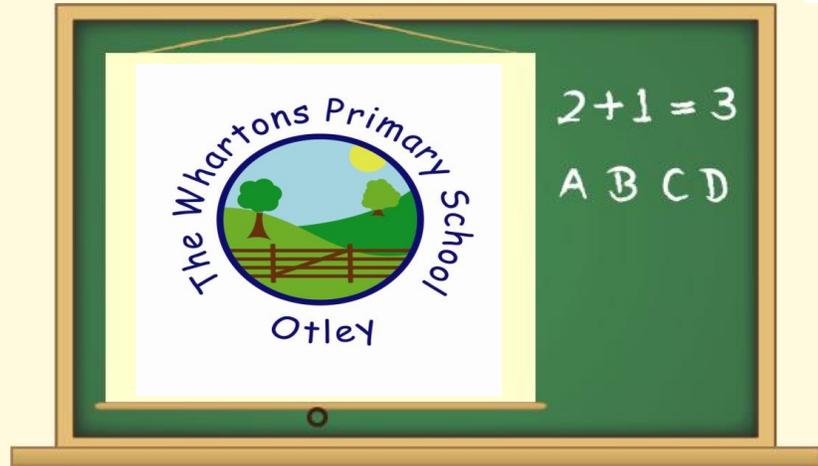


The Whartons Fortnightly Newsletter

17th September 2015

Welcome Back

It has been lovely to welcome all the children back to school over the last week or so and especially exciting to see our new starters in reception settle in so well to school routines. We have been visited by many of last year's Year 6 children, looking very smart and grown up in their Prince Henry's uniform, it has been great to hear that they are settling in well too.



Assembly Themes

Our assemblies this half term will focus on new beginnings and how working as a community can help make these transitions a positive experience. I told the children about the beginnings of the Leeds Carnival which was started almost 50 years ago by Arthur France MBE and friends who arrived in Leeds from St Kitts feeling very homesick. The Carnival has now turned into a diverse, whole community event, the oldest of its kind in Europe. Assemblies have also covered areas of joint responsibility and pupil voice. Well done to the following children who received the first certificates of the year for great effort in a range of areas:

Year 1- Freddie E-W & Sam C Year 2-Evie C & Michael B Year 3-Josh R & Amber P Year 4-Jai B & Marli T

Year 5-Seth K & George C Year 6-Nathan H & Jess L-W

An Historic Occasion

Last week we celebrated the occasion of Queen Elizabeth II becoming the longest reigning Monarch in our country's history with a themed assembly and quiz, comparing Queen Elizabeth and her Great Grandmother Queen Victoria.

To mark the occasion the Parent's Association very kindly donated a boxed commemorative coin to every child in school. What a lovely keep sake for the children to look back on in years to come. Thank you!



Year 6 Take Over a Whole New Range of Roles and Responsibilities

This year, our Year 6 children will be taking on a few new roles and responsibilities throughout the school. They shall be helping out in lots of different ways to make our school the best it can be. Mrs Gomes and Mr Hampson announced a few of these roles in Tuesday's assembly and the younger children were most excited! The roles include 'Class Captains', 'Office Angels', 'School Photographers' and 'Hall Monitors'. As well as this, we shall also be announcing a Head Boy and Head Girl as well as a Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl in Friday Review.

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- Reception New Starters
- Class Blogs
- School Council

Class Blog

We are always very pleased to share children's learning with parents and to help them become involved in their child's learning journeys. If your children are anything like mine when faced with the question 'What did you do today at school?' the answer was invariably 'Oh nothing much.' The introduction last year of class assemblies enabled children to share with parents their learning over a term and was hugely successful; parents and children expressed how much they had enjoyed the experience and how it had sparked conversations about children's interests in their learning. This year we will be introducing a class blog to our class pages on the website. Each week a different group of children from each class will choose an area of learning they have enjoyed and write a short blog with photos. We hope you find this window into the working week interesting and it provides a springboard for more in depth answers to the question 'What were you learning about this week?'

New Starters

It was a real delight to welcome all our new starters to Reception last week. All the children looked so smart in their pristine new uniforms. They came in with real enthusiasm and I was amazed at how they launched straight in to activities and making new friends. Welcome also all our new parents who joined their children in the provision areas for a play! The Reception staff will be encouraging parents to come in to the classroom more this year and really build that parent school link which is so beneficial. Each Reception child was allocated a Year 6 buddy who supports them at lunchtime both in the dining hall and outside in the playground. The Year 6 children have been organizing playground games which encourage socialization skills. Well done to all the children.



School Councillors

A new year brings a new team of school councillors; passionate, committed and full of ideas. The election of our class representatives on to the council is always an exciting event in the school calendar. It takes real courage to stand up in front of peers and set out your ideas for the future and I want to thank and congratulate all those children who stood for school council.

The school council will have three key areas of responsibility over the year:

1. To organize fund raising for a worthy cause.
2. To identify an area of the school they wish to develop and devise an action plan to address.
3. Consider pupil well being and identify a whole school initiative to develop a specific aspect of pupil well being.

There will be a fortnightly council meeting where the school council considers how to address their three focus areas and a fortnightly feedback session to their class in order to access children's views.

We are very excited to find out who our councilors will be from the voting today. The results will be announced in our next newsletter and also on our website, www.whartonsprimary.co.uk.

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- Mad Science Assembly
- Parents Association
- Outdoor Learning
- Diary Dates

Diary Dates

Thursday 17th Sept-Parents Assoc
AGM-7.30pm in the hall.

Monday 21st September- Individual
School Photos

Wednesday 23rd September-Yr6
Brownlee Triathlon Leeds @ John
Smeaton (School Hours)

Friday October 2nd-Yr6 Trip to Eden
Camp

Tuesday 6th October-Parents Forum-
Behaviour-6.30pm

Friday 9th October-Harvest Festival @
Otley United Reform Church 1.30pm

Tuesday 13th October-Parents Evening
3.30pm-7pm

Friday 16th October-School Disco

Monday 19th October-Training Day
for Early Years Foundation Stage only.

Thursday 22nd October-Open Day
(Appointments only)

Friday 23rd October-School Closes for
Half Term

Monday 2nd November-School
Reopens

MAD SCIENCE ASSEMBLY

Mad Science; where do we begin? On Thursday 10th September we had Helium Hannie the best mad scientist in the land. First Helium Hannie showed us a magic trick. He took a deck of cards and got Marli in Year 4 to take of a pile of cards he then told her to put her pile back in the middle of the deck, he then told her to take an individual card he then asked Marli to tear her card and put it in his special tin he said the magic word and pulled out a full card. Helium Hannie did an egg experiment. The egg wouldn't fit into the cup so he lit a piece of newspaper put it inside the cup, this created a vacuum which sucked the egg inside; and last but not least a hover board and I actually got to go on this. He took a leaf blower which blew the board up and moved. This was a truly amazing assembly that we will never forget.

By Jared Inman & Nathan Hutchinson



Stagecoach Theatre Arts.

Stagecoach Theatre Arts is based at Ralph Thorsby School on Saturdays and provides fun and lively lessons in Acting, Sing and Dancing, with great teachers. We still have some space for this term. Please call Ken Davison on 01757 248884 if you're interested.

Year 3's Outdoor Maths

This week year three ventured outside to put their place value knowledge to the test. They used their knowledge of thousands, hundreds, tens and units to make different numbers.



A final Note: During the holidays lots of exciting things happened for some of our members of staff. Congratulations to Mr Young and Miss Donnelly (now Mrs Gomes) for their marriages and to Mr Williamson for the arrival of his new baby daughter, Lyla.

Julia Dickson (Headteacher)