



PLATT BRIDGE COMMUNITY SCHOOL | OCTOBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

PROMOTES | BELIEF | CREATES | SUCCESS

Head of School's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of our first half term of the 2022-23 academic year, I'd like to start by thanking you all for your support. The contribution of parents and carers in children's educational outcomes must be celebrated and every time you support your children in reading at home, doing their homework and making good choices, you help improve their chances of success at school. More children than ever are receiving their High 5 reward - further in the newsletter there is more information about pupils' attendance and how important it is to attend school every day.

Our curriculum has been broad and balanced this half term and children have explored both English and Maths, as well as their wider foundation subject curriculum with excitement and rigour. Each teacher has shared a short update in this newsletter about what the children have been up to - take some time this half term to chat to the children about what they have learned and see what they can remember from their lessons.

After a break during the COVID-19 pandemic, we are delighted to say that our weekly celebration assemblies are back up and running. Each week we meet to talk about important things linked to British Values - this term our focus has been Democracy. We elected a school council representative from each year group who will be able to ensure that pupils' voices are heard when it comes to important decisions in school. We also learned about people who took a stand to ensure that democracy was upheld - we learned about the suffragettes who protested for votes for women and Rosa Parks who stood up (by sitting down) for black rights in 1950s America. We also celebrate a person from each class who has demonstrated exceptional writing with our Writer of the Week award - look out for your child coming home with their badge and chat to them about what they have won it for.

To contact a member from our Safeguarding, Special Educational Needs or Inclusion team during the closure period please [click here..](#)

We hope you all have a safe and restful half term and look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 31st October for another half term of learning and improvement.

Warmest Regards
Mrs Bozdoğan
Head of School.




OCTOBER HALF TERM

School closes on Friday 21st October 2022 for October Half Term reopening at 8:55am on Monday 31st October 2022

Breakfast club will resume on Monday 31st October from 07:30am

Bookings now open on Parent Pay any queries please contact Lisa Butler in the school office 01942 487999







TREACLE safe4autumn.com

Have a spook-tacular and safe Halloween




HAVE A HAPPY BONFIRE NIGHT

stay safe, have fun

FIREWORK SAFETY CODE

- Buy fireworks marked CE
- Keep fireworks in a closed metal box and use them one at a time
- Read and follow the instructions on each firework
- Light the fireworks at arm's length with a taper and stand well back
- Keep naked flames, including cigarettes, away from fireworks
- Never return to a firework once it has been lit
- Never put fireworks in pockets or throw them
- Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves
- Keep a bucket of water nearby at all times
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix and may lead to injury
- Keep pets indoors

TREACLE To find your local displaying club that supports [safe4autumn.com](https://www.safe4autumn.com)





HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

Halloween is the time of the year for tricks, treats and good-humored frights. Follow these safety tips to keep your family safe and sound during the festivities

OCTOBER 31ST, 2022



Plan a route
Stick to familiar areas that are well-lit



Stay in groups
Children should trick or treat in groups, not alone



Avoid costumes that may block vision.



Wait until you get home to eat treat



Make you are visible in the dark
See and be seen.
Reflective tape, flashlights or glo sticks make children visible to drivers.



Join us for our **Whole School Bonfire Enrichment evening on 2nd November 2022** and take part in some amazing activities with your children. We look forward to seeing you.



REMINDER – Parents of Year 6 pupils please remember the deadline to submit your child's secondary school application form is **31st October 2022**. If you need any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Attendance Matters



Those who turn up run the world!
Attending school every day = 100%
attendance = Zero learning lost

Make every minute of learning count.

Congratulations to Year 4A with this term's best attendance of 97.4% as of 14th October 2022

As always, if you have any issues with, or questions about, attendance please contact a member of the Pastoral team.

Education Penalty Notice Warning for Non-School attendance Under the Education Act 1996: parents and carers have a duty to make sure their children regularly attend school. If parents or carers fail to do this, they can be prosecuted.

Working within a Code of Conduct, the Local Authority can issue a penalty notice to parents or carers if a child has missed sessions without permission from the school. If your child falls within one or more of these categories within a 12-week period, you could receive a Penalty Notice of £60 which will increase to £120 if not paid within 21 days

- 10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence with under 90% attendance
 - 20 sessions (10 days) of unauthorised absence
- Persistently arrives late for school after the close of registration

The Penalty Notice will need to be paid in full before 28 days of the notice being served.

Failure to pay a penalty notice may result in prosecution (and a separate penalty notice may be issued to each parent for each child).

In addition, by law, an offence is committed if a parent fails to secure a child's regular attendance at school. Wigan Council Attendance Service, in conjunction with schools, will use these powers as an early deterrent to prevent patterns of unauthorised absence developing. You may also receive a Penalty Notice for the offence of failing to secure regular school attendance under the following circumstances:

- Your child is stopped on a truancy sweep
- You fail to ensure that your child is not in a public place during the first 5 days of a fixed term or permanent exclusion.

The Local Authority and schools are committed to providing the best possible future for your child. If you have concerns about your child's attendance at school or if you are experiencing any difficulties, please contact your school and ask for support.



Platt Bridge Community School are hosting an open evening on Thursday 17th November for prospective parents of Reception children starting in September 2023 and any existing or future prospective parents in Nursery (2's and 3-year-olds), Reception or Years 1 to Year 6 who wish to see our school in action. We look forward to seeing you!



Nasal Flu Immunisations Reception to Year 6

This year's nasal flu immunisations will be taking place on **Friday 11th November**. Please remember to send your forms back by Friday 21st October. If you have any queries regarding the vaccinations, please contact IntraHealth on 0333 358 3397

School Photographs

The first collection of any money for photographs is on **Wednesday 19th October**. These will be collected by the photographer and photos will hopefully be ready for after the half term break. School will continue to accept payment on the photographer's behalf throughout the autumn term so you will still have chance to get them if you didn't pay on this date. Thank you

Children in Need



Dress up or dress down on **Friday 18th November 2022**

We are inviting children to wear an item of clothing that is yellow or spotty to mark Children in Need Day 2022.

RAISING MONEY TO CHANGE YOUNG LIVES

Children can attend school in yellow or spotty clothing and donate a shiny coin

SAVE THE DATE



School will be celebrating Christmas jumper day to raise money for Save the Children on **Friday 9th December**. There is a shiny coin donation required for this. Please note this is a non-uniform day.

Save the Date - Christmas Pantomime



On **8th December** we will be going to see “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs at the Victoria Theatre Bolton. ”Oh no we’re not” “Oh yes we are!!” More details will follow shortly.



Reception Intake 2023

If your child will turn four between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023, he or she will start reception class at the start of the new school year in September 2023. The online application process has now opened. You can find information regarding admission to primary schools on the Wigan Council website under “admissions”. If you need any further information please ask at our reception desk.



There are also places available in our nursery. If your child turns three before 31st December 2022, please contact us if you would like to put your child’s name down

IMPORTANT NOTICE

SCHOOL SNACK & SWIMMING

Please check your ParentPay account and pay any remaining snack, swimming, school meal and breakfast and after school charges before the end of Autumn Term.

If you would like to change your child's snack order or make a new order please contact the school office on 01942 487999 or email finance@cfat.org.uk.

Snack and refreshments will continue to be provided throughout the day for ALL children in Nursery and Reception.



Although all children in Reception and KS1 are entitled to a free school meal under the Universal Free School Meal Grant, if you are entitled to benefits, you must still register in order for the school to receive Pupil Premium Funding. We would be grateful if you could do this immediately and if you need any help, we are happy to support you with this process. The school uses this pupil premium funding to fund various activities and resources for your child throughout the year. If you need any assistance regarding this or have any questions, please call in at the Main Reception Desk to speak to us.



Platt Bridge Community School Foodbank

As you are aware we operate a discrete foodbank for any member of our community who needs help. If you need help with a food parcel, please speak to one of our pastoral staff who will be more than pleased to help you.

Up to date Contact Information



As there may be occasions when the school needs to contact parents or carers during the school day, it is vital that you inform school immediately if there are any changes to emergency contact details or home telephone/mobile numbers.

Please kindly keep school updated of any change via email to

enquiries@plattbridge.cfat.org.uk.

See what we have been learning in school this term

In October, **Nursery** have been focusing on the story of The Magic Porridge Pot. We enjoyed making and tasting our own Porridge and have been practicing telling the story using words and actions. We have also recently introduced our woodwork area and the children have been hammering nails into pumpkins to develop their hand, eye co-ordination and fine motor skills.



This half term in **Reception** we have looked at two of our favourite stories. The first story was The Colour Monster. We discussed and labelled the different emotions that we feel and the reasons we may feel them. We discussed how to create a calm classroom and came up with the golden rules together. These include whisper voices, choose it, use it and put it away, walking feet and kind hands. The second story we looked at is 'Goldilocks and the 3 bears'. We met all the characters and learned our story with actions. We are amazing story tellers and can't wait to learn more next term.



We have had a fantastic time in **Year 1A** this October. As a class we elected Imogen as our representative for the School Council. Well done, Imogen! We are also very proud of Caleb, Harvey, Faye, Momo, Carter and Lola who have been our class writers of the week so far. We have enjoyed learning all about the changes we experience during the season of Autumn and all about our local area in Geography. We have also had lots of fun learning about football in PE. We are looking forward to our next term.



We have had a busy start to **Year 1B**. We started the year by creating memorable pieces to celebrate the life of Queen Elizabeth II. We created a crown using water colours and a 'Remembrance Star' to hang in our homes. We experienced a Blast from the Past in our History lessons and created our own past ways of communication. We started off painting like cavemen, using charcoal and berries to colour our paintings. How cool! We then created our own 'Tin Can Telephone' replica and tested them out on our school playground. We have had the best start to Year 1 and can't wait to see what the rest of the year brings.



This term, **Year 2** have been learning all about the Victorians and their homes. We have learned who Queen Victoria was, why she was important and what it was like to live during the Victorian Era. The children are looking forward to experiencing a day in the life of a Victorian child when they come back after half term!

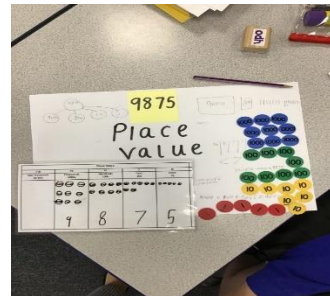
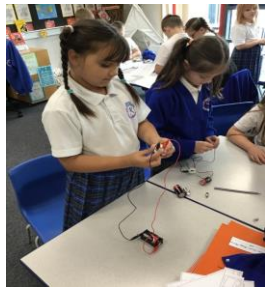
In geography, we have been learning about the UK and the four countries. More specifically, we have been looking at the capital cities of these countries and were able to see London through the VR headsets to help with our understanding. This allowed us to compare London to Wigan, looking at the similarities and differences.



In **Year 3**, we have been learning about The Stone Age in our history lessons, understanding each of the three periods and how the people lived in each of them. We have also learnt about how weapons and the ways of living advanced over the three periods. We've sent emails and learned how to stay safe online, including using privacy settings and strong passwords. We've produced some brilliant writing to find Mildred, The Worst Witch who was missing. We used expanded noun phrases to describe her appearance! During our maths lessons we have focused on place value and understanding the value of numbers. When we've been scientists in our science lessons, we've explored rocks and their properties, using scientific language to describe them. We've also sketched and used various painting skills such as wet on wet and wet on dry to paint Stonehenge. We have learnt how to say our names in French, have a basic conversation and count to 10! Au Revoir!



This term, **Year 4** have been reading *The Queen's Nose*. We have based our writing around this, producing non-fiction pieces about how to look after a pet as well as fictional descriptions of the characters. In maths, we have been learning about place value, mastering skills in rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. Science has been very exciting! We have really enjoyed our electricity topic. We made a series circuit and tested materials to see if they were insulators and conductors. We have also started our Anglo-Saxons topic, where we have looked at where the Saxons came from and why they came to Britain. We are all very excited to see what next term will bring.



This term, **Year 5** have begun exploring the Maya people by looking at the continent of North America and within this, the USA. We found America on a map of the world using atlases and explored human and physical features of America. We looked at Frida Kahlo and some of her paintings and practised blocking and shading using colour. We have been reading *Coraline* and have been using our knowledge of the book to write a description of Coraline and a non-chronological report. We also went to PGL this term and had a fantastic time. We went on the giant swing and completed teamwork tasks such as orienteering and den building.



This term in **Year 6** we have been learning about the Ancient Greeks and how they developed as a culture. From this, we have created our own three course meal inspired by Greek, American and Chinese cultures. We have also created our own Stop Start Animation film based on the Trojan War. In Reading and English, we have been enjoying reading Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde and have written two writing pieces based on this text. In Science, we have learnt all about light and how a rainbow is created.



Some of our Writer of the Week winners for this half term.



Year 1A



Year 1B



Year 2A



Year 2B



Year 3A



Year 3B



Year 4A



Year 4B



Year 5A



Year 5B



Year 6A



Year 6B

School Council Members elected by their peers



Year 1A



Year 1B



Year 2A



Year 2B



Year 3A



Year 3B



Year 4A



Year 4B



Year 5A



Year 5B



Year 6A



Year 6B

CFAT Superheroes are recruiting for Breakfast/After School Club Practitioners based in Hindley, for more information please click on the links below:-

Practitioner [View Vacancy Details](#)

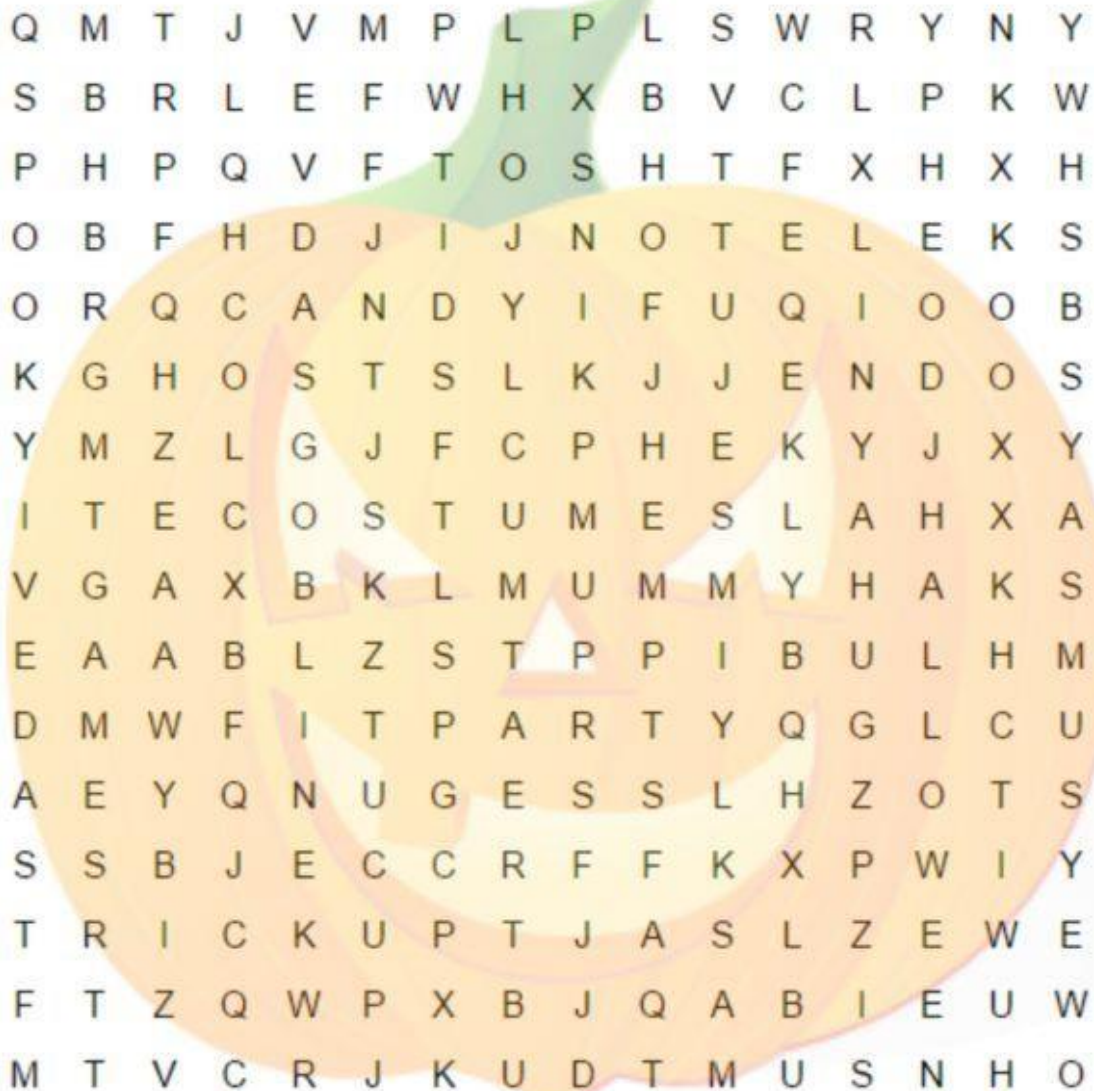
Supervisor [View Vacancy Details](#)

Halloween Activities for Children

You needn't be stuck for ideas to keep the children entertained....

Try our Halloween Wordsearch and Spot the Difference

Halloween Word Search



BOO
GAMES
HALLOWEEN
PARTY
SPOOKY
WITCH

CANDY
GHOSTS
MASK
PUMPKINS
TRICK

COSTUMES
GOBLIN
MUMMY
SKELETON
TREAT

FIND 5 DIFFERENCES



Download from
Dreamstime.com

This watermarked comp image is for previewing purposes only.



Halloween Mindfulness Colouring

Mindfulness means slowing down and taking a breath to pause and really notice what you are doing and collecting your thoughts together. It will take your full concentration to really be mindful, you have to relax and take your time with a certain task, whether that's just taking a few seconds to control your breath. Being mindful means doing the opposite of multi-tasking or rushing, it's all about focusing on one thing at a time and feeling calm and collected whilst doing it.

To become mindful, it's important to remember that it will take a lot of practice to become better each time. This is because mindfulness involves training the mind, which can't be done overnight. The more your practice, the better you get.

A great way to practise mindfulness is to complete a number of exercises, which can help when you're stressed, have something difficult to do or when you have to focus your attention. Eventually, after practising mindfulness regularly, it will become natural in your everyday life.





Useful contacts and online resources

Here's a list of signposted providers that can offer counselling, coaching and other support that may help improve your overall wellbeing. For more details <https://www.plattbridge.wigan.sch.uk/parents/support-services-for-pupils-and-families>

Stress & Anxiety

Mind www.mind.org.uk

Childline www.childline.org.uk

The Stress Management Society www.stress.org.uk

The Big White Wall Support Network www.bigwhitewall.com

NHS www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression

Mental Health Matters www.mentalhealthmatters.com

24 hour helpline 0800 1070160

Work / Life Balance

NHS Live Well – Work Place Health www.nhs.uk/livewell/workplacehealth

Mental Health Foundation www.mentalhealth.org.uk/a-to-z/w/work-life-balance

Cycle Scheme www.cyclescheme.co.uk

Your Body

NHS One Your Campaign www.nhs.uk/oneyou

British Heart Foundation www.bhf.org.uk

Exercise

NHS Live Well – Get Started www.nhs.uk/livewell/getting-started-guides

The Girl Can – Sport England www.thegirlcan.co.uk

Living Streets www.livingstreets.org.uk

Swimming ASA www.swimming.org/asa

Chartered Society of Physiotherapy www.csp.org.uk/your-health/exercise-advice-all-ages-fitness

Home Life

Reiate www.relate.org.uk

Samaritans www.samaritians.org

Notational Domestic Abuse Helpline 0808 2000 247

Barnardo's www.barnardos.org.uk

Childline www.childline.org.uk 08001111

Smoking

NHS Live Well www.nhs.uk/livewell/smoking

NHS Smokefree www.smokefree.nhs.uk

Worried about a child? <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Health-Social-Care/Children-and-young-people/Child-protection/Child-protection.aspx>