



Whipton Barton Federation

Newsletter

Autumn Term | Issue 2 | October 2nd 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

More welcomes

In my last newsletter I omitted to welcome Mrs Walker who is teaching for a day a week in the junior school. She is releasing Mr Kenchington and Miss Pringle so they can have their dedicated new teacher time. We also welcome Mrs Chadwick as our new teaching assistant in year four. Mrs Chadwick has a wealth of experience supporting children and has settled in very well already.

Vacancies

We are seeking to appoint two Mealtime Assistants to join our team here at Whipton Barton Federation. These are permanent positions. One is working 5.83 hours a week (1 hour and 10 minutes a day) for 38 weeks of the year (term time) with a salary of £9 per hour. The second is 7.5 hours a week (1.5 hours a day) for 38 weeks of the year (term time only) with a salary of £9 per hour

If you are interested, please email Andrea Gambie on recruitment@whiptonbarton.org and state that you are interested in either position along with a contact telephone number. You will need to be available for interview on 10th October. You will not need to complete a written application; all information required will be taken at interview.

Nut allergies

We have a child in each of our schools with very severe nut allergies so have taken the decision to become nut-free schools. I am sure you will understand and make sure that

you do not send your child to school with nuts or nut products such as peanut butter or chocolate spread with nuts. Thank you.

Waterproofs and wellies

I had a good response from my Facebook reminder about coats; thank you. As the rains continue, there will come a time when the field is only accessible to children with wellies. Please take a bit of time to make sure your child has a named pair in school. In the Infants they can be stored on the racks in the playground and in the Juniors, in a plastic bag in your child's locker.

Attendance Update

Federation attendance target: 96% Current attendance: 95.5%

Every minute counts...

Did you know that arriving five minutes late every day adds up to over three days lost each year? Children should be in the classroom ready for registration by 8.50am in the Junior School and 9.00am in the Infant School. After these times children are considered late and this is recorded in the register. If you are in time for a bagel, you are in time for school!

Well done to the following classes who are topping the attendance charts in each school:

- In the Juniors, Mr Graham's class are ahead with overall attendance of 99.5%.
- In the Infants the honours go to Miss Guppy's Class with 99.8%

Parents' Evenings

Our parents' evenings are your first chance to formally meet your child's teacher to discuss how they have been doing since the beginning of the school year and what we can do together to ensure they make good progress from this point on. Here is a reminder that the meetings are after school and will be held on the following dates:

- Tuesday 15th October: Infant School
- Wednesday 16th October: both schools
- Thursday 17th October: Junior School

Please make sure you have signed up and returned your slip. Parents' evenings are for parents of all our children from Nursery to Year 6.

Hate Crime Awareness Week

In the week of our parents' evenings it is also National Hate Crime Awareness Week. I will be discussing this with the children and launching a poetry and poster competition to help us think about how minority groups are often persecuted because of perceived "difference". I hope you can support your children with this if they wish to enter.

Parking Update

Thank you for the many posts in support of more considerate parking in Hill Lane and Vaughan Road. I have contacted our City Councillors and the police and invited them to visit after school soon from 3.00pm to see for themselves what it is like for your children. I will also be asking the children this week if they would like to "patrol" the pavements before and after school to remind parents that thoughtless parking affects them more than it does the adults. If you do drive to school and park on the pavement or double yellow lines, the law is clear: unless you hold a disabled parking permit it is illegal to park on double yellow lines. Please have a think about the alternatives you have, such as walking and cycling if you are close to school or parking away from the school and walking the remaining distance.



Harvest Celebration

This year we will be supporting the charity Child.org. This organisation does fantastic work with the world's poorest children, with one aim: to improve their lives for ever. I will be launching our fundraising campaign on Tuesday next week and your child will come home with a small tube. I would like them to "be helpful" to you and your wider family and friends in exchange for coin donations for the tube. We will then collect the tubes in to see how much we have raised for this very worthwhile cause.

Marvellous Me is now up and running from Y2 to Y6. Hopefully you will begin to receive notifications from your child's teacher about the great things they've been doing in school. From Nursery to Y1 we are now using Tapestry and I know parents and teachers are sharing the children's successes and achievements with each other. We will make sure that login details are available for you at parents' evenings for both of these and other online platforms that we use.



Our bagel-bars are still running successfully and continue to have a positive impact on punctuality. If you can get to school by 8.45am, claim your lovely free bagel.



I have been really pleased with the fact that children are coming to school in the right uniform. Almost all the children look smart almost all of the time! However, when a bit of uniform goes missing, it is hard to reunite it with its owner if it is unnamed. Please try and make sure that all uniform and PE kit is marked clearly with your child's name. Thank you.

And finally ...

I thought you might like to see how creative the children continue to be, both at home and school. I did an assembly this week about being creative and Harry said to me "Well that was a waste of time for me because I've already made a train out of what was in my mum's bin!" Jack, Pijus and Charlie put their skills to car design.

