

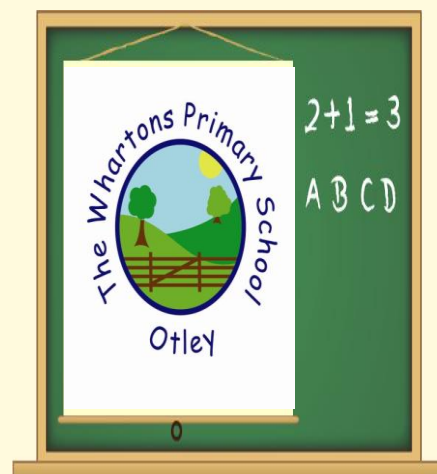
The Whartons Fortnightly Newsletter

29th September 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to ask for your support with regards to parking on school grounds when dropping off and picking up children.

The car park in school is essentially a Staff Carpark. The space is very tight, there are no real places to turn, and movement of cars in the car park is dangerous for pedestrians, especially children. Therefore, at drop off and pick up times parents are not permitted to use the school car park unless they are a Blue Badge holder, if this is the case please could you let school know and we can arrange for the gates to be opened. The gates will be open for dropping off at Breakfast Club, however parents MUST NOT park against the wooden fence as this is for staff parking only and NEVER in the disabled space as this is for Blue Badge holders. Also please do not park on the Zigzag lines outside the school gates. The safety of your children and other



Assembly Theme

We have been thinking about the need for school rules and how following agreed rules ensures school is a safe and fair environment for all. Well done to those children who have really embraced our school rules and ethos over the last couple of weeks.

Reception - Jacob CH & William S

Year 1 - Madelyn T & Jessica B

Year 2 - Oriah N & Oliver H

Year 3 - Oliver D & Freddy EW Year 4 - Evelyn A & Solomon B

Year 5- Emma L & Keiran F

Year 6 - Katie W & Rebekah G

PTA AGM

Last week the Parent's Association held their annual general meeting to review the year. The committee discussed successful events, money raised and considered committee positions for the year ahead.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the members of the committee for their hard work and dedication over last year. The children, staff and other parents really enjoyed all the events that they organized and the money raised to support projects in school is vital. I know the committee are keen to glean your thoughts as a whole parent body on how best to spend the funds, so please write suggestions and post in the entrance box. Thank you to Mrs Bona who has carried out the role of Treasurer for many years and has now handed the baton on to Mr Marshall with Miss Cook as support. Miss Etherton and Mrs Bowman will continue in their roles as joint chair and a new parent Mrs Walters has volunteered to be Secretary. I can't thank the parents enough for committing their time and energies to improving opportunities for our whole community. Remember any extra help would be greatly appreciated by the team.

Safeguarding Audit

In order to ensure our policies and procedures around keeping children safe are as robust as possible I commissioned an external audit of our practices, procedures and record keeping. I worked alongside a representative from Leeds Safeguarding Children's Board, who, after a thorough day of inspection, declared that many of our procedures were exemplary and gave us a clean bill of health.

- Sainsbury's Vouchers
- Wow Days
- School Development Plan

[Sainsbury's Vouchers](#)

I would like to say a huge thank you for the fabulous effort everyone made in collecting Sainsbury's vouchers this year. You managed an astounding 11,418 at the last count.

Careful consideration was given to the best way to 'spend' the vouchers and we have been amazed at just how much we managed to secure with the total.

The focus in school this year is to ensure that the 'food' aspect of the design technology curriculum is covered in each year group. With this in mind we used some of the vouchers to purchase aprons, knives, a food processor and other food technology items.

There were enough vouchers left to buy a new set of small pots and pans for the Reception's mud kitchen and some small sports equipment.



WOW Days

When Mr Fisk asked the children last year, during one of his assemblies, what were their favourite learning experiences of the year, the children overwhelmingly talked about the themed days and sessions and how these had really brought their learning to life.

With this in mind we have timetabled a range of whole school WOW days over the year. The idea of the days is to provide a stimulus and context for children's learning which will hook their interest and spark their imagination.

The days have been calendared so there is one per half term and so every 6-8 weeks one of the teachers will plan and run a WOW day.

Some of the WOW days will take children in to an imaginative scenario, others will engage them in creative arts and some may involve dressing up.

The teachers are already excitedly sharing ideas so watch this space.



School Development Plan

The School Development Plan for 2017-18 sets out the key priorities for school in the coming year. Feedback from our Ofsted report alongside end of year outcomes for children were used to identify the key areas for school improvement. Underpinning each of the priorities are a range of objectives and actions which clearly set out how we intend to improve outcomes and practice in each area. This helps teachers work together and share good practice. In order to measure the success of our actions, targets are clearly outlined and progress towards these will be monitored during the year.

This year the five key priorities are:

- Ensuring challenge for all children and plan opportunities for mastery across the curriculum
- All school leaders continue to monitor the impact of whole school initiative ensuring consistency of approach
- Increasing resilience and confidence for all groups of children through Growth Mindset approaches, especially for girls in Maths.
- Further improving outcomes in Maths.
- Further improving children's understanding and use of increasingly complex Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling in their own writing.

- *EYFS Mud Kitchen*
- *Diary Dates*
- *Lunchtime Activities*

Diary Dates

Tues 3rd October - Reception Parents Meeting 6:30pm

Fri 13th October - Harvest Festival
Bridge Church 10am

Wed 18th Oct / Thurs 19th Oct -
Parents Evening

Fri 20th October - Half Term

Mon 30th October - School Opens

Fri 3rd November - Spooktacular Disco

Tues 7th November - Reception
Phonics Open Morning 9am - 10am

Thurs 16th November - Nasal Flu
Immunisation (Rec, Yr1, Y2, Y3, Y4)

Fri 17th November - TRAINING DAY

A New Mud Kitchen in the Reception Outdoor Provision Area

Mr Reynard was busy as usual during the school holidays this summer building a mud kitchen for the new reception children.

Using recycled pallets and an old kitchen sink Mr Reynard has fashioned a sturdy multi-purpose work station for the children where they can let their imagination run wild.

There has been much research in to the benefits to children's development of incorporating a mud kitchen in to the outdoor provision for young children. The opportunity to explore using all their senses helps children develop curiosity and apply a range of skills.

The 'mud kitchen' is complete with a range of containers and utensils to support the children's fine motor skills development, encourage creativity and experimentation and provide opportunities to consolidate language and Maths skills through real life play.



Lunchtime Activities

Each year the government allocates a grant to schools which is designed to encourage physical activity and promote a love of sport- The Sports Funding Grant. In these times of increased use of video games for children we need to think creatively in order to enthuse children about physical activity and the possibility of a wide range of sports which suit all tastes.

In past years we have used this grant for a wide range of initiatives; for example; the installation of a climbing track in the KS2 playground, an outdoor portable stereo for Wake Up Shake Up dance sessions in the playground and the purchase of ipads, which engage children's enthusiasm during PE lessons and allows them to develop and improve their skills across a range of different sporting activities.

This year we are going to use some of the allocated money to fund a sports coach who will lead a lunchtime playground multisport game every Friday.

Each class will participate in the lunchtime club for a six-week block. We hope the children will enjoy their activity and that they will continue to play actively with their friends as a result of the input.



A final Note: We would like to support the 'Yorkshire Children's Hospital Christmas Gift Appeal' again this year and collect gifts for children in hospitals over the Christmas period. Mrs Metcalf will be putting a hamper in the entrance hall for donations. Last year many donations went to Martin House Children's Hospice.

Julia Dickson (Head Teacher)