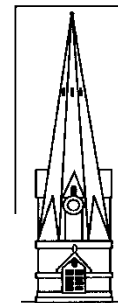


Higher Walton C.E. Primary School

'Life in all its fullness'



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

20th June 2025

Head Teacher's Message

Good afternoon – it has been a warm one this week! We are very lucky to have had another spell of warm weather, it really has made it feel like summer this week. We are very fortunate in school to have a wonderful tree on the school field and our willow shelter for the children to be able to find some shade when needed! As we start to approach the summer, we have been reflecting back on things that we've achieved over the year and things that we are thankful for. We have looked again at the Christian value of 'truth' and studied the story of Achan and how he was given consequences for not being entirely honest with his people. This brought up interesting examples from the children and times in which they wished they had told the truth too.

We welcomed many of our new families that will be joining us in September into school this week and are pleased to report that we have nearly a full class in Explorers next year! This is wonderful news for school and we are thrilled that so many families have chosen us to be part of their children's lives for the next 7 years. We have worked very hard over the last couple of years in particular, as part of our school improvement journey, and are very happy to be sharing this with more families in the next academic year.

Have a lovely weekend, Mrs. Clarke ☺

Class News

Explorers: Explorers have been investigating floating and sinking in Science. We are going to use our newfound knowledge to design and create boats. In Literacy, we have been reading 'So Much' by Trish Cooke (Reception) and 'Handa's Surprise' by Eileen Browne (Nursery). In maths, Reception have been practising their addition and subtraction skills and Nursery have been making repeating patterns.

Let's talk: Find some objects around the house that can float or sink. Enjoy playing with them at bath time.

Discoverers: This week Discoverers had great fun learning how to make paper! We made sure we followed all the steps and were very excited to use a blender to mix the paper and water together. We even added some flower seeds and can't wait for it to dry so we can plant it outside. In maths Year 1 have worked really hard on telling the time and have been fantastic at recognising o'clock and half past. Year 2 have moved on to learning some mental maths strategies to support them next year in Year 3!

Let's Talk: What is the sturdiest 3D shape?

Adventurers: This week the Adventurers have been enjoying reading the 'BFG' book and making their very own dream jars to bring the story to life. They've also been creating PowerPoint presentations about the late Queen Elizabeth II, gaining new insights about her life and legacy. At the same time, they have been deepening their understanding of river features and the water cycle, all in preparation for the exciting upcoming trip to Cuerden Valley.

Let's Talk: What is a confluence, a meander and an oxbow lake?

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Navigators: This week, the Navigators have been busy across all areas of learning! We've proudly completed our sci-fi stories, showcasing imaginative plots and futuristic ideas. In science, we've begun planning an investigation to find out whether the direction of light affects the way a plant grows, using our enquiry skills to make predictions and set up fair tests. In history, we've started exploring the transatlantic slave trade, using primary sources to deepen our understanding of the past and consider the powerful stories these sources tell. In maths, we've been tackling percentages, learning how to find them and apply them in real-life contexts.

Pathfinders: Pathfinders had a wonderful time this week at Borwick Hall, trying activities such as canoeing and climbing. The children tried really hard and had a lot of fun, enjoying a campfire on Monday and an alien hunt on Tuesday. Since we returned, we have been busy practising our play on the stage and learning our lines.

Let's talk: Ask your child which was their favourite part of the residential trip to Borwick?

Tempest Photographs

Proofs of the recent class photography visit have now been sent home. Tempest have advised that parents who are yet to order online have until **Sunday 29th June 2025** to take advantage of free delivery back to school before the summer holidays.

Discoverers Class Worship

Thank you to everyone who attended Discoverers class worship on the 12th June. The children enjoyed sharing their work with you.

Fathers' Day Breakfast

Thank you to all of the families that joined us in school for our Fathers' Day Breakfast! We had over 30 families in total and it was wonderful to see so many children and grown-ups playing games and sharing breakfast together. Thank you to the staff in school who also gave up their time in the morning to support and help out.

Dance from the Heart Roadshow

We're excited to let you know that our **Dance from the Heart Roadshow** will take place next **Friday from 10:35 to 11:00am**. If the weather is kind, we'll be performing on the playground and would love to invite parents to come along and join in the fun! However, if rain is forecast, the event will be held indoors and unfortunately, there won't be space for parents to attend. If you'd like to practise the dance at home or see what it's all about, you can find the videos here: [YouTube Playlist](#) or [Vimeo](#) (Password: **DFTH2024**).

Borwick Hall Residential

Year 5/6 had a fantastic time at Borwick Hall, making unforgettable memories together. From the moment we arrived, the children threw themselves into every activity with enthusiasm and resilience. They scrambled over rocks, canoed along the canal, and braved the rain during a wet hill walk. Highlights included rock climbing, team challenges, and the leap of faith – all designed to build confidence and teamwork. Evenings were just as special, with campfires, marshmallow toasting, and birthday celebrations complete with cake and hot chocolate. By the final day, the sun came out for a perfect end to our adventure, with more rock climbing and team-building fun. Everyone, adults included, returned home tired but proud, ready for their own beds and full of stories to tell!

Tennis Roadshow

On Monday we were very lucky to have a special visitor in EYFS and KS1 who came and taught us some tennis skills. The children really focused on the rule 'keep your eyes on the ball'. They learnt how to bounce the ball, how to keep the ball up in the air, how to bounce it on the ground with a racket and even how to hit it over a net. The children all loved taking part in this session and some even said they would like to play tennis outside of school.

Funky Hair Day

We have seen so many wonderful and creative hairstyles in school today! Thank you for your effort that was put into your children's hair (especially those who got up extra early!) and for your kind donations for the fair too. We are really looking forward to welcoming all of our families into school next Thursday – fingers crossed for some good weather!

Weekly awards

Week ending 13.6.25		
	Star of the Week	VIP
Explorers	Eligh	Louie
Discoverers	Jamie	Zander
Adventurers	Mischa	Billy
Navigators	Eva	Millie
Pathfinders	Nicole	Heidi

Week ending 20.6.25		
	Star of the Week	VIP
Explorers		
Discoverers	Amelia	Jorgie
Adventurers	Adam & Evie	Jennifer
Navigators	Whole class	
Pathfinders	Whole class	

Attendance

Good school attendance is of vital importance in order for children to be able to thrive and flourish in school. Good school attendance is **96%** and above and our school policy is in line with government guidance to help us achieve this target for our children at Higher Walton. If your child is struggling to come to school for any reason please do speak to us in school and we will do what we can to help and assist.

Week ending 13.6.25	Explorers 12 on roll	Discovers 19 on roll	Adventurers 27 on roll	Navigators 20 on roll	Pathfinders 17 on roll
Attendance	86%	93%	97%	93%	98%
Lates	3%	1%	1%	0%	1%

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

Week ending 20.6.25	Explorers 12 on roll	Discovers 19 on roll	Adventurers 27 on roll	Navigators 20 on roll	Pathfinders 17 on roll
Attendance	97%	95%	92%	93%	92%
Lates	4%	2%	3%	0.5%	0%

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

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.

Finance - Once again there are some nursery, breakfast club, after school club and school meal accounts that are in arrears. Please ensure that all payments are brought up to date and that you end the school year with a nil balance. This will help us complete our finance administration for this academic year.

Nut free school – Please remember that we are a nut free school as we have children and members of staff who have nut allergies. Therefore please avoid putting nut and nut based products in your children's lunchboxes.

Newsletter attachments

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

- Summer Fair poster

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:-

DATE	EVENT
Monday 23 rd June 2025	UCLAN Lancashire Finals. Invited children to be at school for 8.30am prompt
Thursday 26 th June 2025	PTFA Summer Fair – see poster attached to the newsletter email .
Friday 27 th June 2025	Dance from the Heart roadshow – details on the newsletter
Monday 30 th June to Friday 4 th July 2025	New intake pre-school sessions (Nursery and Reception) 1.30pm to 3.25pm
Tuesday 1 st July 2025	Year 3/4 Cuerden Valley river studies visit
Tuesday 1st July 2025	Quad Kids event – invited children
Wednesday 2 nd July 2025	Parents' lunch – details to follow
Wednesday 9 th July 2025	School reports sent home
Thursday 10 th July 2025	Year 5/6 performance – details to follow
NEW – 15 th July 2025	Drop in parents evening (report discussions only) 3.45pm-4.15pm
Thursday 17 th July 2025	EYFS class worship – parents welcome
Thursday 17 th July 2025	Rocksteady summer concert 2.45pm – parents welcome
Friday 18 th July 2025	Year 6 leavers service 9.30am All Saints Church - details to follow
Friday 18th July 2025	School closes for the summer break