



SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM NEWSLETTER

MRS PIDGEON

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

*Nikki Pidgeon
Head Teacher*

*Jon Watson
Deputy Head Teacher*

*Sarah Millar
Head of Behaviour, PE
and SEAL*

*Laura Kilvington
Head of Assessment,
Specialist Leader in
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*Jayne Patrick
School Business
Manager*

Happy Easter

On behalf of Welton Primary School we hope the children have a well-earned rest, that the sun shines and that you all enjoy some family time.

Admissions to Welton Primary School

As you may be aware we continue to be a very popular school and we are attracting new pupils all the time. This has resulted in some year groups having more than 30 children per class. I think it would be helpful to explain how decisions regarding admissions are made. All applications for places at Welton are made direct to the Local Authority, who then use their admissions' policies and procedures to make a decision. The Governing Body and staff of Welton School are not part of the decision making process.

Pupil Writing at Welton Primary School

Recently we have had several visitors to Welton, including Head Teachers, Educational Consultants and teachers from other local schools. The overwhelming response has been that the standard and quality of writing is extremely impressive. The presentation of work never fails to impress. Many of you will already have had the opportunity to celebrate this with your child.

Numicon Resources

The FOWS have funded numicon homework packs for Foundation. This means that the teachers will be able to suggest activities for home that uses the numicon resources which we know is a very effective way to build solid basic skills. As these and subsequent children move through the school we will be able to continue to develop the use of numicon. Thank you for supporting the FOWS events and raising money to enhance the school's work.

Social Media

As you will be fully aware, the internet has become a powerful tool to connect and to share ideas and opinions. In recent years, social networking sites such as Facebook have grown in popularity and many people use them to communicate with family, friends and others.

As a school, we encourage parents to support us with the education and wellbeing of their children and if at any time parents feel that they have any issues regarding their child's education, they should make an appointment with me. As a community, we should all discourage the use of social networking sites to criticise and make comments about the school or any members of staff.

The vast majority of people who use social networking show respect in their communication with others and this is something that we must encourage to show our children that we are positive 'digital role models'.

Role of honour

Emilia Wright: Won gold at the Yorkshire 200m backstroke event and broke a few records!

Alex Ingram: Has gone through to the second stage of the Radio 2 short story competition from a field of 118000 entries. WOW!

Well done to both of you!

A message from the Chair of Governors

The recent parent survey at the school showed that many parents know little about the governing body or its responsibilities. We hope to remedy this by sending information in newsletters on a regular basis starting with the details below.

The government requires every school to have a governing body to be responsible for the conduct of the school and to promote high standards of educational achievement. The governing body meets on a regular basis to monitor and evaluate the work of the school, including its progress towards agreed targets.

Twelve governors make up the governing body at Welton Primary School. They are split into 4 categories to ensure a breadth of skills and experience. They are unpaid volunteers.

More information is provided overleaf.

**Happy
Easter**

The categories of Governors are:

- Local Authority – 2 members appointed by the Local Authority
- Community – 3 members from the local community
- Parents – 4 parents elected by all parents at the school
- Staff – one teaching and one non-teaching member elected by all school staff
- The Head Teacher is automatically a member of the governing body.

At present the governors are:

Ruth Henry (Community and Chair)

I moved to Welton after retiring from being a teacher in Hull primary schools. I have also been a Home-School Liaison Teacher and Special Needs Co-ordinator both of which involved working closely with parents. One of my governor duties which I most enjoy is meeting parents at Parents Evenings, New Intake meetings and other events. I have been a governor since 2006 and Chair of the Governing Body since 2009. My particular responsibility is for Special Educational Needs.

Judy Sargieson (Community and Vice-Chair)

When I retired from working in education as a teacher and lecturer I decided to maintain my interest in the education of children by volunteering as a school governor. Over the past 20 years I have served as a governor and Chair of Governors on a number of governing bodies. As a Welton resident I was very happy to join the Governing Body when a Community Governor was needed. My special responsibility is for Foundation Stage and Transition.

Elaine Bielby (Community)

I am Vicar of St. Helen's Church, Welton with Melton and a Training Adviser for the Diocese of York. I have been a governor since arriving in Welton in 2001, with special responsibility for Religious Education. I also take assemblies at the school and enjoy welcoming children, staff and families to St. Helen's on special occasions, such as Christmas, and for year group visits.

Rachael Fell (Local Authority)

I am a Senior Lecturer in Education and Learning at Bishop Grosseteste University, Lincoln. I am also a Voluntary director of a local Care Farm. I have been a governor for 3 years and take responsibility for Literacy and Safeguarding.

Paul Deane (Local Authority)

I am a chartered accountant spending over 10 years working with public sector bodies. My main focus however has been education and I have gained significant experience as a manager at a 'Big Four' firm. I am currently re-training as a secondary mathematics teacher. I am the governor responsible for maths.

Diane Wright (Parent)

I have 3 children at the school and have Early Childhood as my specialism. I have been on the Governing body for nearly 3 years. My areas of responsibility are Science and Early Years.

Liz Leake (Parent)

I am an Occupational Health Advisor. Both my daughters attend Welton Primary School. I have been a governor since October 2013. My particular responsibility is for Educational Visits.

Richard Sizer (Parent)

I am the UK Director for a local seafood company. Both my daughters attend Welton Primary School. I have been a governor since October 2013. So far there has been an awful lot to learn but it is very rewarding to be able to work closely with the school. My special responsibility is for Physical Development.

Patrick Douse (Parent)

I am 45, married to Louise and have one child, Isabelle, age 6, who loves going to school. I have my own architectural consultancy. I'm totally new to the school governor position but will do my best to contribute and enjoy the position.

Sarah Millar (Teaching Staff)

I have been a staff governor at Welton Primary School for over 10 years. I have been a teacher for 24 years. My original interest in the role was to find out about the impact of the governors in a school and how a governing body works in tandem with the head teacher. I have remained a governor, as it helps me to understand the decision making process that happens with regards to finance and budgets. I can then help other teaching staff comprehend this too. It is an excellent opportunity to explain to governors the practical impact that decisions made by the school; Local Authority and government actually have in the classroom.

Martin Webster (Non-teaching Staff)

I have been an active committee member of the school PTA (FOWS) since 2001 when my sons attended the school. I became part of the school staff as Caretaker in 2007 and joined the governing body in 2012. I am the Training Link Governor.

The members of the Welton Governing Body have a wide range of experience and expertise which enables them to take a strategic view in assessing the policies, targets and priorities of the school.

MRS MILLAR



Children and staff took part in raising money for the Sport Relief Charity this term. The children tried as many different “boot camp” exercises as possible. They worked really hard and had some fun with children from other classes. The current grand total is a staggering

£1671.14!

Thanks to everyone who has donated, but special mentions should be made to Jack Steel, Sam Bates and Ethan Tasker in Year 6 who took part in a sponsored run and raised a fantastic £155, and Jack Warren, Alex Ingram, Kara Adamson, Betsy Stephenson, Seth Stephenson and Zac Sewell who all raised a substantial amount for the charity.

Sport competitions

Key stage two children have been lucky enough to compete in different sports this term, representing their school. I am so pleased that this year, we have been able to enter two netball teams into the schools league and both teams are performing very well. Some year 6 children took part in a rugby competition at South Hunsley last week. More sporting events will be taking place next term.

Cycling

Many year five pupils have also taken up the offer of gaining their ‘Bikeability’ award. This is a two day, rigorous course which is aimed at keeping every child safe on the bicycles whilst using the road. This programme is offered to children in year five.

Other Sport

Years 5 and 6 have just started seven lessons of cricket with cricket coach Ross Atkinson. This is the “chance to shine” programme which encourages children to improve their team game strategies and individual skills.

Clubs

Mr Rowe has just completed running a football club for children in Year 1 and 2. More sessions will be available in the summer term. The Golf Coach, Oliver Cross, has also started running a “starting golf” club for children from Years 3 - 5. Nineteen children have signed up for this first set of lessons. Oliver will be advertising again for further session which will start in the summer term.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Monday 28 April	Back to School
Tuesday 29 April	Y5 visit to Murton Park
Wednesday 30 April	Y4 Design Workshop pm
Thursday 1 May	Y1 visit to Castle Museum, York
	Y3 visit to Murton Park
Tuesday 6 May	Y2 visit to The Deep
Friday 9 May	Class and Netball Team Photographs
Monday 12 May	SATS week
Monday 19 May	Y6 visit to ‘Making It’
Tuesday 20 May	Y5 Big Sing event at Swanland Primary School
Friday 23 May	Break up for half term

MR WATSON

W.I.L.S. Update

Our Welton Independent Learning Skills (W.I.L.S.) are proving to be a real success with pupils and staff alike. When I'm walking around school and visiting classrooms I am always pleased to see how well the W.I.L.S. are being used and discussed. They are also highly visible on display around corridors and classrooms too.

In Friday's special mentions celebration assembly it is fascinating and highly enjoyable to listen to all the reasons why children deserve their special mentions – usually staff choose one of the W.I.L.S. as part of the explanation of the child's achievement.

Having a shared language and understanding of such important characteristics throughout the school is really important. That is why, each SLT newsletter I will be explaining, in a little more detail, each one of the W.I.L.S., so that you can refer to them at home and have a good understanding of each of these important skills.

The 8 W.I.L.S are: Stickability, Personal Best, Risk It, Organised, Asking Questions, Focus, Collaboration and Reflection.

W.I.L.S. in Focus: Stickability

Stickability is the word we devised to explain what we expect from our learners with regards to resilience and determination. We are keen for children to keep going at something, even though it can get tough or tricky, or sometimes even feel impossible. Even if something seems relatively easy in order to get better we have to stick at it. People say that it takes 10,000 hours to become an expert at something and as we all know most things in life don't come easily and definitely need to be worked at.

We want to help children foster their inbuilt and independent resilience to keep on going. What can this look like?

Simple examples are not giving up reading a tricky word in a book, reading it again, using what we know about its phonics, the context and plausible possibilities. Or, in Maths, not just saying "I don't get it" as soon as you hear or read something that sound complicated, but trying to 'stick' with it to break it down and have a really good try at working it out.

In writing, stickability is vital – the importance of not just accepting your first attempt, looking at it again and trying to make it the best it can be. Re-reading, editing and improving your work is a superb sign of stickability! If sketching something, stickability is also that determination to make it the best it can be, and editing and improving. (Ask the children to tell you about Austin's butterfly!)

Stickability can also be demonstrated with friendship, when it takes patience, consistency and effort to get through ups and downs. A good friend and class mate demonstrates stickability towards others.

Stickability is a great skill to have, to develop and to improve. How good is your stickability? Can you help stickability at home? What will you aim to stick at, even though it is tricky?

MISS KILVINGTON

Parent Workshops

At Welton, we aim to involve parents as much as possible. As part of that, we have some exciting parent workshops planned for the summer term. Detail of times and dates are to follow!

Reading Workshop

Back by popular demand is the Key Stage 2 Reading Workshop. This workshop aims to explain how we assess reading at Welton and provide you with take away pack, full of resources you can use at home to help develop your child's reading. Mrs Millar will then lead a session of Reciprocal Reading, which is a strategy we use help children to slow down with their reading and provides them with the skills to examine text more closely. To enhance the session this time around, we will then give you the opportunity to read with your child at the end of the session and try out some of the resources you have been given.

Punctuation and Grammar

We are working hard to develop the children's ability to understand how to punctuate their sentences and construct them correctly. A big part of this development is providing the children with the understanding of the parts of speech (nouns, verbs etc) so that they may use them correctly. Mr Lomas and I will lead a Parent Workshop which will aim to explain our expectations across Key Stage 1 and 2 and share with you the shared language which we share with the children, so that you can help to develop the quality of your child's written work at home. You will get the opportunity to play some of the games we play with the children and then end the session by completing a sentence level game with your child to see it in action! You will get a goodie bag of game ideas to take away!

Please look out for more details to follow. We have a Numicon workshop and some more SEAL workshops coming soon!

MRS PATRICK

Visitor Management System

Those of you who have been in the reception area recently will have noticed that we have had a new visitor management system installed. This has been installed for a variety of reasons

1. To keep a track of staff on site at all times
2. To provide a sign in system for all visitors to the school
3. To keep a record of children going to appointments during the school day and when they return.

During an emergency evacuation eg fire, a report will print immediately and there will be an up-to-date list for the school to use of staff and visitors and we will be able to see immediately which children have been signed out.

After Easter, we will also be using the system to record children who are late for school. For some time now, the door on the playground has been closed at 8.55am and then children have to come to the main entrance to enter the school. All children coming through the main entrance have been marked as an 'L' which means 'late arrival before the register has closed'. The registers are then closed at 9.15am and any children arriving after this time will be marked as a 'U' which means 'arrival after register has closed'. Parents will be contacted if children are persistently late after 9.15am and this may result in the issuing of a penalty notice.

Being late disrupts the morning routine, when the children are settled in class and starting their work.

If your child arrives by the front entrance due to any lateness, you must accompany them to the door and sign them in via the system. It will ask you to submit your child's name and class, the reason why they are late to school and what they are having for their lunch. **The children will not be able to enter this information themselves, it must be done by an adult.**

Thank you for your co-operation.

Trips and Visits

The trips and visits this last half term are detailed below - the children have thoroughly enjoyed them and the visits have helped enhance their work that they carry out in school.

Foundation spent the day at Canon Hall Farm a couple of weeks ago, looking at all the animals as part of their topic on growth.

Year 1 had a wonderful visit to Magna in early March where they carried out a workshop to see how a rocket moves as part of their science topic.

Year 3 have been studying The Alps this half term and spent the afternoon this week Rock Climbing on the South Hunsley climbing wall

Year 5 took part in a Festival of Sport at South Hunsley at the beginning of the term where they took part in lots of 'inside' sporting activities.

Please note that all trips and visits are planned to enhance the curriculum in the school. All costs are kept to a minimum including, where possible, visitors coming into school to save the cost of buses.