



WHALEY BRIDGE E.R. PRIMARY SCHOOL

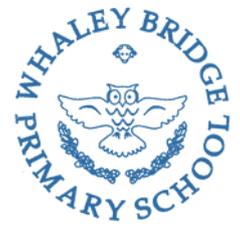
For every child, a chance to shine ★

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Headteacher

Mrs F Walton B.Ed. (Hons)

29 June 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

What a glorious month of June we have had – the weather has been amazing and meant that the children have been able to enjoy being outside as much as possible. As good weather is likely to continue, please can I remind everyone to ensure your child has sun cream applied before they come to school, bring a hat and a refillable water bottle (containing water, not juice) which they can access at any time during the school day.

Yet again, there has been a lot going on around school, as you will see below.

AROUND SCHOOL

Transition

Next Tuesday 3 July 2018 will be our transition day which is always a fun and exciting day for everyone! Most of our current Year 6 pupils will be spending the day at their new secondary school, the new starters coming from nursery into our Reception class will be coming for the morning and staying for lunch, and everyone else will find out which classroom will be theirs for the coming year. Their new teachers will have arranged all sorts of fantastic things for them to do and they will spend the day in their new classroom with their classmates getting a flavour of how their new teacher will be running their class from September.

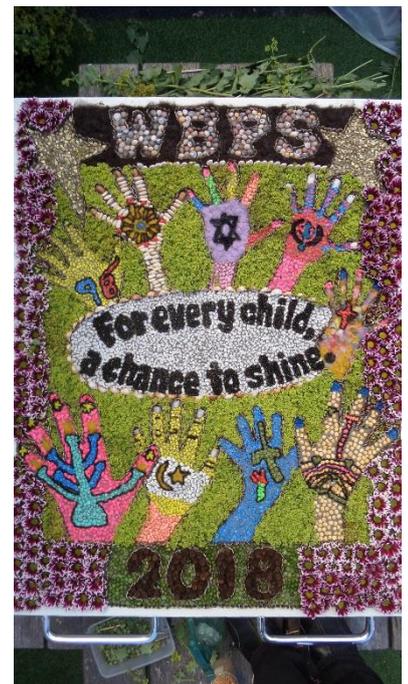
Also, may I remind anyone with siblings starting in Reception in September that the New Parents' meeting will take place on Monday 2 July 2018 at 6.00 pm. I look forward to seeing you there.

Well Dressing

Yet again, we produced an amazing well dressing! It took the school a week to complete, every child had the opportunity to add petals, stones, wool and seeds, and some of the staff helped at lunch times along too. A big thank you to all involved particularly Mrs Bradley and Miss Chambers for co-ordinating it, Mr Spencer for moving the finished piece very carefully to the outside of school for the community to see, Miss Lomas for sorting out the design, everyone who donated Lady's Mantle and finally to Reverend Margaret for blessing our Well Dressing!

Reception JB Assembly

Wow – we were treated to a fantastic assembly all about The Very Hungry Caterpillar! The children had been filmed telling the story and it was shown on a big screen. This was followed by 5 songs, all beautifully sung, including ones about healthy eating, days of the week and lifecycles. The children had also painted pictures of all the food mentioned in the story, made butterflies and created collage caterpillars. It was a colourful feast for the eyes as well as a musical treat for the ears – well done to everyone!



Water Safety Assembly

With such sunny and warm weather at the moment, it was a timely reminder for all of us about the dangers of swimming or playing in open water. Representatives from New Mills Leisure Centre came and talked to the school about how to stay safe around water so that we can all enjoy having fun near our many rivers, streams and lakes but also stay safe.

Reception JB Grandparents' Tea Party

On 13 June 2018, Reception children hosted a Tea Party especially for their grandparents. The children (with a little help from the teachers and TAs) laid on a lovely spread of sandwiches, cakes and biscuits and were able to show off some of their fantastic work. Everyone had a great time and the children really enjoyed being able to talk to their grandparents about what they have been doing in class.

Wind in the Willows

The Choir and Little Voices treated us to a magnificent production of the Wind in the Willows on our return from the half-term holidays, and what a terrific job they did! The singing, acting and dancing was tremendous and all the children performed beautifully. Combined with some fantastic costumes and scenery, it was an all-round fantastic production! Well done, and thank you, to everyone involved.



Sports Day

What a scorcher! It was a really hot day, but it makes a nice change to be able to hold Sports Day on the designated day and not have to rearrange because of rain! Thank you to all the staff who organised the races and the other activities that were taking place, and to all of you who managed to attend. The children had a great time, and thank you also to the PTA for providing refreshments and for those of you who erected gazebos, which were a welcome respite from the sunshine.

Y6 Lakeside Residential

Last week was the Year 6 pupils' annual, action-packed, residential week at Lakeside. It wasn't without its moments – whilst we were basking in lovely sunshine in Whaley Bridge, they were enduring some extremely heavy winds, with tents nearly blowing away! Alternative accommodation was provided, so there weren't too many sleepless nights, and it didn't stop them enjoying the fantastic activities laid on for them. Thanks go to the staff too for all their help in ensuring the children had a great time, despite nature's best intentions!

Book Fair

The annual Book Fair proved successful once again, with a wealth of books and goodies on sale. It was well attended, as ever, and through the sales made, the Travelling Books company will donate £200 worth of books of our choosing for the school library! So thank you to everyone who supported the Fair, and to Mrs Baxby and Mrs Barnett for their help in organizing it.

Little Princess Trust

A couple of our pupils, Charlotte & Grace Vickers, are very generously having their hair cut on 16 July 2018 and donating it to The Little Princess Trust. It will be used to help make wigs for cancer patients who suffer hair loss whilst undergoing treatment. A fundraising page has been set up to help them raise money for this worthwhile cause, so should anyone wish to make a donation, please visit <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/zoey-vickers>. Thank you.

Non-uniform day – 13th July 2018

There will be a non-uniform day on 13th July for a donation of sweets for the PTA tombola – all welcome to take part.

PTA FUNDRAISING NEWS

PTA Traverse Wall Project

Thank you so much everyone, the vote is over on the 30th Jun 2018. We won't officially know about the vote outcome (and amount of grant we receive) but it was looking good.....! We have exciting plans with the support of some wonderful local artists so watch this space for more info!!!!!!



TESCO Bags of Help

PTA Summer Fair



Remember to book this in your diaries.....**Saturday 14th July, 11am – 1pm.**

The fair is coming together with lots of exciting things planned. The Wind in the Willows production and all our wonderful singers will be coming along to treat us to a few special numbers from the show.

All the other usual treats will be there also. Please do kindly donate anything you have spare for the Teddy and Bottle Tombola. The box is in the school office if you do have something. Does anyone have a gazebo? Much appreciated if you do (sun or rain, always useful).

AFTER SCHOOL/HOLIDAY CLUB

The summer holidays are nearly here and we need you to let us know which days you'd like to book in for. Suzanna is lining up a great list of activities, including:

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|--------------------|--|
| Monday 23 July: | Cycling skills with Chinley-born international athlete Katie Toft |
| Wednesday 25 July: | Trip to Marple Garden Park |
| Thursday 2 August: | trip to Trentham Monkey Forest (donation of £5.50 needed to cover additional costs but please talk to us if this is a problem) |
| Every Tuesday: | games in the park with UK Sports |



To book places, please talk to Suzanna King, Manager, or another member of the After School Club team, either in person or by calling 07894 235778 or asc@whaleybridge.derbyshire.sch.uk.



Thank you to everyone who attended our recent Coffee Morning at the Mechanics Institute or donated bottles. We raised a good amount of money and will be able to buy a couple of tablets for the children to use at After School Club for their homework.

Lolly-fest As you will have seen, we have been busy fundraising with our recent raffle and the sale of our gorgeous ice-creams. Thank you to all of you who have bought ice-creams after school, and should the ice-cream stall not be out in the playground, you are always welcome to come along to the Creative Classroom where ice lollies are always available! All the money raised from the sale of ice-creams is going towards helping Chinley-born, gold medallist Paralympian Katie Toft achieve her goal of making it to the Tokyo Paralympics in 2020 – so thank you for your continued support!

HOUSEKEEPING/NOTICES

Parentpay – new system

As you will be aware, we are going to be a 'CASHLESS' school from September 2018. You will have received initial letters from us about the system and further communication will follow soon. In future, dinner money and trip payments etc will be made via the Parentpay system. DCC and our school policy will still be in place, dictating that dinner money should be paid IN ADVANCE and the school will be notified by Parentpay should your account fall into arrears.

Similarly, please note that the two weeks' notice, requested via the school office, is still required should your child wish to change from school lunches to sandwiches, or vice versa, **regardless** of whether they are eligible for FSM or UIFSM (key stage 1 free school meals).

When you receive further information from us, please do take the time to read it and you **must** verify your account before the start of next term otherwise **you will no longer be able to receive communications from us**.

Your co-operation in these matters is appreciated.

!! Parental Permissions !!

Thank you to those of you who have returned the new permission forms – it is much appreciated. If you haven't yet done so, please can you send them into school **as soon as possible**. If you have lost the form that came home, you can download it from the school website or pick one up from the rack in the School Office reception area. Thank you.

Parking on school premises/collecting children from school

May we ask that all parents/carers note that the turning circle and new gate is strictly for the use of staff, visitors and disabled access. Parents must continue to park on the road and walk down the ramp. Also, when collecting children from extra-curricular activities, parents are requested to wait at the locked gated entrance and not walk into the school grounds. Only parents collecting children from After School Club in the creative classroom/ER building should be on the school grounds. We thank you for your cooperation in these matters.

Attendance

One of our key priorities is to improve attendance and punctuality for all children. Our whole school target is 97% and so far our overall attendance is at **96.56%** - illness is still playing a part, and this is still above the national average, so keep it up and hopefully we will reach our target next time.

We continue to try and ensure that all children arrive to school on time, every day. If you are finding it tricky to get your children into school on time at 8:55am, please do come to us for help and guidance, we have lots of ideas and strategies to help make mornings a bit easier!



Lesson ready

Please remind your children about the importance of being lesson ready every day. To limit disruption to the timetable, it is important that PE kits, swimming kits and instruments are in school for the beginning of the day. Text reminders and phone calls to request forgotten items will no longer be made.

Similarly may we ask that as far as possible, your child care arrangements for after school are organised before the children come into school. We do however understand that sometimes emergency situations arise. Thank you for your ongoing support with these matters.

Notifying us of Absence

The easiest and most convenient way to let us know of an absence is via the texting service (which will be via Parentpay in September) as this can be done any time of day or night. Alternatively, you can always ring school (01663 732354) and leave a message on the answerphone or email us on info@whaleybridge.derbyshire.sch.uk. May we ask that, even if you have let your child's teacher know if your child is not in school or is being collected at a particular time for an appointment, that you please inform the school office as well. **If your child has an appointment and is not going to be in school for half a day or more, we will require a Request for Absence form completing and/or a letter from the doctor/hospital etc for our files. Forms can be downloaded from the school website or are available in the reception area of the downstairs office. Thank you for your co-operation.**

Sickness & Diarrhoea

In accordance with school policy, may we remind you that should your child suffer from either of these conditions, they should not return to school until 48 hours after the last bout of illness. We need to adhere strictly to this in order to minimise the risk of spreading the illness further. Also, your child should not participate in swimming lessons for a period of 14 days after returning to school. Your co-operation in these matters is appreciated.

Contact details

It is essential that we have up-to-date details for your child in case of emergencies, club cancellations, bad weather arrangements etc, so as a reminder, should your mobile telephone number, email or home address ever change, please make sure you let the office know at the earliest opportunity so we can update your child's record. Thank you.

Is your child eligible for Free School Meals (FSM)?

Registering for free meals can raise an extra £1,300 for our school, to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff and after-school activities.

1. Is your joint family income under £16,190 per year?
2. If not, are you in receipt of any of the benefits listed below:
 - Income support?
 - Income-based Jobseekers Allowance?
 - Income-related Employment and Support Allowance?
 - Support from NASS (National Asylum Support Service) under part 6 of the Immigration/Asylum Act?
 - The guarantee element of State Pension Credit?
 - Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than **£16,190**?
 - Working Tax Credit run-on?
 - Universal Credit?

If you answered 'yes' to either of the above, then please come to us immediately. If you are eligible, rest assured that the information is confidential. We are very discrete – even your child will not know that you have registered – let alone anyone else. Help us to help your child – contact us if you believe you qualify.

STAFF UPDATE

Miss Worsley gave birth to a beautiful baby boy – we send her our congratulations and hopefully, we will see him in school soon (just visiting, of course!).

When we break up for the holidays, Miss Berresford will be getting married. On her return in September, she will be Mrs A Heyes – our best wishes go to her for a wonderful day!

Miss Carter, our NQT who has been teaching Y3 so well for us this year, will also be finishing at the end of term. She has secured a position in a school in Glossop, and we wish her well with her future teaching career.

It is with sadness that we have to say ‘goodbye’ to two of our longest-serving staff members who are both taking early retirement – Mrs Green and Mrs Adams. They have actually both been working at the school for 13 years, and although we are sorry to see them go and know they will be missed, we wish them all the very best for whatever new adventures await them!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY –July 2018/September 2018

JULY 2018		
2.7.18	Monday	New Reception intake Parents’ meeting – 6.00 pm
3.7.18	Tuesday	Y6 Transition Day – Chapel High School ‘Moving up day’ – whole school New reception intake taster day – 9.30 am – 12.30 pm (inc lunch)
4.7.18	Wednesday	Y2 Medicines Safety Talk Y6 Drugs & alcohol awareness talk
5.7.18	Thursday	Y6 Drugs & alcohol awareness talk
13.7.18	Friday	Reports to parents/non-uniform day – sweet tombola
14.7.18	Saturday	PTA Summer Fair – 11.00 am – 1.00 pm
16.7.18-17.7.18	Monday-Tuesday	Y6 Production evenings only – time tbc (probably 6.00 pm)
17.7.18	Tuesday	Bike Festival
18.7.18	Wednesday	Year 6 Leavers’ day out and party
20.7.18	Friday	Y6 Leavers’ Assembly
20.7.18	Friday	Break up for the Summer Holidays – 3.30 pm ☀
SEPTEMBER 2018		
3.9.18-4.9.18	Monday-Tuesday	INSET DAYS
5.9.18	Wednesday	School re-opens – 8.55 am

Thank you for your continued support as we come towards the end of the 2017-18 school year!

Mrs Fay Walton
Headteacher