

Dates for your diary

4th September—
Children back to school

10th
September—
After school clubs begin 3.30-4.30

12th
September—
Outdoor sessions begin (see additional information)

12th
September—Full Governing Body Meeting

16th
September—
School photographs

16th
September—
Submit 'Grow £5' challenge ideas

26th
September—
Governors meeting

2nd October—
Educational visit
RE WEEK

7th October—
Puppetually
Puppets worship 9.15am

Rachel from
NISCU session 10am

16th October—
Governor training

18th October—
Pyjama Party

WALTON AND LEES HILL CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



September
2019

Newsletter 1

I feel very privileged to be able to write the very first newsletter of Walton and Lees Hill CE Primary School! As you will see from the contents of this newsletter, the school year ahead is already filled with many exciting learning opportunities for our children and we have all returned to school full of enthusiasm and energy.

Mrs Stobbart, Acting Head Teacher

End of term 2018-2019 review

We had a very busy week to end our last school year. It started with our PTA Afternoon Tea event on the village green in Walton on Sunday 14th July. I'm sure you will all agree that this was a hugely successful event and will join me in thanking the whole community for attending and to the families and friends who provided sweet and

savory baking for this event. Just over £1000 was raised for PTA funds. FANTASTIC! On Thursday 18th July, the school day started with an emotional church service as we said goodbye to Calvin, Evie and Tomasz as they finished their time with us. We continued goodbyes in the village hall with presentations to Mrs Coupe, Mrs Collison

and Miss Aitchison and we thanked them for their hard work. In the afternoon, the children set up their FUNds day stalls which was another well supported event and raised a fantastic amount of money for school funds. We finished the year off in Lees Hill style with tea and cake as we said farewell and good luck to Mrs Dalgleish.

After school clubs

For the first half term, we are offering club 3 nights a week after school. This is due to one night for staff meeting and the other night for the junior class late return from their activity days. A small charge of £2 is made for each club and Mrs Lyons will send an invoice for clubs attended. Clubs are;

Tuesday—Sports Club with Sports Coach

Wednesday—Lego and Construction Club with Mr Howard

Friday—Outdoor Club with Mrs Stobbart
Please return reply slips for clubs if you haven't already done so, or let school know if your child would like to attend.



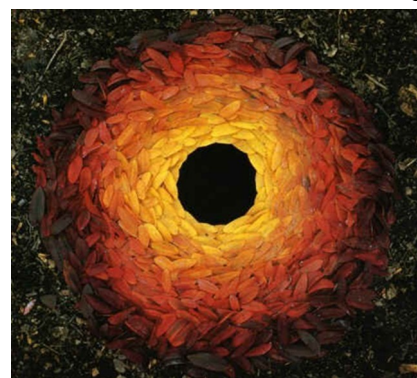
BRONZE Green Tree School Award

We were delighted to receive the news in the holidays that we have been awarded the bronze level of the Green Tree Schools Award. This recognises all of our outdoor learning and we are one point away from the silver award! We will keep you posted on progress as we continue to embrace outdoor learning.

We'll be Out and About!

Our topic this half term takes the title of 'Out and About'. We've got lots of exciting things planned to embrace outdoor learning and the wonderful environment we have at our school. The junior class are sure to have great fun on their activity days once they start next week and the infant class are

looking forward to heading out for some Forest School learning. As part of our work in art, we are asking children to bring in any natural found items over the half term, such as, twigs, leaves, shells, stones that we could use for our sculpture work. Anything is welcome!



Outdoor Club

All clubs start on 10th September and Outdoor Club starts on Friday 13th September. I would like to use the school grounds and beyond, including a visit to the nature area next to the car park and a walk up the hill towards West Hall. Activities will be weather dependent so we'll choose a nice weather Friday for a longer walk. It would be great to have some **volunteers** for this club, so please contact me if you or anyone your know—family or friend—would be able to help out with Outdoor Club. Thank you in advance.

Valuable Volunteers...

As you know, we said a very sad goodbye at the end of term to Mrs Coupe, our long serving gardening and reading volunteer.

This is a plea to anyone who feels that they have something to offer to share with the children. This can be anything from a one off hour listening to

children read, a weekly slot helping out in the library or garden or a sewing or baking stint now and again. The possibilities are endless! Please let us know if you or anyone you know may have something to offer to share with our children. Caring, sharing, always learning!

Welcome!

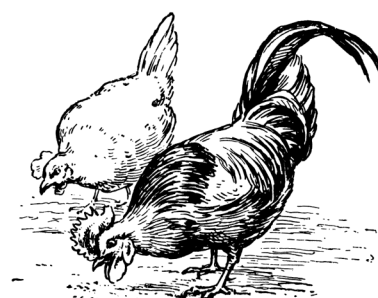
Mr Howard joins the Walton & Lees Hill team this year and he is really looking forward to beginning his career as a teacher with us. He will be running Lego and Construction club this half term and inviting the parents of the infant children to a welcome meeting in due course.

We will also be welcoming a couple of feathered friends to our new team in due course. Laura Irving is giving us two hens for our school and Simon Mortimer, a past parent, is kindly donating a hen house and accessories which he no longer has use for. We will keep you posted on the settling in process and their new names!

School lunches...

The new menus for this term can be found on our school website. Please have a look and let school know if your child would like second choice on any day in the 3 week cycle. Children from reception to year two are entitled to a free school meal and lunches for children in nursery and years 3 to 6 are charged at £2.90

Community lunches will be starting again for this academic year so spread the word! Dates will be posted on the website, our PTA Facebook page and the Walton Parish Facebook page. These lunches are open to all: parents, other family members, friends and community members.



Hospice at Home and Grow £5

Ian Blair, funeral director from West Hall is celebrating 25 years in business this year. To mark this significant event, Ian and Jenn would like to raise funds for Hospice at Home. To do this, they are enlisting our help by giving every pupil in school from nursery to year 6 £5 to grow. The idea is that children spend their money on something to make more money in return. For example, buy tea, coffee, milk and sugar to run a coffee morning, produce quiz sheets to sell or make some craft items to sell nearer Christmas time. The time scale for the project is for the majority of this term, with a finale

planned for the weekend of 14th/15th December. Ideas forms will be out shortly for children to decide on their idea and how they will make their £5 grow. Families and friends may decide to pool their money to use £10 or £15 to make more. Another option is to return the £5 if you and your children feel that you are unable to make it grow.

To start us off, staff are going to use £10 to set up a morning snack shop. Children will be offered a variety of healthy snacks every morning for 20p. We will trial this for free on 4th, 5th and 6th September and officially start on Monday 9th September. If your

child would like a morning snack, they can bring 20p daily or £1 for the week.

Also, on Monday 9th September, Julie Boothman, a senior staff nurse from Hospice at Home is coming out to school to meet with me to plan a visit to school with the children, when she will explain a bit about the charity, what they do and why they need to raise funds. I realise that this is a sensitive issue and will keep you up to date on when their visit is planned for and the content. We will give the option of withdrawing your child if you feel that you do not wish for them to be part of the visit.

What to bring to school.

We are able to provide children with everything that they need to use at school. We realise that children may wish to bring their own stationery in their own pencil case and this is absolutely fine, providing they look after their own equipment.

Gilsland Show

It was great to see so many pupils from our school attending Gilsland Show on Sunday 4th August. There were lots of entries around the ring from Lees Hill School pupils, parents, grandparents and staff. A fabulous turn out and well done to everyone who went along. I'm sure that you will have had a great day out.

Permission forms

You will have permission slips and data collection sheets to be returned to Mrs Lyons. We do need this information to be returned to us before Thursday 12th September. Included is permission for your child to use educational programmes such as, Timestable Rockstars, Accelerated Reader, Tapestry and SPaG.com. These are all websites which give children efficient, high quality and well pitched learning tasks. There may be other online resources that we discover throughout the year and we are asking for permission in advance if we do decide to sign up to any new online opportunities.

The C word!

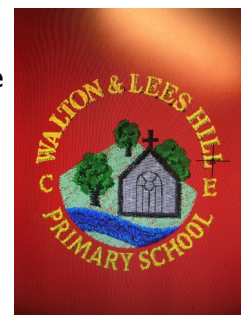
Sorry to mention Christmas already, but a PTA Christmas night out has been booked for Saturday 14 December at Brampton Golf Club. Please let Gill Whiteford know if you would like to come along. Partners welcome too.

Uniform

There has been a lot of behind the scenes work during the holiday with preparing uniform with our new school name.

A huge thank you goes to Margaret Main for giving her time to embroider existing school jumpers with 'Walton and'. The Uniform Shop have also been

busy embroidering their existing stock with our new school name which is all now available to buy. Please ensure that all items of uniform are clearly labelled with your child's name so that they make their way back to you!



What do you think?

Please let us know what you think of this style of newsletter.

Do you like it?

How could it be improved?

Would you like to receive it electronically?

Is there anything else that we could include in it?

Would you like to receive the newsletter via e-mail?

Do you know anyone else who would like to receive the newsletter? Please return the reply slip provided to tell us your views.

If you ever have any suggestions for improvements or ideas for school then do please let us know at any time.



INSET day drop ins

Thank you to all who were able to pop in to visit us during our INSET days. It was lovely to have an informal catch up ahead of the new term.

Slippery pavement! Be careful!

Please take care when arriving and leaving school. The pavement outside is quite slippery because of moss and tree debris. This problem has been reported to the Council and hopefully will be sorted as soon as possible.



Pop on your PJs!

On Friday 18th October, children are invited to a Pyjama Party! We will be coming to school in our PJs to raise money for Hospice at Home. There will be more information to follow about the day in due course.

Music Lessons

Mr Hemingway will continue to deliver his music lessons in school on a Tuesday. Mr Draper is changing his day to a Wednesday. If your child is interested in learning an instrument then please contact Mrs Stobbart.

Smile!

A photographer from the Cumberland News was in school on Wednesday 4th September, so please look out for a report on our new school name and new starter photograph THIS FRIDAY!