



Newsletter

SPRING 2017 – NUMBER 6 – FRIDAY 17TH MARCH 2017

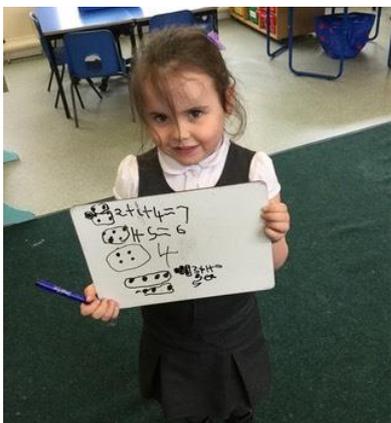
Dear Parents and Carers

World Book Day

My Newsletter last week was written to a bit of a tight deadline, so I didn't manage to get any pictures from World Book Day into it. I've included some on the reverse of this newsletter and will try to get some up on our Facebook page by the end of the day. Many thanks for the effort you and the children went to.

Number Talks

As part of our efforts to raise standards in mathematics, Miss Hardinge has introduced daily Number Talks activities across the federation. They are designed to help children think about numbers and calculation to improve what we call "mathematical reasoning". It is going well and I thought you might like to see some in action.



Mobiles in school

This is a reminder that no mobile phones should be used or out of bags inside the school building at any time. For a while, this was going well, but it has slipped a little. I get a sense that some of you will think I'm making a fuss about nothing, but there are potentially serious safeguarding reasons why I have made this decision. Please respect this and keep your phones in your bags or pockets when in the school building.

Accelerated Reader – KS2

We will shortly be introducing a new way for children to select their reading books in the Juniors. The system is called Accelerated Reader and it is a proven approach to raising standards in reading by ensuring that all children are selecting books that not only interest them, but that match their reading level. This means that our current Book Tracker will come to an end at the end of this term. Don't worry, it will be replaced by other ways of recognising children's reading achievements. More news to follow.

A sad goodbye ...

We will be saying goodbye to Miss Laker at the end of this term. She has been a teacher at Whipton since September 2014, teaching for two years in year five and this year with her year four class. As well as her commitment as a class teacher, Miss Laker has taken the lead on Art across the federation, ensuring that her teaching colleagues have the knowledge, skills and resources to teach great art. Miss Laker has decided on a slight change of direction and while her love of teaching remains, she is going to pursue teaching in the outdoors through Forest School. Although she is excited at the prospect, I know that Miss Laker will miss everyone at Whipton which has been a big part of her life for the past two and a half years. I know too, that she will be missed by pupils, parents and colleagues alike and we all wish her well in her new ventures.

CAP UK

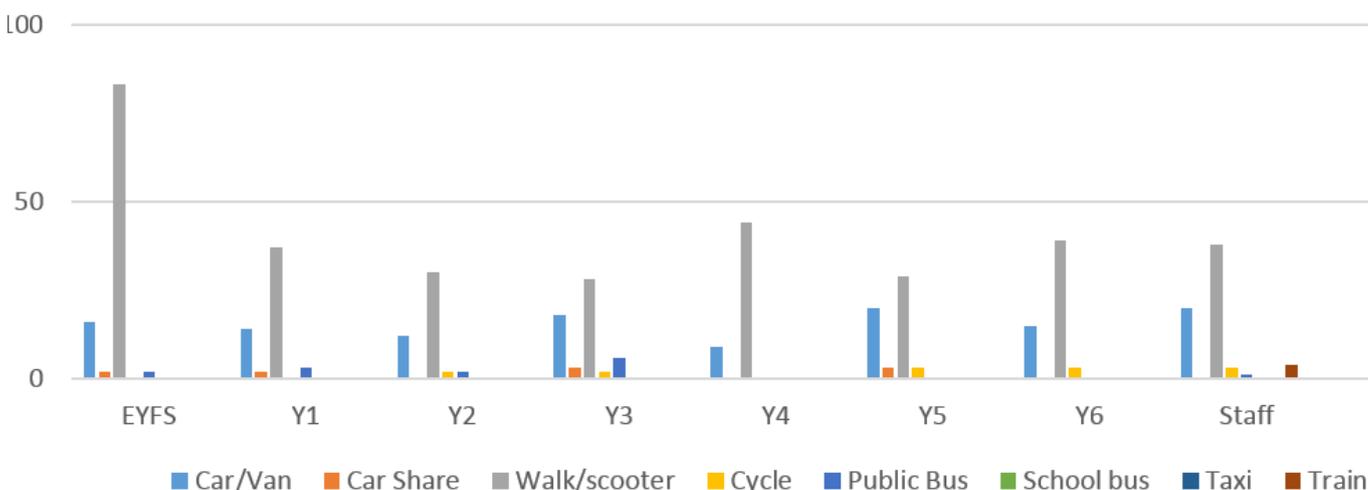
We have had NSPCC in this week to talk to all children about keeping themselves safe. We will be following this up after Easter with workshops for children, teachers and parents across the federation from an organisation called CAP UK – Child Assault Prevention. You will get more information soon, but in the meantime, here is the parent section of the organisation's website: <http://safestrongfree.org.uk/parents.html>

No footballs before school

Just a reminder that children shouldn't be bringing footballs into school to play in the mornings. We had an injury this week with a child getting hit in the face with a hard ball. Many thanks.

Travel Survey

I thought you might be interested to see how you all get to school. I have recently conducted a survey as part of the travel plan I have to complete as a planning requirement for the new nursery building. Clearly most people walk, which is great, but we do have quite a bit of car use and as we know, that can be problematic.



Whipton Barton PSA News

**Whipton Barton Federation
Junior School Playground
Saturday 20th May**

**Car
Boot
Sale**

£10 a pitch

**Gates open at 11am for traders,
12pm for buyers.
Event ends at 3pm.**

Thursday 23rd March

Family Movie Night for both schools in the Junior School hall. Doors open at 4.30pm, film starts at 5.30pm. £1 per person.

Friday 24th March

Please can all questionnaires be handed in by today so that we can call the lucky winning number? The winner will receive an Easter hamper presented in celebration assembly the following week. Good luck!

Thursday 30th March

Infant Decorate a Bonnet competition entries due in by today. Junior egg characters need to be handed in by today.

Friday 31st March

Spring colours non-uniform day. For just £1 children can wear what they like to reflect the bright spring colours around. This cost will also cover entry to the egg and bonnet competition.

