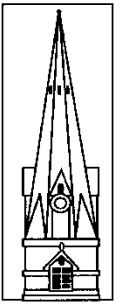


Higher Walton C.E. Primary School

'Life in all its fullness'



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

Headteacher: Mrs Vicki Clarke Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Jackie Noblet

Friday 31st January 2025

Head Teacher's Message

Good afternoon, I hope you have had a good couple of weeks. We have been continuing to learn about 'Courage' in our whole school worships and this week our Wednesday's worship was led by Reverend Danny who taught us that small actions built up over time can make a huge impact. We looked at the Proverb 10.11 "Even a child makes himself known by his acts, by whether his conduct is pure and upright." We talked about what small acts we can do each day to make a big difference, particularly when we all try to do it together. It has also been 'Interfaith week' in school this week and we welcomed visitor Kash on Monday to talk to us about her personal faith of Sikhism.

We have been invited to lots of events recently and some of our children in school have attended an 'Aim High' writing day and a 'Dance from the Heart' workshop at a local secondary school. As always the children were impeccably behaved, gave super contributions and showed the wider community what it is really like to be a child in Higher Walton School.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and see you on Monday, Mrs. Clarke ☺

Attendance

As you are aware at the beginning of this academic year, the government shared updates on attendance and their expectation on schools to monitor and action unauthorised absences. Unauthorised absences are now being measured across a ten-week rolling period, with any unauthorised absences reaching five days or more (equivalent to ten sessions) receiving a penalty notice. To work within these guidelines, we are now monitoring attendance and lateness on a ten-weekly rolling period. When families are at risk of meeting five days or ten missed sessions, we will inform you by letter. When unauthorised absences, such as holidays, meet five days or ten sessions over a ten-week period, the Local Authority ask that schools trigger a penalty notice. You will receive a letter informing you of this action, from school and/or our school attendance officer. The office will also contact you if frequent late marks are recorded to identify if any support is required. If you need any further information, please come and speak to us in the school office

Class News

Explorers: This week in Explorers, we have been learning about different faiths. We had a visit from Kash, a member of the Sikh community, who introduced us to some of the rituals and key aspects of the Sikh religion. We had fun dressing up and pretending to attend a Sikh wedding. We also compared the Jewish celebration of Hanukkah with the Christian celebration of Christmas and shared our findings in assembly. While we noticed some differences between these faiths, we found many more similarities.

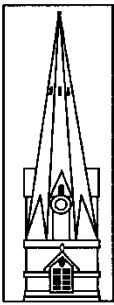
Let's talk – What is your favourite celebration of the year? What happens at that celebration?

Discoverers: Discoverers have had a very exciting week this week starting off with a Sikh visitor where they learnt a lot about the Sikh religion and even got to go to a Sikh wedding! The sun finally started shining and they loved going outside to continue their art topic of 'maps'. The children got stuck into drawing a large scale map of Higher Walton and even included lots of things they would love to see in Higher Walton such as a beach, a

Rosewood Avenue, Higher Walton, Preston PR5 4FE Telephone: 01772 335945

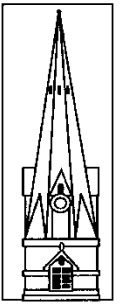
Office email: bursar@walton.lancs.sch.uk

Ofsted registration number: 119393



Higher Walton C.E. Primary School

'Life in all its fullness'



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

Headteacher: Mrs Vicki Clarke Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Jackie Noblet

zoo and a snowy mountain. Their new skill in PE this week is hitting with a bat and the children did so well playing a variation of the game rounders.

Let's talk: What three things do Sikhs do when they go to the temple?

Adventurers: Adventurers have had a fabulous week in English looking at the book called *'The Mysteries of Harris Burdick'*. They have worked hard doing lots of different writing. In computing, the class have been looking at Scratch and changing an animation by changing the dialogue. All the children have progressed amazingly in swimming and this week everyone was swimming full lengths. Well done!

Let's talk: We play 'Greedy Pig' in class. It's a game. Find out how to play it.

Navigators: This week in Navigators, we have been deepening our understanding of multiplication and division. The children have explored factors and multiples of larger numbers and investigated prime numbers. In science, we have been learning about voltage and how adding more components to a circuit affects the brightness of a bulb. The children enjoyed conducting experiments to observe these changes first hand. During P.E., we continued developing our hockey and netball skills, with plenty of opportunities for teamwork and practice. Meanwhile, in R.E. we have been looking closely at *'The Exodus'* story, exploring its significance and key themes.

Let's talk: Can you name the 5 significant events of the Exodus story?

Pathfinders: In Pathfinders class we have been finding identifying prime and composite numbers during our maths lessons and working very hard writing our narrative based upon *'The Arrival'*. We have been exploring rules for living as part of our Interfaith Week and we finished reading our class novel *'Fly Me Home'* by Polly Ho Yen.

Let's talk: Ask your child to describe the difference between a prime number and a composite number?

Interfaith week

We have been exploring how different faiths are similar this week and each class had been given a question to answer including comparing how food is important and the values the different faiths share. We welcomed Kash, a faith friend from the Sikh community, on Monday and learnt a lot about how Sikhs choose to live and worship. We had lots of fun during the day and even joined in with some dancing. We have also created some beautiful pieces of art each with a link to faith and values.

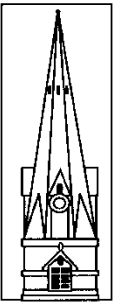
A.I.M high writing

Last week, four of our children in Adventurers class were invited to visit Queens Drive Primary School in Fulwood to attend an A.I.M High writing day. They worked with other children from a number of local primary schools to develop their creative writing skills based on work from the author Damian Harvey and not just that – the author was there leading the workshop too! The children came back with wonderful stories about what they had done and thank you to Mrs. Rourke, our famous school taxi, for transporting the children back and forth!



Higher Walton C.E. Primary School

'Life in all its fullness'



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

Headteacher: Mrs Vicki Clarke Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Jackie Noblet

Dance from the heart

Four girls from Year 6 recently attended a training session for this year's Dance from the Heart, including learning a new routine. The roadshow will be in June – look out for further information nearer the time!

Eco Council

Eco Council are now working on the seven steps to become an Eco School. They are currently improving how we encourage birds into the school grounds. To help us with this, the Eco Council would be grateful for donations of bird seed, fat balls, nuts etc. If you can help, please drop off donations at Mrs Clayton's class.

PTFA Valentines Disco

Our dedicated PTFA are hosting their next whole school event on Wednesday 12th February, our school Valentine's Disco. Information has been sent out to families inviting all of the children who would like to attend. If you haven't received the information, please check your ParentMail or get in touch with the school office.

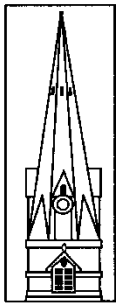
Weekly awards

Week ending: 24.1.25			Week ending: 31.1.25		
	Star of the Week	VIP		Star of the Week	VIP
Explorers	Louie	Nathaniel	Explorers	Bobbie P	Nicholas
Discoverers	Jamie	Blake	Discoverers	Filip	Jimmy
Adventurers	-	Lochlan	Adventurers	Jack	Henry
Navigators	Chloe	Evie-May	Navigators	Lilith	Willow
Pathfinders	Isaac	Karis & Mia	Pathfinders	Max	Scott
Times Table Rockstars winner	Luna				

Attendance

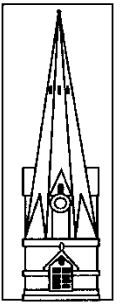
Week ending 24.1.25	Explorers 12 on roll	Discovers 21 on roll	Adventurers 26 on roll	Navigators 20 on roll	Pathfinders 17 on roll
Attendance	89%	93%	95%	90%	90%
Lates	7%	3%	4%	0%	2%
Well done Adventurers class with the highest percentage attendance this week!					

Week ending 31.1.25	Explorers 12 on roll	Discovers 21 on roll	Adventurers 26 on roll	Navigators 20 on roll	Pathfinders 17 on roll
Attendance	97%	94%	96%	93%	91%
Lates	5%	1%	3%	0%	0%
Well done Explorers class with the highest percentage attendance this week!					



Higher Walton C.E. Primary School

'Life in all its fullness'



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

Headteacher: Mrs Vicki Clarke Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Jackie Noblet

This week's reminders

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.

Payments: Please keep breakfast and after school club fees, school dinners and nursery fees up to date and not fall into arrears.

School communication: Where communications are sent out from school which require a reply, either by ParentMail or paper copy/letter, please ensure that these are completed and returned in a timely manner.

ParentMail: When changes to your account have been made, either by school or yourselves, for example telephone numbers, please remember to verify any changes to ensure these synchronise with our management system.

Diary dates

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

NEW: Tuesday 4 th February 2025	Tennis event – invited children
NEW: Thursday 6 th February 2025	Athletics event – invited children
Wednesday 12 th February 2025	Valentine's Disco – details have been sent home
Thursday 13 th February 2025	Year 5 and Year 6 class worship – 9am - parents welcome
Friday 14 th February 2025	School closes for half term break
Monday 24 th February 2025	School re-opens – spring term 2
Wednesday 12 th March 2025	Parents Evening – details to follow
NEW: Wednesday 26 th March 2025	PTFA Easter Bingo – details to follow
NEW: Friday 28 th March 2025	Mothers' Day Service – details to follow
NEW: Wednesday 2 nd April 2025	Easter performance – details to follow
NEW: Thursday 3 rd April 2025	Rocksteady Concert 2.45pm – parents welcome
NEW: Friday 4 th April 2025	Higher Walton Book Day – details to follow
NEW: Friday 4 th April 2025	End of term
NEW: Tuesday 22 nd April 2025	Spring term 2 begins

Items being sent with Newsletter

- Letter regarding changes to morning routines - IMPORTANT
- Brindle Players – The Frog Prince poster
- Little Voices poster
- PTFA Valentines Disco poster

Rosewood Avenue, Higher Walton, Preston PR5 4FE Telephone: 01772 335945

Office email: bursar@walton.lancs.sch.uk

Ofsted registration number: 119393