



Watercliffe Meadow

The Thursday Green 'Un

Volume 10 Issue 9 Thursday 9th November 2017

Welcome Back

Welcome back to school after the October half term. There were some beautiful Autumn days with lots of sunshine. We hope you had a lovely break together with your family and that you are now rested ready for the mad rush up to Christmas. As the weather turns cooler please remind your child about wearing their coats, although they run around so much outside they do not feel the cold like us adults! Please write names in coats, we already have 3 new looking ones in lost property without names on. We will be making more indoor space available for children who prefer to be inside in the cold.

Don't forget if you have anything on your mind that you want to discuss, call in to the office and make an appointment to see us. We would rather talk things through with you and work together to find a solution, than let issues grow or see them on Facebook. There will as usual be lots of things happening this half term and we will use the Green 'Un to keep you up to date.

Learning Across School

On Tuesday the **F2s** went into town for the afternoon to perform on stage at the Crucible Theatre with Polly and Music in the Round. They got very wet on the way there and back but that didn't dampen their spirits. They performed amazingly, well done to you all!

How exciting it is in **Y1**! On our first day back after the holidays we were launched into our new learning about space. We made helmets, a space passport and travelled to the moon in a rocket! We can't wait to see what else we learn.

Well it was such a delight to spend time with the **Y2** children before the holidays at

Whirlow. Both classes were so polite and a pleasure to take away. We had some amazing adventures and made lots of memories! We would also like to say a big well done to the children who did not go with us. Their teachers for the time their class were away said how lovely they had been. Well done to everyone!

Having written some fantastic stories inspired by the Saxon story of Beowulf, **Y4s** practised reading them dramatically to the class. The children created a rubric for what makes a good performance and critiqued each other in partners. They commented on use of voice (high, low, quiet, loud), actions and pauses to add tension.

It was amazing to see our children bringing their stories to life and encouraging each other to make them even better.

Y5s had a fantastic morning with our English lesson. Both classes spent all week before the holidays learning more about the Ancient Romans and their armies. After our visit to York we built on what we already knew about Roman Legionaries (a Roman soldier) and their roles, responsibilities and treatment. Some of the reasons we found were really positive, others made you wonder why anyone would want to be one! Then, we put all that information together and used it to plan debate points, even thinking about arguments and counter-arguments. With a bit of practice in our groups, we were ready for the real debate. The teachers were so proud of what the children achieved!

This term in PE the **Y6s** have been doing gymnastics. We have been practising how to move like a gymnast along with various activities. We needed to make a sequence that included: a roll, a plank, a balance, moving like a gymnast and a finish.

Spooky Cosy Read Update
On Friday 27th October we had a spooky themed 'Cosy Read' day and everyone looked amazing in their costumes. You can see pictures on some of our class blogs. The children and staff really enjoyed sharing books together and talking about the characters. Nurturing a love of reading is the best way to get our children to read which will in turn improve their speaking, listening and writing skills. If you need any advice on how to support your child with reading why not talk to Kerry Heap or Steve Smith, they are full of great ideas.

Halloween Day at WCM
Friday before the holidays was a really spooky day at WCM. We were taken over by witches, ghouls, zombies and more for a fun filled day. There are lots of pictures on all the class blogs, please visit the WCM website, www.watercliffemeadow.co.uk and click on the blogs tab. A big thank you to all the families for the effort you put in to the costumes.

Christmas Fayre
As the month of festivities is only 21 days away, Liz Graham is busy planning the 2017 WCM Christmas Fayre. It will take place on **Tuesday 5th December** from 2.00pm in the hall. You will be receiving a letter about this shortly. Please save any nearly new toys for our toy stall and if you can help on the day call in to see Liz, she will be very grateful.

Santa is coming to WCM again, he dropped us a note from the North Pole to say he will come to the Fayre, tickets will go on sale in the office from Monday 20th November and cost £2.00 to see him.

Nativity preparation is just beginning; the children have started learning all the songs and will very soon be in the hall practising. Tickets for Nativity will be on sale from **Monday 27th November** and are initially restricted to 2 per child. From **Monday 4th December** any remaining tickets will be sold on a first come first served basis.

Healthy Minds

We would like to say a big thank you to all the families who filled in the Healthy Minds Survey. The staff and children results are

all being analysed together with your responses and a plan of action will be pulled together by the Healthy Minds team over the next few weeks.

Time For School

If your child was born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014 you need to apply for their school place. You can apply online at www.sheffield.gov.uk/pupiladmissions The closing date for applying is **15th January 2018**. You can contact admissions on 0114 2735766. Please ensure you put 3 school preferences down to ensure that if you don't get your first choice you have thought about where you want your child to go.
We must remind you that attendance at WCM Nursery does not guarantee you a place in school. School places are allocated by the Local Authority based on distance from school. If you need any support with your application or have any questions please call in to see a member of our Nursery team or Mrs Bradley.

Children In Need

We are now selling Children In Need merchandise in the office. The actual fundraising day is next **Friday 17th November**, we will let you know nearer the time what we plan to do in school.



Poppies

We are selling poppies and other poppy related goods on the front desk. Please call in or send money with your child if you wish to purchase any. We will let you know how much money we collect.



Attendance

We would like to say a big well done to the following classes who all achieved above 96% (our school target) last half term:

Y1 Mrs Morton's class – **96.8%**

Y2 Miss Mallinson's class – **97.2%**

Y3 Miss Edward's class – **96.2%**

Y4 Mr Tompkinson's clas – **96.0%**

Y6 Miss Heap's class – **96.1%**

Y6 Mr Bebbington's class – **96.7%**

Overall our attendance was **95.1%** - we aim to keep improving as we head towards Christmas!