



Friday 8th September 2017. 3 Pages - With termly dates letter

Weekly Headteacher's Blog including Termly dates

Dear Parents/ Carers,
Welcome to the First Blog of the School Year. The children have come back to school refreshed and enthusiastic, ready to learn.

As always, if you wish to contact school or suggest ideas and ways in which you think we could make our school even better there are lots of ways to do this-

Telephone - 01665574222.

In person - I am on morning playground duty throughout the week and this half term will usually be office based immediately after.

By email- Following the Contact Us link on our school website -<http://www.whittinghamprimaryschool.co.uk>

By letter- addressed to myself directly and either handed into the office or placed in the suggestions box in the main entrance. Please do, as wherever possible I try to implement ideas. Recent ideas which have been put in place are the Forest Schools activities and Mountain biking on our PE Curriculum to name but a few!

Finally, by joining myself and Governors at the Monthly Coffee and Chat which precede each class assembly.

Information can be found about our school through letters, the school website, Twitter and Facebook. We will continue to use Teachers to Parents occasionally. Thank you to everyone who is following us on Facebook - Whittingham C of E Primary School.

I hope to see you at lots of the events across the term.

Many Thanks,
Belinda Athey - Headteacher.

Facebook Success!

Thank you for embracing our Facebook Page as a way of communicating. I am the page Admin and will endeavour to reply to comments and messages as quickly as possible although through the school day I may not be able to if I am teaching or in meetings. Thank you to parents who have helped asking and answering questions.

Fantastic News and MUGA Update!

In addition to the £60000 granted from Councillor Bridgett we have been granted a further £10000 from the Whittingham Church House Fund! This means that we can have our MUGA, Trim Trail and Long jump pit. We had hoped to start immediately but over the holidays we have hit a few issues with planning permission. Thanks to everyone who is helping me with this. Following a few tweaks we hope to get planning through and the work started before winter.



School Games Silver Award.

We have been awarded the School Games Silver Award. Thank you to pupils and staff for enabling this to happen.

We will be continuing and developing the competitive sport provision with other schools over the next year.

PE and Swimming at Willowburn

Please note Class 1 and 2 are accessing sporting provision at Willowburn. Class 3 will be having specialist provision with class teachers and specially chosen specialists.

Please could Class 1, 2 and 3 come to school on Mondays in their PE kit. Please could Class 3 wear kit for outdoor PE including good outdoor trainers. We will be playing football so if possible it would be great if shin pads and football boots could be brought in too. If you do not have these please do not worry. Football will be delivered by myself and Mr Athey as a coach on the Alnwick Town Girls Team he is kindly lending his coaching experience to us.

I am also aware that some children enjoy competitive team games and others enjoy more individual events so I am hoping to start a running club every Monday Lunchtime with Class 3 pupils.

Children from Reception to Year 6 will also be taking part in Forest Schools activities every Monday so if you have waterproofs, outdoor shoes/ wellies please do bring them in for this session.

General Points and Reminders -

Pupils in reception, Year 1 and 2 are still entitled to Universal Free School Meals.

School meals for all other pupils are £2.20.

On Mondays Nursery children will be dismissed from their door as usual. As the rest of the school is involved in Forest Schools all children Reception to Year 6 will be dismissed from the front door. Please could parents wait until the bus lines have been dismissed before coming towards the main school entrance front door.

To help in the office please put money or cheques in a clearly labelled envelope. We are still researching an online payment system and as soon as the one that best suits our needs at a good price we will let you know.

Please let us know of any changes in end of day arrangements by letter or telephone call before 3 p.m.

Parent Workshops.

Last year lots of you attended our workshops on Maths, Reading, Phonics, SRE, E Safety and Staying Safe Online. Please let us know if you would like a refresher in any of these workshops or if there is anything new you would like us to deliver.

We hope your children have enjoyed their first week back. We have planned lots of fun activities for the children throughout the year whilst updating our curriculum. Our new long term plans and school brochure will be on the school website very soon.