



# SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM NEWSLETTER

## SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

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Key Stage 1 Leader*

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School Business  
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### Spring 2018

This has been a very short and very challenging half term. The flu epidemic hit Welton School with force and staff and children alike have been affected. Lets hope that some spring sunshine arrives over half term to help everyone return to school completely recovered!

### Willow Planting

Over the half-term we are having a willow area planted to replace the area that was taken out with the extension. We are having exciting combinations of tunnels and caves which will become part of a creative area when they are established.



### Governor Vacancies

The Governing Body are looking for several co-opted Governors to join their enthusiastic and friendly team. The Governors contribute to the work of the school in many different ways and often it is not until they join the Body that they realise how valuable their skills are eg a Governor with a corporate and IT background supported the school meeting and interviewing prospective IT support companies recently, providing extremely valuable advice. Do you have a colleague, friend or relative who might be interested in getting involved? If so, please contact Martin Webster—[martinwebster@live.co.uk](mailto:martinwebster@live.co.uk) or [office@weltonprimaryschool.com](mailto:office@weltonprimaryschool.com).

### Parent Workshops

Our workshops continue to be popular and well received. This term we have held workshops for Year 2 and Year 6 parents to given an overview of the end of key stage assessments and suggest ways in which parents can support their children.

On Wednesday 28 February, Mrs Leighton is leading a workshop on relationships—getting on and falling out. She will share useful ideas to use in the family setting to ensure your child is resilient to normal friendship issues but also how to respond to more complex problems.

On Monday 26 February, Mrs Leitch is leading a workshop on letter formation and handwriting for Foundation and Year 1. As you will be aware, being able to form letters confidently and accurately is the key to unlocking the ability to write and therefore flourish at school. There are many things you can do to support your child. Please watch out for more details via parentmail.

### Mental Health Week

The first Children's Mental Health Week was launched on Monday. The theme is 'Being Ourselves'. Please see a poster to look at with your child attached on the email with this newsletter. Further ideas and information are available at <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>.

### Choir

The school choir goes from strength to strength. They had a fabulous time at Cottingham Music Festival and were very proud to take second place at their first ever competitive event. In the summer term, the choir will be attending the 'Big Sing' at Bridlington Spa where they get to sing alongside other East Riding Schools in a very exciting musical celebration.

Year 1 and 2 children will also be attending the 'Little Sing' at Bridlington Spa - hopefully we will find some budding choir members for when it is their turn!

Thank you to Mrs Richardson and Mrs Rudland for their hard work and time.



We have had some exciting educational school trips already this half term!

Year 1 started 2018 off with a trip to York Castle Museum. They took part in a workshop about toys and how they have changed since the Victorian era. They learnt about the materials that toys are made of and how plastic has made our toys more colourful and shiny today. They also had the opportunity to explore the Museum including the Victorian street, the prison cells and the amazing 'Toy Stories' exhibition where they saw toys from the last 150 years! Luckily none of the children got lost like the toys in the story we are using in our English lessons, 'Lost in the Toy Museum'!



Year 4 had a fabulous (but cold!) trip to the Brigantium Roman fort at the Danelaw Centre for Living History, based at the Yorkshire Museum of Farming, Murton Park. They experienced lots of hands-on activities linked to their Romans topic including a rigorous introduction to life in the Roman army! This included wearing a Roman uniform and helmet and learning fighting techniques. They also took part in guard duty, craft work, parade drill and marching practice under the direction of the Centurion. Let's hope they can use their new skills of discipline and

team-work back in the classroom!

### Transition Events

Year 6 children have thoroughly enjoyed attending South Hunsley School during January to make bread in their DT rooms as part of the transition process to the High School.



### Barratt Homes Competition

We had lots of entries for the Barratt Homes Competition and we had a winner! Well done to Jack Barnacle in Year 1 for the winning entry.



### World Book Day

How imaginative can you be? Can you get creating or make a simple costume to represent a fairy book character?

- Recycle the Halloween witch or wizard outfit
- Free mask templates on the internet
- Make a cardboard crown and wand
- Could a cardboard box become a shield and a sword?
- Can you squeeze into your old princess, fairy or bridesmaid dress?

**BE READY FOR FRIDAY 2 MARCH!**

### Assembly Themes

At Welton School, our daily assemblies are carefully planned and delivered to give key messages to the children, in order to help them make sense of the world around them. Our focus this term links to the school core values of teaching children how to take responsibility for their self and to have respect and tolerance for others. This broad statement covers so much of what a child needs to empower themselves and others when building relationships. Often we describe qualities such as showing fairness, kindness, reliability and respect and our aim is to clearly define, explain and model these qualities - and then challenge our children to recognise these qualities in themselves and others. We use poems, stories, film clips and artefacts in the assemblies to bring these examples to life.

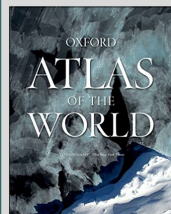
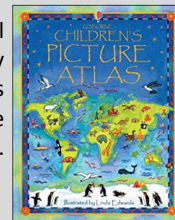
The SEAL spies are now looking for examples of kindness in school and have defined kindness as: giving time and consideration to others, sharing, including and accepting others. We will continue to share with you our focuses, and the simple examples and definitions we use to help children understand more. We are always keen to invite visitors to deliver some of our assemblies, as our key messages are often very powerful when they hear them from our community members.

We have been fortunate to have three very special visitors leading assemblies in recent weeks: Rev Bielby and Mr Holdsworth from St Helen's Church have led assemblies about tolerance and celebrating differences, and the Imam from York has spoken about love, happiness, charity and forgiveness. We were delighted to welcome Welton Green Door as a very attentive audience for our Sign 2 Sing assembly and hope they will visit again soon, and St Anne's are also regular visitors in our Thursday assemblies.

## Reading List

Something we do in Year 5 at the Meet the Teacher evening, before pupils move into their new classes, is give out a reading list, where we recommend some of the books we will be using, and books that might be useful throughout the upcoming year. This practice has been really popular; it has been great to see pupils bringing in their own copies of our class books or study guides and get a bit of a head-start with their learning! We thought this would be a good opportunity to share some general texts that support the curriculum at Welton and we will send a more year group curriculum specific one in the next newsletter.

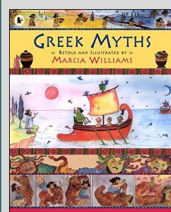
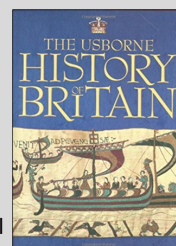
**Geography:** You can't beat a good atlas, especially as location knowledge is such a huge part of the new curriculum in all year groups. Some children love flicking through the pages of a good atlas and poring over maps and find them endlessly fascinating. Use your child's interest in sport to point out the cities in which certain football teams play, and where teams in the World Cup have travelled from. Moreover, tapping into your child's curiosity when they watch programmes like Planet Earth and Blue Planet can be an excellent opportunity to point out where the different animals live in the wild. This is the atlas that is suitable right through KS1.



For older children and adults, the Oxford Atlas of the World is an absolute monster of a publication (with a price tag to match), but it's hard to imagine your child needing anything else throughout their school career – right up to A-Level and beyond. It is updated every year, so older editions are often a bit cheaper.

**History:** The book we would recommend to parents most often is the Usborne History of Britain, either as one massive volume, or a 10 book set.

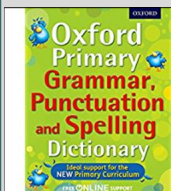
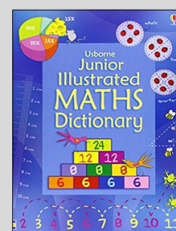
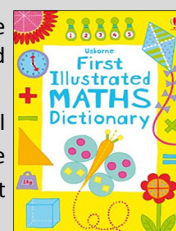
Try the [www.bookpeople.co.uk](http://www.bookpeople.co.uk) where it's usually really cheap. It's very well written, accessible and brilliantly illustrated, and covers all the periods of British history your child will study at Welton. From the Stone Age (Y3), through to Roman Britain and the Civil War (Y4), Anglo Saxons and Victorians (Y5) and the Vikings and Norman Conquest (Y6) – it's all here!



Mr Lomas would say that a good book of Greek myths and legends is essential too! Marcia Williams's comic strip retellings always go down well with Year 5!

**Maths:** This can be a tricky area to negotiate, as most maths books tend to be workbooks or collections of worksheets, which in all honesty are really not worth it. The two we find the most useful are these:

Aimed at KS1 and KS2 respectively, they offer explanations and definitions of all the mathematical concepts your child is likely to encounter at Welton. The illustrations also feature apparatus we use in school, such as Numicon and Base 10. They are a fantastic resource when it comes to helping with homework.



**English:** Firstly, it is worth saying that the new curriculum focuses a lot on spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPAG). A good reference book is vital if you want to help your child out with the difference between a subordinate clause and the subjunctive, which amazingly is something they need to know in Y6! Don't worry if this is a bit daunting; it is for teachers too! This is by far the best guide for primary age pupils we have come across.

In terms of fiction, this could quite easily be an endless list! Ask any parent or teacher about favourite children's books and you would probably end up with something different! There really are so many fantastic books out there. In the next newsletter, we will ask the teachers at Welton for a couple of their personal favourites and find out which books they are planning to read in class next year, so you can get a more comprehensive list. In the meantime, here are a few of Mr Lomas' favourites – all of which he has used in class and have added loads of value to the curriculum; often touching on interesting subjects that otherwise might not ever be approached.

### KS1:

Anything by Oliver Jeffers, but especially: Lost and Found; Up and Down; The Heart and the Bottle and How to Catch a Star. Cash in on the popularity of the films, by rediscovering the Paddington Bear books, which remain beautifully written – especially for more confident readers in KS1. A good collection of fairy tales and traditional stories is a really important resource to dip into if your child is in KS1. They especially help with writing in years 1 and 2.

### KS2:

The Mr Gum series by Andy Stanton is funny, disgusting and very silly. Children seem to love poetry at all ages, so I would recommend finding a really good collection of poems.

SEE THE NEXT NEWSLETTER FOR MORE IDEAS!



### BAE Systems Education Programme

Years 5 and 6 had an exciting afternoon last week when the BAE Roadshow Team visited the school to give a presentation which gave them an insight into the world of science, technology and engineering, with a particular focus on Maths and Physics.

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 Roadshow was entitled "It's a Numbers Game." Throughout the show students were introduced to a series of fun and fascinating ways in which Maths is used in everyday life, including examples of the practical application of mathematical techniques within BAE Systems, the RAF and the Royal Navy. The presentation included the most up to date technologies to demonstrate the importance of Maths in the future of Engineering – an amazing robot MIA showed off her mathematical genius and they explored the developments in facial recognition technology. Students were invited to participate in some of the demonstrations and problem-solving games as the performers aimed to demystify the subject and help embed learning that the children would encounter in school.

### Reciprocal Reading scheme

Some of our Welton children are taking part in a reading scheme called reciprocal reading, led by the Fischer Family Trust. The scheme involves reading a very small section of text in a lot of detail. This is achieved by children going through the process of:

- Reading a line or the title and **predicting** what will happen in the next few lines
- **Reading** in their heads
- **Clarifying** any words or phrases not understood
- the teacher asking comprehension **questions**
- **Summarising** the main points
- then back to **predicting** before reading the next few lines.

The process is designed to improve understanding of the text at a deeper level other than just being able to read fluently the words on the page. All of Year 4 are having their guided reading delivered in this way. There are a number of children in Years 5 and 6 that have been put into reciprocal reading groups to encourage this development of comprehension. The Fischer Family Trust have provided specialised training for the teachers and teaching assistants involved in the scheme and their trainers come into school to provide advice and support. We look forward to seeing the improvement in the children's reading skills at the end of the scheme in July.

### CLUBS

We have had a full half term with clubs which we hope the children have thoroughly enjoyed!

Mondays and Thursdays have seen Mrs Watson's cookery club making delicious savoury and sweet dishes - new sessions will be starting after half term.



Tuesdays and Thursdays have been the First Step Sports Clubs - footgolf and Outdoor Activities. Next half term we are going back to the clubs being on a Thursday and the children will be taking part in Parachute Games (KS1) and Cricket (KS2).

Wednesdays and Thursdays have had STEM clubs for KS1 and KS2 children which have been full. More of these clubs will hopefully run in the summer term.

Choir continues on a Tuesday for children from Years 3 - 6. There will not be a choir on Tuesday 20 February, however if your child would like to join please email [office@weltonprimaryschool.com](mailto:office@weltonprimaryschool.com).

The Rock Challenge is coming along nicely and the children are working really hard on a Thursday after school. We are looking forward to the event on Tuesday 6 March at Bridlington Spa!

Mr Quinnell also ran a Maths club during January and Netball club has started on a Wednesday morning.

**SATs**

Thank you to those of you who attended the recent meetings regarding the Year 2 and Year 6 SATs. Please find below a summary of the key information:

**Year 2** children will sit their tests in May. Your child's teacher will use what they have seen in the classroom, as well as the results of these tests, to help judge how well your child is progressing overall in maths, reading, and writing. The combined results will also help teachers identify if your child needs further support, and to put this in place as early as possible. Your child's teacher will also consider the work your child has completed during Years 1 and 2, as well as their performance in the key stage 1 tests. They will then make their own judgement about how your child is progressing.

***School will report them using a scaled score:***

- A scaled score of 100 means a child is working at the expected standard for the end of the key stage.
- A scaled score below 100 indicates that a child may need more support to work at the expected standard.
- A scaled score above 100 suggests a child is working above the expected standard for the key stage.

Teachers use the test results as one piece of evidence to help them arrive at their overall teacher assessment judgements and help them identify what additional support your child may need.

**Year 6** children will also sit their tests in May. The timetable is below:

*Monday 14th May 2018 English- Grammar and Punctuation 60 minutes*

*Tuesday 15th May 2018 English- Reading Test 45 minutes*

*Tuesday 15th May 2018 English- Spelling Test 20 minutes*

*Wednesday 16th May 2018 Maths Paper 1- Arithmetic 30 minutes*

*Wednesday 16th May 2018 Maths Paper 2- Reasoning 40 minutes*

*Thursday 17th May 2018 Maths Paper 3- Reasoning 40 minutes*

Your child's results in each test will also be reported using a scaled score. These results, along with teacher assessment results will be sent to your child's high school and will be used to provide further support where needed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask your child's teacher. It is worth noting that these tests are just one aspect of your child's progress in school and we simply encourage them to try their best.

**Diary Dates**

Monday 19 February	Back to School
Friday 23 February	FOWS quiz night
Monday 26 February	Handwriting and Letter Formation Workshop for Foundation and Year 1
Tuesday 27 February	Year 4 Educational Visit to Drax
Wednesday 28 February	Family Seal Workshop
Thursday 1 March	Year 2 Educational Visit to the National Coalmining Museum Year 3 Educational Visit to Grimsby Fishing Heritage Centre
Friday 2 March	World Book Day - dressing up
Tuesday 6 March	Rock Challenge at Bridlington Spa
Thursday 8 March	Mothers Day Assembly - Foundation
Wednesday 14 March	REaction - Year 5
Friday 16 March	Year 6 Educational Visit to Magna
Thursday 22 March	Break up for Easter