

*Hand in hand together we will become kind, collaborative and Courageous citizens of our community and the wider world*



**Whittingham**  
C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

Weeks 26 and 27 Newsletter

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Welcome to a round up of news and reminders for the final two weeks of the Spring Term.

Thank you for your support.

Best wishes,

Belinda Athey

#### **School Meals –**

As you know, Mrs Arkle will be leaving us at the end of this school term. Unfortunately, we are still in search of a replacement and will be re-advertising for the post to start in September after Easter. In the meantime, we have arranged for an agency to cover the kitchen. The meals will continue to follow the same menus as before and the current 'What's for Lunch?' menu will continue until later in the term when it will be replaced by the Summer Menu. We look forward to having a fun filled farewell to Mrs Arkle with our children's party on Thursday. Please remember that children wear their own choice of clothes on that day and bring the pooled supper as their class teacher has messaged you about.

#### **Office Manager –**

The Staffing Committee of the Governing Body and I interviewed for an Admin assistant on Friday and we will share with you news of our successful appointment once their current employment have been notified. We were extremely impressed with all the candidates who we interviewed and hope to welcome this new edition to our school not long into Summer Term.

#### **Bake Sale –**

Just a reminder that the Rota Kids will be hosting a Bake Sale on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Money raised will go towards seating for breaktimes.

#### **Operation Encompass School –**

Our school continues to participate in Operation Encompass, a police-led initiative aimed at supporting children who experience domestic abuse. If police attend a domestic incident involving a student, they will notify our trained "Key Adult" before the next school day, allowing us to provide immediate, confidential, and tailored emotional support.

What this means for parents:

**Early Support:** Ensures school staff can support your child, who may be distressed, upset, or unprepared for the day.

**Partnership:** This initiative is a partnership between schools, local councils, and police.

**Confidentiality:** All information is shared and stored securely within school safeguarding protocols.

Website: [www.whittinghamprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.whittinghamprimaryschool.co.uk)

This proactive approach helps us ensure children feel safe and supported, understanding that experiencing domestic abuse is a significant adverse experience.

#### **School Website –**

Our new look website is now up and running and is just having some final tweaks and being updated as while it has been transformed we have been unable to add anything to it so key dates etc may not be quite there yet. <https://www.whittinghamprimaryschool.co.uk>

#### **After School/ Dinner / Milk charges and numbers –**

Please do check your reminders via email and text of any outstanding payments to be made and rectify this as soon as possible. Charges for this half term's clubs will be put on School Money before the end of next week for payment to be made before we return to school on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April. Please also note that nursery and reception aged children do need to let me know if they would like milk. It is free for 3 year olds up until the term the child turns 5.

#### **Attendance –**

Our attendance figure for every child is 96%. I have collated attendance figures up until the end of last week and will be sending attendance letters out and liaising with the Education Welfare Office for any attendance less than 96%. Well done to our 3 pupils who have 100% attendance from the start of the school year in September. Where there is 100% attendance, names are put into a hat and drawn for a prize. Well done to Mimi for winning the lovely Highland Cow! Well done also to Emilia D and Lacie.

#### **Reading Treat –**

The children who have already been drawn for the reading treat will have their treat moved into the Summer Term and I will be in touch nearer the time. As we had nobody in the office I was unable to lead the trip as usual.

#### **Reminders for the rest of the term:**

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Babes in the Wood Forest School session.

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Easter Service.

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – Non-Uniform Day, Bake Sale, Mrs Arkle's party and break up for Easter Holidays at 3.15pm returning to school on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April