



WHALEY BRIDGE E.R. PRIMARY SCHOOL

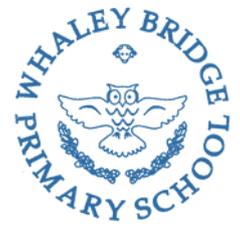
For every child, a chance to shine ★

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Headteacher

Mrs F Walton B.Ed. (Hons)

20 July 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

I can't believe it – we've come to the end of another school year already – definitely time for a well-earned break for all the pupils and the staff. I hope the children have enjoyed their year and the wide range of wonderful events that have taken place. Everyone one around school has worked extremely hard and so I am sure we are all looking forward to an enjoyable and restful summer break, ready to return in September raring to go for another action-packed year. Here are some of the events that have taken place in the last few weeks, and some reminders for returning in September.

AROUND SCHOOL

Transition Day

We hope all the children thoroughly enjoyed their time spent with their teacher for next year in their new classroom, and got a feel for what is to come in September so it won't feel quite so strange on Day 1 when they return. They will have found out a little about some of their study topics for next year, and know where their pegs are and some of the routines for their class. I'm sure the Y6 pupils also enjoyed their transition days at their new high schools – we wish them well as they begin the next phase of their education.

Bike Festival

WBPS's first Bike Festival was a tremendous success as over 140 children brought their bikes into school for a celebration of cycling! Many thanks go to Matt Ellis and Simon Watts for delivering some brilliant coaching sessions, and all the children took part in different skills events and mini races. Thanks also to Rod Ellingworth for organising some excellent cycling-oriented goodie bags. All the children had a fantastic time.



There were also classroom sessions, where the children spent time learning about the Tour de France – maybe we will have some future Olympic athletes amongst our pupils ...

We must also not forget the amazing Katie Toft, gold medal-winning Paralympic cyclist, for talking to the children and sharing memories of her cycling achievements. A great day was had by all!



Year 6 Production

Wow – what a fantastic production! Our leavers excelled with their performances of ‘Dragon Days’ for parents, staff and pupils, with wonderful singing, dancing and acting. Huge thanks go to all the staff and parents who contributed in some way, whether with costumes, make-up, scenery, coaching and production – well done everyone, and particularly the Y6 pupils who really took their chance to shine!



Y6 Mystery Trip

Following tradition, Year 6 went on a Mystery Trip – their end of year treat – and spent the day in Splash Landings at Alton Towers! This was followed by a party, organised by the Y6 parents, back at school. What a fantastic way for them all to end their final year of primary school and we hope it has provided them all with some wonderful memories of their friends and fun times had here at WBPS!

PTA FUNDRAISING NEWS

TESCO Bags of Help PTA Traverse Wall Project

Thank you once again for your voting in our local Tesco store!!!! We are moving quickly on getting this project completed, thanks to our wonderful local artists Lyndsey Selley and Rob Wilson – who will be transforming the dull grey wall over the summer. The plan is to add the climbing holds to create the traversing part once the paint is dry!



The children of WBPS were asked to vote on designs by Lyndsey and Rob. They selected a nature scene from the designs offered. We don't want to reveal too much yet and spoil the surprise, but here's a little taste of the artwork that you will soon see at school!



PTA Summer Fair



Thank you once again to all those who supported the fair – whether you made slime, moved tables, bought tombola tickets, donated bottles or came along and enjoyed the fun! – it was great to see everyone at school.

The sun did not stop shining (the chocolate on the sweetie tombola was the only thing that suffered from the sunshine!) and we have made a good sum (about £1100) to help support the school. Thank you! Thank you!

AFTER SCHOOL/HOLIDAY CLUB

It's nearly the end of term for breakfast and holiday club and we're preparing for a long summer of fun in Holiday Club. This year we're planning an ambitious programme of day trips and special visitors to the Club and will be providing quality child care each and every day of the summer, excluding the Bank Holiday Monday. We have some spaces left so please get your bookings in quick. Suzanna can always be contacted on: 07894235778 or asc@whaleybridge.derbyshire.sch.uk if you need us!!!!



In other news, we were delighted to donate £223.50 to After School Club playworker Katie Toft during the school's cycling day. This was raised during our ice-cream sale week and will help get Katie to the UCI World Cup event in Canada to gain points to qualify for the 2020 Paralympics in Tokyo.



And thanks to everyone who's used or supported the Club this year. It's much appreciated. Please let us know if you have any comments or questions so we can make 2018/19 our best year yet!

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 letters from us about the system and details of your personal logins/usernames to set up your account. 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).

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. We also wish Mr Cooper all the best in his new role as a TA in Stockport. Miss Cooling will be joining us to teach Year 3 in September and we are sure she will be a valuable addition to our teaching team.

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 – September-November 2018

SEPTEMBER 2018		
3.9.18-4.9.18	Monday-Tuesday	INSET DAYS
5.9.18	Wednesday	School re-opens – 8.55 am
18.9.18	Tuesday	Meet the teacher evening 6-8pm
OCTOBER 2018		
2.10.18	Tuesday	School photos
16.10.18	Tuesday	Parents Evening
18.10.18	Thursday	Parents Evening
29.10.18-2.11.18	Week	Half Term
NOVEMBER 2018		
7.11.18	Wednesday	Bag-2-School Collection

Thank you for your continued support as we come towards the end of the 2017-18 school year! Have a great summer and see you in September.

Mrs Fay Walton
Headteacher