



September Newsletter

Friday 19/9/2024

What a busy few weeks we have had in school. It has been wonderful welcoming everyone back after the summer and watching our new starters settling into their new class and routines. The Goole Times will be coming into school to photograph our new starters on 26/9/2024. Watch out for it in the paper the week after!

I have enjoyed getting around all of the classes, and it is great to see how everyone has been on task and ready to learn. The children look smart in their school uniforms. Please can we remind parents and carers to make sure that all uniform is labelled with children's names. We already have a huge sack full of unclaimed lost property! If your child is missing an item of clothing, please direct them to the office.

We kicked off the term across the Federation with an authors theme. Through this, the different classes have taken part in learning about authors such as J K Rowling in Birch Class (Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone); L. Frank Baum in Willow Class (The Wonderful Wizard of Oz), Cressida Cowell in Maple Class (How to Train your Dragon) Julia Donaldson in Ash Class (Room on a Broom; Zog) and Helen Nicoll and Jan Penowski in Oak Class (Meg and Mog).

The children have enjoyed learning to play Quidditch this week, completed Fairtrade Activities and also had a theatre visit! What a fab start to the year!

Attendance

Our Attendance to date is: 96.21%

Authorised Absence: 1.54%

Unauthorised Absence: 2.11%



Quidditch

The fabulous Cerys and Ben from Enrich came into both Cowick and Pollington-Balne to teach our children (and staff!!) how to play Quidditch.

Cerys and Ben gave awards for different roles within the games. The winners are:

Best Beater: Joseph W

Best Chaser: Reeve

Best Keeper: Harrison

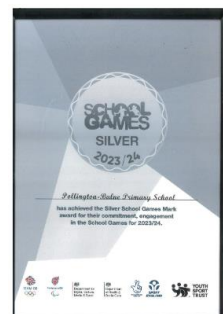
Best Snitch: Miss Burton

This has been really well received by all and we now have our very own Quidditch equipment which we will use throughout the year. We even hope to run an inter school Quidditch match. Watch this space.



Wizard of Oz

M&M Productions paid the Federation a visit last week. What an amazing production. The children were enthralled by their live version of the Wizard of Oz. Afterwards, Birch Class received a master class in Stage Production and even got to act out some of the show. I think we have some budding young actors, stage hands and sound technicians among our children!



Silver Award

I am delighted to inform you that at the end of July, we were awarded with the SILVER School Games Mark. This is a fantastic achievement - building on from last year's BRONZE award and one which all staff and children should feel rightly proud. My special thanks go to Mrs deBethel and Miss Abbott who led on this and coordinated all our sports fixtures and practices.

It has been fantastic welcoming Wakefield Trinity back into school. The children in KS2 have enjoyed learning rugby skills. We are delighted that our Forest School club is full to capacity. There are five spaces in Jak's Friday sports club. If your child would like to take part, please contact Ms. Bainbridge in the office.



Fairtrade Fortnight

This year as part of Fairtrade Fortnight, children have learned about what is fair and unfair as well as learning about specific Fairtrade ingredients in Oak Class. Ash Class have learned about the story of the banana. Maple Class have been looking at Fairtrade chocolate. Willow Class have considered what is involved in ensuring products are Fairtrade and Birch Class have been practicing a Fairtrade worship which they will present to the whole school next week.



Playtimes

We respectfully ask that children do not bring in their own play equipment, including footballs, tennis balls, rounders and cricket balls. This is in order to prevent injury, particularly to our younger children. We have plenty of balls and play equipment that the children can use and these are all at appropriate pressure and hardness for our busy playground. Any play equipment that is inadvertently brought in will be kept safely in the office and returned at the end of the school day. We thank you for your co-operation.

Play Leaders

We have Play Leaders in Upper Key Stage Two who sort the play equipment for the different classes and help their peers learn new playground games. They were trained last summer by Claire from The Snaith School and they take their role very seriously. They are brilliant role models for the rest of the school.

Harvest

We are looking forward to welcoming families to church for our Harvest Celebration on Wednesday 25th September at 2:30pm. The children will be taking part; reading prayers, poems and singing songs. Reverend Eleanor has requested monetary donations only this year please, to go to our joint chosen charity Christian Aid. Thank you for your support.



Mini Police

PCSO Chandler and PC Beth came into our schools to work with our Year 5 and 6 children. They talked to them about the Mini Police Scheme including their responsibility, wearing uniform to be identifiable and the privilege of supporting their local community.

The children have been invited to apply to join the Mini Police. Applications are due in on Monday and these will be shared with PCSOs who will shortlist the applicants. They will then appoint six children from Cowick and six from Pollington-Balne to take part in seven lessons. These will be a joint Federation project and the children will take it in turns to work across each school.

Communication with school and staff

We continue to use Class Dojo as our main means of communication with you to share exciting news and updates. Please note for all urgent messages for staff, the first point of contact is the school office. You can reach Ms Bainbridge or Miss Warren on 01405 861916 or email on office@pollington-balne.eriding.net.

Calling all parents!

Our wonderful PTA would love to welcome volunteers to their team. The PTA is instrumental in fundraising for enrichment experiences for our children. They have raised funds for theatre visits, enrichment days, books, selection boxes and Easter gifts and much more! Their work is vital to help us provide all those little extras that allow our children to have enriching experiences. Even if you are unable to commit to regular support, any help would be much appreciated.

Help in Class

Have you time to spare to help out in our classes? We are looking for volunteers to help with hearing readers in each class and to help out with Forest School. If you are interested, please contact the office.



Asda Cashpot - Raise money for your school while you shop!

Our schools are now connected to the ASDA rewards App. If you download the app and choose to support Pollington-Balne Primary School, the school will receive £1 and 0.5% of what you spend every time you shop. (Please share this info with your relatives too!). Follow the link below for instructions:

<https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools>