



Whittingham
C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL



Headteacher's Blog

'Hand in hand together we will become resilient, respectful and responsible citizens of our community and the wider world.'

Friday 20th October 2023

All the best to our Equestrian team member who is taking part in the NCEA championships this weekend!

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Whittingham Primary School,

It was wonderful to see so many families attend Parent and Carers Evening on Monday and Tuesday. Parent survey's were also handed out and we already have a number have been returned. So that I can collate opinion and begin to work on actions to improve please, if you have not already **return to school by Thursday 26th October.**

Despite the weather it was lovely to welcome so many family members to Class 3 assembly on Friday. The children enthusiastically shared information about their class charity - World Wildlife Fund and it was evident that a lot of work had gone into the assembly. Thanks also goes to Damian from Alnwick Playhouse who invited our younger children to attend a magical storytelling session of I Believe in Unicorns. More about this in our Blog next week.

I would like to thank our Governor, Jayne Saul, who delivered an excellent Parenting Workshop to a select few also on Friday and thank you to Mrs Arkle for providing a delicious lunch. A copy of the powerpoint presentation will be available on our school website and via email shortly for those who were unable to attend. It would be helpful for future organisation if you could please let me know preferred times of day so that I can see if we can accommodate a suitable time which will enable more people to attend

Although we were not affected too badly by the stormy weather on Thursday and Friday we did have to postpone the disco and the PTA will be in touch shortly about the new date.

As always, the dates for events in school can be found on our school calendar. Some of which are attached as posters to the 'Blog' this week and we look forward to seeing you once again in school on Thursday at our Harvest Festival. Donations of food to the food bank will form part of our Harvest display and there will be a collection plate for donations which is to raise money so that church can buy some resources for younger children.

Everyone is very welcome at our Harvest Festival. However, if you have very young children who may find sitting quietly in church rather challenging please do not be afraid to step outside with them if they need to stretch their legs as a number of families were disappointed not to be able to hear their child speak during the Leavers Service as some children became understandably restless.

As always, Mr Charlton or I are contactable on Gate Duty each morning, during the day in the office- 01665574222 or directly by email (please do not use any other email as there may be a delay in your email getting to me as it does not go directly to me) - belinda.athey@whittingham.northumberland.sch.uk

Best wishes,

Belinda Athey - Headteacher.

Use of School Grounds

As you will know if you have had children in school last year we change our code of conduct to reflect daylight hours in Spring/ Summer (8.30-8.30) and Autumn/ Winter (8.30 -4.00).

Our Autumn/ Winter Code of Conduct was sent out on 29th September and also please note, following manufacturers guidelines we have had to put minimum age restrictions on the outdoor gym equipment is for KS2 children upwards and the newest climbing frame is for KS1 upwards unless it is being used by school staff in a specific activity or lesson.

We welcome children whose families have signed the Code of Conduct using the equipment but after school toilets and other indoor facilities are not available as these need to be cleaned thoroughly for the children the next day.

If there are work vans or workers on site at weekends or holidays then the school site needs to remain out of bounds for the safety of everyone concerned. **Over October half term (Friday 27th -Wednesday 1st November) we expect to have workers on site so the site will be out of bounds on these days.**



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Whittingham PTA Harvest Hamper

OUR PTA ARE FUNDRAISING THIS YEAR TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THE PURCHASE OF NEW CHROME BOOKS FOR CLASS 1, MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS AND ALSO FUNDING TOWARDS THE COST OF OUR EARLY YEARS OUTDOOR SPACE PROJECT SO ARE LOOKING FOR AS MANY WAYS AS POSSIBLE TO RAISE FUNDS AND HAVE CREATED A HARVEST HAMPER OF VARIOUS GOODIES INCLUDING WINE , GIFTS AND CHOCOLATES.

**TICKETS
ONLY £1 A STRIP
AVAILABLE FROM
THE SCHOOL OFFICE**





Join Us !



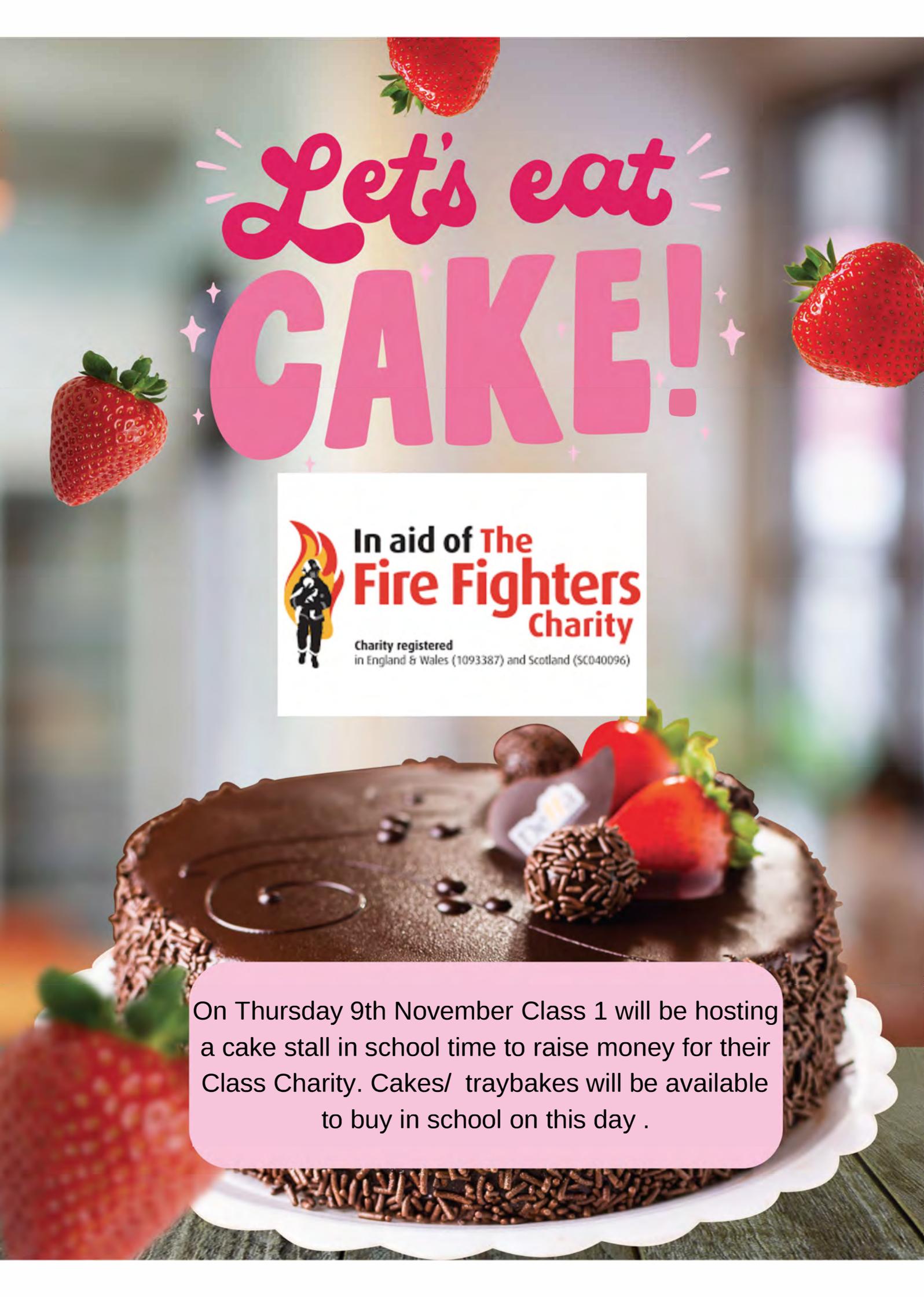
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Harvest

FESTIVAL

Please join Whittingham C of E Primary School in St Bartholomew's Church on Thursday 26th October at 1.30p.m.

We would also appreciate before the day any donations of tins, packets or non perishable food items for us to create a Harvest display in school and to help us support our Early Years class charity - Alnwick District Food Bank.



Let's eat CAKE!



In aid of The
Fire Fighters
Charity

Charity registered
in England & Wales (1093387) and Scotland (SC040096)

On Thursday 9th November Class 1 will be hosting a cake stall in school time to raise money for their Class Charity. Cakes/ traybakes will be available to buy in school on this day .

THE MORE
YOU BRING,
THE MORE
YOU RAISE!

HELP RAISE MONEY FOR THE GREAT NORTH AIR AMBULANCE



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This week the children in school will be given an Air Ambulance Bag to take home and fill hopefully over the half term holiday.

**By bringing into school
bags and bag of unwanted...**

**CLOTHING
BLANKETS
TOWELS**

We also collect

MOBILES

INK/TONER CARTRIDGES

Please bring bags back to school on the morning of Friday 10th November.



www.greatnorthairambulance.co.uk

Registered Charity No. 1092204 Registered Company No. 4436859



CLOTHING SWAP



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As we head once again towards the time where we collect clothes for the Air Ambulance building on the success of last year the Rota kids have thought this would be an excellent opportunity to keep aside some children and young adults clothes and donate them to our 'Swap Shop'. We would love it if every child in school brought in clothes that either they have just grown out of (older brothers and sisters clothes are welcome too!) or have never really got wear out of these. These clothes will be displayed in our Rota Kids 'Swap Shop' so that during the day the children will have the chance to go shopping for free!

What needs to happen: Please put aside children and adult clothes that are in good condition. Send them into school in a plastic bag (we will re-use these in our shop) from **Monday 6th November**.

The shop will be open to the children on **Wednesday 8th November 1.30 - 3.00** then **3.30 -4.00** for families to attend (Rota Kids are welcome to stay for this but this is not compulsory). All unclaimed clothes will go to our Air Ambulance Appeal so there will be no waste.

Thank you for your support,

Rota Kids Founders - Emily, Lacey, Bobbi and Octavia.



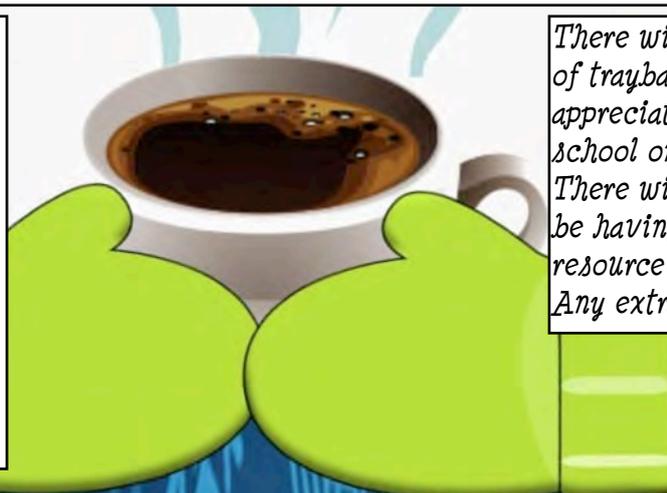
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Christmas Coffee Morning

Our wonderful PTA will be hosting a Coffee Morning on **Saturday 2nd December** 10-12p.m. We will be serving teas, coffees and refreshments and there will be stalls including cakes and the children will be selling Christmas crafts they have made. You will be able to have a look around our school grounds and classrooms as we welcome the community to look around our very special school

If you have a small business and would like to book a stall (for the price of a raffle prize donation only) please contact:

belinda.athey@whittingham.
northumberland.sch.uk



There will be a cake stall so offers of traybake and cakes would be appreciated and can be brought into school on the morning or day before. There will be a tombola and we will be having a non uniform day to resource prizes. (See separate letter) Any extra donations are welcome.

We will be having a book stall so donations of books are very welcome and should be sent to the office any time from now. Donations of raffle prizes are very welcome.