



# SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM NEWSLETTER

## MRS PIDGEON

### SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Nikki Pidgeon  
Head Teacher

Jon Watson  
Deputy Head Teacher

Sarah Millar  
Lead for Behaviour,  
SEAL and PE

Laura Leitch  
Specialist Leader in  
Education, Leading  
Practitioner for Teach-  
ing and Learning

Jo Seddon  
Lead for Maths

Michael Lomas  
Assessment Leader

Jayne Patrick  
School Business  
Manager

Another half term has flown by and when we return it will be time for Bonfire Night and driving to and from work in the dark!

### School Improvement 2014-2015

Although the Local Authority re-categorised the school as *outstanding* last term, we are committed to further improvement to continue to provide your children with the very best learning opportunities and experiences. This year's priority objective is:

**“To create a culture of exceptional expectations resulting in consistently outstanding teaching and learning across the school”**

We have broken our objective into three headings:-

### Teaching and Learning

- Promote and celebrate equality and cultural diversity through the Stephen Lawrence framework
- Consistent implementation of teaching and learning toolkit (including cognitive acceleration) across all subjects
- Agree a framework and approach for independent research skills across the curriculum (IT and WILS)
- Developing and agreeing systems for *assessment without levels*
- Consistent implementation of strategies for target setting, marking and feedback across the curriculum
- Enhanced challenge in the continuous provision EYFS and Year 1

### Leadership

Curriculum:-

- Improve capacity and impact of middle leaders on overall standards of teaching and learning, attainment and progress including curriculum and progression of skills.

Leadership of Behaviour and Attitudes:-

- Consistency of whole school expectations
- Consistent implementation of policy and practice

### Curriculum

Maths:-

- Embedding core skills and implementation of numeracy teaching programmes
- Using and applying across the curriculum
- Pupil ability to think and reason mathematically for themselves
- Implementation of agreed policies for calculations and systems for marking and feedback

Reading:-

- Embed reciprocal reading
- Share best practice across the school
- Review and evaluate quality of teaching and learning in guided reading sessions

### Lottery Grant

Last term the school submitted a bid for an Awards for All grant to create a Sensory Room in the school. We were very excited to find out that we were successful and the room is now almost completed. The room will be used for a number of purposes. It is suitable for children with sensory and communication needs from the school and the community, but is also a great environment for small groups to experience stimuli for writing or engage in a social group. It will also provide a quiet space for children to feel calm and safe if they are experiencing emotional upset for any number of reasons.

### Staffing

We have been busy recruiting additional support staff this term, and I am very pleased with our appointments. We will soon be joined by six experienced Teaching Assistants who will be working across the school in a variety of roles.

Welcome to:-

Mr Hutchinson, Mr O'Rourke, Mrs Wallis, Mrs Watson, Miss Cross and Miss Alexander.

We also welcome Mrs Reuben and Mrs Brown to our lunchtime team.

## OPEN MORNING - WEDNESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 9.30AM - 11AM

### DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WITH A CHILD DUE TO START SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2015?

**WE WILL BE HOLDING AN OPEN MORNING TO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS TO SEE THE SCHOOL IN ACTION. PARENTS AND CHILDREN WILL BE ABLE TO JOIN IN A MORNING OF ACTIVITY BASED AROUND THE THEME OF LIGHT AND DARK AND THE BOOK 'WHATEVER NEXT!':-**

- As the darker nights close in, why not learn how to keep safe when walking to school. Come and role-play on our outdoor bike track with the East Riding Road Safety team.
- Take a seat and roast marshmallows on an open fire pit in our Forest Schools area.
- Rocket to the moon with baby bear, what would you take with you on your picnic?
- Using your torch, come and experience what is lurking in our den making area.
- Why not bake a colourful stained glass window shortbread biscuit.
- Be imaginative and make a junk model rocket of your very own.

## MR WATSON

### A superb day – Welton’s whole school trip to Dalby Forest!

On Monday 29 September 2014 every member of Welton School had an amazing day at Dalby Forest. It was an ambitious plan to take every pupil to the same place at the same time, but one that was very much worth it. Speaking to children, staff and volunteers it was clear to see what a great day everyone had and I am convinced that it will be a memorable day for a long time to come.

An early morning departure saw the seven coaches set off to Dalby Forest for an action packed day. On arrival the children spent the morning session in year groups completing a range of activities from The Gruffalo Trail, stream investigations and habitats work to the fantastic Bridgestones Walk.

We all then got back on the coaches for a short drive to Adderstone for lunch - this is where Mrs Pidgeon, Mrs Patrick and myself had set up for our exciting afternoon activities. After eating our packed lunches we assembled in our mixed year group Creative Contexts groups. Each group then moved around the Enchanted Wood to complete 6 activities: storytelling, blindfold night-line, outdoor creative artwork on the forest floor, mini shelter building, a scavenger hunt and clay art work – making faces on the trees! The atmosphere in the wood was amazing – children of all ages working well together, supporting and encouraging one another and busy enjoying the practical activities.

At the end of the day, before boarding the coaches, we held a whole school assembly and sang some forest related songs to end what was a fantastic day – it was a lovely community feel, everyone having an enjoyable shared experience.

Last year we had a super whole school day at Bridlington and I’m really pleased Dalby Forest was so successful this year. Our thinking hats are already on for next year! We were all so pleased that the weather was good again this year too!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff and the volunteers who helped make the trip possible. I was very proud to be part of the Welton team trip! A staggering 61 adults and 334 children attended the day! THANK YOU EVERYONE!

### WILS Update

Our Welton Independent Learning Skills (WILS) are continuing 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 (our large WILS Wheels) on display around corridors and classrooms too.

Our next stage of development has been to implement WILS based certificates in our Friday ‘Special Mentions’ celebration assembly. We have been using WILS language for these rewards for a long time but we now have brilliant, professionally designed and printed certificates for each skill: Stickability, Personal Best, Risk It, Organised, Asking Questions, Focus, Collaboration & Reflection.

A ‘Special Mention for a Personal Best’ has been given to Mr Dyson for his certificate designs!

The certificates are proving to be very popular with the children and as a school we can also follow trends in which skill is being celebrated the most and which skills we need to work on too!

## MRS MILLAR

### PE

It has been a busy start to the academic year for sports events. Girls from year five and six took part in the inter-school's football tournament at South Hunsley and thoroughly enjoyed the event. There will hopefully be more competitions throughout the year. Last week, we entered a squad from key stage two in the intra-schools cross country competition at South Hunsley. I was so pleased at the efforts they made. Our highest placed pupil was Sophia Wright who came 7th in her girls event.

The next event will be the first Tuesday back where we have a year five and six mixed team entered into the intra schools hockey tournament.

Throughout this past half term, there has been a KS1 and a KS2 football club running before and after school on a Monday. This next half term, we are offering basketball for the clubs. If you have not returned the reply slip and think your child would like to take part, please contact the office as soon as we return to school. Mr Rowe has also continued with his football club for Years 2 and 3.

The school has invested in a Sports Coach every Monday for the academic year, to work with the children and for the Teachers to observe the lessons. This has been funded by the Sports Grant provided by the Government and is aimed at developing Teacher's subject knowledge and delivery of PE lessons. This half term, the children took part in lessons in rugby with the Coach and Teacher, and then the Teacher took a follow-up lesson later in the week. Next half term sees a switch in focus to gymnastics.

## MISS SEDDON

### Robinwood Residential Trip Year 6

Year 6's long awaited and highly anticipated weekend residential to Robinwood activity centre, Dobroyd Castle, Todmorden, finally took place in September. What a wonderful time was enjoyed by all! During the weekend, it was great for the accompanying staff and me to see the children using all of their WILS when successfully completing a range of exhilarating and often nerve racking activities.

When building rafts, the children worked collaboratively, discussing and improving their ideas about how they could make their raft float successfully before taking to the lake to test out their efforts. Wet and wild – yet luckily, the sun was smiling in time for them to take their dare devil dive into the shallows.

The giant swing was a clear favourite. Despite initial fears and concerns, it was fantastic to see the children taking risks as well as the encouraging support on display. The clear glee on their faces as they soared through the air was proof of the unforgettable time had by all. Other activities included, the tremendous trapeze involving a courageous leap of faith; climbing up the towering man made wall; surviving the murky depths of the piranha pool and negotiating small spaces in the crate challenge. All activities involved different skills and techniques yet the children fantastically rose to the different challenges presented to them.

Mr Watson, Mrs Drewery and Miss Grantham accompanied Year 6 and me. I can honestly say that all staff thoroughly enjoyed their time, even completing the dare-devil activities themselves!

On behalf of all staff attending the residential, I would like to congratulate Year 6 on their wonderful efforts and achievement. Our Robinwood instructors, who expertly guided us through our journey, regularly commented on the enthusiasm of the children, their energy, excellent attitudes and support for each other. It was a pleasure to share this weekend with them.

It will be the turn of Year 5 next! We hope to see most of the children attending in what, I'm sure, will be another fantastic trip.

### Horrible Histories (Barmy Britain) Year 5 and 6

On Friday 17 October, Year 5 and 6 travelled to Hull New Theatre to watch 'Barmy Britain' – a wonderful stage show encapsulating 1000 years of our great land. The children were thoroughly entertained as they were taken back in time to experience a range of eras superbly acted out before their eyes from the gruesome realities of the plague to the amazing adventures of the Vikings. With fast musical numbers such as 'Boudicca Rocks' to the unforgettable break-dancing Queen Victoria, it was clear to see the fun and laughter experienced by all, as well as lots of new learning about different periods in History.

Once again, we must congratulate the children on their excellent, enthusiastic and exemplary behaviour.

## MRS LEITCH

### Reading Workshops

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the interest shown in our recent parent reading workshop, focussing on reading development. I was delighted with the incredible uptake and so pleased to be able to share resources and ideas with so many of you. If you were not able to attend but are interested in helping your child to develop in these areas of the curriculum, we will be repeating these workshops in the Spring term.

As a result of the popularity of our recent parent workshops, I am currently planning workshops to support parents with spelling development and handwriting. I am hoping to deliver these next half term.

### WOW Board – Celebrating Outstanding Writing

Congratulations to the children this half term who have had their outstanding writing displayed on our WOW board. I am genuinely so proud of the children throughout school for the effort, determination and focus they are applying in our whole school strive to improve our presentation. I am sure you will agree that the results are already incredible. The sky is the limit!

#### Year 1

Varsha Simha  
Charlotte Sizer  
Vasi Shah  
Vibha Simha  
Jocelyn Francis

#### Year 3

Freyja Leake  
Honey Greenley  
Zac Jones  
Chloe Harrison

#### Year 5

Jay Greenley  
Nina Delvenne

#### Year 2

Gabriella Smith  
Archie Gargon

#### Year 4

Alexis Roberts  
Xanthe Edwards-Lindsay

#### Year 6

Mille Blackhurst  
Emilia Wright

## MR LOMAS

### Handwriting

Over the past year, it has been fantastic to see how hard children at Welton have been working on improving their handwriting and the presentation of their work. As a school, we have really raised the bar during the year - and the children should rightly feel very proud of how stunning their work looks in their books, on 'white gold' presentation sheets, and on the walls and display boards around school.

Taking the next step with our handwriting, children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will now be eligible to earn a highly sought after pen licence. This will be awarded to show that their handwriting has reached a high standard of quality and consistency in all the work they complete. They will then get to use one of our special handwriting pens in their written work. Pupils who earn their pen licence will have their names recorded in our school presentation book, which is where we keep, and proudly display, examples of outstanding written work.

Mrs Leitch and I would like to thank all the parents who came along to our spelling, punctuation and grammar workshop this half term. This is an area we are particularly keen to develop at Welton, and it was nice to meet parents and share lots of practical games and SPAG activities with them. Because of the excellent response to this workshop, we will be following it up later in the year with another session for any parents that weren't able to make it.

## MRS PATRICK

### Swimming

Swimming sessions for identified children in KS2 has now come to an end. Certificates will be given out to the children during the next half term.

### Individual Photographs

The photographs were given out to children last night, and copies were sent to split families. Please return these as soon as possible to ensure that you receive your photographs before Christmas. If you haven't received your child's photograph order form it may still be in their classroom, therefore please ask their Teacher after half term.

### Hull Daily Mail

Foundation children had their photograph taken for the Hull Daily Mail this week, as part of their annual feature of children starting school. I have contacted the paper, and the photograph should be in on TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER, and will be on their website after the publication has come out. You can order photographs direct from the newspaper.

### Robinwood

Miss Seddon hosted a Robinwood meeting last night for Year 5 parents to attend. If you couldn't attend, a pack will be sent out to you after half term and should be returned as soon as possible if you would like your child to attend.

### Parents Evenings

Appointments have been sent out for the Parent Evening meetings. A reminder will be sent out on parentmail on the Monday prior to your meeting. It will not have the time of your meeting on. The Teachers spend a lot of time preparing for these meetings, therefore please make every effort to attend.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 3 November	Back to school
Monday 10 November	Transition event at South Hunsley School for half of Year 6
Friday 14 November	Children in Need
Monday 17 November	Transition event at South Hunsley School for half of Year 6
Monday 8 December	Foundation Christmas Craft Morning (more details to follow)
Monday 15 December	Foundation Nativity Play pm (more details to follow)
Tuesday 16 December	Foundation Nativity Play pm (more details to follow)
Wednesday 17 December	Christmas Dinner
	Crib Service Year 1 and Year 2 - pm (more details to follow)
	KS2 Carol Service in the evening (more details to follow)
Thursday 18 December	Pantomime visit am
	Class Christmas Parties pm
Friday 19 December	Christingle Service for the children
	Break up for Christmas holiday