

Talbot Primary School Newsletter



Friday 25th January, 2019



Young Voices

By Oliver, Ben and Rory

Talbot Choir attended their third Young Voices concert this year, which proved to be just as good as ever. Featuring one giant arena, a huge audience and 4,527 eager young choir members from all over Yorkshire, the final concert was spectacular; therefore, everyone was thankful that the five months of practising had ultimately paid off. Upon arriving at the Sheffield FlyDSA Arena, those who had never been before were awestruck, whilst the children who were adding another year to their Young Voices experience were equally impressed. The choir found their seats, and began a lengthy rehearsal. It lasted a while, but the knowledge that it would all be worth it helped many to carry on, and so, after many hours of rehearsing and a very energetic interactive dance routine by Andy Instone and his performance troupe Urban Strides, it was showtime! After a short moment of silence, the lights went out, and the music began! With songs from Moana to The Greatest Showman, artists from Coldplay to Kylie Minogue, and special guest performers Beau Dermott, Sharlene Hector, and lead singer of Spandau Ballet Tony Hadley, it was an incredible night! Overall, it was a great experience and will be an event that choir members will never forget.

Oliver: 'I really liked the Pop Medley as it had lots of songs that I liked in it!'

Ben: 'It was exciting when the lights went out and the music began!'

Rory: 'It was my third year at Young Voices, but every time I go it is better than I ever think.'

With the New Year well and truly under way, we have all been quick to banish any possibility of January blues, by powering on with the term! It started with a visit by Emily, from St. Gemma's Hospice, to thank the children for their Christmas performances at the end of last year, leading to your very generous donations. The **£874.23** raised will enable at least thirteen children across Leeds to receive counselling support from the charity – a tangible difference and impact. Thank you.

Maintaining good attendance is essential for the children and I am pleased to confirm that the whole school attendance rate is currently 97.8%. This week Leeds City Attendance Service has issued revised guidance on the protocol for application for medical appointments. **Parents will now need to bring to the school evidence of dates of medical appointments to confirm authorised leave**, e.g. copy of a medical letter before leave is granted. Given that most GP surgeries now operate a text confirmation service, we are also happy to see this as proof of appointment at the point of application. A revised exceptional leave form is also now available from the office and downloadable from the school website: www.talbot.leeds.sch.uk

I hope you were able to spare a few moments last week to read the update on actions taken from the Parents Survey since June 2018. We are all working hard to ensure actions identified make a measurable impact for our children. You will have also received your latest copy of the Curriculum Newsletter for the Spring term last week, along with some additional useful websites to support you to help your child(ren) at home. **Copies of the survey update and curriculum newsletter are available on the website in case you missed them.**

In a change to the main calendar dates, please note that E-Safety Week is scheduled for week beginning Monday 4th February, and *not* the week after. To coincide with this national week, our Digital Ambassadors will be leading assemblies for the children across the school, Teachers will be reviewing safe online practices with the children and Miss Ambler will be leading a briefing for parents and carers the week prior on **Tuesday 29th January at 2.45pm and 6.30pm in the Key Stage One Hall**. The briefings are very useful in empowering parents to support children with safer online practices outside of school, so I look forward to seeing you then.

A copy of the Year Six SATs briefing is available on the school website in case you missed attending one of our two briefing sessions held on Monday.

Please can I request that **children do not play on the school field after school**. Not only is the field extremely muddy at this time of year, but often children have been left unattended to play after school. This is a Health and Safety concern. I appreciate your co-operation.

Regards,
Mrs Parm Gill, Headteacher

This month's Message From Our Digital Ambassadors (Year 5 and 6 Children Supporting Better Online Safety Practice):

'Only 'friend' people you know and 'block' people you don't. Always check their username carefully.'

Additional Information



Robotics at Allerton Grange

This half term, Year 4 have been lucky enough to be invited to a robotics workshop at Allerton Grange. These interactive sessions involved programming robots to follow a series of commands.

Initially, this was simply asking the robot to travel to and from a certain point but due to the skill and enthusiasm of the children this quickly developed into the robots reacting to their environments and reacting accordingly.

We really enjoyed visiting Allerton Grange and getting hands on and finding out how robots work.

Harvest Gifts

Yesterday we welcomed Ruth Davanay, of PAFRAS into school to lead the KS2 assembly. She thanked the children for their generous Harvest gifts of food and explained about the work of the organisation.

Happy Birthday!

Here at Talbot Primary school, we understand how important it is for children to have their birthdays acknowledged and celebrated at school. Many children and parents like to mark this celebration by bringing in a treat to share with their friends in class. This a lovely way for children to mark their birthdays, but with 30 children in each class, this can all add up to a lot of sugary treats across the year!

If you want to send something in, please consider other ways to celebrate their special day, the more creative the better!

Many parents are already sending in different gifts, such as a book for the class to share together or alternatives, such as fruit or savoury snacks to share, which I am sure you will agree, is an interesting, healthy way to celebrate.

Spare Clothing Plea...

If you have any items of school uniform (socks, trousers, tights, skirts, pinafores) that your children have outgrown, please can you donate them for the Reception class spare clothing basket. If your child has *come home* in spare clothing, please would you kindly launder and return the items. Many thanks, The Reception Team.

Talbot Nursery

Children turning three years old before 1st September 2019 and wishing to attend Talbot Nursery, please see the school website for session details. For enquiries on how to register, please collect an application pack from the school office or email: nursery@talbotprimary.net. Many thanks.

A Reminder please...

When sending cash into school to pay for visits, dinner money, etc., please send it in a sealed envelope with your child's name, class, the reason (and the amount where possible) written on it.

Please send correct change and be aware about payment deadlines. This will be of great help to the office team.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Leeds Book Awards

The Leeds Book Awards is part of a successful city wide initiative run jointly between Leeds School Library Service and Leeds Public Libraries

The 2019 Shortlists have been announced for the categories ages of: 9-11, 11-14 & 14-16 years.

To view the shortlist and for further information visit: www.leedsbookawards.co.uk Voting closes on Friday 25th April 2019.