



WHALEY BRIDGE E.R. PRIMARY SCHOOL

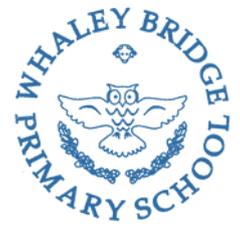
For every child, a chance to shine ★

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Headteacher

Mrs F Walton B.Ed. (Hons)

21 June 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

As we rush headlong towards the end of another school year, we are at that exciting time when our new Reception starters will be coming in for a taster day and those leaving us from Y6 spend time at their new schools. For everyone else, we will be having our Moving Up morning on Tuesday 2 July 2019 where children will spend time with their new teachers in their classrooms – see below for more details.

AROUND SCHOOL

Staff Changes

The end of this school year will bring with it some changes in our staff, and it is with sadness that we say 'goodbye' to Mrs Bradley and Mrs Wilson. Mrs Bradley, who is retiring from her role as a TA, has been with the school for 25 years and will be sorely missed. As, too, will Mrs Wilson, who after 10 years at the school, is moving on to a rural school near Macclesfield. We wish them both well in their new adventures, as we do to Mr Emsley, who is also leaving us as his contract comes to an end. Good luck to them all.

As we mentioned in the previous newsletter, we have several new staff members joining our team. We will welcome Mrs Mahon, who will be taking on the role of SENCo and Miss Hodgkinson who will be teaching every morning in the Enhanced Resource. Both ladies have been coming into school to meet the children. We will also be joined by Mrs Foden, a new class teacher, and we are looking forward to them becoming part of our school community.

Y4 Goyt Valley Walk

The annual Y4 train ride to Buxton, followed by a 'gentle stroll' back to Whaley Bridge through the Goyt Valley, took place earlier in June. A great day was had by all, but in no way was this due to the weather – the heavens opened and deluged everyone all afternoon, so a lot of soggy walkers returned to school, but seemed to have made it back in record time ...!! Well done to everyone for completing the walk in such dreadful weather but without letting their spirits drop!

Y1/2 visit to Bramall Hall

Years 1 and 2 spent an entertaining day enjoying the beautiful Bramall Hall, its gardens and learning all about what life was like in Victorian times. They spent time looking round the house and gardens, finding out about how the servants lived, what it was like running a busy kitchen, then how the children of the house spent their time, playing with wonderful wooden toys and games. There was even time to play in the park! It was a lovely day, giving them a real insight into life during the reign of Queen Victoria.

Well Dressing

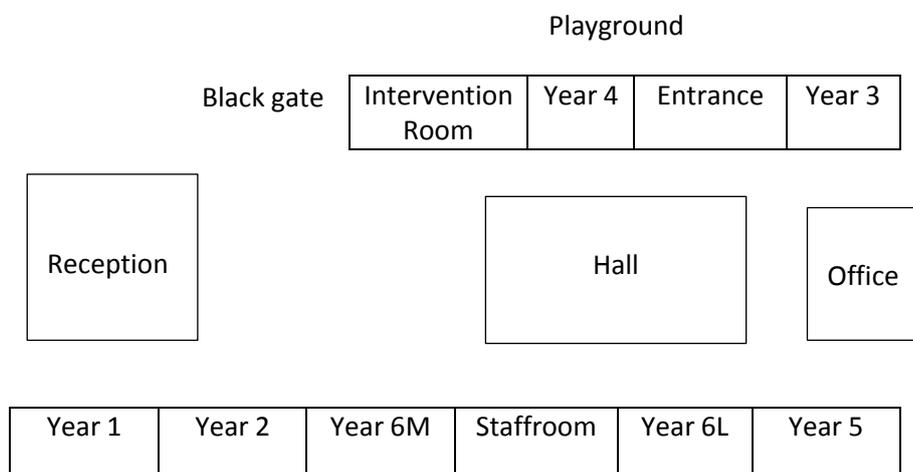
This week has been our annual Well Dressing week, where all the children in the school have had the opportunity to put their mark on our fantastic well dressing creation, this year on the theme of book characters. The design was created from several children's ideas, and the end result was blessed by Rev Margaret Jones this afternoon and will be on display outside school for all to enjoy. Thank you to all the staff, notably Mrs Lawes and Mrs Bradley, and children involved in ensuring we have been able to continue to take part in this ancient Derbyshire tradition.

Class structure 2019-2020

Next academic year, we will continue to be an eight class school. The table below shows how the classes will be structured. The children will have the opportunity to meet their teacher/s on the move up morning on Tuesday 2nd July.

Class	Teacher/s	Teaching Assistant/s
Reception	Mrs Heyes/Miss Worsley	Mrs Lawes (all day) Miss Chambers (am)
Year 1	Mrs L Chadwick	Mrs Barnett (pm)
Year 2	Mrs Baxby	Miss Chambers (pm) Mrs Ward (pm) Mrs Arnfield (pm)
Year 3	Miss Cooling	
Year 4	Miss Farrell	
Year 5	Mrs Foden	Mrs Ryder (all day)
Year 6	Miss Mansfield	
Year 6	Miss Lomas	Mrs J Chadwick (pm)
Enhanced Resource	Miss Hodgkinson (am)	Mrs Barnett (am) Mrs Ward (am) Mrs Moorcroft (am)

Map of the classrooms 2019-2020



Swimming

Swimming arrangements for the next academic year are currently under review. Parents and carers will notice a change in the swimming timetable once it is finalised. Further information will be provided in due course.

As ever, I know you appreciate that to offer these lessons, we can only do it with your help. With this in mind, we would ask that if you are DBS checked and able to help with any classes other than your own child's class, we would be extremely grateful – please let the office or class teacher know the days you may be available and willing to help. Thank you.

Litter picking design a poster competition

Our Y5 children took part in a Council-organised competition to design a poster to encourage people not to drop litter and to pick up litter when they see it. We are delighted to say that Ariane took first prize, and her design will appear in posters around Whaley Bridge, so look out for them in the near future. Congratulations to her, and to Samuel and Ruby who came 2nd and 3rd respectively.



MapQuest competition

Y5 spent the afternoon in Whaley Park taking part in MapQuest with other local schools. The competition was a proper 'flags & clipper' orienteering race, the objective being to find as many of the markers as possible and in the quickest time. The children roamed all over the park, from the river to the football field in teams of 3 and had a fantastic time – and what's more, we won gold and silver in the KS2 competition! Well done to 'The Nature Boys' (Jacob, Freddy, Oscar – Gold) and 'The Friendly Badgers' (Leonard, Daniel, Adam – Silver) but also to the rest of the class who had a great time and behaved beautifully!

Annual Reports to parents/carers.

Annual reports will be going out to parents/carers on Monday 15th July. EYFS, Year 1, 2 and 6 will also receive statutory results. The report format this year has been changed slightly, the noticeable difference is that all reports will now be A4 instead of A3.

Book Fair

Thank you to Mrs Wilson for organising this year's Book Fair. We hope you all had the opportunity to browse the wide variety of books and goodies that were available to buy, and a huge thank you to those of you who purchased books – we raised a whopping £461.46 of which we received £216 to spend on books for our library.

Holidays

It has been brought to our attention that some parents are taking their children out of school for a holiday and then telling the school that their children are ill. This is putting the children in a very difficult situation. All requests for taking your child out of school should be done so using the Leave of Absence form which can be found online and in the school office. In accordance with government regulations, we can still challenge and fine parents if we believe that a holiday was taken.

WBPS After School Club

The After School & Breakfast Club is always available for bookings.

For more information, or to book a place, please ask a member of the After School staff or ring 07894 235778 or check out our Facebook page. Thank you.



Mid-day Supervisors

We are always on the look-out for Mid-day supervisors, so if you feel you have the requisite skills and time available, please contact Mrs Sowerby in the school office for more details on info@whaleybridge.derbyshire.sch.uk or ring 01663 732354.

PTA News

A huge thankyou from the school to the PTA for raising funds to replace Ryan Bramwell's memorial bench. The new bench has now been delivered, the plaque is re-fixed onto it, and the bench has been returned to its place in the rose garden.



HOUSEKEEPING/NOTICES

Communication

Our school website is a good source of information. There you will find updates on exciting events at school, the school calendar, inset dates, policies, medicine and leave of absence forms etc. The 2019/20 School Calendar has been updated on the website, including details of inset dates, so please take a look. A PDF version is attached to this newsletter too.

<http://whaleybridge.derbyshire.sch.uk/>

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.

ParentHub - update

We are very pleased with our ParentHub system, and most 'teething problems' seem to have been ironed out. It is great that we can send more information in our messages than we could with the texting service, and we can include attachments and links.

However, should you ever experience any issues, please see the '*Handy Hints*' below which may resolve them for you:

1. Don't sign out of the app. Remain logged in. There's no need to log out and on again.
2. Don't 'kill' the app. This is where you double tap the home button on certain phones and swipe the app away. Killing the app can stop notifications coming through.
3. Ensure you have the most up to date app in your app store. This is version 3.2.4 last updated in December 2018.
4. Make sure push notifications are turned on for the app. Under your phones settings, find notifications and make sure they are allowed for ParentHub.
5. If you are still having issues log out and in again. This will also reset the push notifications.
6. And failing all that, if you are still not happy with the timing and notifications, you can remove the app altogether. All messages will then be sent to you by e-mail.
7. ParentHub have also said that parents are more than welcome to contact them directly on 0161 202 4141 if issues cannot be resolved by doing all of the above.

We have been informed that ParentHub are also developing a new option on the app for school to use. If we need to send out urgent messages (session or school closures for example), we will be able to opt in to ensure the message gets sent as a text if the recipient hasn't got 4G (or equivalent) at their end. Hopefully they will have this developed ASAP and we will let you know once this is up and running. However, should we ever have to cancel after school activities at short notice, please be assured, we do have a system in place for any children not collected at the end of the day. The school office will ring round parents and contacts but if we cannot get hold of anyone, the children are directed to the After School Club (but this will incur a cost).

ParentPay

The ParentPay system is also working well now and we no longer accept payments by cash or cheque in school.

DCC and our school policy are still 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).

!! Parental Permissions !!

A reminder text was sent to those of you who have still not returned the new permission forms. Please can you send them into school **as soon as possible** – if we don't have up-to-date permissions on file for your child, they may have to miss out on certain events or opportunities. 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. **Please remember to circle the relevant permissions and date and sign the back of the form, whether you have made changes or not.** 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 enter school down the ramp. No children, unless being dropped by authorised taxis or **with prior permission** for a specific reason, should be coming through the car park.

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 **96.7 %** - this is still above the national average, so keep it up to ensure we reach our target next time too.

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!

Notifying us of Absence

This can be done at any time of day or night via the following means:

- Email us – either via ParentPay or on info@whaleybridge.derbyshire.sch.uk
- Ring us – on 01663 732354 – you can leave a message on the answerphone if it is out of school hours.

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, 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 school office.

Authorised absence can cover a bout of illness, appointments, a religious observance, close family bereavement or absence due to exceptional circumstances.

The fundamental principles for defining “exceptional circumstances” are that they are rare, significant, unavoidable and short. Holidays are therefore not considered exceptional circumstances as it is an event that could be rescheduled outside of term-time.

The DfE 2013 amendments make it very clear that schools may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless “exceptional circumstances” prevail.

Applications for a leave of absence in exceptional circumstances form can be found on our website obtained from our school office.

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.

Polite reminder

Although social networking sites may appear to be the quickest and easiest way to express frustrations or concerns about the School, it is rarely appropriate to do so. As always, we are here to listen and help, so please do come into school and talk to us about your concerns. Please speak to the office to arrange an appointment if more convenient.

Before you post on:



THINK

- T** = Is it true?
- H** = Is it helpful?
- I** = Is it inspiring?
- N** = Is it necessary?
- K** = Is it kind?

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - June 2019-September 2019

JUNE 2019		
17.6.19-21.6.19	Monday-Friday	Outdoor Learning week
17.6.19-21.6.19	Monday-Friday	Well dressing week
21.6.19	Friday	Mrs Parkes – violin assembly – parents welcome
23.6.19	Sunday	Well Dressing Blessing – Choir singing
24.6.19	Monday	New Reception Intake Parents’ meeting 6pm
26.6.19	Wednesday	Rec Trip to Peak Wildlife Park *
26.6.19	Wednesday	Youth Presents Music, 7pm at Chapel High School
27.6.19	Thursday	Sports Day – KS2: 9:30-11:30am: KS1: 1:30 - 3pm

JULY 2019		
2.7.19	Tuesday	Move up day
10.7.19	Wednesday	Y6 production 6pm
11.7.19	Thursday	Y6 production 6pm
15.7.19	Monday	Annual Reports to parents/carers
16.7.19	Tuesday	Year 6 leaver's day out and party
17.7.19	Wednesday	Y5 swimming assessment at New Mills Leisure Centre*
19.7.19	Friday	Leavers' Assembly 9am
19.7.19	Friday	School closes for the summer holidays
SEPTEMBER 2019		
3.9.19-4.9.19	Tuesday-Wednesday	Inset Days
5.9.19	Thursday	School opens for the Autumn term

*details to follow

Thank you for your continued support!

Mrs Fay Walton, Headteacher



WHALEY BRIDGE E.R. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Term Dates 2019-2020

September 2019							
wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
35	30						1
36	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
37	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
38	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
39	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

October 2019							
wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
40		1	2	3	4	5	6
41	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
42	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
43	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
44	28	29	30	31			

November 2019							
wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44					1	2	3
45	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
46	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
47	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
48	25	26	27	28	29	30	

December 2019							
wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
48	30	31					1
49	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
50	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
51	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
52	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

January 2020							
wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1			1	2	3	4	5
2	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
4	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
5	27	28	29	30	31		

February 2020							
wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5						1	2
6	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9	24	25	26	27	28	29	

March 2020							
wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9	30	31					1
10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
12	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
13	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

April 2020							
wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
14			1	2	3	4	5
15	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
16	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
17	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
18	27	28	29	30			

May 2020							
wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
18					1	2	3
19	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
21	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
22	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2020							
wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
23	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	29	30					

July 2020							
wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
27			1	2	3	4	5
28	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
29	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
30	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
31	27	28	29	30	31		

August 2020							
wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
31	31					1	2
32	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
33	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
34	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
35	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

School Holiday Dates
 Bank Holidays
 Inset Days (School Closed to Pupils)