



Walsden St Peter's Newsletter 2nd February 2024

Class news

Y1 proudly showed their marvellous hats to their parents and grandparents this week. The children loved reading the descriptions of their hats and entertaining everyone with their catwalk moves!

Thank you to the huge turn out and support; it really was a special occasion.



This half term, Y2 were given a 'World Habitat Challenge' to complete as part of their science homework. This week they enjoyed showing their creations to Reception who were able to learn all about plants and animals found within each habitat. Both Reception and Mrs McNulty were so impressed with all of their creations! *'Everyone put in lots of time, effort and care to create wonderful habitat projects. Well done Y2, I am so proud!'*



Y3 have been designing and evaluating a healthy sandwich and they loved making their own sandwiches this week. Some of them were very brave by trying out ingredients they had never had before. Well done Y3.



ADVANCE NOTICE: Walsden Book Week - 26th February to 1st March

Walsden Book Week is the week beginning 26th February with a **dress up day on Friday 1st March**. This is a week earlier than the official one so that Year 6 can join in. They're at Robinwood the week after. There will be prizes to win and lots of nice activities during the week. See **attached** flyer for more information.



Staff news

We just wanted to let you all know that after 17 years at Walsden St Peter's, Y1 teacher, Mrs Williams, will be leaving teaching in July. We will be very sad to see her go, as will the children. She has been an instrumental part of the school for many years but we wish her all the very best for her new adventures! Rest assured she will be teaching Y1 until the end of the school year and we will update parents on new staffing arrangements for next year once recruitment for a replacement is completed.

Measles – information from Public Health Calderdale

Once again we have been asked by Public Health Calderdale to pass on some important information to parents. Please read.

*There has been a large increase in the number of people confirmed as having measles nationally in the last few months and **there has been an increase in measles cases in West Yorkshire in the last few weeks**. Measles is the most contagious of all of the diseases that are transmitted by coughing and sneezing or breathing air with infected particles.*

Many of us don't think about measles and don't know anyone who's had it. We are working with partners including health services, nurseries, schools and colleges, to be ready to prevent measles spreading further when we have cases. Writing to you now is part of these preparations.

Two doses of the MMR vaccine gives life time protection against getting measles and passing it on. The good news is that uptake of the vaccine is high in Calderdale with over 80% of children having had 2 doses. However, when uptake is lower than 95% there is a risk that measles will spread. We've seen this happening in other areas of the county at the end of last year. Now we are seeing it spreading in West Yorkshire.

It's never too late to get the MMR vaccine. We are encouraging parents/carers to check that their child has had 2 doses, and if they haven't, to contact their GP practice to make an appointment for the jab. If you are unsure whether your child has had 2 doses, you can contact your GP to check. The symptoms of measles start with a high temperature, a runny or blocked nose, sneezing, a cough, and red sore watery eyes. You may notice white spots in the child's mouth. A few days after the cold-like symptoms, a rash appears. It usually starts on the face and behind the ears before spreading to the rest of the body. Measles can be nasty and rarely it can lead to more serious complications. If measles is suspected, we advise that parents/carers contact their GP by telephone and ask for an urgent appointment, explaining that it might be measles. This is so they can arrange for you to visit the practice in a way that reduces the risk of passing measles to others. It's very unlikely to be measles if your child has had 2 doses of the MMR vaccine.

Find out more about measles here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/>

Find out more about measles vaccination here: [MMR Vaccination](#)

Pupil shout out!

A big thank you to Y5 school councillor Annabelle for her fundraising efforts at Robinwood. She held a home baking stall and raised an amazing £55 for the school council's chosen charities. Well done Annabelle!



Online safety alert

We have been asked by Calderdale's safeguarding officer to alert parents and carers to the following WhatsApp safeguarding concern :

A What's APP group called 'All year 7's around the world' is in circulation amongst young people in the borough . Once opened it is reported to contain inappropriate adult content. The source of this circulation is not known, and safeguarding leads have contacted WhatsApp with a view to have it taken down as soon as possible. The police in Calderdale have also been informed

Whilst the invite is to all year 7's, it seems very possible that any child with suitable curiosity and access to WhatsApp would likely go looking. Despite the recommended age of 13 years to hold an account, we are aware that children in our school do have access to WhatsApp. Please do check your child's phone.

Art Club

Some of our Y1 and Y2 children have been enjoying art club on Friday mornings. They have worked really hard making their artwork using a variety of materials and techniques.



Stars of the week

This week's stars are: Alba Shepherd, Laura Allely, Ralph Goldsmith, Naomi Holt, Chloe Ross, Lila Hartley and Brooke Fielden. Well done to them all.



Lunchtime awards

Our midday staff have chosen: Evelyn Wright, Sophie Allely, James Colclough, Emma Madden, Eric Crabtree, Harry Sutcliffe and Connie Mooney for their excellent behaviour at lunchtime.

Esther Logue & Emma Crowther, Headteachers