



## Summer Newsletter I 28/04/2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to our summer term.

Thank you to all of you who spoke with our visitor, Paul Weston, who was working with us on Wednesday on behalf of the DLAT. His visit was an overwhelmingly positive one. He was very impressed with the high quality of teaching and learning evident in lessons, classrooms and in books; he was full of praise for our 'delightful' children commenting on how much progress they are making, how much they love their lessons and teachers and how enthusiastic and motivated they are; he praised governors for their proactive, innovative approaches, their knowledge of the school and their tenacity for supporting us with school improvement; he praised all leaders and staff for their hard work, partnership work with other schools and the DLAT, clarity of vision and secure understanding of the needs of the children and school community; and, he said that parents were overwhelmingly supportive of the school, their teachers and happiness of their children in coming to school (thank you!)

He offered us good advice on how to develop some aspects of our work further, but overall it is very reassuring to receive such positive feedback. What a great team we have here at Waltham! Thank you to all of you for continuing to support us with your child's learning.

### In class this week

#### Holly Class

Holly class introduced their new topic 'What is Your Treasure?' this week, with lots of learning about pirates – Reception class have even created a pirate ship in their classroom for the children to play in! In Literacy, they have been reading the book, 'The Pirate Cruncher'. In Numeracy, Reception class have been practising their numbers to 20. Year 1 children have been revising the place value of 2-digit numbers. The children have also been experiencing the great British Spring weather, while learning their Maypole dances on the playground. Bbbrrrrrrrrrrrrrr!

#### Oak Class

Oak class have been looking at expanded decomposition in Maths and using the Frog method to solve number problems. In Literacy, the children have been learning about the author David Walliams and reading his book, 'Mr Stink'. They have been learning about his treasure and why he became homeless. Oak class have done lots of PE this week, with dance, cricket and tennis lessons. They began their new treasure-themed topic by plotting co-ordinates on a treasure map. They have also been drawing themselves as pirates and researching famous pirates.

#### Sycamore Class

Sycamore began their new topic exploring the sea with Michael Morpugo's book, 'Kensuke's Kingdom'. They have been writing about their own island for an adventure story. In Numeracy, Year 5 children have been studying percentages and fractions. Year 6 children have been working on SATS revision papers. In RE, they have begun analysing the creation story; how it is viewed by scientists; and whether they have the same or conflicting views. Sycamore class have also been learning dances for the Maypole event and will be playing at the Redmile football tournament today, along with many of Oak class. Good luck everyone!

#### **May Bank Holiday**

Monday (1<sup>st</sup> May) is the May Bank Holiday and school will be closed. Back to school on Tuesday - Maypole Day.

#### **Maypole**

Please note that it is the traditional school Maypole Dancing event after school on Tuesday after school from 3.30pm to 4.00pm (although it may finish a little later). Full details of the event, including costume / PE kit requirements, have been sent home in a letter this week. Please fish the letter out of your child's book bag and return the reply slip if you haven't done so already! Thank you.

#### **Netball News**

I was delighted to hear the exciting news from Olivia White and Chloe Wright that they have recently been selected to take part in a local Under 10s Netball Tournament by the Melton Marvels Junior Netball Team. Well done girls, we are very proud of you and wish you the best of luck for the competition on 7<sup>th</sup> May.

#### **Sam Leveridge**

Sam Leveridge took part in the Sheffield Swimming Gala recently and did brilliantly in his Under 10 competitions, coming 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 100m backstroke and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 50m backstroke. He also won his heat in this event. Congratulations Sam, we are very proud of you!

#### **Staffing News**

We are pleased to announce that Miss Eleanor Scott will be joining us as a newly qualified teacher next term, following a successful recruitment process as indicated in the previous newsletter. Miss Scott lives locally and we are looking forward to welcoming her to our teaching staff team.

#### **Year 6 SATs**

These will soon be upon us so please ensure you continue to keep up the momentum of preparation as advised by the class teachers. Reading daily is ESSENTIAL; remember, **90 words a minute**; help test and challenge them...including the spellings on the Y5/6 list. Every little helps, so please help them as it will keep their confidence up.

#### **Dance/PE and Events Next Week**

Monday	Bank Holiday	School Closed
Tuesday	Maypole Dancing 3.30 to 4pm (may finish later)	Trainers for all children. Please see Maypole letter for what to wear.
Wednesday	Cricket	Oak class – PE kits
Thursday	PE	All classes – PE kits
Friday	No kit required.	Cake raffle – 50p per ticket. Special assembly 2.45pm

#### **School Cake Raffle**

Thank you to all the parents who have volunteered to join the weekly cake raffle rota. We have sent a rota out this week to the parents we are asking to bake for us this term. If you volunteered but haven't received a rota for this term, you will be added to the list for next term instead. The raffle will take place every Friday and tickets will cost 50p each. Please remember to send in money with your child if you wish to buy a ticket. All proceeds to school funds to help subsidise school trips. Thank you.

Wishing you all a weekend to treasure!

Mrs J V Hopkins,  
Executive Head teacher.

