



Faith, Love, Courage, Patience

Wareside C of E School Newsletter

WOW! What's on, Wareside?

2nd October 2020

WE'RE BACK AND WE'RE LOVING IT

I did think about removing the heading, but then I thought, we're still back and we're still loving it – so the heading stands!

The forthcoming school trip to Colchester Castle has been announced and we hope the children are looking forward to it. This links to the topics that both classes are focusing on during the Autumn Term.

The school would like to thank the Wareside Friends for their contributions already made this term, towards reading books and the cost of the coach for the Colchester school trip.

I am also looking forward to seeing the children in their 'bee-friendly' outfits on Monday 12th October – this is a child-initiated idea from Oak House to link with our Harvest Appeal this year. Your support for this super idea will be much appreciated. A letter from the Oak House children explains all.

Our Harvest celebrations will actually begin on the previous Wednesday (7th) when Reverend Mark is in school to facilitate the Diocese Virtual Harvest service. We are very much keeping our fingers crossed that the technology does not let us down. The following week (14th October), we are holding our own school-based Harvest Festival service led by the children. This will follow our usual format of each class contributing with their own presentations. Following this, the collection of non-perishable food items brought into school by the children will then be taken to the local food bank.

During our whole school get togethers in Collective Worship we discuss many different topics of interest. These have included the upcoming Harvest Appeal, focusing on why this has been chosen and where Nepal is in the world.

We have also discussed the music of Beethoven as this is our focus composer this half-term, and a little about his life. During these conversations,

one of the children asked whether a picture of him I was showing was a photograph or a painting – they decided that it was in fact a painting. However, this led on to another question regarding when photography was first used. I confessed that I was not entirely sure – research by myself was required so that I was able to relay the answer the following week. Interestingly, a collection of some of the first photographs ever taken was in the news during that very week – these were taken in the 1840s. It is strange how learning links together and it reminded me that we are always learning and it is so heart-warming that the children are so inquisitive.

This week we discussed the fact that London, Glasgow, Cardiff and Belfast each have a postbox that has been painted black to honour black Britons, namely Yinka Shonibare (London), Mary Seacole (Cardiff), Walter Tull (Glasgow) and Lenny Henry (Belfast). This conversation served as an introduction to Black History Month.

On a housekeeping note, due to the soft-start of the Breakfast Club where a number of children arrive from 8 a.m., it is felt that the prescribed staggered entry is no longer necessary and that children can arrive from 8.45 a.m. until 8.55 a.m. when the registers will be taken, irrespective of which class they are in. Registers will close at 9 a.m.

THEREFORE, FROM MONDAY 12TH OCTOBER, THE NEW START TIME FOR ALL THOSE WHO DO NOT ATTEND BREAKFAST CLUB WILL BE BETWEEN 8.45 AND 8.55 A.M.

Finally, I will be contacting you shortly regarding our arrangements to replace the Autumn Term parent/carer meetings normally held at school. This will give you an opportunity to ask any questions you may have about how your child/children are getting on at school.

Thank you for your support and should you need our help, please contact us in the normal way.

Mrs Gaze



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YEAR 6 PARENTS – SECONDARY SCHOOL

Reminder the online application system for secondary school places closes on Saturday 31st October but it is recommended that you complete the application by Friday 23rd October in case of any unforeseen problems.

Resources can be found here... <https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/walk-to-school/primary-schools>

Sarah Elliott
Road Safety Officer
Active and Safer Travel |Highways |Environment and Infrastructure
Hertfordshire County Council

UNIVERSAL FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Reminder – Children in years Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are eligible for Universal Free School Meals. Please contact the School Office if you would like to change your child's lunch choice.

THE DIOCESE OF ST ALBANS

Charity GroceryAid has launched a School Essentials Grant scheme to help reduce the financial impact on parents. Parents can apply for a grant of £150 per school-aged child (up to a maximum of three children per family) to go towards school essentials, subject to meeting the GroceryAid eligibility criteria. Many low-income families are forced to cut back on food and other essential items when buying new uniform for children, so the hope is that this will help them in what is an even more pressured time than normal. Find out more about GroceryAid and the grants by copying and pasting this link.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If your circumstance have changed due to COVID or for any other reason your child/ren may be entitled to Free School Meals. To find out if you are eligible please go to:-

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

and for information please go to:-

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

https://www.groceryaid.org.uk/get-help/school-essentials-grant/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=email-organic&utm_campaign=school-essentials&utm_content=GA-hyperlink

LIVING STREETS

Living Streets, the charity for everyday walking, have produced some resources to encourage primary aged children to walk more. By encouraging families to walk, scoot or cycle to school you can help reduce congestion and parking issues outside school. Walking is also important for health and wellbeing. You may wish to promote Living Streets' on-line resources to your pupils/paparents/carers to encourage them to walk to school in September.



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REMINDERS AND DATES

Wednesday 21st October – School trip to Colchester Castle

Friday 23rd October – Occasional Day, school closed

Monday 26th – Friday 30th October - Autumn Half Term holiday

Monday 3rd November – Children return to school

Saturday 31st October – Online application system for secondary school places closes.