



Halebank C of E Primary School
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Headteacher: Mrs C Warner

Telephone number: 0151 425 5798

Friday 10th March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to start as always by celebrating all the great things that have been happening in school this week. Oak Class completed a morning at Crucial Crew on Wednesday where they completed a series of activities and workshops to do with safety and life skills which I am sure you will agree are an important part of our educational curriculum. As always the children behaved well and made us very proud. The whole of KS2 enjoyed a Chinese Music Workshop on Thursday morning. This was a workshop that school brought in and was run by specialist musicians who work with Halton and Warrington local authorities. The children got to actively participate and all had great fun!

Good News - We are currently working with the IT team in Halton and the DFE to invest thousands of pounds to improve the connectivity of our school so that the teachers and pupils can enjoy using all kinds of technology effectively to support teaching and learning.

Attendance

Last week whole school attendance was 87.9%. I am delighted to say that Beech Class won best attendance with 96.5% which is the first time in a while that any class has had above expected attendance. They will get a letter towards their HERO treat and 10 minutes extra playtime.

Following our meeting with Halton Education Welfare, who are supporting the school because of the number of persistently absent pupils that we currently have, some of you will receive letters at some point next week, that have set a four week target to improve your child's attendance. This will be monitored by Education Welfare and school.

This is not a personal attack and we very much want to work with you all to improve attendance at Halebank overall. School will also be sending out target letters to other families next Friday. On receipt of your letter if you need to discuss anything with us please email school rather than telephone as staff often have meetings or tasks that mean that they do not have the time to discuss issues immediately. We will always get back to you as soon as we possibly can.

Getting your child to school really matters. Did you know...

If your child's attendance during the school year...	Your child would have lost approximately...	or they would have missed approximately...
was 95%	9 Days from School	50 Lessons
was 90%	19 Days from School	100 Lessons
was 85%	29 Days from School	150 Lessons
was 80%	38 Days from School	200 Lessons
was 75%	48 Days from School	250 Lessons

You should not take your child on holiday during term time. Please encourage punctuality to maintain school attendance.
Remember Absence = Lost Opportunity

Getting your child to school really matters. Did you know...

If in a school year, your child is late every day by...	Your child would have lost approximately...	or they would have missed approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons

You should not take your child on holiday during term time. Please encourage punctuality to maintain school attendance.
Remember Absence = Lost Opportunity

Cherry Class won the tidiest classroom award so will get a treat from Mr and Mrs Boon.

Parent Notices

School Trips - Please note the following:

- Philharmonic hall due 13.03.23 - £10
- Catalyst Overnight Stay due by 10.03.23 - £35
- Dearne Valley due by 31.03.23 - £224

If there are any issues regarding these trips please email us to let us know.

There is a meeting to answer all your questions about the Catalyst Trip on Monday 13th March at 3.20pm in school.

Strikes

I can now confirm that **school will be closed on Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March** as a result of strike action by the teacher unions. We remain fully supportive of our teachers at this time as part of the reason for strike action being taken is that school budgets have been significantly cut which affects the children's education in many ways. Thank you all for your support. If anything changes between now and then we will let you know as soon as we can.

Complaints and Issues

It is so important for your children that school and home work together in partnership. We are always happy to listen to any issues or complaints that you may have and we always want to find a way to move forwards. With this in mind can I please remind you that social media is NOT the place to air your concerns as it can be detrimental to the reputation of the School and possibly more importantly can be very upsetting to members of staff who work tirelessly to educate and support your children.

Change of PE days

As **Beech Class** will begin cricket coaching next week, they will need **their PE kit each Monday and Friday**. **Willow Class** will also change. They will need their **PE kit on Tuesday and Friday**.

Uniform

We have a lot of uniform in school spare. These items have ended up in lost property and are unnamed so we cannot return them. We would like to invite you to come and look through this uniform if you think an item might belong to one of your children. If the uniform items have not been claimed by **Friday 17th March** they will be taken home and washed by a member of staff and then we will have them available to purchase (small donation – whatever that you can afford) at our family drop in session on **Wednesday 29th March**. All items will be of good quality and will therefore be perfect for anyone whose child has had a sudden growth spurt or needs an additional piece of uniform. We currently only have jumpers and cardigans. Any money made from the sale of uniform will go towards the purchase of spare underwear for pupils which is much needed in school. Finally if you have any uniform at home that you no longer need please would you donate it to school so that we can pass it on to anyone who may need it. Thank you

New Initiative

It may have been brought to your attention that we are having a bit of a push in school on table manners and general behaviour in the hall at lunchtimes. This is, as with most things that we do in school, in your children's best interest and is a positive initiative. We will be using stickers and certificates to reward and praise all children following our school lunchtime rules and there will be children nominated to sit at the 'top table' every Friday.



STARS OF THE WEEK



Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Jack Derby	Lily-Mae Massingham	Tommy Shakeshaft	Sofia Brown	Lottie Bolland	Ivy Booth	Emily Robertson



READING CHAMPIONS



Cherry Class Imogen McGregor	Willow Class Warren Bamford	Beech Class Millie Evans	Oak Class Poppie Birch
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WRITING CHAMPIONS

Cherry Class Nevaeh Fog	Willow Class Anayah Jones	Beech Class Gracie Higginson	Oak Class Noel Cooke-Anderson
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MATHEMATICS CHAMPIONS

Cherry Class Naya Unsworth	Willow Class Emelia Gough	Beech Class Anabelle Balmer	Oak Class Phoebe White
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- March 14th Philharmonic – Beech Class**
- March 14th Y5/6 Vikings/Anglo-Saxon Workshop**
- March 14th Y5/6 Cross Country – Saints Peter and Paul**
- March 21st Overnight Visit to the Catalyst Museum – Year 3 / 4**
- March 23rd AIM High Maths Day**
- March 23rd HIT session with Oak class**
- March 23rd Cricket Event – KS1**
- March 29th Family Drop In – Uniform sale/chat/tell us what you want from our family sessions.**

Our prayer this week has been written by Annabelle in Year 3

Dear God,

Please take care of everything and everyone.

Let us care for our pets and family while we still have them.

Let us think of our emotions and our actions and what they do to us and others.

Amen

Have a wonderful weekend everyone. Enjoy all that you do together as a family and appreciate the family and friends that help us through all of life's ups and downs.

Mrs C Warner
Headteacher

In the interests of reducing paper waste and looking after our planet more we are no longer sending out paper copies of the newsletter. Please come and see us if you require a paper copy