

December's newsletter



Welcome to this month's newsletter. This edition is a round-up of all the wonderful achievements, events and developments across our school.

Developments across school

Through always looking to provide the best opportunities for teaching and learning across our school, our site has seen some significant adaptations and additions recently. These have included:

- A newly built library and workspace,
- A newly built classroom/ group working room,
- A re-laid running track,
- A newly fitted staff room and updated offices,
- A newly constructed and fitted outdoor area for EYFS.

These areas are being used to great effect and truly add to the experiences and opportunities that our children receive at Whittingham.



Sport

In the Autumn term we've already got underway with lots of sports and even had some competitions that we've taken part in.

Class 2 had a great time when they attended a rugby event on October 18th at Alwick Rugby Club. They all put in lots of event and represented the school well.

Our Class 3 football team also took part in a competition at Alwick Town Juniors ground on November 9th, ran by Newcastle United Foundation. The team did really well and came 5th against some stiff competition.

Finally, Millie – our currently last remaining representative of our equestrian team – attended the NSEA Championships on 19th-20th October and did amazingly, coming 2nd out of a hugely competitive field.

Our KS2 classes are also taking part in a multi-skills competition across our district. We look forward to see if we are able to progress to the next round soon!



Our community

Our school has always been focussed on how we can engage and be part of our community. This year has been no different and we are very proud and pleased with how the children are interested and see the importance in this.



Charities

Great examples of our work around and for charities have been our huge collection for the Air Ambulance charity, which saw a huge amount of donations come in from you all. Our Rota Kids did a wonderful job of taking the lead in organising the collection of this.

Each class have yet again chosen a class charity and lots of work and study has been done on these already. EYFS have completed a sponsored distance walk for their charity Alnwick Food Bank; Class 1 have done a bake sale for their Firefighters Charity; Class 3 have recently completed a distance running challenge for their charity WWF; Class 2 already have their event planned for within the Spring term too.

The children also took part in Anti-bullying Week with lessons on this aspect as well wearing odd socks to show awareness and support. Young Minds is another charity that we showed support for through wearing yellow. The children could speak with confidence to explain the importance of health and well-being, both physical and mental.

All of these events and the positivity that they are undertaken by the children really do show how much they care and a motivated to make a positive and significant impact on the world, both locally and globally, upholding our Christian values – for this and among much more, we are very proud of them.

Events

Staff have also ran workshops for phonics and maths for all ages across school to give parents/ care givers opportunities to ask any questions and feel secure in knowing how your children are taught and supported. Feedback from these were very positive yet, as ever, we are always more than happy to chat through any queries that you may have at any point.

Our *Stay And Play* and *Babes In The Woods* sessions that welcome children aged 12 months to 4 years old for Forest School activities whilst giving opportunities to meet others in the area and interact with our grounds at Whittingham have proved popular and we have had great feedback. We look forward to our next session!

We have also been very busy with our lovely PTA, who have planned out several events across the academic year. This has included movie nights, discos, the Christmas coffee morning and other events which are still to come.

Thank you to all those that have supported in any of these as this does make a difference in the whole school community and is very much appreciated.



Thank you for your continued support,
Mr Charlton