

Dates for your diary

Usual PE days will be Tuesday and Thursday

Wednesday 9th June

Talkin Tarn and golf taster session—PE kit needed

W/C 14th June

Healthy Eating Week

Wednesday 16th June

Horse riding—junior class—PE kit needed

Friday 2nd July

Sports Day 1.30pm

Monday 5th July

Year Six induction day at William Howard

7th—9th July

Possible Year 5/6 residential visit to Whithaugh Park—More information to follow soon after half term

Sunday 11th July

Celebration Day 12 noon

WALTON AND LEES HILL CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Caring, sharing and always learning



May 2021
Newsletter 7

'Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could only do a little'

Edmund Burke

Service has been our Christian value of focus this half term. The children have been putting this in to action throughout school life. The quote above reminds us that the smallest things can make the biggest difference.

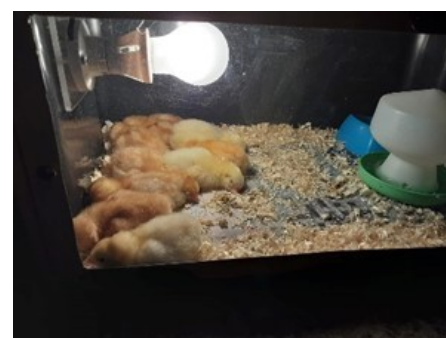
Mrs Stobbart



The summer term got off to a 'cracking' start! Our topic this half term has been all about growth. On the first day of term, 10 eggs arrived with an incubator and brooder box from 'Living Eggs'. The hatching programme began and on the third day, we welcomed our

A cracking time!

first arrival! They are in safe hands now with Mrs Ritson and have made a return to school so that we can check on their progress. The junior creative writing session with the chicks was very entertaining! We are looking forward to their permanent return after half term, when we can introduce them to their new home. A new hen ark with automatic door and fox proof mesh is on the way from Solway



Recycling! We also hope to be able to have eggs on offer very soon! We will keep you posted.



#Hellocopter

We were all very excited to be selected as a fly over point by the Great North Air Ambulance – Pride of Cumbria II. We found out the evening before, that Walton was part of the route to be taken by the new air ambulance, as part of her #Hellocopter tour of Cumbria. A phone call to school on the morning of 28th April, confirmed that our school would

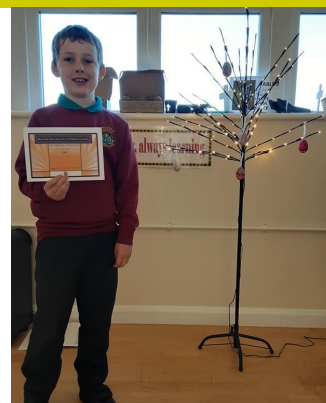
definitely see the helicopter. We had an early lunch so that we were outside in time with the 'THANK YOU' message we had prepared. Our school requested a fly past, because of the fantastic amount of money raised from our clothing collection back in November. The children waited patiently on our school field for the arrival of the helicopter. As well as the thank you sign, we gathered lots of colourful pom-poms to wave. The Pride of Cumbria II circled our school grounds, before heading off to the next destination. The next clothing collection for the Great North Air Ambulance is on 29th June from school. Bags can be brought into school from Friday 25th June.





Welcome to Katherine and Joshua

At the beginning of this term, we welcomed Katherine into year six and Joshua into year four. They've moved to Brampton and we wish them all the best with settling into their new home. Along with them, we also welcome their mum and dad, Cheryl and Matt, into the Walton and Lees Hill family.



Ways to wellbeing

As part of our whole school focus on wellbeing and sharing new experiences, the junior children spent some time at New Mill Trout Farm. They were able to gain lots of new skills from the staff there and even came home with a fish! It was great fun and the children showed lots of perseverance whilst waiting to catch a fish.



While the juniors were out, the infant children explored the areas just outside of our beautiful school grounds. They went for a walk to find lots of flowering plants and even stopped to see what they could spot in the stream over the school wall.

Walking in the footsteps of the Romans!

Last Thursday, we all thoroughly enjoyed a walk from Newtown to Walton, on the Hadrian's Wall path. It was great to be out in the community and there were lots of beautiful sights along the way. The blankets of bluebells were spectacular, along with the rivers, streams, bridges and weir! We were so lucky to stumble across an archaeological excavation on the route. We had the opportunity to ask lots of questions and were able to see some of the Roman Wall that had been found! WallCAP—the group of volunteers who were carrying out the excavation, were very informative and shared their knowledge and findings with us. We got a little bit wet but we didn't let this dampen our spirits; especially as Helen had hot chocolate and crispy cakes waiting for us at The Reading Room Café! Thank you Helen for making us this special treat free of charge!

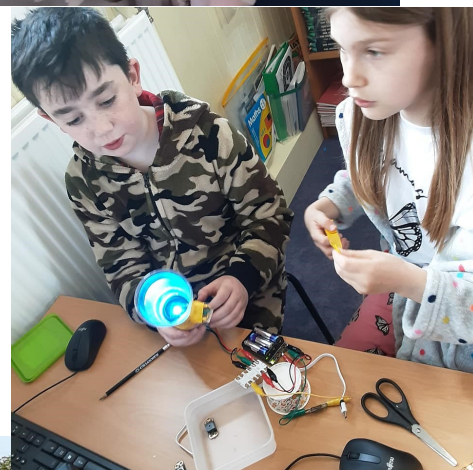


Pyjamarama, pizzas and popcorn!

On Friday 14th May, we all came to school in our pyjamas to celebrate pyjamarama day. This is an initiative launched by the book trust, to promote the importance of reading; especially bedtime stories. We all enjoyed different bedtime stories throughout the day and the children too up a whole school challenge of making a torch by using their new computing skills. The torches looked fabulous and the way that the children worked together was impressive. A big thank you to Graham Lamb, our vice chair of governors, who spent the morning with the children to share his computing expertise.

After school, the children returned excitedly to the school hall, ready for a pizza tea and to watch The Jungle Book. Children were given a treat bag to keep them going throughout the film and we all enjoyed an interval ice cream. The evening ended with a hot chocolate topped with cream and marshmallows and a snuggle up to listen to the story 'Guess how much I love you'.

The children were a pleasure to have back after hours for a movie and we've had a request to do it all over again! Watch this space!



Shiny new signs!

Have you spotted our new school signs? We've waited quite a while to officially become 'Walton and Lees Hill', but we would like to thank AST signs who have made a super job of these. Lockdowns held these up, but I'm sure you'll agree, they are worth the wait. We have a sign at our road end now and look out for more signs appearing in our school catchment area. The governors are working hard to get these in place very soon.



We went on a bear hunt!

As another way of progressing with our whole school development of reading, the children had a collaboration day last week, using the story 'We're going on a bear hunt' as a focus. The whole school worked together in groups to make a course for the bear, with a focus on prepositions. The weather was kind and we all loved learning together.



Power Challenge

On Tuesday 18th May, the junior children took part in the power challenge. This was provided by The Small Peice trust, who aim to fuel children with a passion for engineering. We were provided with all the equipment to try out three activities, following a live stream on the day. This was a brilliant opportunity to spark our science, technology, engineering and maths brains. We even used the same skill to help with our maths learning later in the week.



TODDLERS



It's been lovely to be able to welcome our toddler friends back to our toddler group on a Tuesday morning, 9.30am-11am. We've had between 4 and 11 children at each session, ranging from 10 weeks old to 3 years old. We have lots of different toys and activities on offer each week, so please spread the word if you know of any children who would like to come along with parents or grandparents. All welcome!

May 100 club winners.....

- 1st Lou Mellor
2nd Fiona Evans
3rd Muriel Mitchinson

We're up to 47 entries in our 100 club now. Thank you to everyone who has entered. There is still time to enter for June, July and August. Entry for 3 months will be £6. Be in it to win it!

Pet Encounters

What fun we all had meeting the animals that Siobhan from Pet Encounters brought along on Tuesday morning. The infants were part of a session all about

minibeasts and the toddler group joined in too. The juniors session was all about rainforest animals. This was a brilliant way to link our learning on the topic of growth and develop the focus areas for each class.



We've heard that there have been some interesting pet requests following the morning—sorry about that!



A visit from the Doodlebug

Doodlebug Ian Brealey was very impressed by the resilience shown by all children in school on Wednesday. They produced some brilliant artwork by using their ears, eyes and trying their best. You are superstars! Thank you to those who joined us for the end of the day assembly. It was nice to be able to share the key messages of the day. Ian's work focused on building a growth mindset in children, where they can feel comfortable with making mistakes and have confidence in trying out different ways to approach their work. We look forward to sharing more about how to support your child at home with developing a growth mindset.



Staying safe online—PLEASE READ

Following another spell of remote learning this year, we are very mindful of the amount of time children are spending using a screen and accessing the internet. We have a duty of care in school, as well as parents at home, to ensure that the material that your children are accessing is suitable for their age. Please find enclosed a screen time guide for the age group of your child/ren and an online safety guide, while contains some helpful pointers of things you need to be aware of when children are playing and learning online.

We have been made aware recently that an increasing number of children in school have access to a mobile phone, tablet or laptop, so please do make sure that your children stay safe while using these devices. We reiterate these messages in school at

Dawn's bus—PLEASE READ

Dawn's husband Antony will be behind the wheel of Dawn's route in a morning, for a short period of time when we return to school after the half term break. The morning pick up times need to change slightly, so will be 10 minutes later than usual. I know that you will be very understanding of the need to make this change for a short time, but if this does cause a problem for anyone, please just e-mail and we will be happy to help in whatever way we can. The children will still arrive in good time to start the school day. Dawn will be in touch to let you know when the time reverts back to normal.

As you can see, we've had another action-packed half term at Walton and Lees Hill CE Primary School! I would like to express my thanks to the staff in school, for making all of these opportunities possible for our children. In the last couple of days, I've had so many comments from people who have noticed the range of things on offer for our children. Wellbeing and individual development is at the heart of everything we do.

Thank you also to you, our parents and carers, who continually support school life and spread the word about our wonderful school.

Finally, thank you children. You've all come back to school with enthusiasm and welcome every opportunity on offer.

Mrs Stobbart