

**SCHOOL’S FIRST NEWSPAPER LAUNCHED TODAY**

Today the first issue of this newspaper was launched at Walton-Le-Dale High School as an addition to the school’s website. It will include news about events that will be taking place at Walton-Le-Dale and some information about other topics that could be useful in school.

**5 WAYS TO REDUCE PLASTIC USE IN SCHOOL**

Each year, one person in the UK can use around 27,500kg of plastic; most of which is single use and will never be recycled. It will probably end up in our oceans or on dumping grounds in countries such as Japan and China. To stop this from happening we need to reduce the amount of plastic we use as a group. On pages 2 and 3 of this issue, you will discover 5 ways we can all reduce our plastic waste in school.

**WELCOME NEW YEAR 7!**

Next year, another generation of students will walk through the doors of Walton-Le-Dale High School. Transferring from Primary School to High School is a huge step, so WLD News has dedicated an article to help them adjust to this change. On page 2 of this issue, all new students will find out a little more about the school they will be joining in September 2020.

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* You can participate in lots of clubs! You are bound to find something you like in the schools’ great collection of extra-curricular clubs.
* During your school journey, you will get to go on many thrilling trips!
* Making friends is easy. Even if you don’t know anybody at Walton-Le-Dale, you will make great friends.

Now you know some reasons why you shouldn’t be scared about starting at Walton-Le-Dale High School. If you remember that you will adjust and be happy at your new school even if at first you feel alone. Once again, welcome new Year 7’s! We can’t wait to see you all in September.

**5 WAYS TO REDUCE PLASTIC WASTE IN SCHOOL**

Plastic pollution is a major worldwide problem even though we are in the midst of a crisis. Many people use plastic carelessly - thinking that no harm can come from getting all of your drinks at lunchtime in plastic bottles.

You may be one of the people that think that disposing of the plastic bag that you are using as to hold your PE Kit after only a few uses is a perfectly fine thing to do. However, that is not the case. Most plastics we use in school for purposes like these are single use; meaning that they will most likely be thrown away. But when plastics are thrown away, they cause serious damage to the world we live in, and the school grounds too!

Plastic is one of the main causes of pollution. When we throw it away, it will almost positively end up on a dumping ground in other countries or in our oceans. Scientists believe that by the year 2030, there will be more plastic in the ocean than fish!

**WELCOME NEW YEAR 7s**

This year has been extremely puzzling and tricky, but even amidst the current crisis, new students are still starting at Walton-Le-Dale. Welcome, new Year 7s!

Here you will find a list of some positives of the brand new school that you will be joining in September.

* Switching schools can be a tough time, but don’t worry, because the school you happen to be joining is a great place to learn and make great friends.
* You will take part in many great lessons with kind and helpful teachers! No matter what your strong points are, you will enjoy every subject you take part in.

* Lots of great food is sold in the canteen and the canopy. This isn’t the most important point, but the school serves great food no matter what the occasion.

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This may seem like a problem with no solution, however, there is something we can do: we can reduce our plastic waste in school. Even though we aren’t in school at the moment, it is still useful to know how to reduce the waste we are producing for when we return.

Step 1) Bring your own drink in a reusable bottle – 80% of plastic bottles never get recycled, so try to avoid them where possible.

Step 2) Don’t bring chewing gum – This is a school rule anyway, which should help. Most gums can take hundreds of years to decompose after being chewed because it can contain polyethylene plastic. And it also makes the school grounds look messy.

Step 3) Don’t bring school supplies in single-use plastic bags – if you joined all of the plastic bags in the ocean together to make a long rope, it would wrap around Earth 4,200 times.

Step 4) If bringing packed lunches, avoid food wrapped in cling-film – it is a non-recyclable material and can cause problems.

Step 5) Tell your friends and family about the dangers of using plastic and producing waste – the more people know about the problem; the less waste will be produced.

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