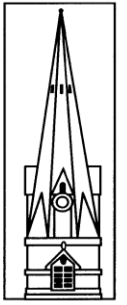




Higher Walton C.E. Primary School



'Life in all its fullness'

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

25th January 2024

Head Teacher's Message

Good afternoon, I hope you have had a good fortnight and that your children are coming home from school being able to tell you about the new things they have been learning so far this year. It was lovely to experience a cold weather week, enjoying playing out in the snow and then this week we've had some time outdoors in the rain! In Worship, our value this week has been 'dignity' and how it is important to be valued and respected for the individuals that we are. Stories from the Bible have included Jesus and his disciples and the dignity and respect they showed to one another. In building news, work on the new classroom is continuing to push forward, despite a delay due to the weather and we look forward to letting the children to see the new addition to school very soon!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend, Mrs. Clarke ☺

Explorers

This week, Explorers have been making bird feeders out of fat and birdseed, as birds might be struggling to find food over the winter months. Once they have set, we are going to hang them from our tree in the outdoor area. The children have also been planning their animal sculptures in Art. Next week, the children will be then turning their designs into clay sculptures and once they have dried, we will paint them. In phonics, the children have been working hard writing short captions using the phonemes and digraphs that they have learnt so far. Explorers now know that you need a capital letter, finger spaces and full stops in their writing.

Let's talk: What sound does the digraph 'ai' make?

Pathfinders

In Pathfinders this week, we have learning all about fractions in mathematics and what makes a whole one. The children have tried really hard all week and used different ways to show the different parts of a whole one. We also did taste testing in science and the children were very brave, even trying a pickle to describe it using words like sweet and sour.

Let's talk: Can you name a fraction and recall number bonds to 10?

Discoverers

In Discoverers class, we have been learning about our 5 senses. We had a go at tasting different foods to see if they were sweet, bitter, salty or sour. We have also been learning the 4 compass points. We completed some field work outside exploring maps of our school grounds and used compass directions to get around. In Maths, we have been working hard with our multiplication and division strategies, as well as solving simple fractions. In PSHE we have been looking at how we change as we grow. The children have enjoyed discussing what they are looking forward to doing as they change and grow.

Let's talk: What are the 4 compass points? If you can, have a go at exploring what you can see when you face each direction.

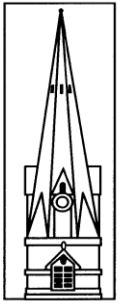
Higher Walton CE Primary School
Rosewood Avenue, Higher Walton, Preston PR5 4FE

Telephone: Preston 335945
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Ofsted registration number: 119393



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Adventurers

In Adventurers class, we are currently learning all about Ancient Egypt and we have been looking at pyramids – what they look like and how they were built. The construction was a mighty process and many things had to be considered!

Let's talk: How many stones did it take to build one, how many chambers were there and which way did the entrance have to face?

Navigators

In Navigators this week, we have been predicting how different animals adapt to surviving in their habitats at night time and in English, we have finished our book and WOW what a twist - we were not expecting the ending that we got! We really enjoyed the story and are now preparing to write our own prequel next week. In Geography, we have been learning about the physical features of a hot desert, it contains salt flats, mesas, mushroom rocks, sand dunes and rock arches. We also had fun trying to play tag rugby and can't wait to practise more 😊

Let's talk: Can you re-tell the story of 'The Sleeper and the Spindle'? (Especially the ending!)

IT

We have been busy this week updating our new IT equipment in school to support our new computing curriculum. Our Computing Lead Mrs. Brayshaw will be getting together a new timetable, so that all children in school can benefit from our newly enhanced provision. We are very lucky to be able to have these new resources in school and will be learning about keeping safe when using the internet on Tuesday 6th February 'Safer Internet Day'.

Goodbye Reverend Bryn!

We are pleased to share with you the news that Rev. Bryn has been assigned to a new clergy post in Feniscowles. Of course we will miss Bryn very much as a school, but we are also thrilled that he will be staying local and has secured his own parish. Next Wednesday will be a special worship in school to celebrate the time he has been with us and a chance for the children to share their special memories with him. We wish him and his family all the very best for their move and it's never a final goodbye to anyone from Higher Walton, it's always a 'see you later...'

Attachments to the newsletter

With today's newsletter you will receive the following information:-

- 'Think Measles' – letter from LCC Public Health and Wellbeing
- 'Should I keep my child off school' – poster from NHS/UK Health
- 'Making Sense of Special Needs' – free course for parents poster
- Houghton Cricket Club information
- Scouts recruitment information

Copies of the above information are also available at the office.

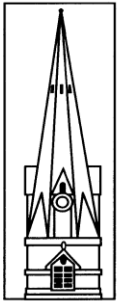
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Weekly awards

Week ending 19 th January 2024		
	Star of the Week	VIP
Explorers	Filip	Hallie
Pathfinders	Clarke	Jimmy
Discoverers	Cooper	Freya
Adventurers	Jessica	Kayleigh
Navigators	Daisy	Rhiannon

Week ending 26 th January 2024		
	Star of the Week	VIP
Explorers	Elsie	Arlo
Pathfinders	Blake	Jamie
Discoverers	Erin A	Evie
Adventurers	Ella-Mae	Bella
Navigators	Rhiona	Coby

Attendance

Week ending	Explorers	Pathfinders	Discoverers	Adventurers	Navigators
19 th January 2024	11 on roll	15 on roll	22 on roll	26 on roll	30 on roll
Attendance	99%	95%	95%	94%	93%
Lates	0%	4%	2%	1%	3%
Well done to Explorers class with the highest percentage attendance this week!					

Week ending	Explorers	Pathfinders	Discoverers	Adventurers	Navigators
26 th January 2024	11 on roll	15 on roll	22 on roll	26 on roll	30 on roll
Attendance	90%	89%	95%	90%	94%
Lates	3%	4%	3%	0%	0.5%
Well done to Discoverers class with the highest percentage attendance this week!					

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.

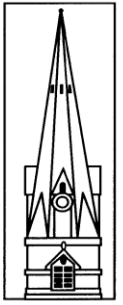
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Mobile phones: Mobile phones should only be brought to school by children who walk to and from school unaccompanied or where they are going to a different parent's house. All phones must be handed in at the office for locking away during the day.

Absences: All absences must be notified to school **on the day**. ParentMail or email (bursar@walton.lancs.sch.uk) is the quickest and easiest way to report an absence and provides a written record. We must ask that full reasons for the absence is given, particularly where this is illness related. Just stating 'not well', 'ill' or unwell' does not allow us to monitor illness absences and in particular infection control.

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