

**Friday 16th April 2021**

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

I hope you all managed to have a lovely Easter despite the mixed weather. I am sure your children will have enjoyed the changes to restrictions where they can meet and play with a larger number of friends outside. The children have certainly enjoyed being back at school this week, working hard and making the most of the bright sunshine. We continue to closely follow all the government guidelines put in place for schools in order for us to stay safe and we thank you in your role of supporting us with this. We will follow the changes in restrictions carefully and hope that we can plan some events in school for the children to enjoy as they are allowed and will let you know about these as soon as possible.

Over the forthcoming term we are continuing to support the children in their learning so that as much missed learning as a result of the pandemic is addressed. We are continuing with the additional staffing that we put in place in September until the end of the school year so that all teaching staff are supported well, enabling your children to have the best education possible.

We are also making immediate improvements to the children's 'play' time with improvements to the Daily Mile track, installation of outdoor 'gym' equipment and the playground being re-marked by mid May as well as additional resources for break times being purchased.

In addition to this, we are looking to longer term school improvements, of which I will let you know about nearer the time.

Best wishes, stay safe.

Belinda Athey - Headteacher.



## Whittingham's own horse riding team.

Thanks to a group of parents led by Mo Herdman, Whittingham has had its own school equestrian team for a number of years now. The team has historically been very successful and this success has been continued over the holiday where a change in restrictions has meant that sporting competitions have been able to resume.

A team consisting of Frankie, Lucy, Kitty and Annabelle was sent to compete against many teams and individuals from schools all over the north of England and Scotland at a venue near Carlisle on Friday.

The team had a great day winning two classes gaining them qualifications to the championships in October.

It was wonderful for the children to get a day of more 'normal' life.



## Writing Competition Success.

Year 5 and 6 have been successfully involved in some writing competitions recently. One of which, 'Kielder Brag' recently sent competition certificates and prizes to our 3 winners who can be pictured here. Well done everyone who took part.



## Whittingham 'Rotakids'

Following our work with Alnwick Rotary Club we hope to be part of a project that helps our local community. We can decide on the type of project so please let me know if you have any suggestions that would help the local community.