



# WALTON PRIMARY ACADEMY

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

12.04.2024

ISSUE 11

### KEY DATES

15.04.24 Robinwood Parent Meeting 5pm  
17.04.24 Class 1 & 2 Great Fire of London workshop  
18.04.24 Class 3 Great Fire of London workshop  
23.04.24 Class 5 INSPIRE morning  
24.04.24 Purple Emperors INSPIRE morning  
25.04.24 LKS2 Victorian Schools workshop  
30.04.24 Class 2 INSPIRE morning  
07.05.24 Class 7 INSPIRE morning  
08.05.24 Holly Blues INSPIRE morning  
02.05.24 School OPEN on local election day  
06.05.24 School closed for bank holiday  
10.05.24 KS1 trip to Eureka  
13.05.24 KS2 SATs week  
24.05.24 School closes for half-term  
03.06.24 School reopens  
04.06.24 Class Photos  
04.06.24 Class 3 INSPIRE  
05.06.25-07.06.24 Robinwood Y6  
06.06.24 Transition parents' workshop (4pm)  
11.06.24 Class 9 INSPIRE  
14.06.24 Sports Day (KS1 AM, EYFS PM)  
18.06.24 Class 1 INSPIRE  
25.06.24 Class 4 INSPIRE  
28.06.24 Sports Day (UKS2 AM, LKS2 PM)  
02.07.24 Class 8 INSPIRE  
09.07.24 Class 6 INSPIRE  
14.06.24 PTA Father's Day Secret Room  
22.06.24 PTA Summer Fayre  
July Y6 trip to Lightwater Valley (TBC)  
11.07.24 Y6 Leavers Concert (18.00)  
17.07.24 Y6 Leavers Disco (16.30-18.30)  
19.07.24 School closes for summer  
22.07.24 INSET day

INSET Days in the calendar year 2024/2025 will be 02/09/24, 03/09/24, 14/02/25, 21/07/25 and 22/07/25. Wakefield Council school calendar dates for the year can be found [here](#).

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the summer term of the 2023-2024 school year. It promises to be a busy one with trips, workshops, SATs, the school fayre, transition to the next year and the farewell for our Year 6s. This week kicked us off with the Reception cohort's trip to Butterfly World in Sheffield. The children absolutely loved it, as did the staff (although they needed a lie down by the end of the day!). Our very own little Butterflies in the Holly Blues and Purple Emperors classes were a real credit to the school - well done!

#### Autism Acceptance Week

In our Monday morning assembly, we used the *Let's Learn About Autism* resources from the *Autism Education Trust* as part of our role in raising awareness for *Autism Acceptance Week*, which concluded on the 8<sup>th</sup> April. Within it we shared a lovely video titled [Amazing Things Happen](#). The children from Year 1 to Year 6 listened intently and shared some great ideas and viewpoints as we celebrated differences that we all have, including those related to neurodiversity. We are committed to being an inclusive school and I am proud of the children for their maturity when discussing and trying to understand differences in the way some people may communicate, behave, think, understand and respond to senses.

#### Job Opportunities

We currently have an advertisement out for a Teaching Assistant & Wellbeing Intervention support, details of which can be found our [trust recruitment page](#). The deadline for this position is Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April at midday. Please share widely and pass on to anyone you think that may be interested. This is a fantastic opportunity to join our staff team and to make a difference to the lives of the young people at Walton.

#### Waterton's Wall

During the Easter holidays I met with some members of *Friends of Waterton's Wall* as we continue our work on reshaping our curriculum with a real focus on the local area. We believe that when children leave Walton Primary Academy they should be well-versed in the story of Charles Waterton having had several opportunities to learn about his life, apply critical thinking, make connections with the wider historical context at the time and to discuss his legacy. We are lucky to have this history on the doorstep of the school and we have a responsibility to bring this to life for the children so that they can respect and value the heritage that surrounds them. The [recent news coverage](#) is a great reminder for us of this and we look forward to welcoming local author Barbara Phipps into school in the next few weeks to support us with this planning process. Exciting times lie ahead!

Mr. Craig Thorpe  
Headteacher

<b>HOUSE TEAMS</b>			
<b>Fortis Strength</b>	<b>Doctus Wisdom</b>	<b>Venus Loyalty</b>	<b>Amicus Friendship</b>
<b>331</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>265</b>

### ATTENDANCE

Whole school attendance this week was 97%

Class	Week %	Week Pts	Term Pts
Holly Blues	98.3%	3	3
Purple Emperors	95.2%	1	1
Class 1: McDonald	98%	3	3
Class 2: Hockney	93.7%	0	0
Class 3: Hargreaves	92%	0	0
Class 4: Moore	98.3%	3	3
Class 5: Woodies	99.33%	3	3
Class 6: Whittaker	96.3%	1	1
Class 7: Burrow	99.31%	3	3
Class 8: Sharman	97.4%	1	1
Class 9: Bronte	98.7%	3	3

100% = 5 points

98% = 3 points

95% = 1 point

Weekly winner: Non-uniform Friday

Termly winner: Treat day

School attendance [policy](#)

Wakefield Council attendance [link](#)

## WALTON'S BEST

Congratulations to our pupils who have been recognised for their being their best selves and for making us all proud!

Holly Blue: Jacob A & Ted C

Purple Emperors: No children this week due to absence

Class 1: Reef C & Chloe P

Class 2: Freya W & Toby L

Class 3: Megan F

Class 4: Jack W & Poppy B

Class 5: Alina J & Frankie V

Class 6: Sidney D & Jack T

Class 7: Dominica H

Class 8: Mckenzie W & Isobel L

Class 9: Noah W & Lola W

## School Leaders' Conference

On Thursday and Friday, I attended the annual Wakefield School Leaders' conference along with colleagues from Waterton Academy Trust (Miss Fahy joined me on the Thursday). I don't normally like to be away from school for two consecutive days but I did appreciate the opportunity to step back, listen, reflect and network with other leaders in the area. There were plenty of takeaways for us, including visiting a non-trust school in Ossett following a conversation about their phonics provision. Dame, Professor Alison Peacock challenged us to think about where the joy can be found in our schools and to focus on delivering that as widely as possible. Maggie Farrar also encouraged us to be present and mindful, both at work and at home! She had some useful tips which we will share with pupils and staff.

## A message from Kate Nixon from Friends of Waterton's Wall ...

The Friends of Waterton's Wall, a local charitable group, met with Mr Thorpe during the holidays to discuss the importance of ensuring children know about and understand the history of their local environment of Walton, in particular the history relating to Charles Waterton. On 27th March, Historic England announced the classification of Waterton Park (the Parkland) and Charles Waterton's 3 mile wall as Grade 2 listed. This is an important step forward in the process to help us to preserve this historic wall for future generations. **Sarah Charlesworth, Listing Team Leader for Northern England**, said: "Charles Waterton was a true visionary who recognised both the value of protecting wildlife and the powerful link between nature and our wellbeing. With Waterton Park, he created a prototype for the modern nature reserve, where wildlife and humans can exist in harmony for their mutual benefit." Having such a historic gem within walking distance of school will help to give children first-hand experience of investigation and we look forward to working closely with school to progress this. Our [website](#) has been refreshed and is now live. There is also a new [You Tube video](#) on our channel and our latest newsletter is [here](#).

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Moving forwards together

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