeepers to measurers, athletes to recorders.

The aim of the activity was to find the average speeds, longest throws etc. and to compare with height and age.

The children collected data and will use this to populate charts and graphs which they then can interrogate to draw conclusions.



Art Competition

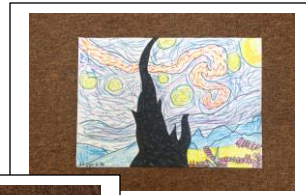
Mrs Manderville organised a fabulous art competition recently to fit in with a Red Kite Teaching Alliance art initiative across all their schools.

Children were tasked with exploring a well-known masterpiece or artist, studying their form, colours and mood. They then used their creativity to recreate the masterpiece in their own personal way.

Some of the children recreated the pieces of art work in a different media, for example changing from paint to plasticine or oils to dramatic representation.

The results were outstanding and original. Mrs Manderville had to enlist the help of other staff members to choose some winners, a daunting task.

There is a video of the winning designs from each age range on the website, please take a look.



A final Note: We will be beginning our Walk Once a Week initiative again after the half term holidays where children can earn badges and think about reducing the number of car journeys. Remember that a park and stride also count, so parking a little further away once or twice a week would be great too.

Julia Dickson