



'The Phoenix' - Whitehouse News



"We Rise By Lifting Others"

October 2018

Principal's Scribble...

Dear Parent,

I would like to thank the parents who attended our **SMILE Night**. While pupils enjoyed an excellent production of 'Jack & the Beanstalk'. I got the opportunity to discuss some of our key pastoral policies as well as hosting our P.T.A Annual General Meeting. Over 120 pupils and parents attended!

In November we will celebrate the **100th Anniversary of the end of the 1st World War**. Poppies go on sale on the 5th November, the Year 7 classes are developing a special display of art to mark this key point in history and we will have a special assembly at our school.

I want to remind parents that on **Monday 5th** November that our **annual flu inoculations** will be completed by the school nurses. Only pupils with a form returned will be treated.

Open Night for new nursery and Primary 1 pupils for September 2019 will held on Wednesday 28th November between 5pm and 7pm. There will be a Principal's Talk at both 5:30pm and 6:30pm in the school hall.

Finally, I would like to remind parents that we have a **book fair in school on the week beginning 22nd October**. It will open from 8:45am to 9am and then again at 1pm.

Many thanks for all your support this busy half term.

Kind regards,

F. Bailie

Parent Teacher Interviews

This week we are holding interviews to report on our pupils' progress. To facilitate these interviews, and administration tasks, our school's operating times will be altered. Please take time to study these times and how they will impact your family.

On **Wednesday 24th & Thursday 25th October** the school will close at 1pm & 1.15p.m. Year 2 to 4 will be released at 1pm with their older siblings. Year 5 to 7 will be released at 1.15pm. Nursery pupils can be collected between 1pm and 1:15pm. Lunches will be served as normal on both days. Please note, Year 1 finish as normal at 2pm on both days. Year 7 pupils who are sitting the A.Q.E. have the option to stay until 3pm. Year 7 pupils can only stay until 3pm if they gave their permission on the interview reply slip or a note come into school by Tuesday.

We want to thank parents in advance for making changes to their working patterns to attend these important meetings. School begins again on **Monday 5th November** after the week's half term holiday. Enjoy the fireworks and autumn walks!

'Walk for the World'

On Friday 5th October we held our annual Charity Fitness Day. The theme was, '**Walk for the World**'. The children had a super day and at the same time have helped other children and people in need in our local community and internationally.

We are still collecting our **sponsorship money**. We would like to thank our families for their support as we aim to raise £2,100 for those in need in our country and around the world.

"Learning to Live"

Roald Dahl Day



On **Thursday 25th October** the school will hold our fourth 'Roald Dahl Day'. As you all know Roald Dahl is one of the most loved of all children's authors.

Every class will watch a 30 minutes extract from a famous Roald Dahl book. The pupils in the early years will do some art related to the movie they have watched. Key Stage 2 pupils will work in teams to compete in a Roald Dahl table quiz.

A day to make great memories and encourage pupils to read. Please note this year we are not asking pupils to dress up. In March during our 'Festival of Words' pupils will get a chance to dress up. So save up your good ideas!



To coincide with our celebration of the life of Roald Dahl and our parent interviews the Travelling Book Fair will be in school from Monday 22nd to Friday 26th October.

It will be available for browsing and purchasing in the school foyer every morning from 8.45am - 9am and in the afternoons.

Any commission raised by the book fair will buy new books for our pupils. Your support would be very much appreciated!



'Keep Connected!'



We are working very hard on our new website. Please see the new parents' Zone. You can see topic overviews as well as finding lots of valuable information about your child's year group. Last year we got over 100,000 hits on the site!

Please consider downloading the app and/or signing up for email on the site. We are striving to gain our Green Eco Flag. This would be helped massively if we could move to a paperless system for communication. If you have a computer or/and smart phone save our website to your favourites: **www.whitehouseps.co.uk**

In addition, please download the app **Schools NI**. Then go to **Antrim** and select our school. By having this app you will be able to see our latest news (including photographs), view our calendar and read all recent letters that have gone home.

Also go to the tab at the top of the homepage entitled '**Contacts**'. In this section you very quickly enrol for our email system.

Blueprint 2020

September 2018/19 sees the sixth year of our dynamic six year school development strategy. This innovative and far ranging plan will bring our school to the next level in terms of learning and services to our community.

In this section we want to share some of our key strategic goals for the year ahead and then focus in on a few of the key innovations. Over the next year we will regularly report on what has been achieved and the new projects that we develop.

Strategic Leadership

To share good practice across the school and beyond to enhance staff development and pupils' attainment. This will include the development and coaching of curriculum leaders;

The continued development of Shared Education with St. James's Primary School. In particular, this will allow the schools to promote S.T.E.M. and Forest School learning as well as achieving 'Rights Respecting Schools' status;

To engage with community stakeholders to increase aspirations, attainment, early intervention and collaboration. This will include focused family learning support interventions.

Ethos

Implement and review a whole school wellbeing strategy;

Achieve the British Council's International School Award by June 2018;

Use the pursuit of the Eco Green Flag, by June 2019, as a means to educate our school community to be more eco friendly.

Learning and Teaching

90+% of pupils, in both, Literacy and Numeracy will achieve as expected or above;

I.C.T. will more effectively enrich creativity, thinking skills and improve school management;

October Update:

The Eco Team had a very positive month preparing their bid for our Green Flag. They made two excellent presentations to the whole school and elected new Year 3 members. They are making great plans for the next two terms as we bid to gain our Green Flag this summer. The teachers also spent time including eco issues more creatively into teaching across all year groups.

This was also a great month for Shared Education. We celebrated the first N.I. Shared Education week with a super family science night. Families from both schools came together for a fantastic night of fun and learning. We also drafted our first joint Shared Education Policy that we are putting out for consultation this month. Please get involved and make your views known as we agree this key policy.

Finally, we were very proud to attend a ceremony at Titanic Belfast to receive our International School Award. We were one of only nine schools across Northern Ireland to be presented with this prestigious award this time round.

OThe Sea'. We have enjoyed writing poems about sea creatures in ur topic in Year 5 this term is 'Literacy.

I dreamed

I was a cute white narwhal
In the waters of Greenland
Looking everywhere for shrimp
Patiently.

Poppy Plunkett

I dreamed
I was a little baby turtle
In the middle of two rocks
Hatching from a little egg
Happily.

Rebecca Williamson

I dreamed
I was a stingy stingray
Deep down in the cold Atlantic
Waiting for food to pass me
EXCITEDLY.

Jack Stevenson

I dreamed
I was a tiny seahorse,
On a flat seabed
with loads of seaweed.
Hiding from a family of sharks,
Frightenedly.

Dillon Fowler

I dreamed
I was a big dolphin
In the Pacific Ocean
Swimming between two giant waves
Madly.

Brooklynn Francey

I dreamed
I was a flying fast fish
Near a broken ship
Gliding through the air
Peacefully.

David Sloan

I dreamed
I was a jellyfish
Sunbathing in a rock pool
Enjoying the waves
Happily.

Jack McWatters

I dreamed
I was a big blue dolphin.
Deep down in the sandy rocky rock
pool.
Hunting small fish.
Excitedly.

Molly Moore

I dreamed
I was a big fierce white shark.
At the bottom of the
Atlantic Ocean.
Chasing lion fish and
other sharks.
Fiercely.

Joel Glendinning

I dreamed
I was a lion fish.
Above a rock in the Southern Ocean.
Living my life.
Seriously.

Charlie Benson

I dreamed.
I was a tiny wet crab.
In the sandy rock pool.
Looking for dead fish in the sea.
Excitedly.

Noah McRoberts.

I dreamed
I was a cute narwhal
At the bottom of the tropical ocean
Where I was playing around the rocks
with my friends
Cheerfully.

Beth Magowan

I dreamed
I was a sparkling
dolphin
Deep down in the
Atlantic Ocean
Jumping out of the
shiny blue water
Happily.

Sophia McCord

I dreamed
I was a beautifully
coloured starfish,
In a terrific rock pool at the shore,
Spreading out my short legs,
Calmly.

Bethany Patton

I dreamed
I was a boisterous bull shark
In the deep blue ocean
Approaching my prey
Secretly.

Erin Moore

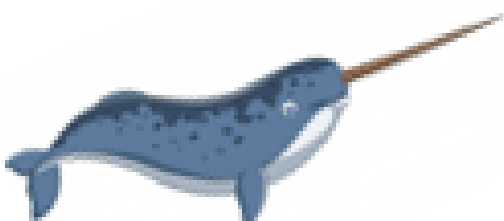
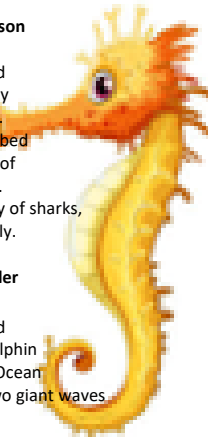
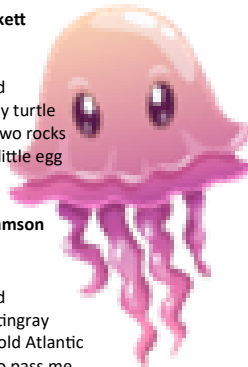
I dreamed
I was a beautiful shiny seahorse
Deep down in the Pacific Ocean
hunting for baby shrimp
Quickly.

Rebecca Stevenson

I dreamed
I was a curious, little sea lion,
Under the old broken ship.
Hunting for my prey
Quietly.

Madison Blair

I was a red tropical
fish
Deep down in the Marnine Trench
Hunting for oysters
Nervously.
Adam Young



P5, room 9, have settled well, into the new term. Our topic is "the sea" and we have written super poems using the Narrative genre.

Jamie Harpur

Slimy Shark.

I dreamed I was a slimy shark.

In the deep blue sea.

Swimming around in the salty sea,

Violently.



Holly Davison

Aggressive Killer Whale

I dreamed I was an aggressive killer whale.

I'm in the deep, dark water.

I'm hunting for my prey,

Carefully.



Naomi Stewart

Dippy Dolphin.

I dreamed I was a dippy dolphin.

On top of the wavy Pacific.

Flipping and diving with my friends,

Happily.



Dewan Sharif

Peaceful Octopus.

I dreamed I was a peaceful octopus.

I was in the Pacific Ocean.

I'm shooting ink-balls at my friends,

Happily.



Libby Nicholl.

Fluffy Fuzzy Sea Otter.

I dreamed I was a fluffy, fuzzy sea otter.

I'm in the deep blue wavy sea.

I'm lying on my back letting the waves trail me along,

Peacefully.



Adam Smyth

Crazy Pufferfish.

I dreamed I was a crazy pufferfish.

I'm in the deep ocean.

I'm playing with the mad, clown fish,

Smoothly.



Ethan Bentz- My favourite sea creature is the Tiger Shark because they have orange and brown skin which makes them look like tigers.

Robson Cardwell- The best sea creature is the Sea Turtle because I love the colours on them.

Mitchell Kelly- I love crabs because they can run really fast and they look funny when they run sideways.

Courtney Ashe- Dolphins are really cute and they're really good swimmers and can be trained.

Eva Drake- My favourite sea creature is the blue ringed octopus. It is really venomous and vicious and could even kill a human



Diary Dates



OCTOBER

- **22nd to 26th** - School Book Fair
- **24th** - Year 5 Fire Safety Talk
- **24th** - Year 1 Health Appraisals.
- **24th & 25th** - Early Closure at 1pm (Year 2 to 4) & 1.15pm (Year 5 to 7) for parental interviews.
SCHOOL LUNCHES SERVED AS NORMAL THESE DAYS.
- **25th** - Roald Dahl Author Bash (See Page 2 for details).
- **26th** - Half Term Holidays begin!
- **29th** - A.Q.E. Blast (a week's A.Q.E. support provided via funding from Antrim and Newtownabbey Council).

NOVEMBER

- **5th** - School begins again!
- **5th** - Year 1 Health Appraisals.
- **5th** - Flu vaccination day.
- **5th** - Poppies go on sale today.
- **5th** - Year 6 & 7 Parents' Residential Talks
- **5th** - Outdoor Classroom Week (Eco Team).
- **6th** - Erasmus Project Team visit to Kildare.
- **7th** - Year 1 Health Appraisals.
- **8th** - Nursery Parents' Get Ready to Learn Session.
- **9th** - 100th Year Anniversary Remembrance Day Services.
- **12th** - 'We are Family' Anti-Bullying Week.
- **14th** - Year 1 Numicon Night at 7 pm.
- **15th** - Nursery Parents' Get Ready to Learn Session.
- **16th** - 'Children in Need' - £1 Donation.
- **19th** - Year 2 at Stranmillis College for Literacy Day.
- **21st** - Year 1 Health Appraisals.
- **22nd** - Nursery Parents' Get Ready to Learn Session.
- **27th** - Milk Order for Term 2 issued.
- **28th** - Year 1 Health Appraisals.
- **28th** - Open Night for new Nursery & Year 1 pupils for Sept. 2019 from 5pm to 7pm.

DECEMBER

- **5th** - Year 1 Health Appraisals.
- **11th** - Foundation Stage Nativity @10am.
- **12th** - Year 1 Health Appraisals.
- **12th** - Key Stage 1 Nativity @ 10am.
- **18th** - Nursery Nativity at 9.15am.
- **19th** - Year 1 Health Appraisals.
- **20th** - Key Stage 2 Carol Service at 10.30am.
- **20th** - P.T.A. Disco.
- **21st** - Christmas Holidays begin! Early closure 12noon (Years 1 to 3) 12.15pm (Years 4 to 7).

Pastoral Care Team



Pupils' safety and care is our first priority. If you have any concerns we have a team of staff who are trained to support pupils and families. This team focuses on both child protection and wider pastoral support.

Team Leader: Mrs R Watson

Mrs Clifford (Early Years)

Mrs Spratt (Nursery)

'New Year, New You 2019'

On the week beginning the 7th January we will launch our annual 'New Year, New You' week. It aims to promote the wellbeing of all our pupils, our families and the wider community as we begin a new year.

Our P.D.M.U. Team are working very hard to plan this week. They are going to consult with our new school council to get their input.

In November's edition of the Phoenix we will preview how we intend to help us all be more physically active, stay safe, be emotionally secure and aspire to reach new goals in 2019 and beyond.