



Whittingham, Alnwick, Northumberland NE66 4UP

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Website: www.whittinghamprimaryschool.co.uk

Friday 19th September 2025.

Weekly Reminders Week 3

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

Welcome to our week 3 updates letter. This letter can be found on the home page of our website and also on the News page of the website:

[Whittingham C of E Primary School - Weekly Newsletter and Information - Week 3](#)

Information this week saved on our school website week 3 news page this week includes:

A poster from Trident Soccer about their half term offer. The link needed to book via Google Forms <https://forms.gle/TV1BJzSTn5R91xP9>

Wear Yellow to Support Young Minds on 10th October poster

Good Samaritan Dance Day on 24th October poster

Harvest Festival (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE) 17th October poster

Handwashing poster

PTA Chairs Report and collation of how families would like to see the money spent (minutes will be uploaded to both the news and PTA pages of the website shortly)

Babes in the Woods Poster – Our first session of the year is on Tuesday

Toddly Play Poster

FUNK AND SOUL NIGHT POSTER

PTA

Thank you to everyone who attended the PTA AGM. Thank you to Mrs Marsden for agreeing to remain as Chair for another year, to Miss Forrest who will continue as Vice Chair for another year, to Mrs Abercrombie, who will continue as Secretary and to Mrs Gray who will continue as Treasurer. I am sure you will all join me in passing on thanks and appreciation as without our PTA and the people who also volunteer to help then our children and the wider community would miss out on fun events and all children directly benefit from the money which is raised. Please don't forget to buy your tickets for what promises to be a fantastic night on Saturday 4th October – Our very own Mr Charlton and his band will be performing! There is a delicious food van too.

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/775144058767168>

[https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.eventbrite.co.uk%2F%2Ffunk-and-soul-night-tickets-1534959197279%3Faff%3Ddoddtcreator%26fbclid%3DIwZXh0bGhZw0CMTAAAR7HB4398Y4wVHw5FaQjnc4x2GtmskGy6eWXiEMsg_phr29VWMn22HXluGhNDQ_aem_CyBzi33vIS5qNCK9dM8Alg&h=AT1-FhWmNd2ScmvufVhmXPMd38xjZbTkUMvHr8Kjpdhr1yprN3UAI-shJjxwg9JcY20EiBJHl1kewDm8JRgSqQx8z_V14mOQJE6WXordNBzvWkOVg1Q7I1o_L2f8JW4LsmppxakCqy7E1o9d&tn=-UK-R&c\[0\]=AT2DAtrcJ4IngcrxBbXe_ei2GGGoAcqqPv8wLr0VC5GgARDXe0xZk565NLjdJzstt2trEpQ-SdZTyRj1rwHRIis7qdxBosgSNXzMENN2iuNsc45Xy1YORE6SICJZFPB3zL30MEp3goVstWN-CCqevqoUhMCCM7jMt0KehWlqzJpMk5eWFdh22rlwwWlIK1kV5QJgraxqXSwHe-64wg9421vfTQ](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.eventbrite.co.uk%2F%2Ffunk-and-soul-night-tickets-1534959197279%3Faff%3Ddoddtcreator%26fbclid%3DIwZXh0bGhZw0CMTAAAR7HB4398Y4wVHw5FaQjnc4x2GtmskGy6eWXiEMsg_phr29VWMn22HXluGhNDQ_aem_CyBzi33vIS5qNCK9dM8Alg&h=AT1-FhWmNd2ScmvufVhmXPMd38xjZbTkUMvHr8Kjpdhr1yprN3UAI-shJjxwg9JcY20EiBJHl1kewDm8JRgSqQx8z_V14mOQJE6WXordNBzvWkOVg1Q7I1o_L2f8JW4LsmppxakCqy7E1o9d&tn=-UK-R&c[0]=AT2DAtrcJ4IngcrxBbXe_ei2GGGoAcqqPv8wLr0VC5GgARDXe0xZk565NLjdJzstt2trEpQ-SdZTyRj1rwHRIis7qdxBosgSNXzMENN2iuNsc45Xy1YORE6SICJZFPB3zL30MEp3goVstWN-CCqevqoUhMCCM7jMt0KehWlqzJpMk5eWFdh22rlwwWlIK1kV5QJgraxqXSwHe-64wg9421vfTQ)

Headteacher: Mrs Belinda Athey



School Uniform

It is lovely to see the children looking so smart. Just a reminder that all children need to bring a water bottle to school each day and there should only be backpacks for KS2 children. Only a reading folder and drawstring bag is required for EY and KS1.

Parking

Thank you for parking considerably and also helping to keep our families safe by not driving onto the village hall carpark while I am still greeting children.

Morning drop off

Just a reminder for parents / caregivers of children in Years 1-6 to please drop their child off at the wooden gate and not come onto the playground as we are finding that numbers of adults other than class teachers can be quite unsettling for some children so we are trying to have a calmer start to the day. If you need to pass a message onto your class teacher please either send them a dojo or tapestry message or let the person on Gate Duty (usually me) know and we will ensure it is passed on. Parents who drop Nursery and Reception children off please continue to walk around to Early Years entrance.

September germs!

We seem to always have a spate of illnesses once all the children are back together again after the holidays. At school we continue to promote handwashing and personal hygiene. Please ensure if your child has sickness or diarrhoea to keep them at home 48 hours after the last bout of illness and to email or telephone the office to let us know the reason for absence each day.

School Meals

We are so lucky to have such delicious meals cooked by Mrs Arkle. I take lunch duty in the hall each day and I have noticed that the majority of children are struggling to use their knife and fork effectively and as a result there is a lot of food that is going on the floor. I am trying to work positively with all pupils to become more effective at using cutlery and also promoting the importance of good table manners but would appreciate if you could all continue to support school by reminding children at home. The NHS have produced a You Tube video which is meant for younger children but is useful - [Learning to use a knife and fork](#)

School Money

Please note that the School Money System will send out reminders to all accounts that are in deficit no matter how small the deficit may be as our policy is that School Meals should be paid for a week in advance. To help families avoid unmanageable debt ***once meals for 2 weeks are owed*** then a letter will be sent to the family (usually on a Friday) asking if financial support is needed and to invite families to have a conversation with myself to see if support can be accessed. ***It is also expected that until the debt is cleared a packed lunch must be provided.***

Pop UK

Our recorded album is now ready! Below is the link to the album and some accompanying instructions:

The album is free to download, but there is also an option for people to make a donation to download it if they would like to support the charity who deliver PopUK in-school projects (Brightfutures Un-Ltd).

<https://brightfuturesun-ltd.bandcamp.com/album/whittingham-cofe-primary>

1. Open the album's page on Bandcamp.
2. Click **"Buy Digital Album"**.
3. Enter **0** to purchase for free or an amount of your choice to donate to Brightfutures Un-Ltd.
4. Click **'Download to your computer'**, then 'Download now' or, if making a donation, Click 'Checkout' and follow the steps.
5. Pick your preferred file format (MP3, FLAC, etc.)Click **Download** and enjoy!

Calendar

The calendar is kept up to date and is an ideal 'Go to'

<https://www.whittinghamprimaryschool.co.uk/website/calendar/213885>

Phonics and Early Reading Workshop

Thank you to staff for leading this and for families who attended this workshop. The slides will be available on our school website in the Parent Workshop section and also this weeks section of the news page.

Fantastic Opportunity! We have a vacancy for a Parent Governor. If you are interested we would love for any interested parties to get in touch with me (belinda.athey@whittingham.northumberland.sch.uk)for more information and about the application process.

Using School Grounds

We are proud to be one of the very few schools in Northumberland that allow their grounds to be used after school and it is lovely to see the children enjoy this resource. Please do remember that in order to use the grounds after school or at weekends you must read and sign a Code of Conduct for your child/ren and return it to school. Paper copies are available from the School Office.

School Office

Mrs Kennedy is on the road to recovery after a procedure and we hope to welcome her back soon but, in the meantime, I will continue to cover this role. We would like to also inform you that Mrs Kennedy had already planned to retire at the end of this term and as such we would like to take this opportunity to let you know and also that there will be a vacancy for a Senior Admin and Support Manager (previously called Office Manager) which will be advertised next week. I am sure you would join me in wishing Mrs Kennedy all the best for the future and we are looking forward to her returning for the rest of term very shortly.

School Website

As I mentioned previously, I am working to refresh and improve our school website. If you have any suggestions as to what improvements you would like to see please drop me an email- belinda.athey@whittingham.northumberland.sch.uk

Monthly Newsletter

Next week there will be no weekly newsletter as Mr Charlton will be sending out his popular monthly newsletter which is going to have a new section with reminders for the week ahead as well as looking back and celebrating the month of September.

Thank you for your support,
Belinda Athey – Headteacher.

