



'The Phoenix' - Whitehouse News



"We Rise By Lifting Others"

October 2015

Principal's Scribble...

Dear Parent,

The first few months of this year have simply flown by. I am really pleased by the great progress we are making as a school and most importantly the super learning that is happening in the classrooms.

Next week is our interview week. I am grateful that nearly all parents have arranged to attend these very important meetings. Please try to keep your appointment times.

We had a terrific SMILE Night in September when lots of families came to school to hear about our new behaviour and anti-bullying policies. It was very affirming to hear the super comments from those who attended.

I want to commend parents on maintaining the high level of school uniforms. It makes a difference. Please keep it up!

Some more good news. **On Monday 4th January pupils have an additional day of holiday!**

F. Bailie

Parent Teacher Interviews



On the week beginning the 19th October we are holding interviews. It is important that we have all parents at these crucial interviews. Please remember, to facilitate interviews, that the school will close early **each day** next week:

- **Nursery will be released from 12.45-1pm**
- **Year 2 will be released at 1pm with older siblings**
- **Year 3 and 4 will be released at 1.15pm with older siblings**
- **Years 5 to 7 will be released at 1.30pm.**

Lunches will be served as normal next week.

Half term Holidays 26th - 30th October

School begins again on Monday 2nd Nov.

Charity Fitness Day

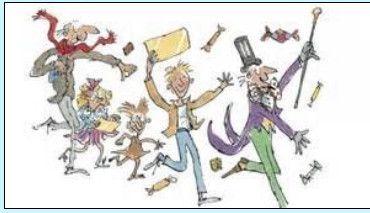


Please remember to wear your sportiest gear and bring your sponsor form to school this **Friday 16th October** as we raise funds for worthy charities as we have fun and get fit!

We are hoping to raise £2100 to share between our chosen charities: Banardo's, The Children's Hospice and our Cambodian School Project.

"Learning to Live"

Roald Dahl Day



On Friday 23rd October the school will hold its first 'Roald Dahl Day'. As you all know Roald Dahl is the most loved of all children's authors.

On Friday 23rd October we will open our **Roald Dahl Library**. This fantastic library has the following features:

Thousands of new books.

A new electronic booking system.

Computers and iPad technology.

Trained 'Library Helpers' to support pupils.

We are very excited about this new innovation (perhaps just as proud as Mr Wonka when he welcomed his guests!) In November the library will be available Monday to Wednesday to our families from 2pm to 3.30pm to borrow great books.

To celebrate this exciting event we have planned the following activities for **Friday 23rd October**:

All children can come to school dressed as a Roald Dahl character. The children will visit the hall to hear the story of the life of Roald Dahl and learn more about his career as an author.

All week we will host a Travelling Book Fair to promote reading. On Friday we will give away some 'Golden Tickets' for free books.

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!



To coincide with the launch of our new library and parent interviews the Travelling Book Fair will be in school from Monday 19th - Friday 23rd Oct.

It will be available for browsing and purchasing in the school foyer every morning from 8.30am - 9am and again from 1.30pm.

Any commission raised by the book fair will buy new books for our class libraries. This term we are looking forward to £2,000 of free books from last year's fair. Thank you!

Donate a Book



We are trying to fully stock our library and are looking for children's novels, especially hardbacks, that are in great condition. If families have finished with books and would like to donate they will find a great home in which they will help many children for years to come.

If we find we have too many copies of a novel or books that are not in the condition we require we will pass them onto a charity shop or recycling centre. If you prefer that we return the book to you please put a sticky note inside the cover and we will arrange this.

Blueprint 2020

September 2015/16 sees the third 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

- Introduce 'A Catalyst of Change'. This is a 3 year Shared Education Project which aims to foster outdoor learning, S.T.E.M and community partnership.
- Create a new school development plan for 2016 - 2019.

Learning & Teaching

- Develop the way we teach and learn phonics, spelling and handwriting.
- Continue to enhance pupils' achievements in mathematics.
- Use our iPads, laptops and computers more effectively to support learning.
- In the Nursery encourage better use of our campus to enrich pupils' learning.

Ethos

- Put our 3 year Wellbeing Plan into practice.
- Encourage the work of our School Council as we work towards a Green Flag.

Campus

- Use our website to keep everyone informed about what is happening in school.

October Update:

The ICT Team have been reviewing our website design. We hope to have an improved site in place after the Christmas break.

Key Stage 2 staff have been working hard in developing the use of Accelerated Reading across all classes. The progress so far has been very pleasing.

The major work has been the development of the Roald Dahl Library. The library is looking fantastic! On Friday 23rd October we have planned a themed day to launch the library. We hope that a local business will soon be announced as sponsoring prizes and treats as part of the day.

Diary Dates



- **16th** - Charity Activity Day
- **19th to 23rd** - School Book Fair 8.30am and 1.30pm to 3pm.
- **19th to 23rd** - Early Closure at 1pm/1.15pm & 1.30pm for parental interviews.
- **23rd** - Opening of new Roald Dahl Library
- **26 to 30th** - Half Term Holiday

NOVEMBER

- **2nd** - School & clubs begin!
- **13th** - 'Children in Need' P.J. /Onesie Day
- **16th** - Anti-Bullying Week

DECEMBER

- **2nd** - Open Night for new Nursery. & Year 1 pupils for Sept. 2016.
- **8th** - F.S. Nativity @10am
- **9th** - KS1 Nativity @ 10am
- **11th** - Nursery Nativities
- **17th** - Am - KS2 Carol Service
- **17th** - P.T.A. Disco
- **18th** - Christmas Holidays begin! Early closure 12noon/12.15pm and 12.30pm. No lunches today.

JANUARY

- **5th** - New term begins.
- **5th** - 'New Year, New You' Week
- **14th** - Nursery Closed for staff training day.

Pastoral Care Team



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

Team Leader: Mrs R Watson (Yr. 5-7)

Mrs H Clifford (Yr. 1 - Yr. 4)

Mrs C Spratt (Nursery)

Funsie in your onesie!

On Friday the 13th November all children are invited to come to school in their pyjamas or onesies!

We ask for a £1 donation from each child and all money will be sent to support the worthy causes funded by BBC Children in Need.

We hope that everyone joins in the fun(sie)!



October Class Focus

Each month a year group in school will share some of their experiences, photos and work! Keep your eyes peeled to see what your child has been up to as the year progresses!



Year 5



Our first term

The first term has gone so quickly and we have been so busy in P5! We have been adding, subtracting, problem solving and rounding. We have written poems based on our topic of the sea and have written manifestos and elected our class school councillors! Congratulations Ross Acheson and Reece Cox!

We have also started our Accelerated Reading programme this term and we are all really enjoying the choice of book we have to read. Everyone is making super progress!

In our World Around Us topic, The Sea, we have learned some amazing facts about the creatures of the sea!!!! Did you know that a star fish can grow back its arms if they are bitten off???



Seaside Poems

Year 5

My Sea Senses poem

My family and I are going to play.

I want to tell you what it is like

But not just using the power of sight.

I can smell the salty sea.

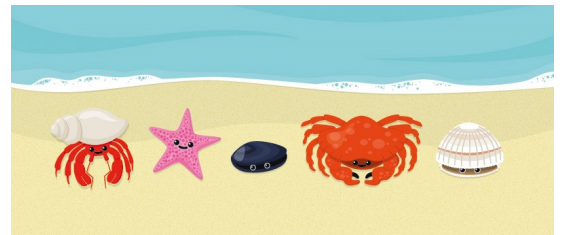
I can hear the splashing waves.

I can touch the silky, smooth sand.

I can taste burnt burgers.

I can see happy children playing.

Freddie Bell



dreamstime.com

Silly Sea Otter

I dreamed I was a silly sea otter.

I am deep under water getting some scrummy, yummy food.

I am doing some tricks with my friends under water playfully.

Jazmyn Nixon

Seaside Senses

At the beach my senses come alive!

I can see the glistening ocean splashing around.

I can hear the noisy wind floating around me.

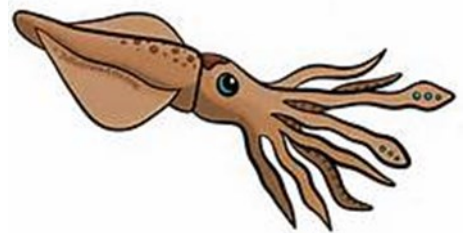
I can smell smoky burgers on the sizzling stove.

I can taste the salty sea when I go into the water.

I can feel the sharp and really slippery rocks on the sand.

When I am at the beach, I feel free, safe and happy.

Anna McCracken



I dreamed I was a silky, soft seahorse

Swimming in the path of the Pacific Ocean

Jumping rough, rock to rock

As fast as lightening.

Jay Gamble