

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

I hope you all managed to have some fun time together over the half term holiday despite the weather! Now we are back it is nice to hear about what the children have been up to and how they feel rested and refreshed for an exciting half term ahead. Thank you for the feedback regarding our Harvest Festival Celebrations that were filmed and the links were shared at the end of last half term. While we appreciate that it is not quite the same as being there in person we are glad you enjoy watching the film. As a staff we were very proud of the children and as Headteacher I am very proud of the hard work staff put into these events as we are one of the few schools that are carrying on with filming such celebrations. We continue to be hopeful that we can have more face to face celebrations by Christmas but of course will listen to guidance to ensure that we are keeping safe and well.

As always, Mr Charlton or I are about on Gate Duty each day if you have any queries, questions, suggestions or concerns. We are always looking to improve what we do to make the experiences for our children the best they can be. A parent and pupil questionnaire will be coming out this half term and it would be appreciated if that could be completed and returned to school as well as Ofsted's Parent View which can be accessed by <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>

I have been in a number of meetings this week and as a result of one of these meetings I thought it would be good to gather parent and pupil views not only about the strengths and areas to develop of our school but also what makes our school unique and special so I will be in touch about this very soon.

We welcome Mrs Fletcher back to school this week and also Mrs Thomsen will start sharing Class 2 responsibility this week.

Looking forward to a busy half term ahead.

Best wishes,

Belinda Athey - Headteacher.



Keeping Safe

As part of the curriculum work we do with the children we incorporate keeping safe in our lessons with the children. A resource we will be using over the coming weeks is from the NSPCC <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/pants-how-to-answer-questions/>

Online

Also as part of our regular updates to support parents and carers in keeping their children safe. Here is a helpful website:

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides>

We are also looking to further implement age appropriate First Aid training into our curriculum and once restrictions on visitors in school are relaxed we hope to be having some fun and informative hands on sessions for the children. In the meantime an excellent resource is <https://firstaidchampions.redcross.org.uk>



Air Ambulance

I am sure that Our Air Ambulance collection bags have enabled many of you to have a good clear out. Please bring Air Ambulance Bags to the wooden fencing to the left of the wooden school gate on Monday morning prior to the Air Ambulance collection van coming in the afternoon. Thank you to the PTA for organising this.

Governor Vacancy

We have vacancy on our Governing Body for a Co-opted Governor. This role is open to members of the school community who feels they can help our Governing Body support school to be the best it can be. If you are interested in becoming a governor and would like a little more information please do not hesitate to contact either myself or one of the governors of our school. Details can be found: <https://whittingham.eschools.co.uk/website/governors/222057>

Reminders:

Individual Pupil Photographs Thursday 11th November.
Poppies are available for the children to buy in school.
Anti Bullying Week - 15th 19th November - Odd Socks Day on Monday 15th.