

Autumn News

Walton Priory Middle School

2010



Geography Excellence

Walton Priory has achieved another first! The Geography department has gained both the Secondary Geography Quality Mark and the Primary Geography Quality Mark, making us the only school in the country to hold both awards! They are awarded and moderated by the Geographical Association and reflect successes in teaching and learning in Geography lessons. They also recognise the role of the Subject Leader in organising and managing the department. The Primary award was achieved at silver level in recognition of the implementation of whole school approaches that support excellence in geography. Miss Shannon the Subject Leader is thrilled about achieving the awards and says it reflects the hard work and commitment to excellence shown by both staff and children.



Star of the future...

Jack Taylor (in Year 8) showed he was a star in the making on Sunday 3rd October. He cooked a fabulous meal of loin of pork at the Stone Food and Drink Festival in front of a crowd of 400 people and was joined on stage by the Hairy Bikers themselves. A real treat for food lovers and a very proud moment for Walton Priory Middle School.



SPORTS NEWS



Five girls have been selected to become members of Stafford/Stone Girls Active Committee.

Cerys Cooper, Charlotte Hall, Mara West, Rachel Meddings and Rachel Turner of Year 8 attend regular committee meetings to help engage more girls in sporting activities.

On Thursday 23rd September Girls Active Street dance commenced after school for Year 8 girls. This will be running for 20 weeks and aims to encourage girls to take part in activities that they can enjoy and find challenging. We look forward to seeing their final performance themed around the 2012 Olympics.



Young Bronze Ambassadors

Two of our pupils in Year 8 have been chosen to represent the school and Stafford/Stone as **Bronze Ambassadors**.

Cerys Cooper and Charlotte Hall are both gifted and talented sports performers and volunteer in P.E. and school sports. They are both actively involved in promoting a healthy lifestyle and supporting the Olympic Games across the subjects. We wish them good luck.

Polite reminder...

Can you please ensure that your child has a plastic water bottle so that they can fill it up from the water coolers in their year area whenever they need a drink.

Thank you.

Dates for your diary

Cannock Chase Yr 5	Mon 11th Oct.
Cinema Visit Yr 6	Wed 20th Oct.
Stafford Castle Yr 7	Tues 19th/Wed 20th Oct.
Standon Bowers Yr 6	Mon 6th - Fri 10th Dec.

Book Fun Book Fun

Book week took place at Walton Priory at the start of the Autumn term where children were able to purchase some fantastic titles from the Bookfair and judging by the amount of excitement generated, reading is as popular as ever here. The week was rounded off nicely with a dressing-up assembly for the children (and some members of staff!) Prizes were awarded for Best-in-Year although this was nearly impossible as the standard of costumes was very high.



PARENT SUPPORT WORKER

Parenting is not an easy job nor does it come with a guide. Every parent wants what's best for their child. The **Parent Support Worker (PSW)** aims to help with worries and concerns by providing practical support to find solutions and will offer information about the support you decide is right for you and your family.

The support we can offer covers a range of aspects including behaviour issues, attendance and achievement, strengthening of relationships and communication between home and school and other services.

We offer friendly, approachable, confidential support. We have the flexibility to meet with you at a time and location that is convenient to you. To access our support you can ask school to make a referral to us or alternatively you can contact us directly on the details below for an informal chat.

Elaine Beeston

0773791097

elaine.beeston@staffordshire.gov.uk

Here at Walton Priory we love taking photos of our children enjoying the wide variety of activities that take place during the school term.

If you wish to purchase copies of these photos please contact the school office.

Each image costs £1.50.

Thank you.



1. News from the Parent-Staff Association

The P.S.A. held a Social Evening together with its Annual General Meeting earlier this term. The evening was well attended which gave us a good start to continue to make plans for fund-raising throughout the coming year.

This year the P.S.A. will continue to raise funds for the benefit of our children at Walton Priory. Funds will be used to help purchase a high quality sound and vision unit for the school hall. These items are very expensive so the more support there is for events the sooner this ambition will be achieved!

The first event will be a school disco for all children who attend Walton Priory.

This will take place on **Thursday 21st October** – the last day of this half term. The disco will begin at 7.30pm until 9pm.

Everyone is welcome to come along!

Children are encouraged to come along in Fancy Dress if they wish to do so.

Tickets will be priced at £2.50 each and will be on sale very soon!

Help from parents is always appreciated – so please come along if you have the time to spare and join in the fun!



The P.S.A. is also planning to hold a 'Christmas Fair' during the evening of Friday 26th November between 6.30pm and 8.30pm.

Similar events in previous years have always proved to be very popular with many younger and older members of our families coming along with the children who are currently in school.

The P.S.A. do hope that our children will come up with a variety of ways to raise funds on this occasion – and persuade mums and dads to also get involved.

Further details about this event will be sent home nearer the time.

Parents – if you know of anyone who has a small business/company who would like to organise a stall at the Christmas Fair and would be willing to make a donation to the P.S.A. please get in touch with Mrs Kelly, Assistant Headteacher.

Also – Mrs Kelly would be very pleased to hear from you if you have any ideas for future events or fund raising activities to help the P.S.A. in their work.
