



WALTON PRIMARY ACADEMY

26.04.2024

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 13

KEY DATES

30.04.24 Class 2 INSPIRE morning
02.05.24 School OPEN on local election day
06.05.24 School closed for bank holiday
07.05.24 Class 7 INSPIRE morning
08.05.24 Holly Blues INSPIRE morning
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
04.06.24 Future's In Mind Parent Session
3.30pm *NEW*
05.06.25-07.06.24 Robinwood Y6
06.06.24 Transition parents' workshop (4pm)
10.06.24-14.06.24 Healthy Body, Happy Me
week *NEW*
11.06.24 Class 9 INSPIRE
14.06.24 Sports Day (KS1 AM, EYFS PM)
14.06.24 PTA Father's Day Secret Room
17.06.24-21.06.24 Sky Arts 'Access All Arts'
Week *NEW*
17.06.24 Year 6 Grow-a-pound fayre 2pm-4pm
NEW
18.06.24 Class 1 INSPIRE
22.06.24 PTA Summer Fayre
25.06.24 Class 4 INSPIRE
26.06.24 EYFS INSPIRE (Nursery 10:45-11:45 &
Reception 14.00-15.00) *NEW*
28.06.24 Sports Day (UKS2 AM, LKS2 PM)
02.07.24 Class 8 INSPIRE
04.07.24 Whole school transition day *NEW*
09.07.24 Class 6 INSPIRE
11.07.24 Y6 Leavers Concert (18.00)
12.07.24 Y6 trip to Lightwater Valley *NEW*
17.07.24 Y6 Leavers Party (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,

This week has been another fantastic week in school in which we held the first two of our INSPIRE mornings. I am not surprised to hear that they were a resounding success. We really value families taking the time out of your busy schedules to come in to school to spend time with us and your children. We left some feedback forms out and the comments on them were just lovely to read. They certainly put a spring in the step of Mrs Tomlinson and Mrs Hyett, so thank you very much. We also had a Victorian Schools workshop on Thursday which the children thoroughly enjoyed. In line with our reshaped curriculum for September, we will be reviewing the frequency, spread and impact of enrichment trips and workshops. We are very mindful of the cost to parents, but also your support in funding these is hugely important to us in being to continue to run such events for children.

Computer donation

This week we received a very kind donation of thirty laptops in great working condition from Minster Law. This was organised by Chris Clay-Whittaker who is one of our parents and an employee at Minster Law. We are very grateful for their generosity. These laptops, once they have been set up by our IT providers, will be put to use by our students to allow to access lessons, interventions and for typing work where writing by hand proves to be a particular difficulty. Thank you!

<https://www.minsterlaw.co.uk>

School dinners

I know that some of you have provided feedback to us on our school dinner provision. This is a contract agreed centrally by the trust. This contract is currently up for tender, with six interested parties. They have all been out to visit the school sites, delivered presentations and will be hosting taste tests mid-May which will be sampled by School Parliament pupil representatives from across the trust. I am not sure on the exact timeframes but I suspect any potential change in our meal provider will happen later in the year. We will keep you updated on any developments.

On a related point, please ensure that all grapes provided in packed lunches have been cut in half. Our lunchtime staff have reported concerns around this to me, and I have advised them not to let children eat full grapes for safety reasons.

Parent Survey

Finally, I need to finish with a massive thank you to everyone who filled in the Waterton Academy Trust survey. My gentle nudge last week resulted in a huge uplift in responses. The window closes at the end of the week and I will report back on the results in due course. Your feedback is always welcome. This week a parent suggested that any new key dates on the section to the left are highlighted to save you searching and spotting for updated information. This is a great idea – thank you!

Mr. Craig Thorpe
Headteacher

HOUSE TEAMS			
Fortis Strength	Doctus Wisdom	Verus Loyalty	Amicus Friendship
914	845	888	948

Class	Week %	Week Pts	Term Pts
Holly Blues	98.3%	3	7
Purple Emperors	99.1%	3	7
Class 1: McDonald	98.7%	3	9
Class 2: Hockney	98%	3	4
Class 3: Hargreaves	92.3%	0	1
Class 4: Moore	96%	1	7
Class 5: Woodies	96%	1	9
Class 6: Whittaker	95.7%	1	2
Class 7: Burrow	100%	5	9
Class 8: Sharman	95.5%	1	5
Class 9: Bronte	100%	5	9

ATTENDANCE
Whole school attendance this week was **97.1%**

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: Eddie N

Purple Emperors: Teddy L, Elliot A-W & Elsie J

Class 1: Maisy A & Ronnie F

Class 2: Absent

Class 3: Daniel C

Class 4: Ava R & Harper H

Class 5: Oscar D & Parker H

Class 6: Absent

Class 7: Jolan M & Jack P

Class 8: Isobel L

Class 9: Seb D-B

SAFEGUARDING UPDATES

I have decided to turn this part into a weekly safeguarding section, with links to helpful websites and recent updates. I envisage that a lot of the updates will relate to e-Safety and keeping children safe online, as well as support in developing healthy routines with screens. As a parent of a 7-year-old and a 4-year-old, the coming years are opening us up to navigating our way through the minefield that is screen time, social media and generally a childhood that is different to mine in the nineties! On that note, here is a link to keeping under fives safe online.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/keeping-your-under-five-safe-online/>

<https://waltonprimary.org/safeguarding/>

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

A message from Mrs Tomlinson on the success of our Victorian School workshop...

LKS2 had a fantastic day on Thursday when their history topic was brought to life with a Victorian workshop. The morning started with a short introduction to Victorian life before the children entered parliament and began debating important laws such as: *Should girls be allowed to go to school? Should more men be allowed to vote?* After this, they moved to the classrooms for three further interactive sessions. Firstly, they became archaeologists digging for artefacts and using their inquiry skills to determine what each item was and what period of history they were from. Then they investigated Victorian toys and compared them with toys today. They thoroughly enjoyed this even though there wasn't an electronic device in sight. Finally, they entered the Victorian classroom under the very strict instruction of Miss Jane. They began with drill exercises then moved on to reading, writing and arithmetic using slate and chalk to write. Some found this particularly difficult as the left handers were expected to write with their right hand. Nobody was sent to the headmaster or received the cane however a few did experience the backboard, finger-stocks and dunce's hat. The children were hugely enthusiastic throughout the whole day and will now be able to share their knowledge of the Victorians with their families..

Moving forwards together
