



'Life in all its fullness'

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

Friday 20th September 2024

Head Teacher's Message

Good afternoon and I hope you have all had a good week. We have been celebrating many things in school over the last two weeks and in particular our school 'Polling Day' on Monday where the children voted for the various different leadership roles that we have in school. Thank you to Mrs. Brayshaw and Mrs. Stevenson for organising the event and for providing the children with the experience of going to visit our 'Polling Station' that had been set up in the school hall. The votes were counted and new candidates were elected in this morning's Celebration Worship. Thank you to all the families that came into school to see their children receive their new badges and we look forward to them all working hard together this year, to make our school even better.

We have been continuing to look at the Christian values of generosity and courage this week and have thought about the interpretation of words taken from the book of Corinthians, 'God loves a cheerful giver...'. We thought of things that we can do daily, such as helping each other, giving our time to those who maybe need it and even just sharing a smile. All of these small things that we can do willingly, that cost us nothing but can make a huge difference to someone's day.

I wish you all a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday, Mrs. Clarke ©

Class News

Explorers: This week in Explorers, the children have been reading the story "Where the Wild Things are" in Reception and "Where's my Teddy" in Nursery. The Reception children have been mark making and drawing a picture of "Sam" one our Wild Things from the story. Children have been labelling their drawings with the initial sound as we have been learning the phoneme "s" in phonics. The Nursery children have been answering "who" and "where" questions and remembering to respond with a full sentence.

Let's Talk? Can you say what happens in the book to your grown up?

Discoverers: This week in Discoverers we have been very creative. We have created our under-the-sea themed pieces of art using different types of lines. We have also been using our creative writing skills to write our Oi... Poems based on the book Oi aardvark. The children have thought hard about rhyming words they could use and adding adjectives to make their sentences more exciting. We are looking forward to getting stuck into our new book 'Billy and the Beast' again next week.

Let's Talk? What are the five main animal groups?

Adventurers: Adventurers have been very busy this week, looking at how the network in school is set up and how something is printed from the laptop and arrives at the printer. We have also been historians and looking at a Stone Age house and the features it had inside. During our maths lessons we have been improving our times tables by playing TTRockstars. Our guided reading book has been very gruesome, at times disgusting, but most of all a very engaging and enjoyable story of a Fairy Tale gone bad.

Let's Talk? Can you say what Zombierella did to her sisters at the ball?

Higher Walton CE Primary School Rosewood Avenue, Higher Walton, Preston PR5 4FE

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Navigators: This week the children in Navigators have been enjoying completing work based on Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief. In Geography we learnt about The Great Barrier Reef and researched why it is being threatened. In science, the children have been learning about inheritance. We created our own genetic code and compared them to better understand what variation is.

Let's Talk? Which country is the Great Barrier Reef in?

Pathfinders: This week we have been using compensation method in maths to solve addition and subtraction calculations. We have been writing our own chapter based on the adventures of Percy Jackson with a focus on using fronted adverbials to create cohesion. In geography, we used the atlases to find the Great Barrier Reef and discussed how important it is to our climate.

Let's Talk? Ask your children about coral bleaching and if it can be reversed?

Harvest

We will be celebrating Harvest on Wednesday 2nd October at 1.30pm at All Saints Church, Higher Walton. Everyone is welcome and we are asking for donation of tinned and dried goods that we will be donating to a local foodbank. If you would like to walk with us to church from school, please come to the main reception area for 1.10pm when we will start our journey. We will be returning to school for approximately 2.15pm.

Home reading

All children will have now received their Home Reading packs and records. In order to further support home and school communication, we have sent home reading records which we are asking for parents to sign regularly so that we can keep track of reading that is taking place at home. As a school we set the expectation of three times weekly but there is a target of 5 times which some children have already achieved. We are also currently looking into ways in which we can celebrate successful home readers; this is going to be a challenge set for School Council so we will keep you posted on updates in the next few weeks.

Thank you for supporting reading at home, it makes a huge difference to your child's success academically and as a school we want the children to continue their love for reading way beyond the classroom.

Spelling Shed

We have purchased the 'Spelling Shed' software to help support home learning and improve our spelling strategies in school. The children have been using it in school and a username and password has been sent home in the children's school reading records. Over the coming weeks, teachers will be setting assignments and linking in weekly spelling tasks using Spelling Shed. We hope that you enjoy using the new resource and that the children find it an enjoyable way to help them learn new words and spellings.

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Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS)

We have also invested in the online resource called 'Times Table Rock Stars'. The children have been using it in school to get used to logging in and children have been issued with their own usernames and passwords that are also in their home reading records. We are still trialling new ways of getting the children engaged in competitions and band challenges so please just have a log on at home and let the children start tapping. There are many coins to be won, which then means the children can then change and update their own 'Avatars'. We will also be having a 'Rock Star Day' in school on Friday 18th October 2024. More information to follow from Mrs. Noblet soon.

PTFA

A reminder that the first PTFA meeting of the year is going to be held on Tuesday 15th October at 3.30pm in school. Please get in touch with school at the office if you would like further information and we can direct you to our wonderful team. We have lots of events planned for this year and are in need of support for them to take place and run smoothly. Any help you can offer is always much appreciated, even if it's just an extra pair of eyes to supervise or an extra pair of hands to help tidy up afterwards. We are also sending out a poster with the newsletter giving details of the upcoming events.

PE days

This term's PE days are as follows:-

Explorers (N/R) Monday and Thursday Discoverers (Y1/2) Thursday and Friday Adventurers (Y3/4) Wednesday and Friday

Navigators (Y5) Tuesday and Wednesday (swimming)
Pathfinders (Y6) Tuesday and Wednesday (swimming)

Remaining Active Travel sessions for this term are as follows:-

Explorers (N/R) Monday 23rd September - Tots on Tyres (balance bikes). See flyer sent with the newsletter.

Pathfinders (Y6) Monday 23rd September - Bike fix (learning how to fix and maintain their bike. No bikes needed).

Outstanding forms should be returned on Monday.

Monday 30th September, Monday 7th October - Bikeability. Bikes and helmets needed.

Outstanding forms should be returned on Monday

Nursery, Primary and Secondary admissions

If your child is due to start primary or secondary school in September 2025, or nursery in either January 2025 or April 2025, now is the time to be applying for a place.

For Nursery place, please call at the office for an admissions pack

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

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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

School Elections

Following our school elections, we are pleased to announce the following School Councillors:-

School Council		Eco Council		Ethos Group		Well-being Ambassadors	
Discoverers	Clarke Jorgie	Discoverers	Amelia Dylan	Discoverers	Autumn	Discoverers	Jamie
Adventurers	Theo Erin F	Adventurers	Oliver Olivia	Adventurers	Luna	Adventurers	Jessica
Navigators	Llorena Arthur	Navigators	George Eva	Navigators	Sofia	Navigators	Reeva Sofia-Rose
Pathfinders	Teddy Nicole	Pathfinders	Isaac Rhiona	Pathfinders	Poppy	Pathfinders	Heidi Scott

Year 6 Prefects				
Riley	Karis			
Dylan	Emily-Sue			
Scott	Molly			
Teddy	Mia			
Gabriel	Poppy			
Coby	Heidi			
Max	Nicole			
Isaac	Rhiona			
Ethan				

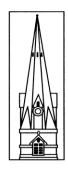
Weekly awards

Week ending 13th September 2024				
	Star of the Week	VIP		
Explorers	Nathaniel	Eligh		
Discoverers	Teddy	Autumn		
Adventurers	Erin A	Erin F		
Navigators	Eva	Millie		
Pathfinders	Dylan	Emily-Sue		

Week ending 20th September 2024			
	Star of the	VIP	
	Week		
Explorers	Elsie	Bobbie-Jo	
Discoverers	Delilah	Jamie	
Adventurers	Jennifer	Olivia	
Navigators	Tilly	George	
Pathfinders	Heidi	Teddy	

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Attendance

Week ending	Explorers	Discovers	Adventurers	Navigators	Pathfinders
13th September	12 on roll	21 on roll	26 on roll	20 on roll	17 on roll
Attendance	95.1%	91.4%	99.6%	94%	95.8%
Lates	7.7%	4.5%	2.5%	0%	0.5%

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

Week ending 20 th September	Explorers 12 on roll	Discovers 21 on roll	Adventurers 26 on roll	Navigators 20 on roll	Pathfinders 17 on roll
Attendance	97.2%	97.1%	90.7%	89%	87%
Lates	6.3%	3.3%	2.6%	0%	1.7%

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

Diary dates to the end of term

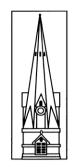
You can now find all the diary dates and holiday lists on our website. Here is a reminder of the diary for the next few weeks:

NEW - Tuesday 24 th September – 3.30pm	PTFA meeting – all welcome		
NEW - Tuesday 24 th September – 5pm	Y6 parents SATs meeting		
NEW - Tuesday 24 th September – 3.30pm	Dodgeball event – invited children		
Thursday 26 th September	Parents phonics workshop – details to follow		
NEW - Monday 30 th September	School Council visit to County Hall		
Tuesday 1 st October	Open day/evening for prospective parents		
NEW - Thursday 3 rd October	Lancashire Post Reception children photographs		
NEW - Tuesday 8 th October	Fire Safety talks for Year 1/2 and Year 6		
NEW - Tuesday 15 th October	PTFA meeting – all welcome		
Wednesday 16 th October	Parents reading workshop – details to follow		
Thursday 17 th October	Year 3/4 class worship		
NEW - Friday 18 th October	TIMES TABLE ROCK STAR DAY		
Friday 18 th October	School closes for the half term break		
Monday 28 th October	School re-opens		
Wednesday 30 th October	PFTA autumn disco – details to follow		

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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.

Telephone numbers and ParentMail. There are several telephone numbers that have been updated but have not been accepted on ParentMail. Please log into your account and accept any changes to ensure you receive all communications from school.

ParentMail forms: Please ensure any forms that are sent to you for completion are dealt with in a timely manner as delays cause additional work in sending out reminders.

Items being sent with the newsletter

The following items are being emailed with the newsletter:-

- Cycle to School Week poster
- PTFA upcoming events poster

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