



Whickham Parochial Church of England Primary School

Nurturing minds and hearts through God's love

Newsletter 13/1/23

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! I'm sure you'll be pleased to hear we have had an excellent start to the term; your children have settled back in beautifully. I just wanted to get in touch to let you know about some initiatives and events we are going to be running this year.

School Council ideas

Our school council are very keen to take part in fundraising events for charities close to their hearts. In the autumn they worked with their classes and decided on two events: Parochial Animal Charity Day and Wild Hair Day.



Wild Hair Day will take place on Friday 24th March. The idea is that, in return for a suggested donation of £1, pupils are permitted to come into school with 'Mad' hair. We thought carefully about this and created some guidelines:

- Gels, hairspray and accessories can be freely used
- Temporary hair dyes, (not semi-permanent) that can be washed out can be used
- Wigs, that will not stop pupils being able to see, can be worn.
- Permanent and semi-permanent colour is not to be used and children are not to shave or cut their hair.

Pupils suggested several very worthy charities, but narrowed it down to MacMillan and Cancer Research UK, so the proceeds will be split between these two charities.

Parochial Animal Charity Day will take place on Friday 30th June, though it may be that classes spend time during the week creating projects about animals. The councillors suggested that pupils come to school dressed as – or in a mask of – their favourite animal. They will bring in a suggested donation of £1 and pupils are hoping that they can use this money to sponsor an animal per class. We have decided that each class teacher will make a judgement as to whether their class had collected enough to sponsor an animal of their choice, and if not, the money will go to the World Wildlife fund.

These dates have been added to your E-Schools calendar and to the website calendar.



F.A.C.T. (Fighting All Cancers Together)

You may know that our school has had a long association with the charity FACT, as the founder Joanne Smith had her children at Parochial during her own cancer journey, that led her to set up the charity.

FACT celebrates its 15th birthday in 2023 and, as part of this celebration, they are encouraging fund raisers to get sponsored to walk 15 miles. We thought we could break this up into more manageable portions and get our children involved. Very soon you will receive information to explain that each class (with the exception of Reception) will be walking a mile each week for twelve weeks, beginning Monday 6th February. They will complete their twelfth mile on the week beginning Monday 15th May, and on the Friday of that week (19th), we will do a three mile Wig Walk, possibly attended by FACT's mascot Wiggy – completing our 15 miles. Details of sponsorship will be coming to you soon.

Thank you in advance, I know that pupils are very excited to take ownership of our events and will very much appreciate your support.

Best wishes

R Walton

Mrs Walton

Don't forget, you can find lots of school information on our [website](#) – our letters are saved on there, you can find out about our curriculum, and we have our calendar and term dates too. If you are ever in need of information, it's a good place to start!