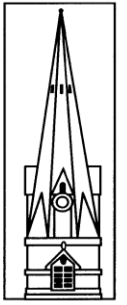




# Higher Walton C.E. Primary School



**'Life in all its fullness'**

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

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

## Head Teacher's Message

We come to the close of another term and a busy one it has been! We finish today with Higher Walton's own book day and thank you to everyone who has put so much effort into costumes and sharing their favourite books with us. The children have had a great day, started off with a quiz led by Mrs. Plowman and then exciting reading challenges for the rest of the day.

We have also had a number of opportunities for families to join us in school this term, from class worships to the Easter bingo event on Tuesday evening – school is buzzing, alive and we are all definitely ready for a well-earned rest.

We celebrated Easter in church yesterday, led by our super Adventurers class, with their performance of 'The Three Trees'. A key message to take from the story as we take a break to celebrate Easter with our families and friends is that we all have our part to play and sometimes it can be the smallest of things that give us a sense of fulfilment. I hope that you all have some time to break from the 'business' of life this Easter and remember the small things that matter.

As a school, we all finish this week with a sense of pride of what we have managed to achieve. A journey of learning for the children and as a school, continuing to make Higher Walton School the very best that it can be!

Have a lovely Easter holiday and I look forward to seeing you back in school after the break, Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April. Mrs. Clarke (or should I say Burglar Bill today) ☺

## Explorers

This week in Explorers class, the children have been reading the 'Snail and the Whale' as part of their Book Day activities. We have also had the exciting task of letting go of our butterfly that we have grown in class as well as learning all about the lifecycle of a caterpillar.

Let's Talk: Can you tell me about the lifecycle of a caterpillar?

## Pathfinders

This week Pathfinders have visited church and had a wonderful afternoon with Rev. Hannah. As part of RE, they have been looking at signs of new life and there are plenty to see around our school grounds. We had a fabulous teddy bears picnic this afternoon as part of our Book Day activities.

Let's talk: Can you name any rhyming strings and practise these over the Easter holidays?

## Discoverers

This week in Discoverers class, the children have reading their new text in English, the Minpins by Roald Dahl. We have been using noun phrases to write about our monster inventions.

Let's talk: How many other Roald Dahl books do you know?

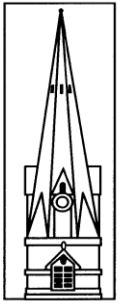
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## **Adventurers**

This week, Adventurers class have been busy practising for their wonderful 'The Three Trees' performance in church. They have also finished reading their English text of the 'Mermaid of Zennor' and are able to re-tell lots of the story to use in their own writing.

Let's talk: Can you re-tell the story of the Mermaid of Zennor?

## **Navigators**

In Navigators class, we had an Author visit from Struan Murray. This is a book that we read last year and it was great to speak to the author about his literary techniques and answer some super questions from the children. We have been making crosses as part of our Easter learning in RE and sent 'tweets' from Mary and the disciples as part of Jesus' perceived disappearance.

Let's talk: What do you think the Templeton Twins are going to do next?

## **PTFA**

A massive thank you to our wonderful PTFA for organising this year's Easter events in school. It has been a busy week of Easter Bingo, Egg competitions and to end a whole school Easter treasure hunt! The children each received a chocolate bunny as part of our celebrations and we thank the PTFA for these kind donations. The winners of this year's egg competition were Hallie and Autumn Gregory and Aleesha Barlow – well done!

## **School uniform**

We have an exciting update regarding our school uniform. After considering the responses from the parents' questionnaire sent out in the autumn term and speaking to the children in school, we are now pleased to announce that we are going to be introducing a new school jumper and cardigan. The new style will have a small embroidered school badge on the left hand side, moving away from the large print logo that we currently have. We are also going to introduce a new PE uniform that will consist of a navy blue hooded jumper, again with the embroidered badge, to clearly distinguish between school and PE uniform. This is a much needed improvement and we are looking forward to really embracing a smart uniform to reflect the pride that we have for our school. More information and an updated uniform policy will be available in the summer term and this will include information about the transition period for school in moving from the old to the new style. We also considered the financial implications of this to families and the colours of blue and yellow uniform items are available to purchase in many local retailers 'unbranded'. Items will be available to purchase from Stitch Design in the summer term.

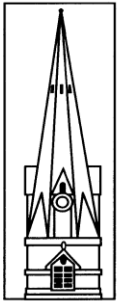
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## Well-being ambassadors

The well-being ambassadors have written and finalised our school charter and we are very proud of their result!

## Children's well-being charter

*The decisions we make impact ourselves, others and our school environment.*

At Higher Walton:

- We take care of ourselves
- We take care of others
- We take care of our school

I am sure you will agree that the children have come up with a very concise and simple way of making sure that everyone in school has the opportunity to feel great every day!

## Weekly awards

Week ending 22 <sup>nd</sup> March		
	Star of the Week	VIP
<b>Explorers</b>	Jorgie	Filip
<b>Pathfinders</b>	Blake	Isobel
<b>Discoverers</b>	Jude	Cienna Charlie Cooper
<b>Adventurers</b>	Sofia	Tilly
<b>Navigators</b>	Harvie-Jae Riley Karis	Coby

Week ending 28 <sup>th</sup> March		
	Star of the Week	VIP
<b>Explorers</b>	Hallie	Arlo
<b>Pathfinders</b>	Amelia	Jimmy
<b>Discoverers</b>	Willow	Olivia
<b>Adventurers</b>	Bella-Mae	Mischa
<b>Navigators</b>	Scott	Rhiannon

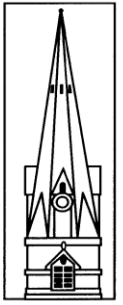
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## Attendance

Week ending 22.3.24	Explorers 11 on roll	Pathfinders 15 on roll	Discoverers 22 on roll	Adventurers 26 on roll	Navigators 30 on roll
Attendance	91%	95%	99%	92%	93%
Lates	2%	4%	3%	0.50%	1%
<b>Well done to Discoverers class with the highest percentage attendance this week!</b>					

Week ending 28th March	Explorers 11 on roll	Pathfinders 15 on roll	Discoverers 22 on roll	Adventurers 26 on roll	Navigators 30 on roll
Attendance	87%	98%	96%	99%	90%
Lates	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
<b>Well done to Adventurers class with the highest percentage attendance this week!</b>					

## Diary reminders

Diary dates – Summer term	
Adventurers class worship	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May
KS2 SATs week	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May
Sports day	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June
Sports day (reserve)	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June
Whole school 'Art exhibition'	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June at 3.30pm
Pathfinders class worship	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June at 9.00am
Parent's open evening	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July at 3.30pm
Summer fair	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July at 3.30pm
Navigators class production	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July at 2.00pm and 5.00pm
Reports to parents	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July

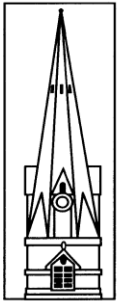
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## Weekly Reminders

**Leave requests:** Whilst parents are discouraged from taking leave during term time, if you do need to request a leave of absence for your child, please call at the office to collect a form.

**School meals:** Two weeks' notice prior to a half term needs to be given to make changes to school meal arrangements. Children who are eligible for free school meals still need to inform us if they wish to change to packed lunches or vice versa.

**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.

**Change of clothes:** If your child has had to have a change of clothes at school (underwear, skirts, trousers etc) please can these be washed and returned as soon as possible. Thank you.

**Absences:** All absences must be notified to school **on the day**. ParentMail or email ([bursar@walton.lancs.sch.uk](mailto: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.

**Car park:** Now that the builders and contractors have left the school site, please can we remind parents that the car park spaces along the fence adjacent to the footpath are for **staff only**. This applies to drop off time when staff are arriving at different times as well as at pick up time when after school staff are arriving. Please pass this message on to other family members and friends who bring/collect your child. We thank you for your support in this matter.

## Attachments

With the newsletter, you will find the following attachment:-

- New spring/summer dinner menu

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