



Whittingham
C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher's Blog



Friday 17th September
2021 2 page issue

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

It was lovely to see the return of After School Clubs this week as we make our cautious return back to normality and how the children are really enjoying being back at school. As always, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions, suggestions, concerns or queries.

Best wishes,

Belinda Athey - Headteacher.

PTA

We hope to be able to have our PTA return to organising fundraising events once we feel that this can be done as safely as possible as they have an extremely important role in helping to provide our school with extras. In the past this has included the Daily Mile running track, providing new reading and library books, funding the costs of Christmas lunch for all pupils, cinema visits, parties and discos, laptops, iPads and chrome books and much more. We hope to organise a date and have a meeting very soon to discuss new fundraising ideas and events.

Air Ambulance

We are looking forward to supporting a good cause whilst raising money for school by collecting clothes in Air Ambulance Bags. Before the half term holiday each child in school will be given 2 bags to see if it can be returned with clothes that are no longer wanted on Monday 8th November 2021 after 9 am but before 1 pm. If you are able to have more bags please let us know and we will arrange for more to come home with your child.

Governor Pen Portrait -
Following the popularity of our staff pen portraits last year it is now the turn of the members of our Governing Body starting this week with our Chair of Governors, Sandra.

Sandra McCormack – Co-Opted Governor + Chair

- *Originally from the North East I moved to the midlands in the late 1980s. I was a frequent returnee to see close family and friends here settled here in Whittingham in 2019.*
- *I worked for many years as a childcare social worker in local government and national charities before moving to national government programmes such as Sure Start, Childrens Centres and Early Help (0-19yr olds). In these roles I have worked with partners across the country and I now work on a freelance basis.*
- *I am a parent of adult children who are both involved in education and I love nothing more than to get together with them my extended family and friends as often as possible*
- *Throughout my career and my family life I have been totally committed to providing children with the best start in life and supporting families in doing so. I hope that I bring a wealth of personal and professional experience to the role of governor and chair*
- *I hope to be able to be more visible around school as Covid19 restrictions lift but can always be contacted via school*
- *Something you might not know is that a few years ago, with much encouragement, support and cajoling of my daughter and my best friend I went from "Couch Potato to Half Marathon" and completed the Great North Run, enjoying it enough to do it again 2 years later.*



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Governor Pen Portrait -
And we continue with a Pen Portrait from Janet Young, our Vice Chair of Governors.



Well Done Mr Charlton!

Mr Charlton certainly had a very busy first week back to school and took part in the Great North Run! He ran for the charity Sands (Stillborn and neonatal death charity) and raised a total of £1007.50 with some donations still coming in.



Janet Young - Co-opted Governor and Vice Chair.

I have lived in Whittingham for more than 30 years and my young family were brought up in the village.

I have been retired for a number of years but my background is in education, both in main stream and special schools and as a senior manager in a local authority setting. I wanted to do whatever I could to support my local school and community and when the opportunity came to be a governor, I felt that I could do something positive for the children from the locality. I am really enjoying being involved with such a unique school.



**Nursery and Reception
New Starters!**

Welcome to you all. We hope you have a wonderful start to school life and we cannot wait to get to know you. Here is a picture of the new Reception Class.