

# Newsletter

## *Geography News*

Pupils in Year 8 have received their first letter from their American pen-pals. Last term all Year 7 pupils received their FREE Ordnance Survey maps. Ask your child to look at it with you and discover somewhere new in your local area!



## *Host UK*

Would your family enjoy introducing someone from another country to your way of life?

There are international students from all over the world at universities in the UK: they speak English and most are in their 20's. They would love to spend a weekend sharing your family life in order to understand more about the UK. You could have fun introducing them to British food, customs, your local community and area and you could learn about their country and culture. This is an opportunity to make friends across international boundaries. Geography comes alive and afterwards any news bulletin about your guest's country will have much more meaning.

HOST is a national charity backed by the Foreign Office which has been linking students with volunteer hosts for many years. See [www.hostuk.org](http://www.hostuk.org) or call **Ruth Pelly** the voluntary organiser in Staffordshire on **01335 330555**.

*We're on the Web !!!*

<http://www.waltonpriorymiddleschool.co.uk>

# Salter's Festival of Chemistry

On Friday 23rd April four children from Walton Priory spent the day at Keele University working in their chemistry laboratories. The lucky pupils, who were accompanied by Deputy Head Mrs Gilman, were:

Chloe Ellerton 8H  
Cameron White 8R  
Jimmy Lead 8H  
Sarah Norbury 8R

The day included two challenges where the pupils had to work in teams. Out of the sixteen schools taking part Walton Priory were the overall winners for the University Challenge.

Well done !!!!!!!



Year 8 pupils were recently visited by P.C. Kate Scott the Community Police Officer who talked to the pupils about the Criminal Justice System for their current Citizenship module 'Crime and Justice'

The Rotary Young Chef competition was held at Stafford College on 1st March 2010. We are proud to say that Walton Priory Middle School took part and were represented by Year 8 pupil Rizza Sims.  
Well done Rizza.

## Reporting children's progress to parents

All parents will receive a copy of their child's end of year academic report towards the end of this term on **Friday 16th July**

Parents who wish to meet with teaching staff in order to discuss the report will be welcome to do so on **Wednesday 21st July between 4.00 p.m. and 6.00 p.m.**

However in the meantime if you do have any queries regarding your child's progress please do not hesitate to get in touch with the relevant member of staff who will be pleased to discuss this with you.

# Sports news

## Netball

On Tuesday 27th April our Year 5 & 6 girls took part in a netball tournament at Penkridge Middle School. The girls played exceptionally well and made Walton Priory very proud.

Well done girls.

## Football

Last week the Year 7 & 8 football teams both had matches in the Stafford and District Cup competition having already won their previous rounds. The Year 7's were playing in their semi-final against a very strong King Edwards side. Despite a very competitive second half they ended up losing four goals to nil.

The Year 8's played in their final at the Stone Dominoes ground in Yarnfield. They played against a talented and very well organised Stafford Grammar School. Despite creating several goal chances they ended up losing three goals to nil. This was probably a fair result although the score line should have been closer.

Well done to everyone for their good efforts.

## Cricket

Walton Priory played Denstone College at the fantastic venue of Little Stoke Cricket Club on 28th April.

After batting first the lads played superbly, batting all 20 overs and making 78 against a side boasting six county players including the captain. The bowlers played brilliantly gaining 6 wickets and only losing with an over to spare.

Well done boys.

\* \* \* \* \*  
 \* **Get Well Soon !!!** \*  
 \* All Walton Priory hopes that Mr Gale will overcome his present illness \*  
 \* and be back with us as soon as he has fully recovered. \*  
 \* In the meantime we have a specialist PE teacher covering his lessons \*  
 \* and Miss Atherton, Mr Chandler, Mr James, Mr Dugmore, Mrs Cope \*  
 \* and Mr Cox are all working hard to keep all of our clubs and activities \*  
 \* going. \*  
 \* \* \* \* \*

## **News from the P.S.A.**

The Easter Egg Raffle proved to be a great success and we would like to thank everyone who donated an Easter egg. This meant that we had many children who won a prize when the raffle was drawn during the Easter assembly.

Thanks also needs to be made to those children who gave up their lunch-times in order to sell the raffle tickets. They helped to make the event a real success. A total of £78 was raised. This money will help towards the purchase of a high quality sound and vision unit for the school hall.

### **Forthcoming events**

## **The Spring Fair : Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May**

By now we hope you have received a letter which gives information about the Spring Fair which will be held in school on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May starting at 2pm.

We hope to make this event an occasion for children, parents and family members to come along and meet together as a school community.

We need items for the tombola stalls and raffle prizes as well as other items which you are able to donate for sale on the day such as books, soft toys, good quality bric a brac. Donations will be gratefully received from Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May onwards.

Fresh cakes would also be appreciated but we would ask that these are brought into school on the day of the Fair please.

We would also welcome the following items from each Year Group in school:

- |               |                                                       |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Year 5</b> | <b>Bottles</b>                                        |
| <b>Year 6</b> | <b>Toiletries</b>                                     |
| <b>Year 7</b> | <b>Sports items including any World Cup souvenirs</b> |
| <b>Year 8</b> | <b>Chocolates and confectionary</b>                   |

**These items need to be taken to the Learning Resource Centre from Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May onwards. Children donating these items will receive a free raffle ticket for entry into a prize draw.**

**Items for the P.S.A. Spring Raffle would also be appreciated. If you know of any companies etc who could help in this way please contact Mrs Kelly at school.**

**On the day of the Fair – if you could help by setting up the stalls before 2pm or would like to help in any way please return the reply slip on the letter sent to you.**

**Children who attend Walton Priory are also more than welcome to run a stall and need to see Mrs Kelly or Mrs Turner a.s.a.p. please.**

**Anyone wishing to run a private stall is also welcome to do so. There will be a £10 charge per table for P.S. A. funds**

### **P.S.A. Disco on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June**

**A disco will be held in school with a 'World Cup theme' since this date is the eve of the start of this major sporting event.**

**The disco will begin at 7.30pm and finish at 9pm.**

**Further details and information will be available nearer the date.**

### **CAN YOU HELP?**

**We understand that parents are often very busy people and we appreciate the support which is always given for our fund raising events which help support the children of Walton Priory.**

**However parents are always welcome to come along to our P.S.A. meetings which are held on a regular basis. It may be that you are able to come along to just one or two during the year – we know that a long term commitment may not be possible for many of you.**

**Our next meeting will be held in school on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm.**

**The main item for discussion will be the final arrangements for the Spring Fair. 'Don't be shy! See you there!'**

# **'CELEBRATING DIFFERENCE'**

## **THE ALTERNATIVE TIMETABLE WEEK**

During the week of Monday 17th May all Year Groups in school will be involved in a variety of activities which will focus on the theme of **'Celebrating Difference'**

Throughout the week the usual school timetable will be suspended to allow a variety of learning opportunities to take place.

Year 5 and Year 6 children and staff will be working together and the outcomes of the week will culminate in a celebration assembly on Friday afternoon.

Year 5 children will also be going swimming during the week.

Year 7 children and their teachers will have recently arrived back from their residential week and we hope to invite parents into school during the week of Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May in order to see the results of their week away.

Year 8 children will spend the first part of the week working with a group of professional actors who are based at the 'Vic Theatre' in Newcastle.

We hope to invite the parents of Year 8 children into school on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May from 5pm to share the outcomes of this project.

*Further details regarding the week will be sent out to parents in due course.*