

Whalton School News

Summer Term



12th July 2021



Arrangements for the final week

Monday 12th July	Please could the children bring in a strong plastic named bag so they can fill it with their work and bring it home later in the week?
Tuesday 13th July	 Class 1 Whalton Manor Garden in the morning Ice Cream van for all children in the afternoon, kindly paid for by PTA.
Wednesday 14th July	 Mr Reilly will be in school with Mrs Elliott to meet the children who will be in Class 2 next year i.e. current Year 1,2 and 3. Year 4 and 6 Leavers' Presentation 2pm with Mrs Pam Walker (children only) 6pm Leavers' video uploaded to School360 and taken off at 4pm Friday 16th July. The Year 4, 5 and 6 will lead this service but the children in Reception, Years 1, 2 and 3 will be filmed singing. If you haven't done so already, please could you complete the Google Form about consent to your child's images/video being uploaded onto School360. If you haven't received this, please contact the School Office.
Thursday 15th July	 Years 4, 5 and 6 Paddleboarding at Bolam Lake all day. Please could the children in Reception, Year 1, 2 and 3 wear PE kit as normal. <u>The party has been moved to Friday</u> <u>instead.</u>
Friday 16th July	Children may come to school in party clothes, but please make sure that they are comfortable clothes so the children can play safely in them. There will be, weather permitting, the annual pea hunt on the field.

E-Safety- the sharing of images and videos

There has been a lot of information coming into schools recently about children sharing inappropriate images and videos of each other, and being unaware of the consequences of this: i.e. once the image is shared you lose control of it and that it forms part of your digital footprint which stays online. Although at primary school, it may seem that the children are at a very young age for us to be thinking about this, we can make preparations now so that they can start to think responsibly about the photos they take and share. Attached to this email is an activity sheet giving advice on how to start a conversation about sharing images. It also points you to the Thinkuknow website where you can click on the Parents/Carers section, type in 'sharing' in the search box and find the applicable information for your child's age. In school, we have used 'DigiDuck's Big Decision' which explains about the effect of sending photos that could upset people. Here is a link to the story:

https://www.childnet.com/resources/digiduck-stories/digiducks-big-decision

Bee transition work for Class 3

Class 3 have had a very exciting term. Year 6s have been preparing for their transition to their new high schools through a unit learning all about bees. They kick started

their 'Bee Week' with a visit to the beautiful Whalton Manor Garden, where they were taken on a tour of the flora and fauna by the extremely kind and knowledgeable staff. Inspired by the many different varieties, beauty and aroma of the flowers, together with the abundant presence of bees, the children wrote some 'persuasive' letters to local garden centres asking for



donations to enhance their own 'bee garden'. The garden centres responded by sending a huge amount of flowers, pots and hanging baskets. The children were overwhelmed and 'buzzing' about their new bee garden. This also encouraged the children to find out even more about the bees and how they could further support them. The children were able to look at and put together a real bee hive and found out how honey is made inside the hive; appreciating the significance of



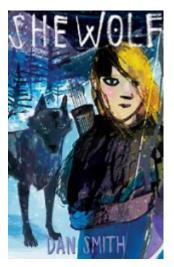
the hexagon shaped combs.

Dan Smith Author Visit

As we have had to limit the number of visitors into school this term, the older children were treated to a virtual visit by the author of the Viking book they have been reading called 'She



Wolf' by Dan Smith. He gave them the opportunity to ask questions about the story itself, as well as what inspired him to become an author. Many 'top tips' were



shared about the importance of

proofreading and editing work and how it can take a whole year to get the perfect, final version of the story. We all loved 'She Wolf' and the time spent editing was not wasted! It was fascinating to find out that his publisher, Barry, was also one of the first people to read and publish Harry Potter! He also regrets telling her that there was no money in writing children's books - lots for our aspiring authors to think about! Dan also read two chapters of two other books he has written, 'My Friend the Enemy' and ' The Invasion of Crooked Oak', which may help the children in finding a range of new books to read over the summer.

Newcastle University - Ask Our Scientists!

Via Zoom, Newcastle University students from a range of subject areas spoke to our Lower and Upper Key Stage 2 students. This virtual visit did not only answer the children's curious science questions, but also supported the students who are not sure of the difference between studying Biology, Animal Science or Zoology at University. This excited the children when thinking about their future paths in education and was an additional opportunity for our pupils to also learn about the different types of engineering, gaining greater insight into what real scientists do.

Many thanks to you all for your support this year and we look forward to seeing you and your children refreshed in September!