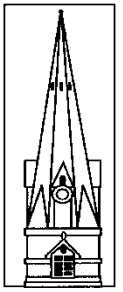


Higher Walton C.E. Primary School



'Life in all its fullness'

- Friendship ● Forgiveness ● Creativity ● Courage ● Respect ● Responsibility
- Trust ● Tenacity



Friday 22nd May 2026

Head Teacher's Message

As we come to the end of another busy half term, we would like to thank all of our children, staff and families for their continued support and hard work over the past six weeks. School has been full of learning opportunities, with children showing great enthusiasm and pride in their work across all areas of the curriculum. It has been wonderful to see the progress being made in classrooms every day, alongside the many wider opportunities that have taken place in school. Thank you for your ongoing support in helping to make our school such a positive and successful place for everyone and we wish you all a lovely half-term break.

Mrs. Clarke ☺

Whole school worship

During our recent whole school worships, the children have been exploring the question, "What is God like?" Through stories from the Bible, thoughtful discussions and times of reflection, pupils considered qualities such as love, kindness, forgiveness and guidance. The children shared some wonderful ideas about how these qualities can be shown in everyday life, both in school and at home. It has been lovely to see pupils engaging so thoughtfully and respectfully with the theme, demonstrating our school values through their words and actions.

Class News

Explorers: It has been a busy end to the term in EYFS! Reception children have been enjoying reading the book '*I Will Not Ever Never Eat a Tomato*' in Literacy and the children had great fun creating their own fussy eater books inspired by the story. In Nursery, the children have loved reading '*Handa's Surprise*' and worked together to create their own innovative page to add to the story. In Science, we have been learning all about the life cycle of a butterfly and exploring the different stages from caterpillar to butterfly. We also enjoyed a special visit to church alongside KS1 to look at the different Pentecost stations. The children showed fantastic curiosity and enthusiasm throughout all of our activities this week. We are very proud of all of their hard work this term!

Discoverers: Our mixed Year 1/2 class have been thoroughly enjoying their creative learning this half term. In Art, the children have been developing their clay skills by learning how to impress, mould and attach clay to create wonderful 3D pieces. They have shown great creativity and perseverance while experimenting with different techniques. In History and Science, the class have been fascinated by learning about the progression of flight throughout history, beginning with the invention of the aeroplane by the Wright Brothers and continuing on to the exciting world of space travel. The children have loved discovering how flight has changed over time and exploring the incredible achievements of astronauts and space exploration. We would like to wish all of our children and families a very happy, safe and restful half term break!

Rosewood Avenue
Higher Walton
Preston PR5 4FE

Headteacher:
Mrs V Clarke B.A. (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher:
Mrs J Noblet B.Ed (Hons)

Telephone:
Preston 335945

Office email:
bursar@walton.lancs.sch.uk

Ofsted registration number:
119393

Adventurers: It's been a wonderfully productive half term in Adventurers class. We have completed a wonderful selection of books in our English lessons; *'The Last Garden'* by Rachel Ip, *'How to Live Forever'* by Colin Thompson and *'Mr Penguin and the Lost Treasure'* by Alex T Smith. Our recorder sessions are really taking off, with everyone making confident progress as we build new musical skills. We also wrapped up our unit on shadows with a fantastic shadow-puppet performance, where pupils brought storytelling and science together in such an imaginative way. In our Geography Fairtrade project, the class designed their very own chocolate bar — complete with branding, packaging and an advert. To top it all off, we even held a chocolate-tasting session, exploring flavours and learning what makes Fairtrade choices so important. Have a wonderful half term!

Navigators: We have been extremely busy in Navigators! We have enjoyed a visit to All Saint's Church's 'Thy Kingdom Come' event and wrote prayers for our friends and families. We also finished our fantastic moving toys models which we are really proud of and our Y6' s had a fabulous time at their SATS party. Our history topic has been about World War 2 and today we had a VE Day to celebrate. Thank you for the wonderful costumes; the children looked amazing! The children had a lovely time playing games, painting plates and having an afternoon tea! Why not ask them about why we celebrate VE DAY?

Attendance

"School attendance is a strong protective factor... Being in school every day helps children stay connected to learning, peers and the wider life of the school." GOV.uk

School attendance is vital to children's development and successes both in learning and socially. Our whole school attendance is currently lower than the national expectation, with us sitting in the bottom 40%, and is significantly impacted by unauthorised absences due to term time holidays and unauthorised marks, due to lateness. As a school community we need to work together to improve attendance so that all children have the full potential to thrive. Next half term we, in partnership with our School Attendance Officer, will be contacting those families whose attendance and punctuality remains a concern to discuss ways in which we can help to improve this.

Ofsted

We were pleased to welcome inspectors from Ofsted into school recently. The visit was a positive experience and provided an opportunity to showcase the hard work, commitment and achievements of our children, staff and wider school community. We are proud of how our pupils represented the school throughout the inspection process and grateful for the continued support from our families. The final report will be published in the coming weeks and we look forward to sharing the outcome with you all soon.

Forest School

On Monday 8th June, we are really excited to be welcoming Mrs. Lewis back into school for a day of Forest School learning. All children will be taking part and we are looking forward to re-launching our offer of 'Outdoor learning' in school. Our PTFA are kindly donating the money for this experience and it is one that we are hoping to be able to repeat in the future as part of 'Forest School' learning. More details will follow when we return to school after the half-term break.

Weekly awards

Awards in May 2026				
	Star of the week	Values VIP	Star reader	Times Table Rock Star and Numbots
1.5.26	Noah, Zander, Max and Sophia-Rose	Malacai, Filip, Eli, Olivia and Theo	Hallie, Nathaniel and Vanessa	-
8.5.26	Elsie, Discoverers class, Adventurers class and all of Year 6	Billy, Delilah, Imogen and Olivia	Lena, Louie, Evie and Madyson	-
15.5.26	Myles, Alex and Jimmy	Jack, Arlo, Thea and Navigators class	Thomas, Raine and Amelia	-
22.5.26	Evie, Teddy, Imogen and Kayleigh	Astoria, Raine, Luna and Llorena	Nicholas, Nathaniel, Henry and Mischa	Mischa and Teddy

Attendance

Attendance May 2026	Explorers 18 on roll	Discovers 13 on roll	Adventurers 23 on roll	Navigators 28 on roll	Whole School 82 on roll
Attendance	90%	93%	91%	93%	92%
Lates	4%	4%	3%	2%	3%
Well done Discoverers and Navigators classes with the highest percentage attendance this month!					

This month's reminder

We appreciate your support in helping us keep communication running smoothly. Responding promptly to forms, payment requests, and messages sent via ParentMail really helps reduce additional follow-up and allows our office staff to focus on supporting the school community.

To make things easier, **please ensure your ParentMail notifications or alerts are switched on** so you don't miss any important updates.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

Newsletter attachments

The following documents have been sent with the newsletter this month:-

- Fun Fest poster – May half term holiday clubs
- Family Treasure Hunt and Barbecue poster
- School staffing letter

Diary dates

You can now find all the diary dates and holiday lists on our website. Reminders and updates are as follows:-

DATE	TIME	EVENT
22.5.26		School closes for the May half term break
1.6.26		INSET day – school closed for pupils
2.6.26		INSET day – school closed for pupils
3.6.26		Y3/4 swimming
4.6.26		Sports Day
8.6.26		Forest School Day – details to follow
9.6.26		Reception vision screening – information sent home this week
10.6.26		Y3/4 swimming
11.6.26		Y5/6 adventure day at Rock and River
15.6.26		Tempest Photography – class photos
16.6.26	4.30pm	New intake evening – details to follow
17.6.26		Y3/4 swimming
19.6.26	8.30am	Fathers Day breakfast – details to follow
24.6.26		Y3/4 swimming
24.6.26		Parents to Lunch day – details to follow
26.6.26	10.30am	Dance from the Heart roadshow – details to follow
29.6.26 to 3.7.26	PM	New intake afternoon sessions – details to follow
1.7.26		Y3/4 swimming
1.7.26	3.40pm	PTFA summer fair – details to follow
8.7.26		Y3/4 swimming –last session
8.7.26		School reports out
9.7.26		Y5/6 performance – details to follow
14.7.26	3.40pm	Drop in parents evening – details to follow
15.7.26		Transition day in school
16.7.26	2.40pm	Rocksteady Concert – parents welcome
17.7.26	9.30am	Leavers Service – All Saints Church – all welcome – details to follow
17.7.26		School closes for the summer break
1.9.26		INSET day – school closed for pupils
2.9.26		School re-opens for autumn term 1