

Newsletter May 2017

Waddington All Saints Primary School



'Team All Saints' Knight Is Almost Ready

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The Lincoln Knight Trail was launched on Saturday 20th May and this means that the launch of the education Knights Trail is only a few weeks away.

Since the PTA bought the knight for the school a few months ago, Mrs Maycock and Miss Guy have been coordinating the work to ensure that our knight will be ready in time and that it will be something that we can be proud of and treasure in future.

First there was the process of sanding, cleaning and applying the base coat in readiness for the children's work to be applied. The children have contributed learning that can be attached to the knight and last week a couple of children from each class were able to do this. Now it is time to apply a coat of yacht varnish to protect him on his travels.

We are very excited to find out the exact location that he will go to. It will be one of the places marked with an 'E' on the map of the trail.



Coming Soon...

FS visit the church—24/5

KS1 Environmental Day—25/5

Break up—26/5

Children back—5/6

September Starters Open Evening—8/6

Phonics Screening Week—12/6

Girls Football Festival—13/6

'Wateraid' Charity Day—23/6

KS1 Puppet Workshop—26/6

Sports Day Week from 27/6

Goodbye Mrs South and Mrs Lodge

This Tuesday, we say goodbye to two highly appreciated members of staff. Mrs South is an outstanding teacher and although she intends to continue to do some supply work for us, she will be very much missed. Her impact over the years has been great and this has been particularly evident in her exceptional support in the development of maths across the school.

Mrs Lodge has been a cleaner at this school for many years. We shall miss her kindness and smiles. The quality of her work and her commitment have been exceptional.

We would like to thank them both for their dedication and hard work and wish them all the very best for the future.

International Bomber Command Centre



Year 5 were lucky enough to be invited to visit the new International Bomber Command Centre ahead of the official opening due to take place early next year.

They were taken on a tour of the memorial and given the chance to find out more about the history of the Bomber Command. They explored the way in which trees have been geo-planted to represent the areas around Lincolnshire. They engaged with biographies and looked for their names around the memorial.

The children also took the opportunity to further develop their art work, extending their understanding of perspective.

We are very grateful to the staff and volunteers who made this trip possible and hope that we can develop further links in the future.



ArtsNK

Year 4 have been lucky enough to experience some amazing dance sessions this term thanks to the coaching of the artsNk Dance Education programme. They have learned dances that represent the Greek Gods and the Olympics, taught by one of artsNK's expert team. It has been wonderful to see the progress each session.

Parent Workshops

In response to our recent parent questionnaire, we have organised some workshops for parents.

The first of these explores using story sacks with children.

One parent said "Starting this course is really exciting. Not only is it FREE, but within school hours. Meeting other parents and realising you are not alone in your attempts to support your child with their education."

Another said "looking at phonics and the terminology...has really helped me understand the learning process."

"I will definitely be attending more in the future and will highly recommend them to others."

Homework

When our Year 6 pupils sat the recent tests, we were reminded once again how very high expectations are for children these days. We were very proud of the way that they faced the challenge with positivity, resilience and determination. We hope that later this term they will get the success they so truly deserve.

We have received feedback from some parents, that supporting their child with homework, particularly maths and grammar, is becoming increasingly difficult. The Senior Leadership Team have discussed how we can enabling parents to be successful in supporting their child with homework, while ensuring that expectations are reasonable. We are therefore going to trial some changes after half-term. Please let us know how it goes.

After half term, homework will consist of: daily reading or a reading task e.g. Comprehension; spellings / phonics - to be tested weekly; mental maths - to be tested weekly. The scores from both these tests will come home, so that you are able to see how they have performed following their homework.

On occasions there may also be an extra task to prepare for learning due to take place the following week.

On Ya' Bikes Y5

All of our Year 5 pupils took part in 'Bikeability' recently. The purpose of this course is to develop their cycling and road safety skills.

We were so proud of all of the children for the way in which they conducted themselves out of school and how sensible they were when they went onto the roads. The weather was not kind to them though. It was extremely cold for the time of year and they even had to keep going in a hail storm.

Three of the children began on day one not able to ride a bike. These children were nothing short of amazing. Faith, one of the three, witnessed her friend learn to ride a bike and said to her, "You are my role model and I am inspired to achieve what you have done."

She showed a level of bravery and determination rarely seen. Covered in cuts and bruises she triumphed. All three are now able to ride a bike. Well done.



African Experience for Foundation Stage

Foundation Stage were delighted that we had arranged for Martin from Ghana to come to provide a workshop for the children. He taught them some African songs, dances and drumming skills.

The children were keen to learn more about life in Africa and were excited to create an African piece of music using rhythms and chants.

They then produced an enormous story map of the book 'Handa's hen' using painting and collage to represent the environment and animals of Africa.

"In Handa's hut the children can use plastic money to buy their fruit and milk each day."

They went on to make an iMovie which included the use of instruments to capture the African sounds along the journey.



KS1 Had a Wild Time at Woodside

The children in KS1 have been learning about animals in science, so we treated them to a trip to Woodside Wildlife Park.

Whilst they were there they learnt about what each of the animals ate and this helped them to work out whether the animals were herbivores, carnivores or omnivores.

Afterwards, back in school they continued their studies to learn about the different habitats of animals.

Mrs Brown brought a tortoise, a budgie and guinea pigs into the classrooms. The children were fascinated to see what they did and what they ate. The tortoise even went for a walk around the classroom!

