



Newsletter – 31st March 2023

RECEPTION

Reception have had another fantastic term. This term we have been learning about Space and Plants. We transformed our cabin into a space station where the children have been able to access lots of role play opportunities such as dressing up as astronauts, playing with space toys in our space tent, reading space themed books, making rockets with recyclable materials and lots of arts and crafts. We have been focusing on the book 'Whatever Next' in English and the children have had lots of writing opportunities based on this book.

We have also changed our indoor role play area into a garden centre and the children have loved buying and selling flowers to their friends and learning about the different parts of flowers and what they are called.

In Maths we have been focusing on numbers 8,9 and 10 and the children have been completing lots of work on subitizing and investigating the different compositions of these numbers using lots of different manipulatives.

Well done, Reception!



YEAR 1

This half term Year 1 have been learning all about the Amazon Rainforest. We have been learning about the climate, the animals that live in the rainforest, the layers of the rainforest as well as comparing and writing about the differences between the rainforest and Widnes. Our 'Rainforest' topic is linked to our key text 'The Great Kapok Tree'. Year 1 have been writing about the importance of looking after our beautiful planet and created a poster about protecting the rainforest, as well as researching and finding facts about the Amazon Rainforest to write a non-chronological report.

In Art, we have been studying the artist Andy Warhol and, in their sketchbooks, writing what they like about his pop art and how it makes them feel. The children produced some beautiful, detailed pieces of artwork of different animals that live in the rainforest, we then decided to display the sketchbooks in class as an art gallery.

Year 1 have thoroughly enjoyed their forest school sessions this half term and were able to work as a team and have shown great communication skills when creating birds' nests, storytelling, as well as creating artwork using natural materials.

Well done Year 1 for continuing to work hard and for all your fantastic work this half term.



YEAR 2

What a fantastic half term we have been having in Year Two. We have learnt a bundle of new things, consolidated many more things and laughed along the way. Year Two particularly enjoyed learning about Nelson Mandela and all the amazing things he has done for the world we now live in. We have written a biography of his life and was interested in all aspects of it. We have continued to learn more about Africa, especially in Art where we have been looking at African patterns – Kente patterns.

During World Book Day, we really enjoyed weaving our own colourful fish that could be the friends of Tiddle, the awesome story book written by Julia Donaldson.

In our computing lessons we have been creating our own music with Music Lab – making music with drawings. This has been so much fun!

Finally, we have loved our Tennis sessions and are almost ready to take on Andy Murray or the Williams sisters. As always, we are looking forward to learning, exploring, and having more fun next half term.



YEAR 3

The Victorians

Year 3 have continued with their topic 'The Victorians' this half term, looking at Victorian invention which included essential inventions that we still use today such as the telephone, the bicycle, the lightbulb, the motorcar, the camera, and the flushing toilet! We learned that the most famous and useful inventions from history are ones that solved a common problem or made life better for people.

We have also enjoyed our reading text 'You Wouldn't Want to Be a Victorian Schoolchild' and learned that growing up in Britain in the 1880s wasn't easy. For a young child in school the going was tough, and the punishments were hard, with inventions such as wooden back straighteners designed to make sure there was no poor posture and slouching in class during the school day!

Widnes Vikings also returned to teach us more important P.E. skills this half term and we had the opportunity to participate in a community litter pick, supporting our local community and showing great citizenship.

Other highlights have included World Book Day (which we all embraced with such enthusiasm and enjoyed immensely); litter picking with the great Environmental Services team at Halton Borough Council; learning about Easter and Holy Week, and taking part in all of our Easter activities.



YEAR 4

During this half-term, Year 4 have been working extremely hard learning all about rivers in Geography and Living things and their Habitats in Science.

We have been lucky enough, for a second time, to have some of our PE lessons taught by Widnes Vikings.

We had so much fun litter picking in our local area taking part in good citizenship activities and helping our environment.

However, our favourite subject this half-term has to be English. We loved reading and doing some fabulous World Book Day activities with our families, and we have thoroughly enjoyed reading our book, *The Iron Man*, fully embracing our written tasks. We particularly enjoyed creating our restaurant menus for the Iron Man and composing and performing our Iron Man raps!

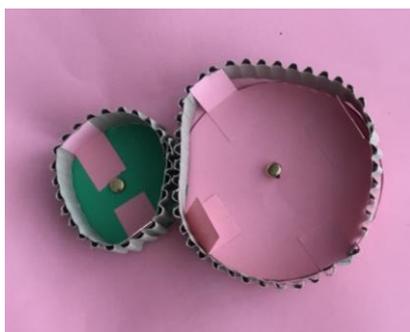


YEAR 5

This half term, Year 5 were invited to take part in a Shakespeare primary schools festival. We had to contribute a scene from one of Shakespeare's plays. We decided to focus on 'Twelfth Night', since we have two sets of twins in our class and this play is all about twins who were separated during a shipwreck but are re-united at the end. During Shakespeare Week, we got to perform our play both in school for our parents, and at The Studio in Widnes. We were then treated to a performance of 'Murder, Mayhem and Magic', by professional actors. It was great fun and a fabulous experience. As well as exploring Shakespeare's legacy of language in our English lessons, we also learnt all about Shakespeare's life and made little books.



Outdoor rehearsal



In our Science lessons this term, we have been investigating simple machines: gears, levers and pulleys. We have learnt that a gear is a wheel that has teeth. The teeth are used to turn other gears. A big gear will make a smaller gear turn faster, so a small force can have a bigger effect.

YEAR 6

Year 6 have had some visitors in this term talking about healthy lifestyles by explaining the dangers of alcohol and tobacco. They found out some of the history and the science of how both substances can damage, not only the body, but cause social issues too.

The team from Halton were very knowledgeable and Year 6 asked some brilliant questions.



As well as our PSHE work we have been completing our topic on the ancient Maya people of South and Central America. We looked at how they were different from Anglo-Saxons and learnt some of their traditions and rituals. We even played our version of the ball game Pok-a-Tok. Luckily no-one was beheaded! Year 6 were fantastic and enthusiastic when researching and found out many strange and interesting facts like how the Maya did not wear clothes until they were 5! All of this and we still had time to prepare for SATs! A huge well done for all the hard work Year 6 have put in with all of their work, and let's enjoy your holidays before one last push until we get to our SATs.

HPAN

Our Dance club girls participated in this year's HPAN performance at the Brindley Theatre earlier this half-term. To say we are proud of them is an understatement. The girls worked so hard to perfect their dance routine for this performance. They were amazing! Well done to our dancing superstars!



EASTER BINGO

Firstly, thank you for all your kind donations of bottles, gifts, chocolate and easter eggs that we collected during our own clothes days for prizes for our Easter Bingo.

Thank you to all who attended our Easter Bingo on Thursday, 23rd March – we certainly had fun and games.

We have managed to raise a whopping £816.80 which will now pay for Rock Kidz On Tour Workshop who are coming in to school to work with the children on 28th April 2023.

“Rock Kidz On Tour gives Primary Schools around the country the opportunity to learn important life lessons in a fun way through high energy rockstar workshops”

Thank you again.



Easter Bonnet Parade

What a lovely sight it was to see so many children in their fantastic Easter bonnets! The children enjoyed their parade and staff found it so hard to pick the winners. We really had a lovely day.

Please look on twitter to see photos of our children's wonderful bonnets.



Turkey/Syria Earthquake

Thank you all so much for your kind donations for the Turkey/Syria Earthquake Emergency Fund.

In total we donated £477.06. Well done and thank you to everyone!



Halton Bitesize Behaviour Support Coffee afternoon

Thanks to all the parents who attended the recent coffee afternoon with Halton Behaviour Support Team. The team gave advice and guidance around the importance of consistent family routines at bedtime and in the mornings and the importance of family rules, rewards, discipline, and positive parenting. It was informative and really useful.

Parents who attended expressed their interest in further support sessions around sleep and screen management, mental health and wellbeing and fussy eating. These sessions have now been arranged and dates have been emailed to all parents – please let the school office know if you would like to attend any of the sessions.

RESIDENTIAL TRIP PAYMENT

Year 6 Residential Trip to Plas Menai

Wednesday, 7th June 2023 to Friday, 9th June 2023

Polite reminder of pay dates

3rd instalment of £47.40 should have been paid by Monday, 24th March 2023.

4th instalment of £47.40 should be paid by Wednesday, 21st April 2023.

5th instalment of £47.40 should be paid by Friday, 19th May 2022.



Change of details

Please could you inform the office if you have any new contact numbers, moved house or if any medical conditions have changed? If your child has been diagnosed with a medical condition, please provide a copy of medical evidence from your GP for our records.



Dogs

Please could we remind parents/carers that dogs are **not** allowed anywhere on the school premises, even on a lead.



Summer uniform

When the children return to school for the final term of the year, they can wear the school summer uniform.

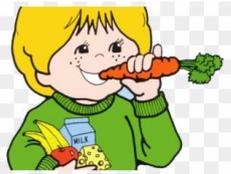
Boys – short grey trousers, blue polo shirts and school jumper.

Girls – blue and white summer dress, school cardigan and white socks.

POLITE REMINDER – SNACK AND DINNER ACCOUNT

Please could we ask that you keep a check on your child(ren's) snack/dinner account ensuring they have **credit** on their accounts.

Unfortunately, if there is no credit on your account you will need to supply a packed lunch and a healthy snack from home.



SNACK

Please ensure that if your child is not buying snack from school then they bring in a piece of fruit **ONLY** for their snack at playtime. This is to ensure that all children are having healthy snacks as we are a Healthy School.



Bag2School

After the success of our previous Bag2School collection to fundraise for our school, Our Lady's have organised another Bag2School collection.

Attached to this newsletter is a leaflet of when the bags will be collected from school, which is **Monday, 24th April 2023**. Also attached is a list of what they will accept and what they won't. Bags can be dropped off at school anytime.



CHILDREN LATE

This is a polite reminder that if your child is late for school in the morning, parent/carers **must** come into school with their child and sign them in on the EntrySign system at the office. Thank you.

REPORTING YOUR CHILD'S ABSENCE

Please could we remind parents/carers that if your child(ren) are absent from school it is expected that parents/carers will provide an explanation of the child's(ren's) absence on the 1st day the absence occurs, at the start of the school day (before 8.30am)

If your child(ren) is absent for 3 days or more, parents/carers should contact the school again and provide an update on the child's(ren's) condition.

Please ensure that your child is in school every day and on time

We look forward to welcoming you all back for the summer term on
Monday, 17th April 2022 @ 8.30am children in class by 8.45am



BAG2SCHOOL

WHAT WE COLLECT

We accept the following **'good quality'** items for RE-USE*:

- Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- Handbags
- Hats
- Bags
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery
- Lingerie
- Socks
- Belts
- Soft toys
- Household linen
- Household curtains
- Household towels
- Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

* We reserve the right to refuse any unsuitable items

We DO NOT accept:

- *Duvets and blankets*
- *Pillows and cushions*
- *Carpets, rugs and mats (including bath, shower and toilet mats)*
- *Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing*
- *School uniforms with and without logo*
- *Corporate clothing and workwear*
- *Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material*

Bag2School



www.bag2school.com



Our next **Bag2School** collection
has been arranged for

Monday, 21st April 23

at 9 am / 

Any questions - please ask your
school collection organiser

Lynn Stanley

www.bag2school.com