

The Whartons' Fortnightly Newsletter

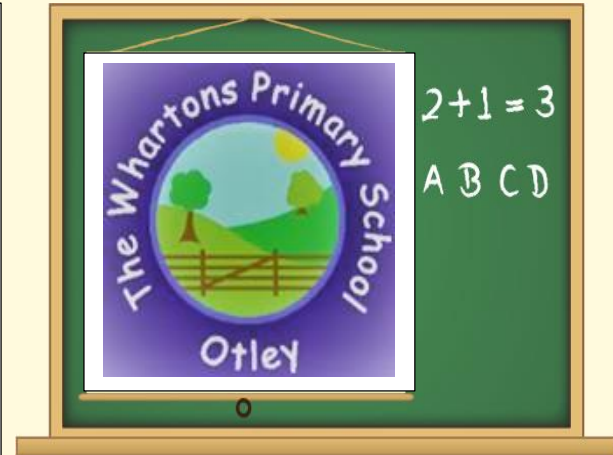
19th September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new year at The Whartons. I hope everyone had a lovely summer.

The children, and staff, all returned with a spring in their step, eager to see their friends and excited to move up to their new classes. They have all embraced the new term and there is a 'busy buzz' around school.

We have welcomed our new reception children over the last two weeks and also new families who have moved into Otley and joined our Whartons community. Everyone has settled superbly and are busy making new friends.



Assembly Themes

Our assembly theme for this half term will be 'New Beginnings', we will revisit our school values and vision with the children, especially focusing on our Golden Rule of 'Being the Best we can be'. In Friday assemblies we will be celebrating children who have embraced this goal and sharing their achievements. Congratulations to our certificate winners this term.

Reception - None given this time

Year 1 - Levan B & Oliver B

Year 2 - Erin W & Riley W

Year 3 - Skye L & Emily W-G

Year 4 - James M & Sebi J-G

Year 5 - William P & Elise F

Year 6 - Aphra T & Oluchi N

New Reception Children

Over the last two weeks our new reception children have been getting to know their teachers, classroom and school.

In the first week of term the reception team of staff visited all the children at home to introduce themselves properly and find out from the children all about what they like, dislike and what they really enjoy doing, in the environment where the children feel most confident; home. The children then 'started school' in small groups for half days over the next week. This enabled the children to familiarise themselves with the environment and routines of school gradually. All of the children have taken to school like ducks to water and are looking forward to full days this week. It was lovely to see the children in assembly on Friday morning, super behaviour and manners.

Classroom Moves

Teachers were all very busy over the summer holidays, making their final classroom moves and preparing their new classrooms for the beginning of term.

Mr Reynard was kept busy clearing old resources, moving furniture and repainting walls as teachers excitedly created inspiring learning environments for the children's return.

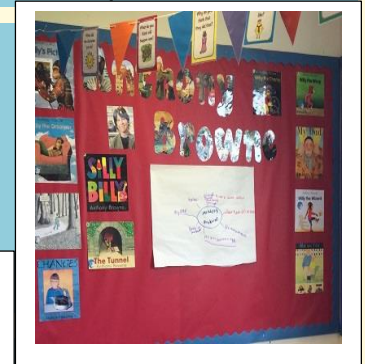
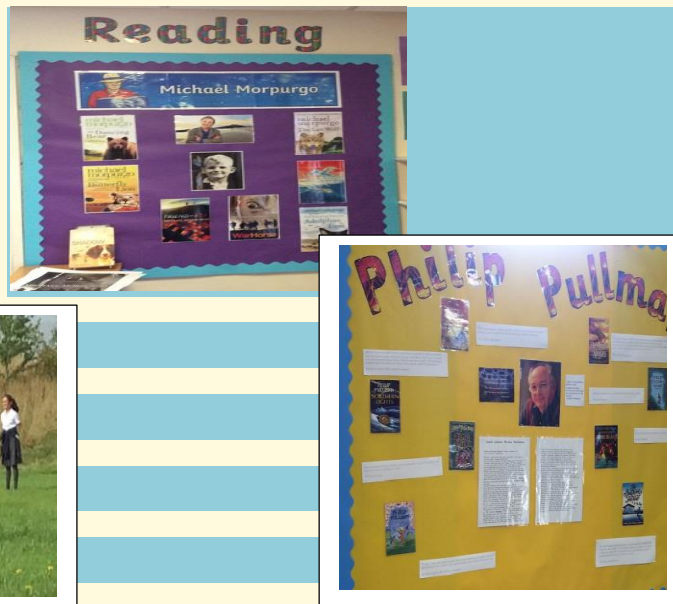
The children have been considering, in assemblies, how they can make their classrooms welcoming to everyone. Their ideas such as involving everyone, supporting each other, smiling, celebrating and encouraging each other will become 'classroom pledges'.

- **Class Novels**
- **Health Week**
- **Macmillan Coffee Morning**

Girls Football Club

This half term sees the introduction of a lunchtime girls' football club.

Matthew Cleghorn, a sports coach from Inspiration Tree, will be providing a 40-minute coaching session for girls from Y5 and Y6 during the lunchtime break every Monday this term. The first session this week was popular and the girls had a great time.



Reading

Michael Morpurgo

Philip Pullman

Macmillan Coffee Morning

It is two year since we hosted our first Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Nurses and the time has come to open our doors and welcome everyone to join us for a cuppa, a cake and a chat again.

Macmillan nurses do an amazing job of supporting families in their time of greatest need and in order to reach as many families and individuals as possible they need our help to raise funds and enable them to do what they do best.

I would like to invite all of you to our coffee morning in the hall on 28th September from 9.15-11am. Some classes will be making cakes for the event as part of their cooking lessons and some of the staff will be baking (or buying) cakes too.

Please either make a cake donation for our morning or join us and buy a bun, or preferably both. I look forward to a full hall and an enjoyable get together over a piece of cake; bring your purses.



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Diary Dates

Wed 19th Sept - Full Governors Meeting 6.30pm

Fri 21st Sept - Individual School Photos

Mon 24th Sept - PTA Meeting 7.30pm

Fri 28th Sept - Macmillan Coffee Morning 9.15-11am & Bun Sale after school

Fri 5th Oct - Training Day

Golden Time Activities

New Golden Time groups began last Friday and the children had a range of choices for their weekly enrichment, reward time.

Mrs Reynard is running a KS1 'Reading for Fun' book club where children read to each other, discuss stories, share their preferences and escape in to the world of stories. I spent a lovely few minutes listening to the children sharing their opinions on a range of chosen books as I passed through the library



Mr Fisk's Golden Time group will be working on the 'timeline' plaques for the school hall, which were started during last year's history WOW day. The children will use a range of artistic techniques to create the plaques, which represent different periods of history and will be used to construct a visual Timeline in the hall. This will support children's understanding of chronology and where their class learning of a historical period fits in to the continuum.



Miss Steward and Mrs Rumsey are running a modelling group where the children will make sculptures from clay and platercine and Mrs Dowell will be teaching children to make models with KNEX. Other groups include creating cartoon strips, learning how to play chess, a drama group, football and using ipads to use Educational Apps



A final Note:

This Friday is individual photos day. Please arrange with the office for family photographs with younger siblings.

Julia Dickson