



LEADERSHIP TEAM NEWSLETTER

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Mrs N Pidgeon
Head Teacher

Mrs M Saleh
Deputy Head
Teacher

Mrs L Jones
Assistant Head
Teacher

Mrs L Leitch
Leading Practitioner
for Teaching and
Learning, Inclusion
and SENCO

Mrs J Patrick
School Business
Manager

Phase Leaders

Mrs K Fox KS1
Miss J Seddon
Lower KS2
Mrs S Millar
Upper KS2

"We, at Welton have a dream that our children will be proud, happy and confident; knowing that they are being nurtured, challenged and encouraged to ignite their own unique spark of genius, so that it catches fire and shines."

Good Morning

The Senior Leaders are enjoying greeting as many children as possible each morning and taking the opportunity to catch up with some of the adults too. We look forward to some better weather for less soggy starts to the day!



School Improvement

School Improvement Partner

The school has recently started working with a School Improvement Partner from the Local Authority. Mrs R Lewis will provide support for the school and in particular the leadership team, including the Governing Body.

Parental Engagement

We are keen to extend the ways in which we work in partnership with parents. This term we would like to form a working party to look at end of year reports to parents. This is part of a wider piece of work with the Primary Partnership Schools. The commitment will not be too onerous with perhaps two meetings to look at possible approaches and then consideration of a final draft. Please contact the school office if you would be interested.

Reading

Research shows that starting in Reception, if a student reads 20 minutes a day at home, they will hear 1.8 million words per year. They will have read for 851 hours by Year 6 and on standardised tests, they will likely score better than 90% of their peers.

As well as the work we are doing in school to improve the teaching of reading we really need to find ways of encouraging and motivating children to read at home as this is equally important to the work of schools to teach reading. If, as a parent, you have any ideas of what works to motivate your child to read daily at home we would love to hear your ideas.

Behaviour

Ensuring pupils thrive at Welton Primary School is the priority of the whole Welton community. We are involved in improvement activities each and every week. In January we worked with a consultant to further enhance learning behaviours across all aspect of school life. We are developing a shared language so everyone is consistent with how they talk to children about behaviour. We are continuing to use the language of ready, respectful and safe and the script for prompting children when they need help to re-focus is as follows:

"I've noticed that"

"I need you to ..."

"Thank you for ..."

Further prompts if a child is struggling to re-engage would be to remind them of a success they have had recently and the best version of themselves that we want to see again today.

When things go wrong the scripts we use are very effective in supporting the children to take responsibility for their actions and putting things right:

"Describe what's been happening"

"What were you thinking or what are you thinking now about what happened?"

"How can we put this right?"

"What needs to happen now and /or next time?"

At the "what needs to happen now stage" a child will typically be giving an apology, writing an apology letter or be required to miss a break time, however, sometimes they will be required to work away from the classroom for a period of time or possibly more formal consequences.

An update from the School Council

Welton Primary School has 12 Council Representatives: 2 from each year group from Year 1 to Year 6. A democratic process was held at the beginning of the academic year for the Councillors to be elected members of their class.

The School Council meets every Thursday for 20 minutes. We have a suggestion box in the corridor for requests and ideas from the whole school. This year we have had requests for new clubs; reading, art, board games and a free space to make up games. We have had a lot of suggestions for healthier meal options of fruit and salads.

Last year a 'Welton Well' garden feature was created and our children have weeded and re-planted the space. A request for hanging baskets and planters to cheer up the classroom entrances has been granted. A lot of children wish to be part of a gardening society. We are asking for help with seeds and plug plants that may be donated by friends, family or neighbours to help make our school look colourful and inviting.

The School Council talk to their classes regularly to keep them up to date and to request help and they occasionally have assembly slots.

We have a new design by children for a 'reading champion' certificate and this will go to print eventually once we have used all of the current certificates.

Advance notice: the School Council will be running a 'Readathon' that will take place in the Summer Term to enhance our children's interest in this vital skill as well as being a sponsored event to support children in hospitals or poorer areas to access stories.

We now have a school governor supporting our School Council, Mrs Franklin. She has seen us deliver an assembly and has told Mrs Hargraves how impressed she was with our confidence and clear speaking. She has given us some ideas to help improve the running of our Council.

Spring 2 Dates for your Diary:

Monday 24 February	Back to school
Friday 28 February	Year 1 Cricket Skills Festival at South Hunsley (morning only)
Monday/Tuesday 2/3 March	BAE Stem workshops Year 4 (in school)
Thursday 5 March	Year 5 Festival of Sport at South Hunsley (afternoon only)
	World Book Day
Monday 9 March	One Year 4 class visiting BAE
Thursday 12 March	One Year 4 class visiting BAE
Monday 16 March	Murton Park visiting Year 6 (in school)
Monday 23 March	Foundation Mother's Day Assembly
	Year 1 Toy Workshop (in school)
Thursday 2 April	Easter Disco
	Break up for Easter



Social, Emotional and Mental Health development

18 months ago, as part of our continued dedication to meeting the Social and Emotional needs of our children, we began our journey on the National Nurturing Schools Programme, run by Nurture UK. This is a programme that embeds a nurturing culture throughout the school, enhancing teaching and learning and promotes healthy outcomes for children and young people, all by focusing on emotional needs and development as well as academic learning in the whole-school environment. After 2 years of development, we will then apply for recognition for achieving a high level of nurture provision, through The National Nurturing School Award, which is assessed and awarded by Nurture UK.

The programme is based on the six principles of nurture that have successfully underpinned nurture groups for over 40 years.

Who Benefits from the programme?

- Pupils benefit – from the approach that supports them in their specific needs while delivering teaching and learning in a way that all can access. The pupil is at the heart of the school focus and their learning is understood developmentally.
- Parents benefit – from being involved and welcomed in the school, in seeing the improvement in the children's learning, behaviour, confidence and attendance. A better outcome for their children both in and out of the school and classroom.
- Schools benefit – from showing their commitment to developing an ethos and culture that is inclusive, supports everyone in and associated with the school
- Communities benefit – from having a school that wants to be at the heart of the community and demonstrates its central role in children and young people's lives.

The process has allowed us to reflect on our current practice and make it even better. Some of the positive changes we have made over the past 18 months are:

- Delivering our PSHE curriculum through the whole school Jigsaw programme. This encapsulates elements of mindfulness through breathing exercises and guided visualisations, which we feel are a very important part of our approach to promoting positive mental health;
- Reviewing our behaviour management policy and adopting a whole school restorative approach;
- Enhancing our social and emotional group interventions, by involving our pupils in the target setting and review at the end of the programme;
- A review of our pupil support plan, which puts pupil voice at the heart of what strategies are put in place to move forward;
- Using Boxall profiling to assess and track the social and emotional needs of **all** children in school, not just those who have more significant needs;
- We have added in many layers of daily practice to promote positive mental health for all pupils.



Chinese New Year Craft Morning

A lovely morning was held in Foundation where parents and grandparents were welcomed to get creative with their children and grandchildren. We hope you all enjoyed it!



Road Safety



Some Year 2 children took part in a scooter awareness workshop during January, which is designed to be one of the first steps in road safety for Year 2 pupils. The programme is also designed to compliment the pedestrian and cycle training children receive in later year groups.

The outdoor activity promoted control of the scooter and enhanced the children's skills. At the same time, they learnt the importance of not straying too far from an adult and about basic courtesy when sharing a pavement with other pedestrians.

Year 4 children also took part in their pedestrian skills training, which commenced with a half hour indoor lesson and power point presentation, green cross code training and a question and answer session. Following on from this they undertook live road training, where the children were shown the safest way to cross at junctions and between parked cars.

BAE Stem Roadshow - Year 6

Year 6 children enjoyed a morning watching the BAE Stem Roadshow in partnership with the RAF and Royal Navy at the beginning of February. The roadshow was devised in response to the Government's acknowledgement that there is already a shortfall of 'home grown' scientists and engineers to meet the needs of the country and by capturing the interest of young people aged 10 – 13, we can hopefully increase the numbers that take STEM subjects and ultimately increase the pool of talent in years to come.



The brand new show for 2020 focussed on **Energy**. The content of the show was closely aligned to the Science curriculum to support learning in schools and featured several interactive elements for both students and teachers alike. They introduced students to real life energy considerations within the Sponsor Organisations and the children had fun with games and even a rowing competition for the athletically inclined!

Foundation Reading Morning



Another lovely morning was held in Foundation during February, where parents and grandparents were welcomed to come and take part in a Reading Morning. We had some lovely feedback:-

I loved finding out new ideas to help my child learn his phonics! It was wonderful - thank you!

I enjoyed seeing my child in the classroom environment and his determination/concentration in completing the activities!

I thought the day was really well organised and we appreciate the effort you go to include parents in the school activities.