



Summer Newsletter I 13/04/2018

Dear Parents,

My heart-felt thanks is extended to all those of you who have shown support following the road-traffic incident this week; this is echoed by the parents of the little girl too. By the grace of God and quick-thinking of many parents, pupils and staff, the little girl who was injured is doing remarkably well and recovering nicely at home; she has painful bruising but has not sustained any broken bones or internal injuries that we are aware of. It was clearly quite a shock to us all, but especially to those who bore witness to the incident; special thanks to you for remaining calm. The children (and staff) have been remarkable in school and offered very sensible responses. They were able to tell me that no one was to blame and that it was an accident, but it is a reminder that we all need to be extra careful when crossing any road or walking along the roadside. If you believe your child has any continued recurring anxieties over the incident, please get in touch with us.

I will continue my pursuits with the County Council and Parish Council regarding the lack of a school crossing patrol and/or suitable safety precautions being installed. In the meantime, we all have to cross roads, whether outside school or elsewhere, so we mustn't frighten the children, but continue to remind them about road safety...including teenagers! With mobile phones in hand, they worry me more than most! Please do consider purchasing a high-viz jacket for your child as I've suggested in the past, as this may also remind drivers to slow down.

Thank you also for the Easter cards and gifts sent in for staff at the end of term. These were much appreciated, as always.

Achievements

We have been advised of a number of special achievements by Waltham children during the past few weeks and it is always a great pleasure to share them with you.

Huge congratulations to Isla who represented our school and the Vale/Melton area at the Cross Country County Championships. I am so proud of her and am delighted that she has achieved so much this year in the event.

Darcey in Holly class has done amazingly well in her swimming lessons and achieved a 25 metre badge and certificate. Well done, Darcey!

Kitty from Holly Class has also been demonstrating her special talent for swimming and has recently achieved her Stage 4 Award. Brilliant news, Kitty!

Finally, Aureenna from Year 5 entered the Colsterworth Arts Festival on Saturday 24th February, playing piano, and came away with the trophy for 1st prize in the Music Beginners Years 5 & 6 category. She was extremely poised and played a Grade 1 piece absolutely beautifully and note-perfect. She did particularly well considering it was the first time she had played publicly outside school audiences, and was in an unfamiliar setting, never having touched that particular piano before sitting at it to perform. Congratulations Aureenna, we are very proud of you!



Staff News

This week we have seen the return of Miss Geeson from her maternity leave. It's great to have her back, although I do believe her yawns of exhaustion have been more frequent than the rest of us!!

Our School Secretary, Mrs Quine, who has been with us for the past 5 years will be moving on in May to take up a new role with the National Trust at Belton House, Grantham. She has loved working with the children and staff at Waltham but is ready to embark upon a new challenge. We will miss her greatly but look forward to seeing her when she picks up Jack and Thomas from school.

This will leave a vacancy for a Grade 5 Clerical Assistant (full-time) in the school office. Please request an application pack if you, or anyone you know, would be interested in this role. Email:

office@waltham.leics.sch.uk

A major item of news on the reverse...



NEW CLASSROOMS ON THE WAY!!

Yes, it's true! Waltham will finally wave goodbye to the mobile classrooms, as our bid for a Condition Improvement Grant has at last been successful. The governors and I have worked tirelessly over the past 4 years to secure this funding and I received the exciting news at the start of the Easter holiday. Initial plans have already been drawn up so I'm hoping that we shall soon get them submitted to the planning department so that work can start as soon as possible. My dream is that we shall have our new classrooms by Christmas, but there are a lot of factors to consider which I'm sure you can appreciate. I'll keep you updated and will endeavour to give you the information about how the new build will be managed in due course.

This is such AMAZING news for our school and I hope you'll all be as equally as excited as I am. Special thanks to governors for their perseverance and determination and to staff and yourselves for your patience. We have waited a long time for this news and I'm so thrilled to share it with you.

Have a lovely weekend.

**Mrs J V Hopkins
Executive Head teacher**

