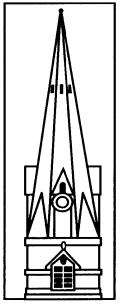


Higher Walton C.E. Primary School



'Life in all its fullness'

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

17th November 2023

Head Teacher's Message

Another week done and another super week with our children at Higher Walton. During every week in school we will be focussing on a new value and this week in Worship we have been learning all about 'Respect'. We felt this was a really good starting point when beginning to explore friendships and the children have been defining respect, thinking about what it means to them and what it takes to be a good friend to someone else too. Please ask them about what they have been learning about and help them put it into practise outside of school.

As we approach the colder and wetter weather, please make sure that children have suitable outdoor coats – we like to be outside to make the most of our fantastic grounds, whatever the weather!

We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday for another fantastic week of learning and fun!

Mrs. Clarke ☺

Meet the Head Teacher

On **Thursday 23rd November at 5pm**, school would like to invite parents to the school hall, to officially come and meet the school's new head teacher. This will include a short talk from Mrs. Clarke about the future vision for the school and then refreshments and an informal chat to get to know each other a little more. All welcome, we would love for as many parents as possible to attend ☺

Explorers

This week, Explorers have been focusing on our main character "Henry Finch" in our literacy text. Henry Finch gets eaten by "the beast" and has to try and get himself out of his tummy. However, he has some negative thoughts which try to stop him from thinking properly. We explored how this can happen to us sometimes, so we wrote down our favourite things that keep us feeling positive. In maths, the children have learnt how numbers can be made up of different parts and how when these parts are added together they make a whole. We did this using numbers to 5.

Let's talk! Can you ask you children to show you the sign for "add" and "equals/makes" with their arms or using a pen and paper?

Pathfinders

This week in Pathfinders, we have been really impressing Miss Higson with our sewing skills when we learnt how to do a running stitch! This wasn't an easy skill to learn and the children have done so well. We

have also been learning all about the names of the planets and even learnt what the word 'orbit' means.

Let's talk! Can you ask you children which is the coldest planet and which is the hottest planet?

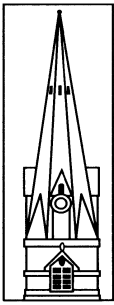


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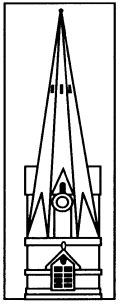
Telephone: 01772 335945

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





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Discoverers

In Discoverers this week, we have been working really hard on our addition and subtraction of 2 and 3 digit numbers. We have also started practicing our sewing skills in preparation for creating our own 'Explorer belts' next week! The children have been really interested to learn about the coldest places on Earth and sorted animals into groups based on whether they were carnivores, herbivores or omnivores.

Let's talk! Ask your children to name 3 of the ways that a polar bear has adapted to survive in an Arctic climate.

Adventurers

Adventurers are learning about how Christmas is celebrated around the world in R.E. This week, they learnt about traditions in Brazil and worked in groups to create a 'Presepio'. This is a nativity scene, which is displayed in homes and churches throughout December.

Let's talk! Can you see how many other facts your child can remember about Christmas in Brazil? Can they remember any that are different to how Christians celebrate in the UK?

Navigators

In Navigators, over the last two weeks we have had a focus on being respectful; looking at what being respectful is, and how it would make us feel if someone was disrespectful to us. We now know that the 'Golden Rule' for respect is to treat others, as we would like to be treated, which is of course, Jesus' commandment. We have started to learn about the Vikings and where they came from. Interestingly, they never wore horned helmets! We also know that they settled in parts of Ireland, Scotland, Wales and Danelaw (England).

Let's talk: where did the Vikings come from and what are the countries called collectively?

In science we have been researching what solids, liquids and gases are and how the molecules inside are different. Today we found real life examples of condensation and evaporation.

Let's talk: can you give an example of condensation and evaporation in real life?

Building work

Building work in preparation for the new classroom is beginning next week. This may mean slight disruptions to school access via gates and the car park. Please avoid the fenced off areas but be assured that school will be fully accessible at all times. We would appreciate your support to continue to drop off and pick up safely, especially where car parking is limited. Please use other areas around school and walk in if necessary.

Uniform

Thank you for your responses to our uniform questionnaire, your input is much appreciated. We aim to move forward with any changes in the new school year 2024-25 and will keep you fully informed at all stages. Please note there will be a transition period between the old uniform and new changes brought in.

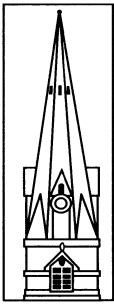


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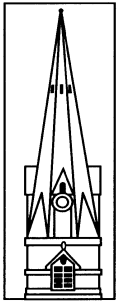
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School residential trip

In light of the rising costs of school trips and the financial pressure on our school families, the decision was made to move forward to a two year cycle for the residential school trip. This will, of course, be up for annual review and the children will still be taking part in outdoor and adventurous activity days at the end of the school year. There will, however, be no overnight stays.

Weekly awards

| Week commencing 6 th November | | |
|--|------------------|------------|
| | Star of the Week | VIP |
| Explorers | Jorgie | Teddy |
| Pathfinders | Dylan | Autumn |
| Discoverers | Erin F | Theo P-F |
| Adventurers | Eva | Ellie |
| Navigators | Poppy | Harvie-Jae |

| Week commencing 13 th November | | |
|---|------------------|------------|
| | Star of the Week | VIP |
| Explorers | Delilah | Arlo |
| Pathfinders | Isobel | Autumn |
| Discoverers | Jack A | Willow |
| Adventurers | Ellie | Eva |
| Navigators | Copy-Fynn | Amelia-Ann |

Attendance

| Week commencing 6 th November | Explorers 8 on roll | Pathfinders 15 on roll | Discoverers 25 on roll | Adventurers 26 on roll | Navigators 30 on roll |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Attendance | 88% | 92% | 94% | 93% | 89% |
| Lates | 1.35% | 0.77% | 2.40% | 1.15% | 0.67% |
| Well done to Discoverers Class, with the highest percentage attendance this week! | | | | | |

| Week commencing 13 th November | Explorers 8 on roll | Pathfinders 15 on roll | Discoverers 25 on roll | Adventurers 26 on roll | Navigators 30 on roll |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Attendance | 100% | 89% | 91% | 98% | 89% |
| Lates | 1.35% | 0% | 2% | 0.38% | 1.33% |
| Well done to Explorers Class, with the highest percentage attendance this week! | | | | | |

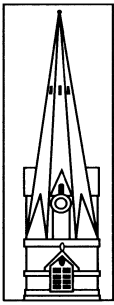


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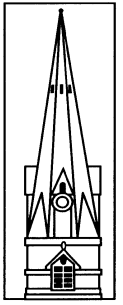
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Weekly Reminders

Medication: Please can we remind parents that medication can only be given during school hours if this is prescribed by a doctor, dentist or nurse. Items should be handed in at the office and permission forms completed. We cannot accept paracetamol, ibuprofen etc unless these accompany prescribed medication. As always, there are exceptions and in these circumstances please discuss this with Mrs Rourke.

Mobile phones: Mobile phones should only be brought to school by children who walk to and from school unaccompanied or where they are going to a different parent's house. All phones must be handed in at the office for locking away during the day.

DIARY DATES

November

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Tues 21 st | Reception Vision Screening |
| Wed 22 nd | Reception and Y6 Height & Weight Check & Health Questionnaires |
| Thurs 23 rd | Meet the Headteacher meeting |
| Mon 27 th | Yoga workshops – all classes |
| Wed 29 th | Nasal flu vaccinations |

December

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Mon 4 th | All Saints Church live Nativity |
| Tues 5 th | School nurse visit – Y6 questionnaire follow-ups |
| Thurs 14 th | Nativity performance by EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 - 2pm and 6pm |
| Mon 18 th | Christmas craft afternoon – all classes |
| Tues 19 th | Christmas Dinner |
| Tues 19 th | Christmas party afternoon – all classes |
| Wed 20 th | Christingle service at All Saints Church 1.30pm – all welcome |
| Thurs 21 st | Games day – all classes |
| Thurs 21 st | Rocksteady concert |
| Thurs 21 st | School closes for the Christmas break |

January

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Mon 8 th | School re-opens for the spring term |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|



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