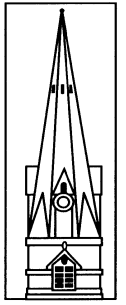


Higher Walton C.E. Primary School



'Life in all its fullness'

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

Friday 8th November 2024

Head Teacher's Message

Good afternoon and welcome back to school after the half-term break. We have settled in well and have thrown ourselves straight into learning! Our new focus for worship this half-term is 'compassion' and we thought about ways in which we can sometimes put ourselves into the shoes of others to be compassionate and offer our help and support. The children were able to give numerous ways in which they can show compassion. This included ideas such as offering a simple smile to someone who looks like they are struggling or an ear to someone who needs to talk. Reverend Hannah and Reverend Danny will be coming into school on Monday to deliver a Remembrance service to our children and we thank them for giving their time to do this and for the weekly support that they also offer in school. This is a busy half-term as we work towards the important Christian festival of... (I won't say the word just yet!) so please keep your eye out for updates from school to make sure you don't miss anything important.

Have a lovely weekend, Mrs. Clarke ☺

Class News

Explorers:

Explorers class has been diving into their new topic on festivals, with a special focus on Diwali and Bonfire Night. So far, the children have been exploring the fascinating stories behind these celebrations, including the tale of Rama and Sita and the story of Guy Fawkes. As part of their learning, the children have been busy creating artwork inspired by both festivals using a variety of materials, such as chalk and paint. They've even used forks to create unique textures and effects in their art projects, adding a fun twist to their designs! We have also made Diya lamps from salt dough and decorated these to go in our Investigation area in the classroom.

Let's Talk- Who helps Rama to get Sita back?

Discoverers:

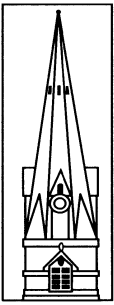
This week in Discoverers we have been focussing really hard on our handwriting and making sure all our letters are clearly formed. In Maths Year 1 have focussed on finding equal and unequal groups before moving on to finding half. In Year 2 they have been focussing on collecting and interpreting data in lots of different ways. We have had lots of fun acting out the story of the three little pigs in music and thinking about which would be a loud part or a quiet part of the story.

Let's Talk: Can you sort the fruits and vegetables you have in your house? Can you find the seeds?

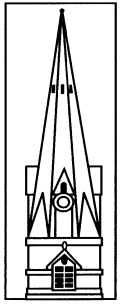
Higher Walton CE Primary School
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Adventurers:

Adventurers have been exploring Antarctica this week. They have also been finding out all about materials that reflect and how light reflects. Our wonderful varmint posters are also on show in the library.

Let's Talk: Ask your child what longitude and latitude are.

Navigators:

This week in Navigators we have been learning how Nasa sent a robot called 'Curiosity' to Mars. We have written an explanation using formal language. In maths, we have been looking at factors and multiples and looking at multiplying and dividing numbers with more than 3 digits. In Science the children have enjoyed investigating air resistance using balloons and in History we have been looking at the Vikings, trying to answer the question '**Is it fair to describe all Vikings as Brutal invaders?**'

Pathfinders:

In Pathfinders we have been solving problems using algebra, which have been quite tricky! We have read poetry and answered questions using our inference skills. We have also had fun with the 12 bar blues in music.

Let's talk: As your child if they can remember any facts about the Oseberg ship which was from the Viking period.

Christmas Ice Show

We are going to be visiting Blackburn Ice Arena on Wednesday 11th December for their 'Aladdin on Ice' Christmas production. We are very excited as this will be the first time in a number of years that we have gone out as a school to see a Christmas performance. We are seeing this as a super opportunity for us all to go out of school to enjoy some Christmas festivities and be rewarded for the super hard work that we all do each day! A letter will be being sent out next week with further information about times and payment.

Let's Go Sing 2025

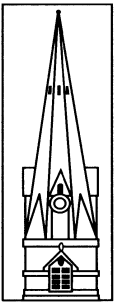
Our concert date for Let's Go Sing 2025 is 13th March 2025. The concert is being held at Blackpool Winter Gardens this year and the children would really appreciate your support. How to get your tickets:-

- Follow the link <https://www.wintergardensblackpool.co.uk/events/lets-go-sing/>
- Scan the QR code on the poster.

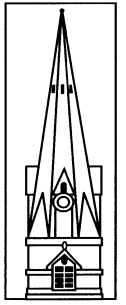
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Autumn Disco

Thank you to all of the PTFA and school staff who helped to support the Autumn Disco. It was a great evening and everyone had a lot of fun. The children looked amazing in their 'spooky and sparkly' attire and we saw some super example of dancing, even from the teachers too! We look forward to the upcoming PTFA events, please check out their Facebook page for more information.

Dodgeball

Our Year 3 and Year 4 children attended a Dodgeball competition on Tuesday and came second! Well done to the boys and girls, they represented us fabulously and we are all very proud of your achievements! It was also noted how smart they all looked in their new PE kits 😊

Girls Football

Our girls football team went to their first tournament session of this season last night. They took part in some warm up friendly matches with the other teams ahead of the first tournament matches next week. Well done girls!

Parents evening

Parent's evening is next Wednesday 13th November. A letter has been given out explaining the new reports cards that we will be giving out, as part of improving our communication to you on the progress and achievement of your child. A polite reminder that this will form part of your 10 minute allocation and that anything else that needs further, more in depth discussion, can be done at another mutually convenient time with your class teacher if needed.

Weekly awards

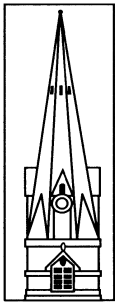
Week ending 1 st November 2024		
	Star of the Week	VIP
Explorers	Nathaniel	Eli
Discoverers	Jamie	Dylan
Adventurers	Willow & Evie	Isabella
Navigators	George	Eva
Pathfinders	Mia	Nicole

Week ending 8 th November 2024		
	Star of the Week	VIP
Explorers	Noah	-
Discoverers	Zander	Louie
Adventurers	Jessica	Mischa
Navigators	Evie May	Ella Mae Llorena
Pathfinders	Heidi	Isaac
Dodgeball	Erin F, Jessica, Ava, Max, Charlie and Olivia	

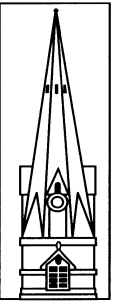
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Attendance

Week ending 1st November 2024	Explorers 12 on roll	Discovers 21 on roll	Adventurers 26 on roll	Navigators 20 on roll	Pathfinders 17 on roll
Attendance	91.1%	92.3%	96.9%	97.5%	97.6%
Lates	7%	2%	4%	1%	0%
Well done Pathfinders class with the highest percentage attendance this week!					

Week ending 8th November 2024	Explorers 12 on roll	Discovers 21 on roll	Adventurers 26 on roll	Navigators 20 on roll	Pathfinders 17 on roll
Attendance	92.2%	87.6%	92.6%	95%	98.2%
Lates	9%	3.5%	3.5%	0.5%	0%
Well done Pathfinders class with the highest percentage attendance this week!					

Diary dates to the end of the year

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

Tuesday 12 th November	Reception and Year 6 height and weight checks
NEW Tuesday 12th November	Anti Bullying Week 'Odd Socks Day'
Wednesday 13 th November	Parents Evening – appointments sent home today
NEW Friday 15th November	Non uniform day – see attached PTFA poster
Tuesday 19 th November	Nasal Flu vaccinations – whole school
NEW Friday 29th November	UV dodgeball day and non-uniform day – details to follow
Saturday 30 th November	PTFA Christmas Fair 11am – see attached PTFA poster
Tuesday 17 th December	Santa Dash – details to follow
Wednesday 18 th December	Christingle Service at All Saints Church 1.30pm – details to follow
Thursday 19 th December	School closes for the Christmas break
Monday 6 th January 2025	School re-opens – spring term

This week's reminder

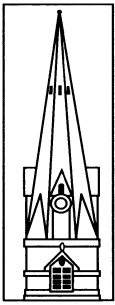
On each newsletter we will now focus on a specific reminder which is having an impact on school or our children, and would ask for your support in helping with the smooth running of our school.

FORMS: - It is very important that any forms or other communication we send to you that requires a reply are dealt with in a timely manner, adhering to any specified deadlines. Thank you.

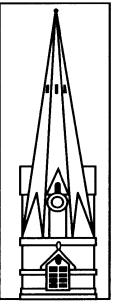
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Newsletter attachments

The following documents have been included in the newsletter email:-

- Let's Go Sing poster
- PTFA posters for the own clothes day and Christmas Fair
- Fun Fest posters
- The Rock project posters

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