



# Weekly Headteacher's Blog including Termly Catch Up

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome to the First Headteacher's Blog of March. I hope everyone managed to enjoy some time over the holidays having fun and finally getting over all the illnesses many of the children were prone to before the holiday. It is lovely to see the changes of the seasons and how light it is getting each morning and night. Hopefully, we will be using our school field for break times more and more over the coming weeks so please do ensure your child has a pair of named wellies in school.

As always, if you wish to contact me there are lots of ways-

Telephone - 01665574222.

In person - I am on morning playground duty every Monday and office based immediately after.

By email- Following the Contact Us link on our school website -<http://www.whittinghamprimaryschool.co.uk>

By letter- addressed to myself directly.

Finally, by joining Governors and I at the Monthly Coffee and Chat which precedes each class assembly.

We have lots of exciting events planned in school so please do join us. Full details of events are enclosed in the dates letter attached to this issue and also for quick reference the calendar update on the main page of our school website or for full details the Calendar section of the website. We continue to also keep copies of letters on the school website so if any letters go astray they can be accessed there.

Here's hoping for some lovely sunshine and I look forward to speaking to you all soon.

Many Thanks,

Belinda Athey - Headteacher.

## PTA Update

The PTA continues in its vital role. As many of you will know schools increasingly face cuts to their school budget and it is vital that we have the PTA to raise funds for items which school would be unable to afford. Following the success of the Auction Night. The children (and adults!) enjoyed a fantastic Valentine's Disco. Unfortunately, the Boden Party has had to be cancelled but you will notice in the dates letter that the PTA will be holding a Spring Fair so please do come and have fun while supporting us.

Also, the date for the next meeting is on the dates page so do please try and attend as fresh ideas are always welcome.

## School Ethos.

We have spent time with Governors, Staff and children on reviewing our current School Ethos and Mission Statement. Admittedly, as it is often the way the children came up with the best ideas! This just needs to be passed by Governors then we will share it with you.

## Cost of transport to Willowburn

We appreciate that money may be tight but please help us to continue to provide sporting facilities and swimming at Willowburn. The cost is £2.00 per week. £12.00 for this half term per child.

## Governor Information.

As always, we are looking into ways in which we can improve communication and ensuring that the Governing Body are as effective as possible. Members of the Governing Body attend our events throughout the term in school or Church but in addition, there are always Governors at the Coffee and Chat sessions and at the Parent Governor workshops.

There is a Governor section on the school website but here are the names and main roles of the Governing Body for your reference:

### Name

### Designation

Mrs Steph Tuczemskeyi Chair - Co-opted  
Mrs Ruth Oldfield Vice Chair - Parent  
Mrs Belinda Athey - Headteacher  
Mrs Lynne Fortescue - Staff  
Mr John Rutherford - LEA  
Mrs Gayle Hibbert Johnson -Co-opted  
Vacancy -Co-opted  
Mrs Ruth Oldfield - Parent  
Ms Mary Gough - Parent  
Ms Liz Chadwick -Foundation  
Rev Jane Wood -Ex officio  
Vacancy -Co-opted

### Resources Committee

Mrs Steph Tuczemskeyi  
Mr John Rutherford  
Mrs Belinda Athey  
Mrs Liz Chadwick

### Curriculum Committee

Ms Mary Gough  
Mrs Ruth Oldfield  
Mrs Gayle Hibbert-Johnson  
Mrs Lynne Fortescue  
Mrs Belinda Athey

As you will have noticed there are two vacancies for Co-opted Governors. We are looking for members of the local community who would like to enhance our already effective Governing Body even further. If you know of anybody who may be interested in this position please contact either myself at school or Steph, our Chair of Governors.

### Other news-

High 5 Netball in school Competition.  
Well done to The Cheetahs who won the Year 4 / 5 competition and Team UK who won the Year 3 / 4 competition last half term.

Mr Dan Marshall, a student from the University of Sunderland, who has been working with Mrs Fortescue in Class 2 will begin his teaching practice on Monday 13th March.

Clubs - If your child no longer wishes to continue clubs please contact school directly and please note no refunds will be given and that the place will offered to other children.

And finally.. We have welcomed lots of new children this past half term- Bertie, Liam, Barney, Imogen, Charlie, Emily and Harry. Thank you to the children of our school who have been so kind and welcoming and we look forward to the new learning opportunities the weeks ahead will bring.