



WHALEY BRIDGE E.R. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher

Mrs F Walton B.Ed. (Hons)

Friday 20th November, 2015

Dear Parents/Carers

This month I have taken prospective parents around the school, a part of my job I absolutely love as I am very proud of our school. I have realised that I take for granted how beautifully behaved and happy our children are, how helpful and friendly they are towards each other. So many of the parents commented on their manners and smiley faces. I thought I would pass this message on to you as I know you are proud of them too! 😊

Children in Need

We are immensely proud of our Whaley Bridge Primary School Choir and Little Voices who sang their hearts out at the Trafford Centre for Children in Need last Friday. They raised a staggering £1770! A huge thank you to Miss Owen and Mrs Thirsk for organising such a successful day and a thank you to all the parents and staff who came along to support the children. Not forgetting a big thank you to Andrews Coaches who donated the coach for free as they do every year.

The Lowry Brass Quintet

Miss Farrell and I took 16 well behaved children to go and see the quintet who were playing at The Buxton Opera House. All of the children play a brass instrument and thoroughly enjoyed listening to the musicians. Tristan said it was "a great experience." The children were able to chat to the musicians over tea and biscuits, who thought our children had the best questions and the best manners!

Chinese visitors

Last week, we welcomed 23 Chinese primary school teachers who came to find out about our creative teaching approach. The children enjoyed their company, chatting and sharing their learning with them. We all had a great afternoon and they all went back to China full of inspiration.

Mathletics

Wow! What a positive reaction to Mathletics! The amount of children telling me how "addictive" it is and how it "helps them learn" is amazing. Never have we seen children so buzzy about their homework – may it continue!

Anti-bullying week

This week has been Anti-Bullying Week. The focus has been to empower children to make a noise about bullying – whether it is happening to them or to someone else. The week has also been a good opportunity to encourage 'talking schools' where all children are given a safe space to discuss bullying and other issues that affect their lives. We had a big focus on how to be a good friend and what makes us all special. The staff have rewarded children with kindness tokens when they see evidence of children being kind and caring. They collected so many that the children were able to watch "The Ant Bully" film as a treat. What has been good to see is that all children know what to do if they or a friend feel sad, worried or scared. As Year 6G said in assembly: "Make a noise about bullying, make it now. Make a noise about bullying, make it loud!"

Non uniform day for chocolate

Just to remind you all that on Friday 4th December it will be a non-uniform day in payment for chocolate! The donations will come straight up to my office to be labelled up for the famous chocolate tombola! I solemnly swear that

I will not eat a single one! (The children never believe me!) Don't forget, our Christmas Fair will be on the same day from 5-8pm. I hope to see you all there!

After School Club AGM

The After School Club AGM is on Wednesday 25th November, starting at 7:30pm in The Cock pub. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Attendance

Last half term our total attendance was 96.97% which is slightly above the national average of 96.1% 8 out of 10 classes achieved above this figure. The highest attendance was Year 3 with 98.75% Our unauthorised absence will be monitored carefully this term as it's presently too high. Please can I ask that holidays are taken out of term time and children are in school on time. Thank you for supporting school with your child's attendance.

Admissions - Applying for a Primary place

If your child was born between 1 September 2011 and 31 August 2012 they will be eligible to start school in September 2016. You should apply for their infant/primary school place by 15 January 2016. You are able to make your application now. Please visit <http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education> for more information.

Dates for your diaries! – Please note that dates can be found on the calendar on our website ☺

- Wednesday 25th November – ASC AGM 7:30pm @ the Cock
- Friday 4th December – Non-uniform day – chocolate donations
- Friday 4th December – The Christmas Fair 5-8pm
- Tuesday 8th December – Reception and Year 1's Nativity (details to follow)
- Thursday 10th December – Christmas Lunch
- Friday 11th December – School treat – Key Strings
- Monday 14th December – Whole school to see Aladdin at the Buxton Opera House
- Wednesday 16th December – WBPS Talent Show (details to follow)
- Thursday 17th December – Party Day – children can wear party clothes/Christmas jumpers ☺
- Friday 18th December – Whole school carol service at the Holy Trinity Church at 1:30pm – all welcome
- Friday 18th December – school closes for the Christmas holidays
- Monday 4th January – INSET – school closed
- Tuesday 5th January – school open – children in

Mrs Fay Walton
Headteacher