Whittingham C of E Primary School

Hand in hand we will become kind, collaborative and courageous citizens of our community and the wider world.

Weekly Newsletter

Week ending Friday 6th November 2026

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of Whittingham C of E Primary School,



I hope everyone managed to have some time together over the half term break. It is wonderful to see the children back, ready to learn and enjoy a wide range of experiences along the way.

As always, if you have any comments, queries, concerns or feedback please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff or when I am on gate duty. You can also ring the office or contact me directly via email.

Best wishes,

Belinda Athey – **Headteacher**

Parent Survey – What you asked and what we have changed so far:

You asked – Can we have less communication from a range of places as there is too much information coming from different places.

What we did –

Class teachers will communicate with parents via Class Dojo or Tapestry.
Teachers 2 Parents email will only be used to send out selected and important information and that the weekly newsletter, posters etc will be put on the school website with a link to this sent out via Teachers to Parents every Friday.
The rule of thumb being if you get an email from school it is important so please do read it.
Our school Facebook page will continue to be used to show photos and share posters and reminders as this is something which we currently do have engagement with so we would like this to continue. For those of you who do not use social media the information will be on the school website.

You asked – For a reduction in homework.



What we did –

Each year we have a Homework Consultation Meeting early at the start of the new school year in September where we ask for your feedback about homework. This year the families that attended the meeting agreed that the current homework for English and Maths was appropriate but asked to broaden our offer. Staff then met and devised the plan that we have today directly from the requests at the meeting and if we stopped this now it would mean we were ignoring the requests of the people who came to the meeting and also the hard work of staff who did the planning. Therefore, I would ask that we trial the new offer for this academic year and that people come to the meeting to have their views known.
On a positive note from this, the homework projects that came in at the end of term were absolutely amazing. They were displayed in the school hall and each class had time to look at each others work, giving the children such a sense of pride in their efforts so thank you for your support in this despite this new area of homework having mixed popularity.

You asked – Can we have term dates well in advance?

What we did –

Historically we have always, where possible set key dates for the term during the first staff meeting of the term and these are put on the calendar of the website. We do occasionally have an exciting opportunity that we don't want to miss but generally key dates are on there well in advance.

Thank you for your continued support and for sharing your views.

Other news:

PTA

Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting on Monday evening. We are very much looking forward to welcoming you to the **Christmas Fayre on Saturday 28th November**. There are a range of business stalls so you can do some shopping and plenty of fun for the children too. Please see the poster from the PTA advertising a clothing jumble sale which will also be added to the stalls. The minutes of the meeting will also be shared on the website this week.

The PTA will also be selling the ever popular tea towels which are ideal Christmas presents.

Reminder:

Please join Mr Charlton for his Maths and Online Safety Information Meeting on Tuesday 10th November at 3.30pm in Class 3.

As this is staff meeting night and teaching staff are busy we unfortunately cannot offer free childcare on this occasion and the content of this meeting might not be appropriate for children to attend.