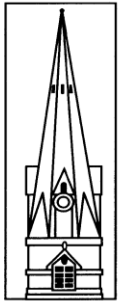




Higher Walton C.E. Primary School



'Life in all its fullness'

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

Friday 18th October 2024

Head Teacher's Message

Good afternoon, it is great to be back after a few days of being unwell. I know that there have been many families suffering with similar illnesses and thank you for all of your get well wishes. It will be a good opportunity over half-term for everyone's immune systems to have a rest and be ready for more learning and fun when we return to school on Monday the 28th October.

We have had our final 'Generosity' worship this week, learning all about a Sikh story called the 'Rich man and the needle'. The children learnt all about a man who was selfish with his treasures, but could not take them with him when he died. It taught us to share and give the treasures that we have, not just material ones but the ones we have been gifted from God. We share love, kindness, respect, compassion, forgiveness everyday in school and seek out opportunities to celebrate when we do.

Thank you to all of our wonderful children, staff and school families for all of their hard work and support this half-term and I look forward to welcoming you all back after the holiday. Mrs. Clarke ☺

Class News

Explorers: In Explorers this week, the children have been reading the books "Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain" in Reception and "The Gruffalo" for Nursery children. The Nursery children have been busy making Gruffalo Crumble by putting the correct amount of each part of the Gruffalo into a bowl- purple prickles, orange eyes, terrible teeth, green warts! In Reception, children have been making their own holiday brochures for Kenya for Little Ki-Pat, one of our characters in the story. In both classes, the children enjoyed carrying out a 2D shape hunt in the classroom, we found out that we have lots of rectangles but hardly any triangles!

Let's Talk- Can you name a 2D shape with 4 sides?

Discoverers: Discoverers have been busy finishing off all their projects before the half term break. They have written two fantastic fact files about rabbits and wolves based on our book Wolves by Emily Gravett. Discoverers have been focusing on making sure they use capital letters and full stops consistently and even adding in some adjectives to make their writing more interesting. In maths they have been busy identifying 2D and 3D shapes and their properties. They have learnt lots of big words like 'vertices' and 'surfaces'. In RE they have been finishing their work on The Bible and recapping which stories are in the New and Old Testaments as well as Learning some of the names of the books in the Bible.

Let's Talk? Can you recall three facts about Rabbits or Wolves?

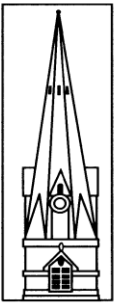
Adventurers: This week Adventurers have been very busy working hard getting their class assembly ready. Thank you for so many of your coming and seeing all the hard work that the class have done this half term. The children have now read and watched more of the Varmints and have been shocked at how the story has developed.

Let's Talk? Ask your child who the varmints are and what they have done.

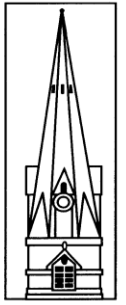
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Navigators: This Week in Navigators we have been working on writing our own Newspaper reports using the book Rain Player. The children enjoyed writing and recording their own commentary for the match, changing the sentences from the book into present-perfect tense. In Maths, we have been working on our accuracy when measuring and drawing angle and we have learnt a new angle called a Reflex angle. Children have also really enjoyed designing and making their own waistcoat this half term, these will be finalised and sent home after the half term.

Let's Talk? How many degrees are in a reflex angle?

Pathfinders: This week, Pathfinders have really enjoyed learning about the Greek heroes in guided reading and in English writing our newspaper reports to include everything that we have learnt. In music we made loops using MusicLab Songmaker on the laptops, the children were really enthusiastic to use technology to compose. .

Let's talk? What is a musical loop?

Times Table Rock Star Day!

Thank you to all of the children and their families for the effort that was put into the wonderful outfits the children were wearing to school today. We have had a day of rock music, fun and most importantly time to learn our times tables. There were band battles between year groups and best dressed winners from each class. Thank you to all of the staff in school too, for their efforts in making it such a fun last day of this half-term.

Open day

We had a number of families come to visit us in the last two weeks to see our school in action and we hope that many of these choose our school for new Reception starters in September 2025.

If you do know of anyone who has a child of pre-school age and are a Reception starter for September 2025, please let them know about us. We will welcome visitors at any time before the application date of January 31st 2025.

Please spread the word about our wonderful, small village school!

Autumn Disco

The PTFA Autumn Disco is on Wednesday 30th October (times below). As a church school, we do not celebrate Halloween but are celebrating the gifts of autumn with a disco. The theme is 'Sparkly and Spooky' and the children are welcome to dress up in appropriate sparkly and spooky themed wear. Please remember that this is a children's disco and that any scary or what we as a school deem to be inappropriate wear or accessories will be removed for the disco and returned to parents on collection of their children. There is to be no fake blood or items that are associated with any form of fear.

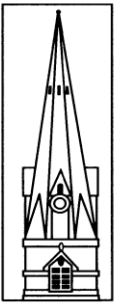
Explorers/Discoverers/ Adventurers (Year 3) – 3.30pm until 4.30pm collection at the end of disco from the hall doors. Children are to bring disco clothes to school to change into. If you wish to paint your child's face, you are welcome to come into school at 3.30pm to do so.

Adventurers (Year 4)/Navigators/Pathfinders – 4.45pm until 5.45pm collection at the end of disco from the hall doors. All children must be collected by an adult.

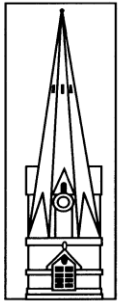
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Royal British Legion Poppies

Poppies will be available during morning playtime after the half term break for a minimum donation of 20p.

Parent Workshops

Thank you to everyone who attended the Parent's Reading Workshop on Wednesday. This was very well supported and it was lovely to hear all of the positive feedback, not just about the reading in school, but the observations on the children's behaviour too. Parent workshops are not only an opportunity for you to have an insight into what the children are learning in the classrooms, but it is also a chance to come in and see the improvements that we are making.

Nursery, Primary and Secondary admissions

If your child is due to start primary or secondary school in September 2025, now is the time to be applying for a place. The deadlines for applications are as follows:-

Secondary applications – 31st October 2024
 Reception applications – 15th January 2025

We also have nursery places available for children who turn three before the end of December (January 2025 start) and for those who turn 3 before the Easter holidays (April 2025 start). Application forms are available from the office.

For Primary and Secondary school places please visit <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/>

Borwick Hall Residential

Just a reminder for parents to make instalment payments on ParentMail for this visit. Please enter the amount you wish to pay on the payment item. The deadline for balances to be paid is 9am 2nd June 2025

Weekly awards

Week ending 11 th October 2024		
	Star of the Week	VIP
Explorers	Olivia	Thomas
Discoverers	Eli	Filip
Adventurers	Freya	Jude
Navigators	Eddie	Sofia
Pathfinders	Molly	Poppy

Week ending 18 th October 2024		
	Star of the Week	VIP
Explorers	Nicholas	Louie
Discoverers	Jimmy	Imogen
Adventurers	Nicole	Whole class
Navigators	Kayleigh	Lillith
Pathfinders	Scott	Ethan
Year 6 bikeability	All the group passed	

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TT Rockstars Day awards				
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	Best Dressed
Reception				Eligh
Year 1/2	Vanessa	Isabel	Blake	Mason
Year 3	Freya	Erin A	Skylar	Jude
Year 4	Jessica	Mischa	Ava	
Year 5	Tilly	Reeva	Chloe	Millie
Year 6	Nicole	Scott	Poppy	Teddy

Attendance

Week ending	Explorers	Discovers	Adventurers	Navigators	Pathfinders
11th October 2024	12 on roll	21 on roll	26 on roll	20 on roll	17 on roll
Attendance	97%	86%	97%	94%	93%
Lates	6%	3%	3%	0%	0%

Well done Explorers and Discovers with the highest percentage attendance this week!

Week ending	Explorers	Discovers	Adventurers	Navigators	Pathfinders
18th October 2024	12 on roll	21 on roll	26 on roll	20 on roll	17 on roll
Attendance	89%	88%	98%	87%	92%
Lates	8%	3%	4%	0%	0.5%

Well done Adventurers class with the highest percentage attendance this week!

Diary dates to the end of the year

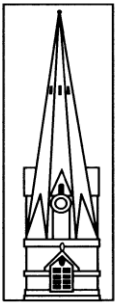
You can now find all the diary dates and holiday lists on our website. Reminders and updates are as follows:-

Monday 28 th October	School re-opens
NEW: Tuesday 29th October	Tempest Photography – individual photographs
Wednesday 30 th October	PFTA autumn disco – details to follow
Wednesday 30 th October	Year 3/4 swimming
Tuesday 12 th November	Reception and Year 6 height and weight checks
Wednesday 13 th November	Parents Evening – details to follow
Tuesday 19 th November	Nasal Flu vaccinations – whole school
Saturday 30 th November	PTFA Christmas Fair 11am – details to follow
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

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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.



We highly recommend downloading the Iris ParentMail app. With the app you can:

- Receive text messages instantly
- View all messages and emails in one easy feed
- Complete forms and surveys
- Make online payments for nursery, breakfast club and after school club fees, school trips and school meals
- Book parents' evening appointments
- Receive in-app notifications
- Report pupil absences

If you are not already using the app, please consider downloading it and set up notifications so you never miss a message from school! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call in to the office.

** If you have made any changes to your contact details either with school or on the ParentMail app, these will synchronise between platforms overnight. Please remember to log into your account to verify the changes to ensure the app runs correctly **

Newsletter attachments

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

- Cool Milk – information for parents of children in Nursery through to Year 2.
- PFTA newsletter

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