

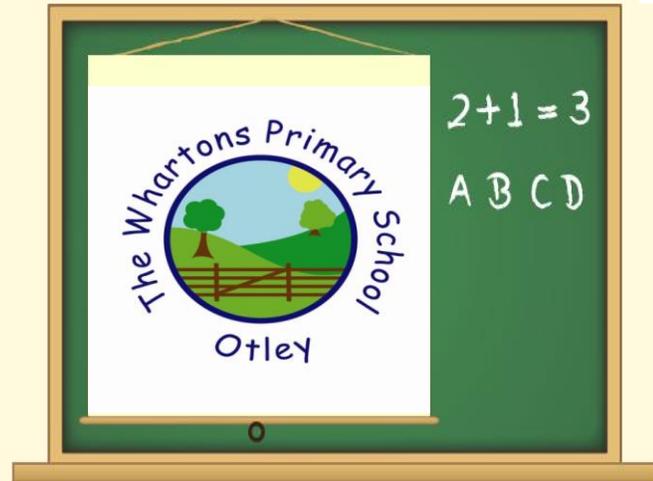
The Whartons Fortnightly Newsletter

26th November 2015

Dear Parents and Carers,

Having ordered the Christmas tree, in readiness for the Christmas Fair on Saturday, it is starting to feel like the festive season is almost upon us. Pop choir is rehearsing in earnest for all their public appearances over the next couple of weeks and Mr Reynard is planning his annual venture into the sheds to unearth the Christmas decorations again. It really doesn't feel like a year since we packed them all away.

I hope you can join us next Monday for the pop choir's first outing of the season where they will be performing at Otley's Christmas Light switch on.



Assembly Themes

Over the last couple of weeks we have been working on our SEAL theme of 'Say No To Bullying' encouraging children to support each other and behave in a way they would like others to behave towards them.

The following children received certificates over the last couple of weeks for their efforts with following our Golden Rules. Well done to :

Reception-Ella T, Lucas B, Oliver H & Ebony P	Yr 1 Lottie S, James M, Millie M & Matthew T
Yr 2-William P, Elise F, Alfie H & Eve H	Yr 3-Nathan M, Evan A, Charlotte C & Jack B
Yr 4-Oscar C, Theo S, Anouk B & Isabella R	Yr 5-Sam D, Poppy P, Lola M-D, Seth K
	Yr 6- Amie B & Alfie R & Oliver HS & Aimee S

Anti Bullying Week

Last week was National Anti Bullying week with the theme of 'Make a Noise About Bullying'. During the week all classes within school worked collaboratively on mini projects linked to the theme. They considered things like Diversity and Discrimination.

On Friday assembly each of the classes presented their ideas and considerations to the rest of school through artwork, drama, discussion and explanation.

It never ceases to amaze me the maturity with which the children can share their opinions and listen to the opinions of others, really considering how to work together to support each other. Well done everyone.

Anti Racism Workshops

Anti-bullying workshop with The Inspiration Tree

We were really lucky to be visited by Nicky Wilce from Inspiration Tree on Friday 20th November. He came in to talk to us about Anti-Bullying as part of our themed week in school. He stayed with us throughout the morning and, through a variety of games and discussions, we covered a wide range of issues like diversity, discrimination and multi-culturalism. We learnt how to identify similarities and differences between people and how we could support people who were the target of bullying.

Nicky used animal stories from Native American Culture which we really enjoyed. If you get chance, please ask us about the story of the two wolves!

- Y2 Assembly
- Buddy Benches
- Science Fair
- Year 5 Ancient Greece

Buddy Benches

Many thanks go to the Parents Association who has raised money to buy a Buddy Bench for each of the playground areas. Sometimes children can find themselves with no one to play with for many different reasons; it can be that their best friend is away that day or they have fallen out with someone or even that they don't want to play the games their friends are playing. It can be difficult to ask for help. The role of the Buddy Benches will be to offer a place for children to sit if they are alone so that their peers or the play leaders can come and offer support or involve them in a group game. The benches will also act as place that children can come together for a chat, open to all. Children will work together to customize the benches as a Golden Time Activity before they are sited.



Y2 Assembly

“Fantastically fun and filled with interesting information”- This is how Year 2's class assembly has been described and I could not agree more. Showcasing lots of their learning in class from a range of subjects such as English, Maths and PE, Y2 gave us a great insight into the world of Dinosaurs. Parents were undoubtedly proud to see their children showing such confidence in speaking in front of an audience, such great teamwork in helping one another with their words and such obvious enjoyment in their learning. Well done Year 2!

Year 5 Ancient Greece

On Wednesday, Year 5 had a real treat when Mr David Tandy visited our class to give a talk on Ancient Greece. The children were full of curiosity and used their great learning behaviours to ask some very thoughtful questions to take their learning further. With our Greek topic soon coming to an end, it was a really wonderful way for children to explore further themes that hopefully they will take on with them into their next stage of learning.

The Otley Science Show

Last Saturday, for the very first time, The Whartons hosted a stall at the annual Otley Science Fair held in the Courthouse. Mr Young organized two teams of Y6 children who ran the stall. They knowledgeably instructed visitors in the art of secret sign writing explaining the science of oxidation which makes the message appear when heated and also challenged children to create a burglar alarm by following complex instructions to eventually create an intricate electrical circuit. The atmosphere was buzzing at the fair with scientists from across the region; Leeds University post graduate students to the Institution of Civil Engineers, taking part. Running throughout the day there was not a quiet moment and all the amazing scientific activities were packed with enthusiastic participants. One of the Organisers of the Festival came over to congratulate our children on their fantastic job. This was such an opportunity to raise excitement around the wonders of science and we will definitely be taking part again next year. Many thanks go to Mr Young for organizing the whole event and being at the courthouse from 8am until the final minutes at 4pm. Also thank you to the eight Y6 scientists who were quite brilliant in running the investigations: Rachel, Jake P, Jake G, Nathan H, Jarrod I, Evan T, Joe C & Ben A.



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- Y6 squash and Karate sessions
- Welcome
- African Voices

Diary Dates

Friday 27th November-Wear Xmas item to school and bring a bottle

Saturday 28th November-Christmas Fayre-2-4pm

Sunday 6th December-Otley Victorian Fayre

Thursday 10th December-Christmas Lunch

Thurs 10th & Fri 11th December-Secret Santa Stall

Wednesday 16th December-KS1 Xmas Productions 1.15pm & 6pm

Thursday 17th December-KS2 Xmas Productions 1.15pm & 6pm

Friday 18th December-Xmas Party Day

Friday 18th December-School Closes for Xmas holidays

Monday 4th January 2016-Training Day

Tuesday 5th January-School Reopens

Y6 Visit Otley Squash Club

On Wednesday 25th November Year 6 went on an adventure to Otley Squash Club to learn all about the game of squash and the basics of karate. The children had a wonderful morning and were fantastic ambassadors for the Whartons. If anybody is interested in either squash or karate please contact Mr Hampson and he will provide you with details of when and where you can learn these skills



Welcome to a New Member of Staff

It is with great pleasure that I welcome a new member of staff to the Whartons: Mrs Manderville. As you may know Mrs Matthews has been on maternity leave since last February and Mrs Hornby has been teaching our reception class. At the end of this term Mrs Matthews will be returning to school to teach Monday to Wednesday in reception and we have appointed a very experienced early years teacher, Mrs Kate Manderville, to job-share the class teacher role with Mrs Matthews on Thursday and Friday. I am happy to say Mrs Hornby has secured a full time position at a school in Bradford and we wish her all the best.

African Voices Day

We have had great pleasure welcoming The Leeds University Centre for African Studies into school today to talk to the children about all things to do with Africa.

Their African Voices Day challenges young people's misconceptions of Africa and its people, explores the diversity of the continent and develops a greater understanding of issues affecting Africa's development.

They started the day with a presentation to the whole school in Assembly and then worked with years 4, 5 and 6 individually throughout the rest of the day. Albin from Tanzania worked with Year 4, Kwame from Ghana worked with Year 5 and Mathew also from Tanzania worked with Year 6.

It has been a fantastic opportunity for the children to explore the diversity, cultures and traditions of Africa and they have had a really fun day.

A final Note:

Please remember that it is the Christmas Fair at school on Saturday. There will be lots of Christmas gift ideas, as well as Santa's Grotto, raffles, tombolas and a bouncy castle. Why not take a break with a cup of tea and a mince pie to recharge the batteries during the afternoon.

Julia Dickson (Headteacher)