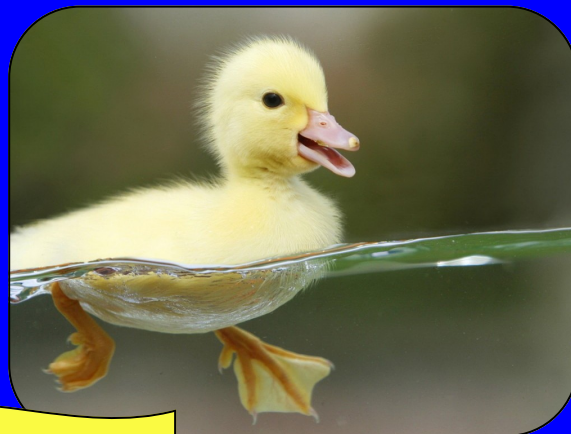


DUCKPADDLE NEWS

Whetstone Parish Council

www.whetstonepc.org.uk

Twitter @clerk_parish



March 2016

Clerks Comment

We are still getting many complaints regarding dog mess all around the village. Inconsiderate dog walkers (not always the owners) are allowing their dogs to foul on footways, footpaths, public open spaces, private front lawns and even seating around the village.

The responsible authority is Blaby District Council (BDC) who have power to issue fines for those not cleaning up after their pet and are currently working on obtaining the power to give challenge and issue fines to people not carrying a bag to bag their mess. This is a step in the right direction, but BDC have limited resources. If you are victims of a persistent offender near your home or know of someone who does not clean up their dog mess, please report it to the Parish Office and we will pass it onto BDC who will pursue the offender. They need a statement of the offence witnessed which they can take from you by phone or email and where the offender lives. The Parish can offer free stencilling on footways and footpaths warning that fines will be issued. We are purchasing covert cameras to capture various acts of ASB, which will include persistent dog fouling. The dog bins around the village and on Public Open Spaces are installed by your Parish Council and emptied by BDC. If you find that they are full, please ring the Parish Office so that we can request an extra emptying. We are currently replacing the older dog bins around the village.

The Parish Council would like to welcome all of our new residents of Whetstone who have moved into the new housing developments taking shape around the village. We hope you enjoy village life.

Together, you can make a difference.

Finally, within this edition of the Duckpaddle news you will find a paper copy of the community survey for a Good Neighbour Scheme for Whetstone. You can also complete this on line and this is explained on the paper copy. The completion date whether by email or by post is 9th April.

The Activity Centre – Home of Blaby & Whetstone Youth Club

Blaby & Whetstone Youth Club has secured funding from Awards for All and Blaby District Youth Council to run an After School Junior's Club. The club is designed for young people between the ages of 8 to 12 years, so they can come and participate in various workshops and activities at The Activity Centre after the school day.

We will be delivering various workshops including computer workshops, arts and craft and a variety of sporting activities. There will also be a choice of refreshments and snacks for anyone attending the club. The sessions will take place on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and a Thursday from 4pm till 6pm. For more information or to book your place, please call us on: 0116 286 4852





Badgerbrook Primary School

Pupils and staff at Badgerbrook have just completed a fantastic and thoroughly enjoyable Creative Curriculum Week. Pupils were transported, via their imaginations to different countries depending on their year group. Through dance, music, food tasting, art, drama, visitors, modelling and stories pupils were immersed in the environments and cultures of different countries. Year 2 were greeted on the first day by staff dressed up as airline personnel - they were given tickets & passports to board a classroom grounded aeroplane. During their week in India they saw and painted the Taj Mahal, learnt some Bollywood dancing tasted Chapattis and made Indian music. Year 1 also boarded an imaginary plane to Kenya where the animals were of particular interest, they made costume jewellery, clay animals, played drums and wrote some magnificent stories. They tasted pancakes and fruit. Year 3



were in Brazil - they paraded around the school in brightly dressed costumes and head dresses entertaining us all with their music. They made and tasted a traditional bread. Year 4 made a quick skip to Australia where they made dampa bread, played the didgeridoo, tried original dancing and investigated a 'dream time story'. Year 5 travelled to South Africa.

After landing at Cape Town airport they tasted fruits and juices local to the country. They made collage township pictures and their own thumb pianos. They took part in an African Drumming workshop and experienced life under apartheid through a drama session. Our Year 6 pupils studied Thailand. They had a visit from some Buddhist Monks, they were challenged

making origami lotus flowers, which proved quite tricky but the results are beautiful. Our Foundation Stage group were spectacular in Mexico - they learnt a traditional sombrero dance, made some wonderful music and their own Sombreros too. As I'm sure you can imagine our school was a hive of activity and there was a wonderful atmosphere. It was fantastic to see everyone so engaged, enthusiastic and having fun whilst learning. We concluded the week by dressing up in native costume or colours from the respective flags. Pupils and staff embraced the event and everyone appeared to thoroughly enjoy it.



St Peter's Church of England (Aided)

YEAR 1 AND 2 TRIP TO ROCKINGHAM CASTLE

After a fun topic on 'Turrets and Tiaras' we all got to visit a real castle! We took an exciting bus ride past Market Harborough to the grounds of Rockingham Castle. We were split into four groups and went with our tour guide around the castle into all the different rooms. The children got very excited and slightly scared to see the dungeons especially when they noticed a long haired man loitering behind bars! He looked very realistic!

Our tour guide was full of knowledge and she even introduced us to Mrs Watson. She is married to Mr Watson whose



family have lived in the castle for the past 450 years. Mrs Watson was very friendly and answered all our questions. Aliyah in year 1 said "My favourite room was where we sat in front of a big fire and got to try on very heavy armour helmets."

After visiting all the rooms in the castle, we went up to the tower. We had to walk up a spiral staircase which made us feel a little dizzy! But it was worth it when we got to the top because we could see across lots of fields and even

watch our friends playing in the castle grounds below! After our tour, we all sat and ate lunch before having time to visit the church and explore the castle's grounds. Blue in year 1 said, "There were lots of bushes we could run in and out of and play hide and seek!" After releasing a lot of energy, we all met up at the castle entrance for a group photo before we boarded our bus back to school. What a wonderful day.



JUST A MINUTE

YOUR Parish Council usually meets every fourth Thursday of the month, 7.30pm at the Parish Council Offices, Cemetery Road, Whetstone. The agenda for the meeting is posted on the Parish Notice Boards. Parishioners are more than welcome to attend, whether you have a specific interest in an item on the agenda, or if you just wish to see Council in operation. Below are several extracts of general items of interest.

- The Clerk reported that as per the budget set within the precept the Christmas lights for the fourth tree had been received and would be installed to create a super display for the festive period.
- The Clerk had invited the Chair of Sharnford Good Neighbour Scheme to give a presentation to Council following its “go live date” on 1st October 2015. The process was overviewed in detail to include the steering group formation, the need to set up both a constitution and bank account, and the process of getting volunteers all of which would have to be the subject of a DBS check. Members were able to ask questions and review this in “real time”. The Clerk thanked the Chair for an informative presentation and she then left the meeting. Following this the Clerk guided members through the costs to set in place the survey to the village, this would be approximately £2,750 with match funding from Blaby District Council.
- The Deputy Clerk reminded Members that the annual Carols around the Christmas Tree event was taking place on Monday 7th December and all would be welcome. The chair of Council would officially switch on the Christmas Tree lights with the help of the children.
- The annual Remembrance parade was taking place on Sunday 8th November, wreathes would be laid by the Mike Bounds, Chair of Council and BDC Cllr S Coe.
- The Clerk informed members that he was pursuing BDC environmental health department regarding the enforcement action in regard to the Wheatsheaf Public House.
- The issue regarding parking was raised as being both dangerous and an accident waiting to happen LCC David Jennings would raise this with LCC Highways Department.
- The Clerk informed members that all graffiti around the village was being reported to the Local Police. If a “tagger” could be identified then the police could ensure that some restorative justice could be enacted, such as had happened with the Wheatsheaf.
- The Clerk gave a presentation to members regarding Dog Fouling that had been received from BDC, the emphasis from BDC was that the offender should be reported to them. The key was clear evidence, the perpetrators needed identifying then action could be taken against them.
- The CCTV and alarm system was being upgraded at the Council Offices and Depot following the break in earlier in the year, this would mean added protection and security.
- The Clerk was still having detailed discussions/meetings with Bloor Homes regarding the takeover of ownership of the Shellduck Public Open Space and Bund.
- The issue of speeding on Springwell Lane was highlighted and the Clerk reported that this had been reported to the Police.
- Cllr P Cox reported that the Scouts in the Village now had a waiting list as it was so popular.

The next three meetings of Council take place on 24th March, 28th April and 26th May 2016 e-mail: office@whetstonepc.

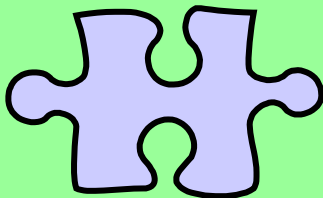
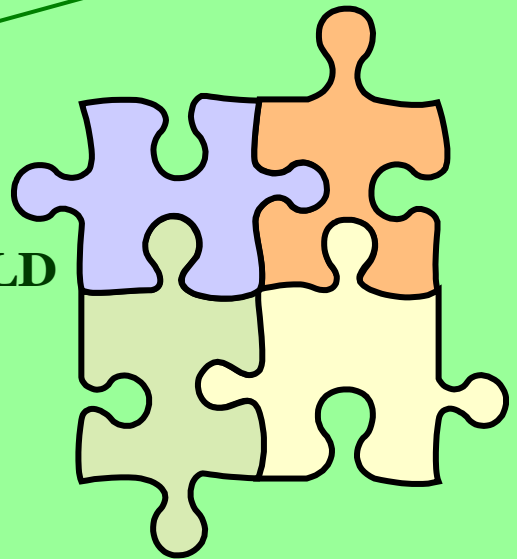
or

Tel: Leicester (0116) 2751987

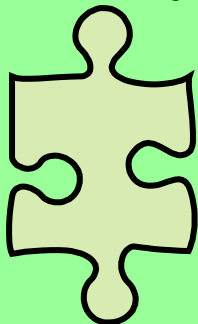


THE EDWARD WRIGHT ROOM

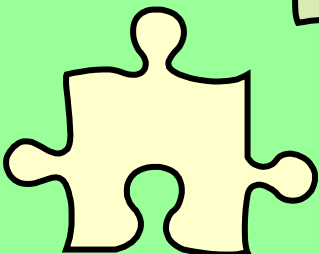
**IS IT A PUZZLE WHERE TO HOLD
YOUR PARTY, CELEBRATION,
MEETING, FITNESS CLASS ?
LET US SOLVE THE PROBLEM**



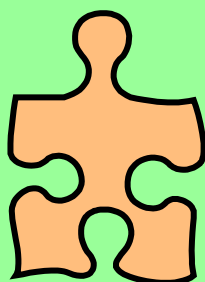
£12.00 per hour available 9am to 11pm
Projector and WIFI available 7 days a week



Disabled Access and Toilets
Car Parking for up to 25 cars



Seating for up to 60 people
Full Kitchen facilities including dishwasher



PUZZLE SOLVED

The Edward Wright Room at Whetstone Parish Council
Contact Sharon at Whetstone Parish Council
Cemetery Road, Whetstone, Leicester. Tel 0116 2751987.
YOUR LOCAL FACILITY FOR ALL YOUR NEEDS .