

# Headteacher's Blog



Friday 10th June 2022.

Attendance issue

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

I hope this HT Blog finds you all keeping well and that family time together was able to be had over the Jubilee Celebrations. It was lovely to be in school on Sunday at the village Jubilee picnic where the local community came together in celebration and enjoyed using the school field and of course, our new play equipment which has proved very popular. My work with governors and NCC on creating risk assessments and signage has been delayed slightly due to my class commitments and meetings this week but hopefully I will be able to get back into the office full time very soon.

It was wonderful to be able to have our PTA AGM. Thank you to everyone who came to the meeting. We have some new committee members so will be sending out a letter of thanks to members past and present and with details of the next meeting very shortly.

I am very excited that we can offer wrap around care for September. Registration forms will be sent out before the end of term. In the meantime, our lunchtime clubs in KS2 are proving to be so popular that Mrs Chisholm now runs two gardening sessions and we have just been awarded the RHS School Gardening Level 1 Award.

As always, if you have any queries, concerns or suggestions as to how to make our school even better  
Best wishes,  
Belinda Athey - Headteacher.



## Attendance

We have not managed to have 100% attendance for any class this week. A lot of families are making the most of the restrictions of the past 2 years lifting and taking a holiday. However, please do remember to complete an absence form for our records. Holidays, unless there are extremely extenuating circumstances will not be authorised. Also, please do try and limit the amount of time your child is out of school as every lesson counts. This is important right across the school especially with missed face to face education if your child did not come into school during the two periods of Lockdown. I enclose some of our attendance information once again for easy reference.

## An Alternative Learning Space

About 2 and a half years ago I shared with you all that I wanted to provide the children with an additional learning space and we were looking at a wooden roundhouse. At the time I discussed this with families and the PTA who agreed to help towards funding this and we had some Primary Sports Funding earmarked for this. Unfortunately the cost of this project was tens of thousands of pounds and an alternative, much cheaper and just as awe inspiring was sourced. (Thank you PTA committee for agreeing to provide £2000, a significant part of the final cost) Our amazing yurt was installed over the half term and pictured are our oldest boy and oldest girl officially opening the yurt. We look forward to all children enjoying this over the next 6 weeks and beyond. Without money raised from the PTA we would not be able to provide our children with those additional extras so please do come to the next meeting and help us with some new ideas for fundraising and events. We will also set a target for the year and discuss what we would like to raise money for so please do join us. Full details of meeting to follow.

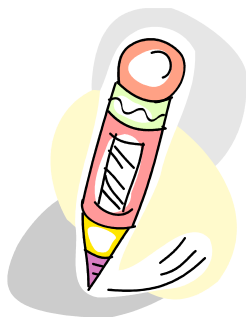
## New Equipment

Over a year ago I managed to be successful in applying for a £10,000 grant for new play equipment. After delays caused due to COVID and shortage of wood this was finally installed over half term and was officially opened by Alex and Bobbi during the Community Jubilee Picnic on Sunday.

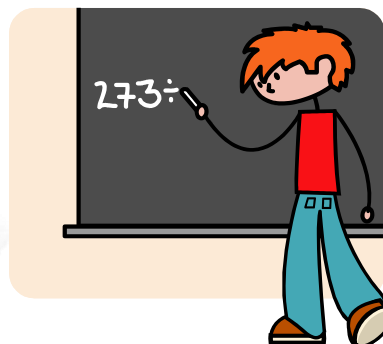


## Reminders

The dates for this half term are all on our school website calendar which can be found - <https://whittingham.eschools.co.uk/website/calendar/213885>



HOW MUCH LEARNING I MISS WHEN I'M ABSENT		
% ATTENDANCE	DAYS LEARNING MISSED	LESSONS MISSED
100	0	0
99	1.9	11.4
98	3.8	22.8
97	5.7	34.2
96	7.6	45.6
95	9.5	57
94	11.4	68.4
93	13.3	79.8
92	15.2	91.2
91	17.1	102.6
90	19	114



## EVERY MINUTE COUNTS



EQUALS



### LATENESS = LOST LEARNING

\*(Figures below are calculated over a school year)

5 mins late each day

3 days lost!

10 mins late each day

6.5 days lost!

15 mins late each day

10 days lost!

20 mins late each day

13 days lost!

30 mins late each day

19 days lost!

**DANGER ZONE: AS FEW AS 19 MISSED DAYS** over the school year reduces your chances of success. **YOUR SAT or GCSE results could drop by one grade across all subjects!**

