



Whittingham
C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher's Blog



Friday 14th October
2022. 2 page issue

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

Another week passes as we head through Autumn and how busy the children have been! I am very proud of how hard the children and staff team have worked this half term and Parents and Carers evening will be a wonderful chance for you to see the children's work and hear from their class teachers about how they have been working. During this time, class teachers will also give you some questionnaires to complete so that we can assess what is working well and what we could do to make our school even better so please do take the time to fill them in. It is also helpful if you fill in the Ofsted Parent View which is online and can be found if you follow this link - <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/parent-view-results>.

You will see that now that COVID restrictions are lifted that we have been able to start some of the planned work that was due to start pre-COVID. Our school windows are currently being replaced ensuring that we become more energy efficient whilst also brightening up school and we have a very exciting library and intervention space planned which we hope to have completed by early December! Our key priorities for School Development this year are shared with you here today. Any questions are welcome and, as always, please do not hesitate to contact school via email or phone or speak directly to teachers and myself in person if you have any queries, concerns or would just like to catch up!

Best wishes,

Belinda Athey - Headteacher.

Swap Shop

Thank you to everyone who donated clothes to our Rota Kids 'Swap Shop'. The Rota Kids did a fantastic job of setting up and being personal shoppers for the day.



Keeping Safe Online

As part of our work with children we teach children about how to keep safe online. As a school we often use the website National Online Safety for advice and they have some excellent guides for families to use. There are weekly and monthly updates which can be found <https://nationalonlinesafety.com>

Music Mark School

We are proud to have been recognised for another year for our commitment to music across this school with this award.



PTA Coffee and Open Morning

Just a reminder that on Saturday 3rd December we will be having a PTA Coffee Morning as well as a chance to look around school and in your child's class.

We will be having stalls and have opened this out to families and staff who may have a small business and would like to have a table. Today is the last day where this is opened to families and staff, after which I will be advertising this to a wider audience.

I will be in the office all morning if you would like to ring and book a stall or send me an email.

We look forward to seeing you there.

World Mental Health Day

Thank you for supporting us to commemorate the good work of the charity Young Minds by wearing yellow on Monday. Further details of the charity can be found - <https://www.youngminds.org.uk>. Pictured below are some of the children on the day.



Reminders

As usual our calendar of events can be found on the school website <https://whittingham.eschools.co.uk/website/calendar/213885>. Events for the last week of this half term include Harvest Festival, Air Ambulance Bags being handed out, Parent/Carers Evening, Coffee and Chat followed by Class 3 Assembly and our PTA disco!

Stars of the Week and Effort Cup

Well done to Joshua, William, Ollie H and Eliza. Effort cup goes to Emily. 100% attendance to Reception Class.



Whittingham C of E Primary School – School Development Plan

Section 1: - Leadership and Management – Achievements and Standards School Year 2022-3

Area of Development: Achievement and Standards

Person Responsible: BA and Governing Body under management of Northumberland County Council

Key Aims of SDP 2022-3:

For all children to have a broad and balanced education which enables them to fulfil their potential academically and as members of the local community and wider world.

For all children to be given a wide variety of opportunities and experiences across all areas of the curriculum so that despite their rural location they are inspirational goals for the rest of their education and in the world of work.

To ensure our children achieve above regional and national expectations in English and Maths and have the technological resources and ability to access safely information technology. If this is not possible strategies are in place to swiftly address this.

To develop and instil a love of reading for our whole school community which will last a lifetime.

To develop our children's oracy skills and to enable our children to debate and speak out confidentially for themselves personally, academically, within the wider community and future world of work.

To tackle with sensitivity and care issues that affect our disadvantaged learners and to support all families through the economic landscape that we see today.

To ensure our children are given the tools to develop their emotional resilience as well as begin to be given the skills to understand how they can help themselves and ask for help in (in an age appropriate way) order to keep themselves physically, emotionally, spiritually and mentally safe.

We recognise that due to the COVID pandemic and staffing structure not all subjects have been fully developed within the School Development Plan Process since 2019. This will be addressed by including all subjects within this development plan 2022-3. Where some subjects receive a 'light touch' this year they will receive further development in the SDP 2023-4.